

Help Us Defeat SB 544

SB 544 is the only active bill in Richmond that we continue to oppose. This bill would pre-empt local authority by requiring localities to allow an STR in the primary residence of the property owner. The current version of this bill does not pre-empt ordinances enacted before 12/31/2024. Virginia Beach enacted its STR ordinances in 2019 and 2021, so it would not immediately apply in Virginia Beach, UNLESS our current STR ordinances are changed by City Council or overturned by a court.

This bill passed the Senate, crossed over to the House, and was referred to the House Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns (CCT). Delegate Anne Ferrell Tata is a member of that committee and has told us that she will oppose this bill.

You can help us oppose this bill by posting a brief comment online before it is heard by a CCT subcommittee which could be as soon as Thursday 2/23/2024. Clear and concise comments have more impact, so start your comment with something like "I oppose this bill", and just leave it at that or state your reasons briefly.

To post comments on this bill:

- go to <https://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?241+com+H07>
- click "Comments on bills" near the middle of the page, and scroll down to "SB544" (near the bottom of the list)
- click the check box to the left of the "SB544", then click "Next" at the bottom right

When the bill is scheduled for a committee or subcommittee meeting, you will be able to use the same link to sign up to speak remotely.

Andy Cohen

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