

Ramirez, Angelica

Public Comment - Group 2

**From:** Tom Patton <tpatton@sbramada.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 11, 2020 5:22 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Cc:** Williams, Das; Hart, Gregg; Hartmann, Joan; Adam, Peter; steve.lavagnino@countyofsb.org  
**Subject:** NO on Prop 15 (Split Roll Tax)  
**Attachments:** PROP15FactSheet-2.pdf

**Importance:** High



**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

To the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors-

I am the general manager and partner of the Ramada Santa Barbara located in the unincorporated South County. One of my volunteer leadership positions is serving as Vice-Chair of the California Hotel & Lodging Association (CHLA) which is recognized as one of the most influential state lodging associations throughout the country. Just last week CHLA partnered with the Coalition to Protect Proposition 13. We strongly urge a NO vote on Proposition 15 as the results will be devastating to our businesses and employees; all of whom are still reeling from the pandemic.

I have attached a Fact Sheet from the No on Prop 15 coalition in which there is a section outlining the potential repercussion to Small Businesses:

Prop 15 Hurts Small Businesses and Drives Up Everyone's Cost of Living

- Small businesses are already struggling. Prop 15 will make it even more difficult for them to reopen their doors or stay in business as a result of this economic crisis. Increasing property taxes on businesses by \$11.5 billion a year will hurt female- and minority-owned businesses the most and 120,000 private-sector jobs will be lost, according to a Berkeley Research Group study. Voters are being asked to consider a measure that will only increase job losses at a time when millions of Californians are unemployed.
- Most small businesses rent the property on which they operate. Prop 15's higher property taxes will mean soaring rents at a time when the federal and state government is trying to provide small businesses with rent relief to keep their doors open. Ultimately, Prop 15's tax hike on businesses will get passed on to consumers in the form of increased costs on just about everything people buy and use, including groceries, fuel, utilities, day care and health care.
- California's cost of living is already among the nation's highest. Prop 15 will drive the cost of living even higher.

Our business community is very appreciative of all of the efforts that the County has put forth to help businesses during the pandemic. Now is definitely not the time to repeal Prop 13 which has helped all Californians for more than 40 years. Please continue to support our businesses with a NO vote on Prop 15.

With appreciation,  
Tom

**Tom Patton, C.H.A.**  
 General Manager/Partner  
 Ramada Santa Barbara

4770 Calle Real  
Santa Barbara, CA 93110  
805-964-3511 Phone  
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**RAMADA<sup>®</sup>**  
BY WYNDHAM

## Fact Sheet

### Background: Prop 13 Has Helped All Californians for More Than 40 Years

- For more than 40 years, Prop 13 has provided certainty to homeowners, farmers and businesses that they will be able to afford their property tax bills in the future. Under Prop 13, both residential and business property taxes are calculated based on 1% of their purchase price, and annual increases in property taxes are capped at 2%, which limits increases in property taxes, especially when property values rise quickly.

### Prop 15 Repeals Long-Standing Prop 13 Protections and Makes Our Economic Crisis Worse

- Amid an unprecedented economic crisis, special interests are pushing Prop 15 on the November 2020 statewide ballot that will destroy Prop 13's property tax protections and will be the largest property tax increase in California history. Prop 15 will raise taxes on commercial and industrial property by requiring reassessment at current market value at least every three years. This type of property tax is known as a "split-roll tax" because it splits the property tax roll, assessing business property differently than residential property.
- We must reject Prop 15 and maintain Prop 13 protections that have kept property taxes affordable and provided every taxpayer who buys a home or business property with certainty that they can afford their property tax bills in the future. Now is not the time to raise taxes and bring more uncertainty to businesses and all Californians.

