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October 13, 2021

Dear Honorable Members of the Massachusetts House and Senate:

I write to you today at the direction of the Chilmark Planning Board to ask for action to address the severity of Martha's Vineyard's housing crisis, its negative impact on our economy and infrastructure, and the need for significant, reliable long-term funding Island-wide to implement housing solutions.

The Chilmark Planning Board supports the bills introduced in the MA Legislature this session which seek to establish Transfer Fees on real estate transactions over a certain amount to fund affordable, community, and attainable housing.

The Chilmark Planning Board furthermore supports amendments to these bills to allow deed restriction up to 240% of Area Median Income, to address critical year-round workforce housing needs, as our median home price on the Island continues to climb past \$1.2 million.

S868: <https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S868>
H1377: <https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H1377>
H2895: <https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H2895>

The Chilmark Planning Board respectfully requests that these bills be reported out of committee favorably.

Please note the support of the Board Members of the Planning Board of our community.

The Chilmark Planning Board also endorses the Coalition to Create the Martha's Vineyard Housing Bank (CCMVHB) <https://www.ccmvhb.org/>, which seeks to create an Island-wide housing bank, funded by a transfer fee, for the purpose of directly funding affordable, community, and attainable year-round housing efforts.

Sincerely,

Rich Osnoss, Chairperson on behalf of the Chilmark Planning Board