

**Joint Letter from Part-Time Resident Organizations:  
Brewster, Eastham, Provincetown, Stockbridge, and Truro, MA**

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January 8, 2025

**via email and regular mail**

Edward Augustus,  
Secretary of Housing & Livable Communities (EOHLC)  
100 Cambridge Street - Suite 300  
Boston, MA 02114

Re: Request for Expansion of the Seasonal Communities Advisory Council

Dear Secretary Augustus,

We, the undersigned, are residents of Cape Cod and Berkshires communities recently designated as “seasonal” through the enactment of the Affordable Homes Act (AHA). The below listed Associations also represent part-time resident homeowners in our respective communities. We write to respectfully request that you appoint part-time resident representative(s) from our designated seasonal towns to the newly formed Seasonal Communities Advisory Council (Advisory Council).

As an initial matter, we would like to congratulate you, Governor Healy, and the members of the state legislature for taking action to address the housing challenges we face. We also extend congratulations on the creation of a well-rounded Advisory Council to ensure many voices will contribute to the funding and execution of its recommendations. However, this thoughtful mix of stakeholders is missing a critical perspective: part-time resident homeowners. As a significant part of the population in these designated seasonal communities (well over half the resident homeowners in some instances) and as significant property taxpayers in those communities, we seek a meaningful voice in the implementation of the AHA’s objectives.

As you know, the AHA provides: “The secretary may appoint additional members [to the Advisory Council] with knowledge and with expertise in land use law, fair housing law, municipal law and operations or the housing needs of seasonal communities.” The part-time residents in our communities come from all walks of life and have experience, knowledge, and expertise in areas such as land use, fair housing law, municipal law, and municipal operations—precisely what is identified above. We actively engage in civic life in our communities. We work to foster better communication, messaging, and support efforts to build bridges between part-time and full-time residents, as well as to work to improve and maintain all that is great about our towns.

Part-time resident homeowners are not tourists. As property owners, supporters of local businesses, community volunteers, and Town board and committee members, we have a deep knowledge of the housing needs of our communities. We have strong roots in these communities, vested interests in their success, and a real stake in their respective futures.

Moreover, as residents of our seasonal communities as well as residents of the communities where we spend the remainder of our time, we have a unique dual lens through which to view housing challenges more broadly. This unique perspective can contribute to the AHA’s mission.

Without a doubt, the Advisory Council should be reflective of all stakeholders in the designated seasonal communities the Council represents. However, its current composition, without part-time homeowner representation, does not meet that mark. Adding part-time resident homeowner

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representatives to the Advisory Council would provide a critical layer of community perspective to a panel whose recommendations will shape our communities and others for generations to come.

We respectfully request part-time resident representation for both Cape Cod and the Berkshires seasonal communities on the Advisory Council. We further request an opportunity to discuss candidates at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. Although we can each be contacted at any time, John Stendahl will serve as our point of contact for these requests. John can be reached at [president@bapr.org](mailto:president@bapr.org). We look forward to hearing back from your office.

Sincerely,

Presidents and Founders of Part-Time Resident Taxpayers' groups:

**John Stendahl**, [Brewster Association of Part Time Residents \(BAPR\)](#)  
**Thomas McNamara**, [Eastham Part-Time Resident Taxpayers Association \(EPRTA\)](#)  
**Patricia Miller**, [Provincetown Part-Time Resident Taxpayers Association \(PPRTA\)](#)  
**Patty Caya and Sandy Baron**, [Stockbridge Part-Time Residents Group](#)  
**Anthony Garrett**, [Truro Part-Time Resident Taxpayers' Association \(TPRTA\)](#)