

DUKES COUNTY REGIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY

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*The mission of the DCRHA is to assist the 6 towns of Martha's Vineyard
with increasing the year-round housing opportunities for residents with low and moderate incomes.*

September 28, 2021

Speaker of the House, Ronald Mariano: Ronald.Mariano@mahouse.gov

President of the Senate, Karen Spilka: Karen.Spilka@masenate.gov

Joint Committee on Housing:

Senate Chair John Keenan: John.Keenan@masenate.gov

Senate Vice-Chair Patricia D. Jehlen: Patricia.Jehlen@masenate.gov

House Chair James Arciero: James.Arciero@mahouse.gov

House Vice-Chair John H. Rogers: John.Rogers@mahouse.gov

Joint Committee on Revenue:

Senate Chair Adam Hinds: Adam.Hinds@masenate.gov

Senate Vice-Chair Brendan P. Crighton: brendan.crighton@masenate.gov

House Chair Mark J. Cusack: Mark.Cusack@mahouse.gov

House Vice-Chair David Linsky: David.Linsky@mahouse.gov

Senator Julian Cyr: julian.cyr@masenate.gov

Representative Dylan Fernandes: Dylan.Fernandes@mahouse.gov

Dear Honorable Members of the Massachusetts House and Senate:

The Dukes County Regional Housing Authority (DCRHA) is a publicly chartered Local Housing Authority that works daily on the housing needs of the residents of Martha's Vineyard. These Island households define our communities and staff an economy which contributes significantly to the welfare of the Commonwealth as a whole. The near total absence of rentals and access to homeownership for these working households presents a threat to both.

The DCRHA strongly supports the efforts of the Coalition to Create the Martha's Vineyard Housing Bank. We continue to work with the Coalition to assure that the housing opportunities such a dedicated funding stream would create, proportionately address the needs of our most vulnerable seniors and residents with disabilities, households with low and moderate incomes, employees of our service economy, and the essential emergency, educational, municipal, and non-profit personnel every community relies upon.

The Board respectfully requests that you assist us in these efforts by favorably reporting the following bills out of committee as they enable Transfer Fees on real estate transactions, creating a dedicated and significant revenue stream for localities such as ours to address our pressing housing needs.

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

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

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

With appreciation,

The Board of Directors, Dukes County Regional Housing Authority

*Affordable Rentals * Homebuyer Assistance * Advocacy, Planning, & Service Referral*

Vineyard Village, Greenough House, 45 Franklin, Lagoon Pond, Lake, 118 Franklin, Water, & Perlman House Tisbury · Fisher Road, Edgartown
Lagoon Heights & Noyes Building, Oak Bluffs · Halcyon Way, Sepiessa Point & Scotts Grove, West Tisbury · Middle Line Road, Chilmark