### Prop 15 Hurts Small Businesses and Drives Up Everyone's Cost of Living

- Small businesses are already struggling. Prop 15 will make it even more difficult for them to reopen their doors or stay in business as a result of this economic crisis. Increasing property taxes on businesses by \$11.5 billion a year will hurt female- and minority-owned businesses the most and 120,000 private-sector jobs will be lost, according to a Berkeley Research Group study. Voters are being asked to consider a measure that will only increase job losses at a time when millions of Californians are unemployed.
- Most small businesses rent the property on which they operate. Prop 15's higher property taxes will mean soaring rents at a time when the federal and state government is trying to provide small businesses with rent relief to keep their doors open. Ultimately, Prop 15's tax hike on businesses will get passed on to consumers in the form of increased costs on just about everything people buy and use, including groceries, fuel, utilities, day care and health care.
- California's cost of living is already among the nation's highest. Prop 15 will drive the cost of living even higher.

### Prop 15 Includes No Accountability to Taxpayers

- Prop 15 has no accountability to taxpayers. Sacramento politicians can divert the new local government tax money for other purposes that benefit special interests, just like they have done with the gas tax.
- Prop 15 is misleading. Supporters say Prop 15 is about more money for schools, but nearly 70 percent of the new tax money doesn't go to schools. Instead, it goes to the state and local governments to spend however they want – just like they are doing with the lottery.

### Prop 15 Attacks Homeowners

- If businesses lose their long-standing Prop 13 protections, homeowners will be next. Supporters of Prop 15 even admitted that this initiative was the first step in a plan to end Prop 13, which could mean skyrocketing property tax increases for all California homeowners.

**VOTE NO ON PROP 15!**

Ad paid for by No on Prop 15 – Stop Higher Property Taxes and Save Prop 13 – a coalition of California homeowners, taxpayers, and businesses  
Committee major funding from  
Paramount Group  
Jeffrey M. Worthe Including Aggregated Contributions  
Boston Properties  
Funding details at [www.fppc.ca.gov](http://www.fppc.ca.gov)

## Ramirez, Angelica

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**From:** MICHELE NORWOOD <michele451@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 11, 2020 10:25 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Prop 15

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Please vote no on Prop 15. We are dying out here, devastated by Covid shut downs. We do not need any more tax burdens while trying to resurrect our businesses and livelihoods. I can't imagine what you are all thinking!!!! And do not spend public funds promoting this ridiculous legislation!!!!

Michele

## Ramirez, Angelica

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**From:** Debbie Kaska <debbie.kaska@lifesci.ucsb.edu>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 13, 2020 11:46 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Please oppose Prop 15

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear SB County Board of Supervisors,

We urge you to oppose Prop 15. It will hurt businesses in Santa Barbara County, many of which have already been devastated by the virus related lockdown.

Deborah Kaska Ph.D.  
Retired Departments of Biological Sciences UCSB

William C. Kaska, Ph.D.  
Retired Department of Chemistry UCSB

## Ramirez, Angelica

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**From:** Beverly Taylor <beverlyanntaylor358@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 13, 2020 6:50 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Cc:** Beverly Taylor  
**Subject:** Public Comment - D-3 (Oppose and request my comment be read into the record)  
Consider recommendation regarding a Resolution in support of Prop 15

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Gregg Hart and Members of the Board,  
(I would request my comment be read into the record)

I am writing **to oppose** the Board of Supervisors moving forward with a resolution in support of Prop 15. I reviewed the Board's presentation and the arguments opposing Prop 15, including those set forth by the Santa Maria Chamber of Commerce. The economic harm of the passage of Prop 15 to communities at large far outweigh the benefits for a few. In the letter submitted by the Santa Mara Chamber of Commerce, I would highlight the **bi-partisan opposition to Prop 15**. In today's climate of extreme political division, bi-partisan agreement speaks volumes. Also included in their letter is a statement from State Senator Cathleen Galgiani (D-Stockton) and findings of a study by the California State Conference of the NAACP. To summarize, they conclude that low income communities and Black and Latino Businesses will be more negatively impacted by the passage of Prop 15. In a time when we hear clearly from politicians and media that these same individuals have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19, why would we exacerbate the harm to them or anyone? Finally, I oppose Prop 15, as I believe the trend of this harm will next be to the homeowner

Sincerely,

Beverly A. Taylor

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

## Ramirez, Angelica

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**From:** Andrea FIELDS <notcatching@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 13, 2020 7:51 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** RE: Opposition to Agenda # D3 Hearing - Resolution Supporting Proposition 15

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chairman Hart and Members of the Board:

Agriculture makes up an important part of our state economy and plays a particularly critical role in rural communities across the state. During the COVID- 19 pandemic, California's agricultural community and our ancillary food and beverage processors became designated as essential critical infrastructure to ensure that Californians and those beyond still had the availability to purchase and consume the safest agricultural commodities in the world.

