

July 29, 2021

The Honorable Adam G. Hinds, Senate Chair
Joint Committee on Revenue
24 Beacon St, Room 109-E
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable Mark J. Cusack, House Chair
Joint Committee on Revenue
24 Beacon St, Room 34
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable John Keenan, Senate Chair
Joint Committee on Housing
24 Beacon St, Room 413-F
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable James Arciero, House Chair
Joint Committee on Housing
24 Beacon St, Room 277
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable Julian Cyr
24 Beacon St, Room 312-E
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable Dylan Fernandes
24 Beacon St, Room 472
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Honorable Members of the Massachusetts House and Senate,

The Board recognizes the severity of Martha's Vineyard's housing crisis, its negative impact on our economy and our community infrastructure, and the need for reliable long-term funding Island-wide to implement solutions. The Town has consistently supported efforts to create more housing opportunities but a significant funding source, beyond what is currently available, is necessary to accomplish these solutions.

Therefore, the on July 28, 2021 the Select Board unanimously voted to support 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 and attainable housing. *We would furthermore like to see the legislation amended to allow deed restriction up to 240% AMI, to appropriately address workforce housing needs on the Island.*

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

Thank you for your favorable consideration of these bills.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Rand
Town Administrator