

DATE April 22, 2021

TO Maine State Legislature
Joint Committee on State and Local Government

FROM Lois F. Gervais, Scott H. Blanchard
Peters Hill Guest Cottage
Blue Hill, ME

RE A Testimony in Support of LD1365
An Act To Prohibit Municipalities from Prohibiting Short-term Rentals

Dear Members of the Joint Committee on State and Local Government,

I write to you today in support of LD1365. Since 2013, my husband Scott Blanchard, and I have been renting our guest cottage in Blue Hill—Peters Hill Guest Cottage—to respectful guests from all over the US, from Canada, Germany, England, Australia and the Caribbean Islands. More often than not, our little town of Blue Hill on Maine’s Downeast Coast is their very first visit to our State, and just as often, not their last.

Short-term rentals here, such as ours, offer these folks a way to experience the famed and celebrated beauty of the Maine coast, to explore nearby Acadia National Park, to meet and enjoy sincere and welcoming Mainers.

They have much to gain from their visit.

As well, these guests from away bring their diversity, new and different ideas, and appreciation for—and investment in—how we choose to live, what we craft and create, our renowned seacoast cuisine, and so much more.

We have much to gain from their visit.

Maine’s short-term rental environment is a gain-gain, a win-win; it makes for a rich and perfect exchange of benefits in support of our local economy and culture. We do not want to lose it.

Please vote for LD1365; vote to prohibit Maine’s municipalities from prohibiting short-term rentals.

Lois F. Gervais
Scott H. Blanchard