I am writing in our opposition to Proposition 15, the "split roll" property tax measure on the November ballot, because it exposes California's farms and ranches to steep property tax hikes that will hurt family farmers and ranchers and drive up food costs for consumers.

Prop. 15 exempts agricultural land from reassessment and the inevitable higher taxes which follow, but it failed to exempt agricultural fixtures and improvements, including items such as • Fruit & Citrus trees • Vineyards • Irrigation systems • Fences and Barns to name a few.

Prop. 15 doesn't just increase property taxes on agriculture – it exposes critical support industries to property tax increases as well, like farm equipment dealers, transportation companies, warehouses and our food processors. Every step in the process of producing food and getting it to your neighborhood grocery store or restaurant – planting, irrigating, harvesting, processing, transporting, storing – is exposed to higher property taxes under this poorly timed and flawed measure.

In other words, Prop. 15 exposes much of California's food supply to steep property tax increases. The apples in our children's lunch, the orange wedges we have for breakfast, the cheese and avocado on our sandwich at lunch, the almonds we snack on and the wine we enjoy after a hard day's work – nearly all the food and drink we consume – is exposed to higher taxes by Prop. 15.

Farmers, ranchers as well as everyone in our state & county are already struggling with the impacts of COVID-19. Our state's families are already struggling with the high costs of living here. Hiking food taxes will hurt our state's farmers and ranchers and add a new cost burden to California families.

For these reasons, my family and I are in opposition to Prop. 15.

Thank you for your consideration.

Andrea Fields and Family

Sent from my iPhone

## Ramirez, Angelica

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**From:** Rittershaus, Olga <ORittershaus@bhfs.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2020 8:12 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Cc:** Amerikaner, Steven; Williams, Das; Hart, Gregg; Hartmann, Joan; Adam, Peter; Lavagnino, Steve  
**Subject:** Proposition 15 - Split Property Tax Roll  
**Attachments:** BOS letter re Prop 15.pdf

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors:

Attached please find a letter from Steven A. Amerikaner, regarding the above-referenced matter.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Amerikaner directly

Sincerely,

Olga Rittershaus  
Assistant to Steven A. Amerikaner

**Olga Rittershaus**  
Legal Secretary  
**Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP**  
1021 Anacapa Street, 2nd Floor  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
805.882.1467 tel  
[ORittershaus@bhfs.com](mailto:ORittershaus@bhfs.com)

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**STEVEN A. AMERIKANER**  
1021 Anacapa Street, Second Floor  
Santa Barbara, California 93101

September 14, 2020

Via email: [sbcob@countyofsb.org](mailto:sbcob@countyofsb.org)

Board of Supervisors  
County of Santa Barbara  
105 E. Anapamu Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

RE: Proposition 15 – Split Property Tax Roll

To the Board of Supervisors:

I respectfully urge you to **SUPPORT** Proposition 15.

I have spent my career representing both private property owners and public agencies, including cities and special districts, all in California. Over those 45 years, I have seen the significant problems created by Proposition 13, and have come to believe that it is at least partially responsible for many of California's current inequities and disfunctions.

In particular, the available evidence suggests that Prop 13 makes it more difficult for younger Californians to afford housing, and confers more benefits on older and wealthier homeowners than on others. At the same time, it has resulted in a more unstable revenue stream for local governments, which makes it more difficult to provide reliable public services.

The adverse impacts of Prop 13 – many of which were unintended and unanticipated – were studied by the Legislative Analyst's Office in a report issued September 19, 2016 (it is available at <https://lao.ca.gov/publications/report/3497>). The LAO report finds that Proposition 13 has resulted in higher costs for homebuyers, because local governments responded to Prop 13 by increasing fees on home builders and assessments on owners of newer homes.

