

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 7:51:06 PM

STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION



Paul Rooney _____ Item # ___

Item Name: Info Hearing – Split Roll Initiative

Meeting Date: 7/23/20 Minutes Exhibit #: 7.89

PUBLIC COMMENT

Name: Paul Rooney

E-mail Address:

Phone:

Agenda Item(s):

7. Public Comment

Comment:

Hello, I support Prop 15 for 2 reasons. First, it will restore equity to who pays property taxes in our state. Prior to Prop 13's passage in 1978, property taxes were roughly 50/50 between homeowners and businesses. Now commercial property owners pay only 28% while homeowners pay 78%. This shift was not an intentional design of Prop 13 or it would never have passed. Prop 15 will close the corporate loophole and restore some sense of tax equity between homeowners and businesses. Second, Prop 15 would bring needed funding to our schools and communities. Our schools and community services were decimated by Prop 13. I personally lost my job as a social worker due to Prop 13 budget cuts in 1980. Even now libraries, public works, senior centers and especially schools are all underfunded. Homeowners and renters have picked up the slack for over 40 years and now it is time for businesses, especially large corporations, to pay their fair share. I know that the BOE is important to manage that Prop 15 is implemented fully and I also know assessors have complained that it will be difficult. That doesn't quite cut it. We, and the BOE in particular, must have the will to enact and then implement what is fair reform to put our schools and communities first. Thank you, Paul Rooney, Albany