

Submitter: Julie Niles-Fry

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4136

I don't own a second home, but I don't believe the government should interfere with people who choose to purchase more than one property. Many of those homes are rented out, and rental housing is essential for people who either can't afford to buy or simply prefer not to own. If rental properties didn't exist, many individuals and families would have far fewer housing options.

It's also important to recognize that some people genuinely prefer renting for flexibility or lifestyle reasons. Singling out and penalizing one group of property owners for having more than one property sets a troubling precedent. Where would it stop—charging more for the number of cars someone owns, or how many pets they have? Policies like these risk creating unintended consequences, including higher rents for tenants, as added costs are often passed along to renters.