“Faced with these higher costs, fewer young households are able to afford to buy a home. Figure 26 shows that homeownership among Californians 45 and younger has fallen by around one-third since 1980, despite little change in the state's overall homeownership rate. Many factors contribute to this trend, making it difficult to accurately pinpoint its cause. Nonetheless, the rising cost of development fees and assessments on new homebuyers likely have some role.” (At page 22)

A second key finding is that Prop 13 makes the property tax system even more regressive; in other words, the economic benefits flow to wealthier people.

“High-income homeowners, therefore, receive the greatest dollar amount of tax relief. Because higher-income households own more, higher-value homes and Proposition 13 tax relief is proportionate to home wealth, the majority of Proposition 13 tax relief (in dollar terms) goes to higher-income households. About two-thirds of tax relief goes to those with incomes higher than \$80,000, with the bulk of that relief going to homeowners with incomes in excess of \$120,000.” (At page 6)

One final point: Prop 13 has shifted local government funding from a stable revenue source (property taxes) to more volatile sources (bed taxes, sales taxes, utility taxes):

“While property taxes remain the single largest source of local tax revenue for cities and counties, these local governments increasingly rely on other local taxes to make up for the revenue losses that resulted from Proposition 13. The year before Proposition 13 passed, property taxes comprised over 90 percent of cities’ and counties’ local tax revenue. Today, that share is less than two-thirds.” (At page 12).

As a result, Santa Barbara County (and other local governments) are more vulnerable to shifts in the economy, such as our current pandemic-induced recession that has dramatically cut bed tax revenues. The public services provided by the County are not so easily slashed as revenues drop.

It is time to address the problems created by Prop 13. Please **SUPPORT** Proposition 15 on the November 2020 ballot.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

Sincerely,



PS The views expressed above are my own, and do not reflect the opinion of any organization or business with whom I am affiliated.

cc: Das Williams ([dwilliams@countyofsb.org](mailto:dwilliams@countyofsb.org))  
Greg Hart ([ghart@countyofsb.org](mailto:ghart@countyofsb.org))  
Joan Hartmann ([jhartmann@countyofsb.org](mailto:jhartmann@countyofsb.org))  
Peter Adam ([peter.adam@countyofsb.org](mailto:peter.adam@countyofsb.org))  
Steve Lavagnino ([steve.lavagnino@countyofsb.org](mailto:steve.lavagnino@countyofsb.org))

## Ramirez, Angelica

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**From:** Jean Zeibak <zeibak@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2020 9:11 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Prop 15

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear county supervisors,

Please endorse Prop 15 this will bring in 10-12 billion dollars a year. It will come from industrial and commercial properties over 3 million dollars. It will come from big corporations IBM, Disney, Chevron etc.. Our state needs these funds extremely bad to support schools and social services. 40% to schools and 60% to services.

Please vote to endorse Prop15.

Thank you

Jean Zeibak

Sent from my iPhone

**Ramirez, Angelica**

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**From:** Kenneth Doty <kend@ellwoodranch.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2020 9:37 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Prop 15

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors  
ATTN: Honorable Gregg Hart, Chair

RE: Opposition to Resolution Supporting Proposition 15

Dear Chairman Hart and Members of the Board:

As a lifelong county resident and full time farmer, I am deeply concerned about the potential endorsement of Proposition 15 by your Board of Directors. While the proposition excludes agricultural land, it will impose new taxes upon improvements such as orchards, vineyards, barns, irrigation, fencing, processing facilities, and other improvements to the land, all of which are integral parts of any agricultural operation.

My farm produces in excess of 5 million pounds of lemons and avocados annually. It is my belief that this new tax will threaten my future success. I am of an age to remember the pre-Prop 13 days when good, productive farmers were being taxed off their land. There is no doubt that this proposition will return us to those times. For this reason I ask you to reject endorsement of Proposition 15

--

**Ken Doty**  
**Ellwood Ranch, Inc.**

**Ramirez, Angelica**

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**From:** Steve Decker <steve@nhdr.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2020 10:03 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Prop 15

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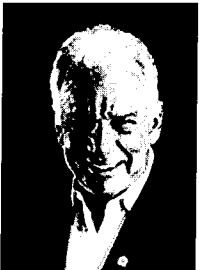
Dear Supervisors,

I have been in real estate for 50 years. I lived half my life in a state that taxes real estate through regular reassessments of properties. That method seriously depresses property values. Prop 13 does not do this because of its reassessment only if the property is sold or improved. It should stay that way.

