

Admin, LACO

Subject: FW: Ref Keith Gennoe formal submission into the Short Stay Accommodation enquire- sub no. 194

From: Keith

Sent: Friday, 15 February 2019 4:05 PM

To: Committee, Economics & Industry Standing

Cc: Miller, Jonathon

Subject: Ref Keith Gennoe formal submission into the Short Stay Accommodation enquire

Please accept this as a formal submission into the Short Stay Accommodation enquire.

I believe I should have the right to be able to invite a guest to stay in my home without extreme regulation, caps and costly registration fees. You may recall in years past our parents use to take in what was then called a boarder this was done by word of mouth or an advertisement in the news paper. Now we call them guest and they now we use electronic means to advertise and we now attract guests from all corners of the world.

This submission is in support of the submission being presented For Airbnb by Mr Brent Thomas, Head of Public Policy ANZ and Mr Sam McDonagh, Country Manager for ANZ to the Enquire in to the Short Term Stay Accommodation.

I am an Airbnb Host and have been 2 1/2 years.

Name :Keith Gennoe

Airbnb is vital sores of income to the house hold, I'm 67 and was made redundant 3 years ago, I'm not able to receive any pension and the money I receive goes to the bills and house hold expenses, I don't want to be regulated out of the industry with extreme regulation and costs.

I believe Airbnb has become a vital part of Western Australia economy and the Western Australian tourist industry and will remain so in to the future, if it is not killed off with over regulation.

Not all people that use Airbnb to book accommodation are tourist. I have people staying with me now from Basil. They are here to learn English at the School nearby and without the use of Airbnb accommodation they would not be able to afford to do this study.

I have also had a couple from the country stay with me because one needed an operation at Osborne Park Hospital the short term stay was ideal for these people.

We also have Family reunions. People stay with us because we are close to the family member and to use a hotel out of the area would make it inconvenient and the extra expense may stop them from coming. We have had people from other states as well as over sea's stay with just because of the family reunion.

I have a guest coming from the U.K for their son's wedding because he lives close by.

I have evidence that our guest use the local facilities such as the restaurants, supermarket. Deli and coffee shops and our fish and chip shop, this is because they have been able to stay in the local area using Airbnb to find local place to stay. This helps the small local business with custom they would otherwise not have. I supply a list of local shop in the area giving them a map name of the shops and the street name. These are all within 800 metres of my home. We also supply our guest with information we collect from the tourist information centre.

We have found that some tourist will book a number of different homes in different areas, stay maybe for 2 to 3 night in each place to experience the different areas or move to a place they wish to visit as another part of their trip. Using Airbnb gives the flexibility to do this without going back to the same room every night and starting the trip over again from the same place.

Times have changes and Western Australia has to change with it, the world is using Airbnb and Airbnb is a vital part of the tourist industry in Western Australia giving the tourist the choice of how they wish to experience the local hospitality, live with a family and enjoy the local customs.

If the committee feel there should be some form of registration involved this may be best served by the Western Australian tourist commission with very light touch in regulation if any. The home share industry has be going for a number of years now without any problem in Western Australia as a self regulating industry and I cannot see any reason it should not continue in this manner.

I thank the honourable member of this committee for your time to read and consider my submission.

Regards

Keith Gennoe