

Allegra Newman
366 Fisher Street
Los Angeles, CA 90042

Re: City Council File #14-1635

March 12, 2015

Dear Councilmember Huizar,

I'm a constituent in your district, who is writing to let you know that I support home sharing and the Council's effort to draft fair and sensible home sharing legislation in Los Angeles.

Two years ago, my husband and I bought our first home in the Garvanza District of Highland Park. We love living here and can't imagine residing anywhere else. In October 2014, the company for which I worked relocated its entire operation from Burbank to Maryland and my entire office was laid off. Although my husband and I have some money saved, I'm the primary breadwinner in our household, and losing my job has put a strain on our budget.

To supplement my husband's income while I search for a new job in my industry, we decided to rent our spare bedroom through the home sharing community. We've had an amazing experience meeting guests who are visiting LA and sharing our favorite spots in Highland Park and Eagle Rock with them. In the competitive job market, it hasn't been easy for me to land a new job as quickly as we'd like, but the money we're earning has relieved some of our financial burdens and allowed me to focus my attention on securing employment.

I hope you will continue to advocate for home sharing in Los Angeles and draft legislation that supports your constituents who want to participate in the home sharing community.

Best Regards,

Allegra Newman

March 12, 2015

Dear Councilman Huizar,

I feel compelled to write to you regarding the question of the sharing economy and specifically homesharing. I support the City Council's effort to draft fair and sensible home sharing legislation. Homesharing has become of vital importance to me and my husband. We are both employed and we pay our taxes and bills. After living expenses, we have very little left over for home improvements and upkeep of our house. If anything goes wrong it's a struggle to figure out how to pay for the repair. Through homesharing we are able to make extra money that we put back into our house and into to the economy. We recently installed central air and heat. That meant that we hired the contractor and we were able to put other people to work. Because of the extra money we are able to hire people to trim our trees. If something goes wrong with our house we are able to hire someone to fix it. Homesharing has become an important way of life for us and for many people. If the city is going to create legislation to govern this grassroots movement it needs to be fair and sensible for those of us that it helps.

D. Taylor

Eagle Rock

LYNN STEINBERG, PH.D. MFT
Administrative Office

644 South Highland Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90036
Office: 323 931-5445
FAX: 323 931-5884
March 12, 2015

Office of Tom Labonge

Re: Home sharing

Dear Mr. Labonge,

I am writing to you regarding the issue of home sharing. I share my home with foreign exchange students, who reside here for up to three years, and AirBnB refers people to me for short terms stays. Aside from the financial relief, their company and interesting lives keep my life interesting, and I am a vital 65 year old woman, who loves to travel.

In 2011, my husband moved out of our home after 35 years of marriage. He had experienced a number of psychotic breaks, and was not the same person I had married. In fact, I feared him. I wanted to keep my home because it represented safety and security to me after such a dramatic change in my life and financial status.

I have worked as a psychologist since 1974, and I still have a thriving practice. As a result of managed care, I do not make enough money to support myself in an apartment. Having people share my house allows me to keep my property, and feel happy and secure in the knowledge I can manage my life financially without any other support. I have mentioned the social aspect, which keeps me happy and involved.

If house sharing somehow became illegal or more expensive, I would have to sell my house and move to a state where I could afford to live. At my age, I would not be able to retake my license and reestablish a new psychology practice. I also would not know anyone. As you can imagine, I cannot think of

anything more depressing.

I believe making some law against home sharing would interfere with my right to make a living and lead the life I desire at this point in my life.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,

Lynn Steinberg

March 12, 2015

Honorable City Council
C/O Office of the City Clerk
200 N Spring St
Room 395
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Attn: Richard Williams, Legislative Assistant

Honorable Councilmembers:

We have owned a duplex in a beach community in LA for 25 years. Because of financial hardships, due to my 91 year old mothers failing health, we have started renting it out as a short term vacation rental. Without this source of income, we would be in trouble.

We are aware that there are those against short term rentals, but urge you to support rules that do not ban the practice, but regulate this industry, not only for the benefit of people like us, but also to contribute to LA's economy.

Our guests, not only frequent many of the local businesses, including restaurants and shops, but also businesses, amusement parks, etc all around the LA area, contributing to the thriving economy in this city, local merchants, and thereby creating more jobs, as well. In addition, by paying the city the 14% transient occupancy tax, we are contributing thousands of dollars to support public works.

Our guests consist of mostly families, wanting to have a more intimate environment to create lasting family memories, as opposed to the sterile and un-inviting hotel experience. They are very considerate of our house rules, neighbors and the neighborhood in general. Due to the fact that we have visitors from all over the world, our neighbors children now have lifelong pen pals from all over the world.

Since we strive to provide our guests with the best experience possible, we are constantly maintaining and improving our property, which preserves our neighborhood vs long term landlords who do very little to their properties. In fact, our building is one of the best looking ones on our street!

Please consider our request to keep short term rentals a viable option for homeowners like us, as we are your constituents, we vote and we pay our taxes.

Sincerely,
Sherry Kennedy