

**TOWN OF HOPKINTON, RI
RESOLUTION OPPOSING S0851
RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT-
TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT**

WHEREAS, The Hopkinton Town Council joins other municipalities in their concern relative to Senate Bill 2025 – S0851, an act which would prohibit cities, towns and municipalities from any regulation regarding renting residential units for tourist or transient use;

WHEREAS, the short-term rental industry directly contributes to the state's housing affordability crisis;

WHEREAS, in an effort to make housing more affordable, the General Assembly should enable the municipalities the ability to prohibit or limit this transient use;

WHEREAS, Rhode Island municipalities differentiate in their characteristics, infrastructure, and land resources, local authorities should have authority to make appropriate decisions in the best interest of their individual communities;

WHEREAS, most rural building and zoning departments do not have the resources to manage an influx of short term rental properties;

WHEREAS, the state has not issued laws or regulations guiding cities and towns in handling the impact of this use;

WHEREAS, while tax revenue is generated for the state, incentivizing this use places additional financial burdens on local towns and communities;

WHEREAS, it is detrimental to residential communities for families to be raised next to "for profit" hotel businesses that benefit no one but the property owner;

WHEREAS, this use may strain the capacity of land and natural resources in Hopkinton,

WHEREAS, most properties in Hopkinton rely on private wells and private septic systems, failures to these systems due to overcrowding with transient use may result in catastrophic contamination of our sole source water supply,

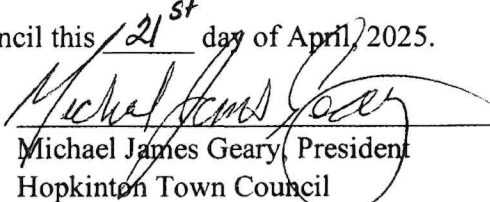
WHEREAS, incentivizing transient use will encourage overcrowded units for greater profit, making health, safety and emergency egress problematic,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Town of Hopkinton, do hereby oppose Senate Bill 2025-S0851 and any other similar legislation, and respectfully requests our legislators oppose passage of this bill;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Governor of the State of Rhode Island, the Rhode Island General Assembly and the City and Town Councils of Rhode Island's other municipalities.

The **RESOLUTION** shall take effect upon passage.

Passed as a resolution of the Hopkinton Town Council this 21st day of April, 2025.



Michael James Geary, President
Hopkinton Town Council

ATTEST: Marita D. Murray
Marita D. Murray, CMC
Town Clerk

