



**TOWN OF EDGARTOWN
OFFICE OF SELECTBOARD**

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July 20, 2023

Representative Mark Cusack
Chairman, Committee on Revenue
Room 34, State House
Boston, MA 02133

Senator Susan Moran
Chairwoman, Committee on Revenue
Room 506, State House
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Chairman Cusack and Chairwoman Moran:

I am writing to you today on behalf of the Edgartown Select Board, with the full support of our Town, to strongly endorse two crucial bills: H. 3804 and S. 1782. These bills, respectively offered by Rep. Dylan Fernandes and Sen. Julian Cyr, propose the establishment of the Martha's Vineyard housing bank.

H. 3804 offered by Rep. Dylan Fernandes, "An Act establishing the Martha's Vineyard housing bank"

S. 1782 offered by Sen. Julian Cyr, "An Act establishing the Martha's Vineyard housing bank"

Our Select Board is fully behind these bills, alongside transfer fee enabling legislation, as we firmly believe they hold the key to addressing the pressing issue of affordable community and attainable year-round housing not only in our town but also across the entire island.

The urgency of these measures cannot be overstated, as data collected by the Martha's Vineyard Commission reveals a distressing shortage of affordable and attainable housing. This shortage has far-reaching and severe consequences on various aspects of our island community, including our economy, education, healthcare, food security, and public safety.

https://www.mvcommission.org/sites/default/files/docs/State_of_Housing_MV_2023_05_revised.pdf

In light of these compelling facts, I earnestly request that you prioritize these bills for consideration and send them to the floor as soon as possible. Taking swift action on this matter will have a profound positive impact on the lives of countless residents and will help build a stronger, more vibrant, and sustainable community.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Your support in advancing these bills will be immensely beneficial to all the individuals and families affected by the housing challenges on Martha's Vineyard

Sincerely,

James Hagerty
Town Administrator