



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 9:23:24 PM

Item Name: Info Hearing – Split Roll Initiative
Meeting Date: 7/23/20 Minutes Exhibit #: 7.121

PUBLIC COMMENT

Name:
E-mail Address:
Phone:

Agenda Item(s):

7. Public Comment

Comment:

My name is Rebecca McEntee. I am a parent and physician in Oakland. In addition to having two children enrolled in OUSD, I am a physician caring for children and families at federally qualified health centers in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. I support Proposition 15 for numerous reasons, including that it will provide much-needed funding for public education, including K-12 and community colleges, and for community necessities such as affordable housing to address our homelessness crisis. These issues are important to me as a parent worked to support local schools because they are so woefully underfunded (not to mention extremely inequitably funded). I have also watched many close friends who are dedicated teachers spend their own money to supply their classrooms with basic necessities that their district cannot provide while being underpaid and undervalued themselves. Also, my husband works as a physician in the safety net system in San Francisco caring for patients experiencing houselessness and complex medical, mental health and substance use issues. When we discuss his work at home, my kids cannot understand why our communities are unable to fund solutions to offer support for housing or other resources when they are so desperately needed, and proven to improve well-being and health outcomes. Proposition 15 would reclaim \$12 billion every year for our schools and local services by closing corporate property tax loopholes -- all while protecting homeowners and renters, small businesses, and agriculture. 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 and my family have needed for a very long time. I am asking you to support Prop. 15 — a fair and balanced reform to put our schools and communities first. Sincerely, Rebecca McEntee, MD Oakland, CA