

From: Board Meeting Public Comment Form
To: Meeting Info
Subject: Board Meeting - Public Comment
Date: Saturday, August 29, 2026 6:44:25 AM



PUBLIC COMMENT

From: Anita OBrien
Agenda Item: 1. Item Not on the Agenda
Meeting Date: 09/23/26
Minutes Exhibit: 9.1

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After reading the many comments submitted by various county assessors regarding Change In Ownership Recession Policy to Assessors, it appears that the BOE is enabling financial elder abuse because MANY of the Grant Deeds are created by elderly people with a Family Trust. In addition, since the elderly person is usually gifting their home while they still live in it, they are NOT demonstrating cognitive ability to understand the terms and consequences of their actions. Contractual Capacity is a requirement to sign a Grant Deed. Since California is experiencing a chronic increase in financial elder abuse cases, the BOE policy changes should attempt to PREVENT elder abuse especially if a Grant Deed Rescission involves suspicious transactions made by elderly people over 65. As it stands, tax assessors are simply given the tools that allow elderly people, who do not have contractual capacity, to escape a tax consequence while possibly allowing a worse consequence of undue influence to continue. This happened to my father at the age of 89 and I had no idea. He was terrified when his taxes went up yet he didn't have the cognitive ability get help. I'm shocked that this happening to many elders in California.