

Downie, Chelsea

Subject: FW: Proposed Tax Increase

From: The Hermitage <sbhermitage@yahoo.com>

Date: July 1, 2012 1:19:18 PM PDT

To: "Bozanich, Dennis" <Dbozanich@co.santa-barbara.ca.us>

Subject: Proposed Tax Increase

Reply-To: The Hermitage <sbhermitage@yahoo.com>

Hello Dennis: I am unable to attend your upcoming meeting but wanted to express my views on the issue. If possible, I would like them conveyed to the Board of Supervisors at the meeting this Tuesday.

The economic crisis has affected millions. Among them, it has had a major impact on the vacation rental owners in Santa Barbara. Hotels are able to reduce their prices per unit since they have a multiplicity of units available. Vacation rental owners have only a few, and in my case, only one unit. Business has slowed down significantly already as guests are unwilling to pay the fees that are market value for accommodations. They request discounts and they balk at paying taxes. It is getting harder and harder to make this business work in the current market, without the prospect of increased taxes. I know that such an increase would be detrimental to my business and I believe it would have a similar negative impact on other owners in the same position.

Thank you for your consideration of our situation.

Rachel Aarons

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