

5/18/2015

File number: 14-1635

To the office of Councilman Krekorian

I am writing to express my support of home-sharing in Los Angeles I have been following the news and understand there are many changes about to take place.

I have lived in Los Angeles 9 Years I came here from Miami with my ex husband he wanted to live here and me too. Being a working actress and TV host In Miami, I also felt the move would be good. We purchased a place in Van Nuys and began living there.

In 2009 we decided to get a divorce. He moved out and I was left with a very high mortgage that I was struggling to pay.

This is when I started renting out the 2nd bedroom on Airbnb. I've never made a profit off of home sharing, it just allowed me to stay in the home that I had created and love. It makes the expense of living in Los Angeles reasonable and affordable, and has allowed a working actress like me to continue to thrive in a city with a high cost of living. Renting the room is such a blessing if not It would have been foreclosed. I also notice that having guests here help the local businesses as they do their groceries and eat at local restaurants!

Ending my home- sharing situation would likely force me to move out of Los Angeles. Airbnb allows me (and many others) to afford to stay in LA. I strongly believe this privilege should be protected.

I know that the council is considering regulations on home sharing in LA, and I would like you to take my experiences into account as you move forward.

If there's any other information you need from me don't hesitate to reach out.

Thank you for your attention in the matter and for all you do!

Sincerely,

Maria Felipe

Dear Council Member Cedillo,

I am writing with the hope that City Council drafts reasonable legislation that will preserve the home sharing economy in the city of Los Angeles. I began hosting to pay for graduate school and soon learned that I was also getting to meet people from different cultures. I have hosted first-time travelers, artists, and families alike. My guests have always been pleasant and they treat my space and the surrounding neighborhood with respect.

Meanwhile, these visitors are helping local businesses by spending money at their establishments. The hosting community in Los Angeles fosters wonderful experiences and provides cozy places for guests to stay while visiting. We are ready for City Council to enact sensible legislation that will further boost our city's economy/infrastructure with the Transient Occupancy Tax.

Respectfully,
Laura C.
Constituent
Council District 1