

Hello,

I am writing to ask your help on clear and fair legislation for home sharing.

I am a tax paying actress/photographer living in Century City. I only share my home when I need to travel to help with the cost of travel expenses and I also think since my home will be sitting here empty while I am away it is also helpful to offer it to someone who is looking for a reasonable place to stay while they are in LA. Not everyone can pay the high cost of staying in a decent hotel. I feel like it is your duty to think about everyone's situation. And if I am paying taxes on each stay and I am willing to share my home that should be my right.

Airbnb makes it so that both parties feel safe and secure about each stay.

People who have shared my place in the past have either been professionals going to a convention in Century City and the hotels have been sold out or they just could not afford the High cost and students taking a course at UCLA and was not able to find adequate housing. I myself have used Airbnb when I have traveled to a location and the hotel cost was either too high or not available.

Thankfully I had the safe and affordable option to stay with someone generous enough to share their personal space.

I have also had the experience of traveling to a place I have never been and a nice host gave me tips on places to eat or was even sweet enough to show me around. Now that is what community is all about.

So please consider people like me when you draft that final legislation.

Sincerely  
Monique

To Whom it May Concern:

Home Sharing has improved my life drastically. Prior to becoming a host for Airbnb I could barely afford rent. Every year my rent would go up but my income would stay the same. After I lost my hearing to a virus, I was forced to retire from my teaching job because I couldn't understand my students. Dependent on disability, naturally, my income plummeted. If I wanted to maintain a middle class income, I had to come up with some idea to afford my apartment, pay for food, and help my daughter go through law school.

Home Sharing was the answer. My income from renting out the room my daughter once occupied made a huge difference financially in my life. I also had the opportunity to act as an ambassador to visitors from as far away as Germany, Russia, and South Africa. I've learned that if people from other nations and across our own country want to get to know Angelenos, the best way to do that is not stay in a hotel, but to rent a room in one of our homes.

Since I started Home Sharing, I've made many friends from around the US and the globe. And I'd like that experience to continue. That is why I urge you to propose smart, forward-thinking legislation to regulate the short-term rental industry, calling for authorization of home sharing while strictly prohibiting rogue hotels and halting a frightening loss of rental housing.

Best wishes,  
Michael Thal  
Airbnb Host

**The Abduction of Joshua Bloom**

<http://amzn.to/1mTqLGP>

**The Legend of Koolura:**

<http://tinyurl.com/a63jamp>

**Koolura and the Mystery at Camp Saddleback:**

<http://amzn.to/1ifKn39>

**Goodbye Tchaikovsky:**

<http://tinyurl.com/bh95ht7>

**Author Website:**

<http://www.michaelthal.com/>

**Book Trailers:**

**Koolura:** <http://tinyurl.com/a69ysqp>

**Saddleback:**

<http://bit.ly/1jKliYg>

**Tchaikovsky:** <http://tinyurl.com/a8uc6tx>

Council File #14-1635-S2

Dear Councilmember Blumenfield,

Please take a moment to hear my personal story regarding home sharing, as you go forward with any consideration of regulating home sharing in Los Angeles County.

Three years ago I was laid off from my job. Instead of staying on unemployment while I looked for another job, I decided to start my own business as a social media and content marketer. The beginning was rough as I had no other source of income, little savings, and no backing. I was also still supporting one of my three children at that time.

A friend suggested I try using the home sharing site AirBnb to help bring in extra income so I could focus on building my business. Hesitant at first, my first guest was from Brazil, a young architect doing research at The Getty Museum. He was an intelligent and wonderful person. My next two guests were young women, new college graduates, from the East Coast, who were seeking new opportunities here in California. They both stayed a year. Since then, I've met a variety of people from the United States and around the world, mostly young people studying at local colleges and universities, some seeking new jobs, and others simply here to enjoy our wonderful city and all it has to offer.

In addition to meeting new people, I have been able to continue to grow my new business, and afford to keep my home while doing so. While the benefits of home sharing have been financial, I have also developed long-lasting friendships.

As well, I believe my local community benefits greatly as the people who have stayed with me visit local restaurants, shops and markets, providing much needed revenue to our local business owners, and to our city and county via sales taxes.

It is my sincerest hope that you are able to read this letter, and to understand the great benefits of home sharing not only to me, but to many community members. May you consider carefully the impact upon homeowners who share their living spaces when drafting future legislation, and to make sure they are clear and fair rules that will benefit all.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Laura Tate

Woodland Hills homeowner of 22 years

Hello,

I am writing to ask your help on clear and fair legislation for home sharing.

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Sincerely,

Laura Tate

Woodland Hills homeowner of 22 years

Marcus Hunt  
4317 Mont Eagle Pl.  
Los Angeles, CA. 90041

Re: City Council File #14-1635-S2

June 26, 2015

Councilmember Cedillo,

My name is Marcus Hunt and I'm writing to you in support of home sharing and the Council's effort to draft fair and sensible home sharing legislation in Los Angeles.

In the interest of not rehashing a period of my life that I've worked hard to move beyond, I'll keep this short. I've owned my home here in Eagle Rock for over 12 years. About 6 years ago, I had saved up, taken out a heloc on my home and bought an apartment building in Hollywood with a best friend/business partner. With big dreams, we renovated the building and while we weren't making any money, it was supporting itself. Well, my friend made some poor life choices and unknown to me, was stealing money, became an alcoholic and failed to pay things he should have. By the time I found this out, I was forced to file for an emergency bankruptcy to try and save the building. That didn't work. I lost all cash savings invested in the building as well as adding a \$350,000 heloc/2nd mortgage to my house which I wasn't able to include in the BK if I wanted to continue living here.

Plain and simple, home sharing has allowed me to continue not just living in my house, but living in general. It also pays my health insurance, property taxes and is the reason that I've been able to get back on my feet and move forward.

I appreciate your current support of home sharing and ask that you continue to fight for our ability to do so.

Thank you,

Marcus