



February 13, 2023

Chattanooga City Council  
1000 Lindsay Street  
Chattanooga, TN 37402

**Chattanooga City Code Part II, Chapter 11: Short-Term Rentals**

Dear City Council Members:

My name is Kouri Marshall and I am a Director of State and Local Public Policy, Central Region, at the Chamber of Progress, a center-left tech industry coalition committed to ensuring all Americans benefit from technological leaps. Our corporate partners include companies like Airbnb, but our partners do not have a vote on or veto over our positions.

We believe that short term rentals (STRs) offer benefits for hosts and communities, such as increased access to affordable lodging and supplemental income for hosts. The proposed amendments to Chattanooga City Code Part II, Chapter 11 Sections 11-510 through 11-526 would potentially stifle the presence of short-term rentals and their benefits for current residents.

There are many concerning elements being proposed, which include the (a) appointment of an Administrative Hearing Officer who could levy extensive fines, (b) applying a commercial tax to STR properties without extending commercial zoning benefits and (C) and creation of a 500 foot buffer zone that would prohibit most future STR permits for single family dwellings.

Though STR permits can often be a challenging policy area for municipalities to configure, we are concerned that the proposed amendments to Part II, Chapter 11 could enable Chattanooga to unfairly discriminate against short term rentals. The amendments may additionally spur Chattanooga to adopt laws that would effectively eradicate STRs over time.

For these reasons, we encourage you to oppose the proposed amendments to Chattanooga City Code Part II, Chapter 11 Sections 11-510 through 11-526, unless amended to address these concerns.



Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K.C.M.", enclosed within a thin, hand-drawn oval.

Kouri C. Marshall  
Chamber of Progress