

## Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

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**From:** Tyler Longpine <tlongpine@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 10, 2019 12:06 PM  
**To:** DCOZ - ZC Submissions (DCOZ)  
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**Subject:** Support for current Short Term Renting regulations

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Members of the DC Zoning Commission and DC City Council-members,

Please accept this written testimony into the public record opposing the proposed rules changes to the existing short-term rental law.

As you are surely aware, AirBNB is attempting to deploy it's hosts to flood the zoning commission with written and oral testimony that supports weakening the short-term rental law at the October 17th hearing. AirBNB is omitting, obscuring and confusing key points about the regulations in it's communications to hosts.

**Therefore, I think it is especially important that decision makers hear from AirBNB hosts in DC that strongly disagree with AirBNB on this matter and support the existing regulations.**

My family are full time residents of our Petworth property. Through AirBNB we make our basement unit available for short-term rental. The average stay is 3 days and our basement suite is occupied on average 25 days a month. It has generated 10s of thousands of dollars that our family has re-invested in the DC community. Our guests are nearly exclusively tourists, business travelers and convention attendees that invest additional money into the DC Community.

We have accomplished this under the existing short-term rental law. We've done so without undermining existing rental/leasing regulations and without taking housing stock off of the market.

**We find the existing regulations to be responsible and reasonable, and have not diminished the gainful operation of our short-term rental.**

AirBNBs goal in repealing the short-term rental law isn't about fighting for it's hosts. It's about moving beyond the hospitality and hotel market and acquiring a share of the rental market by supplanting an established and regulated rental market. AirBNB operates on volume and every new host is a potential new commission stream. Under the current regulations, AirBNB isn't able to shave a percentage from the traditional rental market. Silicon Valley needs that share a lot less than DC does; let's keep that money here.

ZONING COMMISSION  
District of Columbia  
CASE NO.19-15  
EXHIBIT NO.10

As an AirBNB host I view myself as a member of the hotel & hospitality industry, not the real estate and rental industry. I know this is a view shared by a great many other hosts. The existing regulations ensure that AirBNB conducts itself as a hospitality platform. Allowing AirBNB to creep into the rental and housing market will exacerbate the rising cost of housing in DC.

Please know that AirBNB's PR team does not speak for it's hosts and, furthermore, AirBNB's opinion is not shared in totality by those members of the DC community that host on their platform.

Please reject the proposed changes to the current short-term renting law.

Best,

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Tyler Longpine, AirBNB host  
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