## **Sophia Cassam**

From: Paul Grant <paulg@bigfidget.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 3:44 PM
To: Vacation Rental Comments
Subject: short term rental cap

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Dear San Juan Council,

As an owner of two properties on the San Juan Islands (Orcas Island - vacation rental and Decatur Island - 2nd home) I strongly feel that the vacation rental properties are not the issue. It is the empty 2nd homes that kill the vitality of the islands. Only the very rich can afford a 2nd home somewhere like Orcas Island and afford not to rent it out. 1000's of empty 2nd homes will kill the San Juan Islands. Please consider looking at options to limit 2nd homes that are not rented rather than vacation rentals. If I had to choose and option I would go with C or D.

Please note my vacation rental is within Rosario Resort and so is not affected by the vacation rental cap but I think it's best for Orcas to have visitors to appreciate the Islands. My property on Decatur Island is a lot. I would love to build there one day but don't see that being possible without the option to offer vacation rentals in order to offset some of the costs. Please please don't constrain the outer islands without a good reason. There are so few options already for these locations. Vacation rentals on Decatur would add to the island not take away by providing some income for the full time residents from services and goods.

Thank you

**Paul Grant**