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**ROSEMARY M. BROWN**, MEMBER  
189<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

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Dear Community Association Institute of Pennsylvania:

This letter is requesting the utilization of your network to urge Private Communities and Homeowner's Associations to review their by-laws and rules and regulations as it relates to short-term rentals and Air B&B's. Due to these communities' private nature, they have the ability, at a desperate time, to implement policy that could significantly assist in mitigating the growth of COVID-19 throughout our region.

As I am sure you are aware, Governor Tom Wolf implemented an enforceable closure of all non-life sustaining businesses. He also issued a "Stay at Home" order for several counties throughout the Commonwealth. All of these counties encompass our state's most populous cities. There was a single outlier: Monroe County, the heart of Pennsylvania's Pocono region.

There is good reason Monroe County was included, the Poconos has a strong connection with the national epicenter for our current global health pandemic. New York City is approaching 21,000 cases of the novel coronavirus and there is serious concern surrounding the exodus of individuals retreating from the nation's most densely infected region.

As a State Representative and community leader, it is prudent that I use my voice to speak for the members of my constituency who have tirelessly expressed their deep concern with the continuation of Air B&B usage and short-term rentals within the Poconos region; an abundantly available resource due to our strong tourism industry. I have spoken with the Governor's office regarding the "life-sustaining" nature of Air B&B's and short-term rentals and was assured that these operations are deemed essential as they are classified as shelter, a life sustaining business operation.

It is for this reason I am turning to Private Communities to implement or enforce by-laws related to Air B&Bs and short-term rentals. Through CAI's network, we could greatly reduce the availability short-term rentals, specifically in the Pocono Region, to lessen the influx of individuals from densely populated regions – not only to lessen the spread of COVID-19, but to ensure our community's hospital infrastructure will have the ability to handle our region's population.

Our world is facing an unprecedented crisis. In turn, elected officials, community leaders and businesses are confronted with extraordinary pleas to navigate our collective challenges by offering solutions for the safety of society. I urge private communities to take action and assist in our states' mitigation efforts during this crisis.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rosemary M. Brown".

Rosemary M. Brown  
State Representative  
189th Legislative District