The proposition is poorly written. It is ambiguous on what is exempt. It says it should be liberally construed. That means it can mean whatever government wants it to mean. Bad law. Prop 15 is a bad idea at any time and even worse now during our economic disaster.

Please do not endorse this flawed taxing scheme.

Respectfully,



**STEVE DECKER**  
Owner/Broker at NextHome Preferred Properties

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M 805 708-6400 E [steve@nhdr.net](mailto:steve@nhdr.net)  
W [nhpp.re](http://nhpp.re)  
W [joinnhpp.today](http://joinnhpp.today)

## Ramirez, Angelica

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**From:** Russell Doty <russelldoty@ellwoodranch.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2020 11:36 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Propostion 15

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors  
ATTN: Honorable Greg Hart

Dear Chairman Hart and members of the board,

As a County resident with a long family tradition of farming in Santa Barbara County I am extremely concerned and disappointed with your proposed endorsement of Proposition 15.

I am aware that the proposition does not tax the land but what it does do is tax improvements on the land. The unintended consequences of this new tax would be to put local farmers out of business.

On our farm we are constantly trying to improve our facilities and equipment to produce the best product we can. The addition of our reservoir and larger pipe delivery system, 5 years ago, has dramatically changed our efficiency and water usage. The addition of employee housing has made our ranch more desirable for future employees. Drilling wells for the last 25 years has given us the ability to not rely on goleta water when we are under drought conditions. As a cituis and avocado grower in Santa Barbara County the addition of new orchards is critical to the longevity of our ranch. Proposition 15 would penalize us for working hard. All of these improvements to our land have given us the ability to earn a living. Not only do my father and myself earn a living but we provide jobs to the community, we house our employees in addition to providing them a living wage.

Farmers are gamblers. We have no need to go to a casino, we gamble every day. One day the market for our fruit might be strong, the next day it could fall off the edge of the world. We spend thousands of dollars and hundreds of hours to comply with the alphabet soup of agencies always telling us how to farm and then making us pay for their time. Adding to our property taxes might be the thing that puts us out of business. Farmers are gamblers, we know we are one freeze, one heat wave, one wind event, one fire away from going under.

Furthermore, the small farmer is the one that won't survive. The corporate farms will be able to absorb the additional taxes. I always hear about how everyone wants locally sourced produce from small organic farms. Everytime a new law, regulation or tax is passed the farms that suffer most are the small farms.

For these reasons I am in opposition of Proposition 15

Thankyou for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Russell Doty

Vice President,

Ellwood Ranch inc.

Santa Barbara County Farm Bureau President

## Ramirez, Angelica

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**From:** Michael Rattray <mrattray1@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2020 12:09 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Cc:** Williams, Das; Hart, Gregg; Hartmann, Joan; peter.adam@countysb.org; Lavagnino, Steve  
**Subject:** RE: Prop 15 - Split Roll Tax  
**Attachments:** County Sups letter Prop 15 - Split Roll Tax.pdf

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Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10



Santa Barbara County Supervisors

Prop 15 – Split Roll Tax

Sept 12, 2020

Supervisors:

As the County Board is to have a vote on your endorsement (or not) of Prop 15 on Tuesday, Sept 15<sup>th</sup>, I write this letter to ask that you please consider all the negative consequences, and unintended consequences, this proposition will trigger to the good citizens of our State.

California competes for the privilege of attracting and retaining quality businesses (small and large) with the rest of the world and today still ranks as the fifth largest economy behind Germany. The benefits earned by our public and private institutions, their employees and families, has been generational for many decades. One of the many discriminators that has best attracted commerce to the Golden State, was the passage of Prop 13. It has afforded the entire State and its citizens a better work/life balance than the alternatives with out it's overall benefits.

