

**Kate MacGillivray**

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**Subject:** FW: Support home sharing in Brookline

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**From:** John Verlinden <[john@muchogusto.com](mailto:john@muchogusto.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2021 12:50 PM

**To:** Friedman, Paula K <[pkf@bu.edu](mailto:pkf@bu.edu)>

**Subject:** Support home sharing in Brookline

Hello Chair Paula Friedman,

Due to the drop in tourism and visitors, my hosting income has suffered. That's money I normally earn and is spent here, in our community. Local businesses, cleaners and restaurants all benefit when visitors stay in my home and I'm proud of the work I do to support my community.

As a responsible host, my concern is that this bill would limit my ability to make ends meet during a difficult economic time. Requiring me to be home during the guests' stay would drastically limit, not just my income, but also the positive impact visitors have on the businesses in our town. More importantly, this legislation also poses a serious safety risk. Requiring that we remain present while the guest's reservation is active, unnecessarily increases the level of contact during the Covid-19 pandemic. It also places our town at a competitive disadvantage as many of our guests are folks looking to get away from their small apartments to isolate with friends and family in a larger home.

The proposed restrictions ignore the needs of hosts and short-term stay needs of visitors, including the nurses and doctors who serve our community at Longwood Medical Center. As we recover from the Covid-19 pandemic, it's important that we provide housing opportunities for hospital workers and others supporting Covid-19 vaccination efforts. I hope you will listen to your neighbors, who depend on the money they earn from renting out their homes to make ends meet. We urge your colleagues to provide simple and fair rules for property owners to rent out their primary residences.

Regards,  
John Verlinden .

**Kate MacGillivray**

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**From:** Lucile Kellis <[lucileg@alum.mit.edu](mailto:lucileg@alum.mit.edu)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2021 12:23 PM  
**To:** Friedman, Paula K <[pkf@bu.edu](mailto:pkf@bu.edu)>  
**Subject:** Support home sharing in Brookline

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Regards,  
Lucile Kellis .