CRA President and CEO Rachel Michelin Provides Testimony to California Board of Equalization on Proposition 15: Split Roll Tax Initiative

"Voters are being asked to approve the largest tax increase at a time when millions of Californians can't afford it, particularly with record unemployment rates.

On top of the higher cost, Prop. 15 can also reduce private sector jobs.

Taxes like prop 15 hurt female and minority owned businesses, which account for over 40% of business in our state. And Despite claims to the contrary, there are no small business exemptions in prop 15.

There are stores closing in Santa Cruz downtown and 30% of restaurants in Bay Area could close due to COVID.

Now, in the COVID environment, it is the worst possible time to pass the largest property tax increase in California history. Prop. 15 may very well be the final blow for many, on top of the COVID 19 crisis, female and minority owned businesses.

It's not just a small business to them, it's a dream. Owners put the blood sweat and tears into opening a small business.

We have no idea how long this pandemic is going to affect us, why would we put the largest property tax increase in California on the backs of small businesses and consumers?

California Retailers stand united in our opposition to prop 15. It is bad for retailers, bad for our employees and associates and ultimately bad for Californians consumers. We just can't afford prop 15."

State Board of Equalization Live Stream

July 23, 2020 (start time 10am) Teleconference*