However, the Spilt Roll Tax Proposition may very well be a deal breaker for many businesses. Our State has already lost far too many quality businesses, and their employees, over the past several decades due to the cost of business vs location alternatives. The impacts/consequences of a passage of this tax to commercial and industrial real estate are (but not limited to):

- Taxes, fees, interest, coupled with business expenses are the cost of goods and services sold...and when the market price is paid all parties benefit. Loses occur when increased cost (higher taxes) can't be absorbed, or offsetting efficiencies found, and price increases will not be tolerated by consumers,
- When consumers have no alternative/choice if price increases, they end of paying inflationary prices for items like consumer staples, with the most disadvantaged in society being hurt the hardest,
- Estimates range up to \$12B in new taxes collected when fully implemented, assuming all factors remain equal, represents ~\$300 per citizen...with a family of four paying ~\$1200 more annually,
- It's estimated that all sectors (manufacturing, construction, ag, services, etc., will be impacted by this huge tax hike, and the first discretionary cuts would include not hiring new employees and layoffs of existing labor forces if/when sales are impacted with a potential shrinking economy,
- And there will be (more) businesses that will leave the State, hitting all communities and society at large, taking their key staff's (families) and intellectual property with them.

My summary of the unintended consequences:

- The inverse of the GDP multiplier effect also applies when direct income leaves the economy and those sectors of the market that benefit (retail, services) that are usually a 5X will be reduced even with a corresponding government spending with a tax increase because of the crowding-out spending that still funded by deficit spending,

- Philanthropy, volunteerism, community vitality will also be inversely affected when economies shrink and families leave their homes,
- Already having one of the countries highest tax burdens will not stimulate new businesses to move to California knowing that the cost of business is not competitive.

There are many economists that have analyzed this proposal over the last decade, one that should be reviewed is Pepperdine University Davenport Institute (AN ANALYSIS OF SPLIT ROLL PROPERTY TAX ISSUES AND IMPACTS), March 2012. Please weigh all cost/benefits of reversing this bedrock benefit to all Californian's before your vote on endorsing the proposition.

I thank you in advance,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Rattray". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Michael Rattray

Retired Business Executive Defense Industry  
Past Board President Goleta Chamber of Commerce  
Past Board President (and Past CEO) United Boys and Girls Clubs

## Ramirez, Angelica

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**From:** Eder Gaona-Macedo <eder@futureleadersnow.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2020 1:48 PM  
**To:** sbcob; Williams, Das; Hart, Gregg; Hartmann, Joan; Adam, Peter; Lavagnino, Steve  
**Cc:** Daniel Gonzalez  
**Subject:** In support of Proposition 15

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors:

I am writing in support of Proposition 15.

Covid-19 has not only revealed to us the shortfalls in America's ability to handle a pandemic but it has also exacerbated existing inequalities that reside within our cities and local school systems. Our cities have been hit hard by the economic downturn and pandemic; cities have been forced to lay off people while Counties have had to step up public health efforts to contain the Pandemic. Additionally, prior to the pandemic, California's schools were already severely underfunded; California ranks last in the nation for class size to school counselor ratios. The problem couldn't be clearer, we need more funding for our schools and communities. This November, Californians have the opportunity to right the ship and bring more funding to our communities and schools by voting YES on Proposition 15 which puts "Schools & Communities First."

Prop. 15 will level the playing field by closing the costliest corporate property tax loophole in California's history. It will ensure that the Disney's of California, among others, and other large wealthy corporations pay their fair share. Prop. 15 will generate \$12 billion dollars and create 15,000 jobs in a struggling economy. More importantly, the County of Santa Barbara will receive over \$30.4 million in general funds to address quality of life and social ills exacerbated by COVID19. This funding has the potential to hire more additional public officials, mental health services, firefighters and even increase rental assistance for families who have been disproportionately hurt by COVID19 and economic recession.

Prop.15 closes large property tax loopholes for ultra-wealthy corporations and puts that money back into our schools. Only commercial properties valued at \$3 million, or more, will be assessed if Proposition 15 passes. 92% of Prop 15 revenue will come from the top 10% corporations in the state. Schools and Communities First protects homeowners, housing units (homes, apartment complexes) and agricultural land by exempting reassessment under Prop 15.

