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Submission: As a ratepayer of 20 years, and now a pensioner, I strongly ask you to deny the proposed rate increase. Not only is Byron Shire becoming unaffordable for residents but every day, not just long weekends or school holidays anymore, we see our roads, infrastructure, water, sewerage, being deteriorated by the millions of tourists pouring into our town. I welcome them but surely the state government cannot expect the 15,000 residents who do not profit from this onslaught to be held to ransom. A bed tax is the only fair and right thing for you to do, people that profit from the fact that this town is a tourist mecca should be the ones to pay.