Dear Councilmember \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:

As a constituent and a voter, I urge you to reject any proposal to require licensing for rental owners or to include them with any ordinance addressing short-term rental owners. These groups have very different goals and interests and provide very different services to the community.

Short-term rental owners primarily provide recreation or business housing to out-of-town guests. Long-term rental owners provide homes for Lexington residents. Licensing requirements always add an administrative and financial burden. Those costs are certain to be passed on to the tenants. If you impose such costs on long-term rental housing providers, you are basically taxing Lexington tenants. That’s a no-win situation for housing providers and tenants that will both reduce investment and affordable housing in Lexington.

As a result, I ask that you reject any such proposals Thank you for your support on this issue.

 Sincerely,

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