



*****PRESS RELEASE*****

For Immediate Release

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**HAWDC Urges District Council to Regulate
Short-Term Rental Housing Market**

(Washington, D.C.) Tomorrow, the District Council will hold a hearing on the "Short-Term Rental Regulation and Affordable Housing Protection Act of 2017." HAWDC supports this bill and the need for reasonable regulations that would allow homeowners to rent their properties on home-sharing service platforms. This legislation does not eliminate traditional home-sharing rentals, but seeks to ensure that there is an equitable environment to operate for everyone providing lodging accommodations to travelers to our city.

"In the District, there are a multitude of short-term rental platform users that are commercial operators and operate more than one unit," says Solomon Keene, President & CEO. "The District must pass strong legislation that gives the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs the ability to rid the market of illegal hotels. These commercial property owners are acting as *de facto* hotels, providing accommodations to transient guests without complying with the myriad of regulations that traditional hotels are required to comply with. It is unreasonable to allow these commercial proprietors to operate free of any regulatory structure or oversight."

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Established in 1906, the Hotel Association of Washington, DC (www.hawdc.com) is a non-profit trade association representing the interests of member hotels in the District of Columbia on a variety of governmental and public affairs issues.

AH&LA (www.ahla.com) is a 93-year-old federation of state lodging associations throughout the United States with some 11,000-property members worldwide, representing more than 1.5 million guest rooms. AH&LA provides its members with assistance in operations, education, and communications, and lobbies on Capitol Hill to provide a business climate in which the industry can continue to prosper. Individual state associations provide representation at the state level and offer many additional cost-saving benefits.