

## Sophia Cassam

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**From:** Scott Benedict <benrep@rockisland.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 16, 2022 9:17 PM  
**To:** Vacation Rental Comments  
**Subject:** Vacation rental permits

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To whom it may concern,

I want to be on the record as being opposed to more vacation rental permits being issued in San Juan County and especially on San Juan Island.

We have a very real problem finding adequate housing for the work force we need to survive. New teachers, new carpenters, healthcare workers etc. all need a place to live. Hundreds of housing units tied up for more profit then needed is not the answer. I have a beautiful cabin that I could make a fortune on as a vacation rental, but choose , for the betterment of my community, to rent it out long term to a person that is a vibrant addition to our community. I am not rich and I could definitely use more money, but at a certain point one must think beyond ones own needs. It appears this needs to be a forced issue if we are to not end up like Venice Italy. They have very little accommodations left for the workforce to use and consequently have a huge problem keeping the doors open on restaurants, hotels, shops etc. They have plenty of accommodations ( vacation rentals) and are losing any ability to host these people in mass as far as shops etc. We are close to that now. Ask anybody in the service industry on island and they will tell you they can't draw new labor if there is no place for them to live.

We have enough vacation rentals. We need long term rentals, and we need them now.

Thank you.

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