

Dear Mr. Koretz and LA City Council,
COUNCIL FILE #14-1635-S2

In regards to recent legislation pending concerning Home Sharing, as a constituent, and taxpayer I wish to voice my opinion.

I have found my experience both hosting and staying at peoples' places using Airbnb to be incredibly valuable. While I am gone, I am able to generate a small amount of income by renting out my place, or by hosting people while I am there. This ranges from UCLA students who are unable to get a rental from UCLA for a short period of time, to a couple who had to visit a loved one at UCLA Medical and wanted to be close.

While renting out my place, I directed each of those sharing my home to my favorite local businesses which I thought they would enjoy as I was determined that they would have a great stay. This ranges from a variety of local restaurants to the Comedy Store. I have no doubt that this contributed to their gross net revenue and profits and thus the tax base of the city.

I have never had a bad experience.

I keep my place super clean because if I get a couple bad review, then who would want to stay at my place. I go out of my way to ensure that whoever stays with me has a great time. The service I provide, and the association that I hope they develop with the city of Los Angeles because of my efforts, far surpasses that which any hotel could possibly provide.

I have also found similar efforts by host in places I have stayed, from Germany to Russia to here in Los Angeles. I simply get a superior level of service and intimacy with the locations nearby as well as their recommendations.

The idea that a city (like Santa Monica) would abolish the possibility to share my home is crazy to me, & an anathema, and in my view the work of the hotel industry which does not want the competition so they can make outlandish profits.

The arguments against Home Sharing are incredibly weak, and certainly the benefits to the population and the city and the money brought in outweigh any possible concerns.

I personally, will vote against any city council member who chooses to stifle this beneficial and economically stimulating business. To me it is anti-american, and against the Constitution of the United States, to try to tell me what I can do in my private space.

I sincerely hope that you support Home Sharing, and that in some small way my letter might influence your opinion with my passionate and honest feelings on the subject.

Sincerely Yours,

Richard Birecki