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Public Comment on Council File 14-1635-S2

Ed Colman <edcol52@gmail.com>

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To: Councilmember Mike Bonin <councilmember.bonin@lacity.org>

Cc: mayor.garcetti@lacity.org, councilmember.cedillo@lacity.org, councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org, Councilmember Mike Bonin <councilmember.bonin@lacity.org>, councilmember.englander@lacity.org, councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org, councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org, councilmember.huizar@lacity.org, councilmember.martinez@lacity.org, councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org, councilmember.ryu@lacity.org, councilmember.koretz@lacity.org, Councilmember.rodriquez@lacity.org, councilmember.price@lacity.org, councilmember.buscaino@lacity.org, councilmember.wesson@lacity.org, lynell.washington@lacity.org, Gerald.Gubatan@lacity.org, amy.ablakat@lacity.org, cityclerk@lacity.org, sharon.dickinson@lacity.org

Dear Councilman Bonin-

I attended the City Council meeting last week on December 11, where the Short Term Rental Ordinance was voted on.

Although I was #2 on the speaker sign up list, I was not given the opportunity to speak.

Here are the remarks I would have made had I been permitted to give my comment:

I am a short-term rental host in Venice. My wife and I share a guest room in our home of 35 years to make ends meet.

Thank you for listening to the thousands of hosts who need to share their homes year-round and for creating a way for us to do that.

We appreciate your keeping the registration fee manageable, \$89 dollars for the first 120 days. But the \$850 dollar fee to lift that cap is exorbitant and unfair.

Once the work of registering me is complete, for the initial \$89 bucks, does it really cost *ten times* that amount to administer my listing for the remainder of the year?

No, it doesn't.

Imposing a per-night surcharge intensifies the burden on the people who are sharing their homes merely to survive in these trying economic times.

I am retired and living on a fixed income as are many hosts in Los Angeles. We share our homes out of financial necessity. Requiring us to pay thousands of dollars a year to do so is nothing less than civic extortion.

Lower the fee for year-round home sharing and eliminate the per-night surcharge.

Sincerely,

Ed Colman, Venice

