

Dear Senator Brian Feldman and Delegate Linda Foley,

I am writing to express my strong support for SB0624 legislation to improve fire safety requirements for short-term rental properties in the State of Maryland.

Short-term rentals have become an increasingly common lodging option for families, travelers, and visitors across our state. While these properties offer convenience and economic benefits, it is essential that they meet basic and consistent fire safety standards to protect the public. Guests often assume that the homes they rent are equipped with proper safety measures, but without clear statewide requirements, that is not always guaranteed.

Tragically, the consequences of inadequate safety protections can be devastating. Lindsey and Jillian Weiner lost their lives in a short-term rental fire, a heartbreaking reminder of why stronger safety standards are necessary. No family should have to endure such a preventable loss.

Strengthening fire safety regulations—such as requiring working smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors, clearly marked exits, and accessible fire extinguishers—would significantly reduce the risk of preventable tragedies. These are common-sense protections that many hotels and public accommodations already follow, and visitors staying in short-term rentals deserve the same level of safety.

This legislation would help ensure that property owners take reasonable precautions to safeguard their guests while also creating clearer expectations and standards across Maryland. Most importantly, it would protect families, children, and visitors who may be unfamiliar with the layout of the home they are staying in and may rely on these critical safety measures in an emergency.

I strongly encourage you to support and pass this important fire safety bill. Taking proactive steps now can prevent devastating consequences in the future and help keep Maryland a safe place for residents and visitors alike.

Thank you for your leadership and your commitment to protecting the public.

Sincerely,

**Suzanne Greenleigh
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