

MAYOR BRENDA T. BODNAR

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Chairman Scott Wiggam Ohio House State and Local Government Committee Via Email to <u>Repo1@ohiohouse.gov</u>

Dear Chairman Wiggam:

As the Mayor of Mayfield Village, Ohio, thank you for the opportunity to share with you my opposition to HB 563. HB 563 preempts a local government from regulating or prohibiting the use of short-term rental properties within its jurisdiction. In 2018, Mayfield Village Council passed legislation to regulate short-term rentals to address the neighborhood disruption and safety concerns arising due to this type of rental. The passage of HB 563 would prohibit us from enforcing the regulations put in place that we believe protect the safety and best interests of our residents.

Local control, as granted to municipalities in the Ohio Constitution, ensures that a city or village can enact ordinances and regulations that reflect the will of its residents. If a municipality seeks to regulate short-term rental properties, that action is a direct reflection of the desires of the members of that community. Statewide preemptions such as HB 563 prevent the residents of each municipality from being able to decide whether local policies regarding short-term rental properties are in the best interest of the individual community.

It is critical that the state legislature recognize the need to preserve local control. What works best for my municipality does not always work for another city or village. Republicans have historically held to the belief that the government closest to the people governs best, but of late, the Ohio Legislature had introduced and passed a myriad of bills eroding Home Rule authority. I urge you to stop this practice and oppose HB 563 and other bills that have this effect. I would also note that passing statewide legislation, and then allowing local governments to opt out, only causes confusion, inconsistency and more work for all. Thank you for your attention.

Very truly yours,

Brandon T. Bodnar

Brenda T. Bodnar Mayor

BTB/dtw