



TOWN OF CHILMARK
CHILMARK, MASSACHUSETTS

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Dear Senate President Spilka:

I am writing on behalf of the Town of Chilmark to ask you to support Sen Cyr's amendment 296 and Sen Comerford's amendment 363 to S3018.

The Select Board of Chilmark and the residents of our town are deeply concerned about our escalating housing crisis and the future of our community. Current resources for affordable housing are simply not keeping pace with the extent of the problem, nor are they flexible enough to preserve and create the housing we need to keep firefighters, law enforcement, EMTs, teachers, medical workers, nonprofit employees, contractors, landscapers, mechanics, and municipal workers in our community.

With a median home price over \$1.2 million and rising, and no available year-round rental inventory at any price, we are in dire straits. Our six island towns voted overwhelmingly this spring to pursue an Island-wide Housing Bank funded by a transfer fee, and we are preparing to file legislation.

Our sister Island of Nantucket began filing their Home Rule Petition for a transfer in 2016, and we are working closely with them to support the transfer fee. **Please help Nantucket and support Senator Cyr's amendment 296 to S.3018, and help Martha's Vineyard by supporting Senator Comerford's amendment 363 to S3018, which would allow a transfer fee to pave the way for the MV Housing Bank.**

Thank you for all you do on behalf of the Commonwealth.

Sincerely,


Tim Carroll
Town Administrator
Town of Chilmark