



From: May 29, 2020 Board Meeting-Public Comment
To: Srinivasan, Indhubala (Indhu)
Subject: [External] May 29, 2020 Board Meeting-Public Comment
Date: Friday, May 29, 2020 9:25:30 AM

Chris Hoene Item # M1

Item Name: Impact of Covid-19 on PT Admin.

Meeting Date: 6/09/20 Minutes Exhibit #: 6.15

PUBLIC COMMENT

Name: Chris Hoene

E-mail Address:

Phone:

Agenda Item(s):

M1c. Working Group Report – 3: Section 170 Disaster Relief for COVID-19 Calamity

M1d. Working Group Report – 4: Proposition 8 – Decline In Value Relief for January 1 2020

Comment:

M1c. - Working Group 3 The BOE should not take any action that would reduce the revenues for schools, cities, and counties at a time when they are already confronting declining revenues, increasing demands in response to COVID-19, and potential cuts in state support. Additional revenue losses will only endanger funding for vital services, most notably schools and the human and social services needed by the workers and families harmed by this crisis. Declaring properties to be damaged and in need of disaster relief defies logic and looks more like an attempt by commercial property owners and those that represent them to take advantage of a crisis. In addition, short-term tax relief is already provided through the income and corporation tax when incomes drop, and the federal CARES provides additional and significant relief to commercial property owners by allowing them to write off losses against other income and roll back their losses to get refunds from 2017 taxes. M1d. Working Group 4 Here again, the BOE should not take any action that would reduce the revenues for schools, cities, and counties at a time when they are already confronting declining revenues, increasing demands in response to COVID-19, and potential cuts in state support. The call for across-the-Board reductions in commercial property values is illogical. A broad lowering of values makes no sense in a world where base year values are already significantly underassessed. It would also be bad assessment practice, as declines in property values will be realized in the next assessment, based on better data and information, rather than speculative claims.