From:

Bev Bennett

Sent:

April 13, 2022 9:50 PM

To:

Office of the Legislative Counsel

Subject:

Fwd: Tax increase for non-permanent Nova Scotia residents

** EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE **

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Ref. Bill 149

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Bev Bennett

Date: April 5, 2022 at 10:57:48 AM ADT

To: PREMIER@novascotia.ca, FinanceMinister@novascotia.ca

Cc: barkhousemla@gmail.com, garyburrillmla@gmail.com, kelly@kellyregan.ca

Subject: Tax increase for non-permanent Nova Scotia residents

Honourable Premier, Ministers and Members,

I am writing to express my outrage over the new property tax imposed on Nova Scotian part time residents. As a full time Nova Scotian who resides on the South Shore of Nova Scotia, I believe this new tax is incredibly unfair to individuals who, along with tourism, provide great financial benefits to our economy, as well as, diversity. Most of our American neighbours have been living in our communities for years and many for decades. As retirees they are not allowed full time residency and must limit themselves to 6 months. They bought here with the understanding that our beautiful province is a fair and just one. As part time residents their property taxes are already higher due to 81%. the fact that they are not eligible to be capped. To propose a property tax increase from (Lunenburg County) to 2% is excessive, especially since they are not eligible to utilize our MSI healthcare system, which consumes almost 40% of our provincial budget! Likewise, other part time residents from across Canada provide many more economic benefits to our province than do even short term vacationers. While I commend the current government for taking substantial steps towards addressing healthcare and housing, gouging a limited number of individuals who have no voting rights and no possibility of accessing our healthcare, smacks of an unfair tax grab, that will do more harm to our economy and reputation as wonderful province of Canada, than this shortsighted legislation.

Bev Bennett

Northwest Cove Nova Scotia