

Rehoboth Beach-Dewey Beach Chamber of Commerce

"The Nation's Summer Capital"

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May 19, 2023

Representative William J. Carson
Joint Finance Committee
411 Legislative Avenue
Dover, DE 19901

Dear Representative Carson:

For several years our Chamber of Commerce and membership have made substantial efforts and have been supportive of collecting and including short-term rental revenue, while maintaining the current revenue disbursement formula, for the following reasons:

- The short-term revenue is not a new tax but an expanded tax which is collected from the visitor and not the resident which equalizes accommodation tax revenue.
- By maintaining the current disbursement formula, the increased short-term rental revenue would provide additional funds for beach replenishment, clean water needs, Sussex County marketing, as well as State marketing and the State General Fund.
- Delaware is one of only two states that does not have the short-term rental tax i.e. Alaska and California. The short-term rental agencies (Airbnb, etc.) are already paying this tax to all other states nationwide.
- The municipalities would continue to collect their current lodging tax.

Thank you for taking the time to consider the Rehoboth Beach-Dewey Beach Chamber of Commerce request to support the short-term rental tax legislation.

Sincerely,



Carol Everhart
President/CEO

CC: Governor John Carney
Rehoboth Beach – Dewey Beach Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

Mission: "To promote business, tourism and civic responsibility."