



# Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments

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March 4, 2024

Senator MD Rahman, Co-Chair  
Representative Eleni Kavros DeGraw, Co-Chair  
Planning and Development Committee  
Legislative Office Building, Room 2100  
Hartford, CT 06106

## **RE: SB 335 AN ACT CONCERNING SHORT-TERM RENTAL PROPERTIES**

Dear Co-Chairs Rahman and Kavros DeGraw, Ranking Members, and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 335. The proposed act would allow municipalities to license short-term rental properties. It is not clear what the purpose of this licensure would be.

Municipalities cannot levy tax on short-term rental stays and they can already prohibit short-term rentals in the zoning regulations. If the purpose of the license would be for municipalities to know where short-term rentals are located, that information could get obtained from the Department of Revenue Services (DRS), who is collecting the 15% tax on stays.

RiverCOG is concerned that although the bill is well intentioned, municipalities do not have the staff to process or enforce short-term rental licensing. It is unclear whether the municipality would be enabled to charge a license fee that would cover costs of administration. Since municipalities may not be able to generate any revenue to cover costs of licensure, maybe short-term rental licenses should be administered by the state, dependent on local zoning and municipal input. At the very least, DRS has the tax collections for short-term rentals, that data, including addresses, should be shared with municipalities on a regular schedule.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding my testimony.

Sincerely,

Samuel S. Gold, ACIP  
Executive Director

**RiverCOG**