



From: July 22-23, 2020 Board Meeting-Public Comment
To: Meeting Info
Subject: [External] July 22-23, 2020 Board Meeting-Public Comment
Date: Wednesday, July 22, 2020 7:22:42 PM

Name: Emily Cagape

E-mail Address:

Phone:

Agenda Item(s):

1. Opening Remarks
2. Overview of Proposition 15
3. Discussion with Proponents and Opponents
4. Impact on the State Board of Equalization
5. Impact on County Assessors
6. Impact on the Appeals Process
7. Public Comment
8. Closing Remarks

Comment:

My name is Emily and I was born and raised in San Jose. I support Prop. 15 because for far too long, our schools and communities have suffered from lack of investment while some of the wealthiest, most powerful corporations in California have been getting away with BILLIONS of dollars in tax benefits every year by not paying fair market value in property taxes. Growing up in one of the lowest funded school districts in San Jose, I witnessed firsthand the lack of funding and resources. Classes were overcrowded, teachers were overwhelmed, and resources were severely limited, especially for programs like art, theatre & music. Education funding has been a struggle especially in low-income communities of color, but now our students and educators are facing an even bigger funding crisis with the ongoing pandemic. By closing corporate tax loopholes which benefit a fraction of those at the top, schools and local governments would get more resources to invest in programs and essential services that would directly benefit people. Proposition 15 would reclaim \$12 billion every year for our schools and local services by closing corporate property tax loopholes -- WITHOUT increasing taxes on individuals. The Board of Equalization has an important role to play in ensuring that Prop 15 is implemented effectively, and that it is fully enforced. We call on the Board of Equalization to rise to the occasion of implementing a change that Californians like me have needed for a very long time. I am asking you to support Prop. 15 — a fair and balanced reform to put our Schools & Communities First. Sincerely, Emily Cagape