The passage of Prop 15 can be the first step towards a bright future for our community. The County of Santa Barbara must endorse voting YES on Prop 15, it is our best route to close the funding gap issues that exist and provide our community the tools needed to thrive.

Best,

Eder Gaona-Macedo, MPA  
Executive Director  
Future Leaders of America, Inc.

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Eder Gaona-Macedo, MPA  
Executive Director  
Future Leaders of America, Inc.



## Ramirez, Angelica

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**From:** County Executive Office  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2020 2:01 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** FW: Prop 15

-----Original Message-----

From: Carol Nelson <go2nelson5@icloud.com>  
Sent: Monday, September 14, 2020 11:52 AM  
To: County Executive Office <caoemail@co.santa-barbara.ca.us>  
Subject: Prop 15

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello  
Glad to know that Prop 15 is on your agenda.  
Respectfully, I am against raising taxes on anyone (Even business with land and more than 50 employees) during this time of crisis. Some businesses are barely hanging on...and their focus is to survive—Not how to deal with state that is making it harder to keep open.  
Wrong timing!  
Please focus on how to help them keep employees...keep doors open.

Sincerely  
Carol Nelson

Sent from my iPhone

## Ramirez, Angelica

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**From:** Sally H <sbhearon@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2020 2:38 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Comment to be presented to the Board at 9/15 meeting  
**Attachments:** SBBOS 9-13-20(1).docx; Signatories SBBOS letter 9-15-20 (2).docx

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Hello Clerk of the Board,  
Please submit this comment/letter and signatory list to the Board for their meeting tomorrow. Three people plan to make a comment by phone. They have the instructions for calling you with their information.

Do you have any information about the time frame for when this will be presented to the Board?

If there is any problem with this submission, please text me at [REDACTED]  
Thank you,  
Sarah (Sally) Hearon

September 14, 2020

Dear Chair and Board of Supervisors,

We are writing you today as residents of Santa Barbara County who are deeply concerned about COVID-19's impact on vulnerable populations. The Public Health Department and its partners have proactively addressed many of the aspects of this pandemic which have disproportionate effects on farmworkers. We admire the hard work of the Public Health Department to support the health of farmworkers and vulnerable members of our community. Specifically, we urge you to provide full support for the following aspects.

**Maintain and Build:**

The turn around time for testing results has improved as a result of the hard work of the Public Health Department. This positive development should be maintained and built upon.

**Support:**

Health Officer Orders are a key factor in reducing the level of COVID-19 cases. The new Order 14-1 will protect residents of homeless shelters and H2A housing since it will facilitate prevention of disease, as well as consistent monitoring for symptoms and prompt notification of COVID cases. This kind of careful monitoring is invaluable in disease mitigation.

A Warmline dedicated to farmworkers with COVID concerns is needed. When farmworkers are facing unsafe situations, this will alert Public Health to address immediate safety and health issues.

**Develop support:**

Adequate enforcement is needed to ensure Public Health Officer Orders are adhered to. This can be key to upholding and strengthening safety measures in place to protect all our residents.

Please take immediate action to meet these requests -- Santa Barbara County's farmworkers and our county deserve nothing less.

Thank you.

Health for Farmworkers Coalition

## Health for Farmworkers Coalition

### Signatories:

Prepared by:

Molly Kellogg,

Justice & Outreach Council Trinity, Episcopal Church

Immigrant Legal Defense Center

DRIVERS LISTOS

Sally Hearon

DRIVERS LISTOS

Laurinda Marshall

Retired Public Health Nurse

Justice & Outreach Council Trinity, Episcopal Church

Lara Cooper

Justice & Outreach Council Trinity, Episcopal Church

1. "SURJ" Showing Up For Racial Justice
2. Immigrant Legal Defense Center
3. Importa
4. Santa Barbara Healthcare Workers for Racial Justice
5. Rev. Elizabeth Molitors, Rector Trinity Episcopal Church
6. Interfaith Sanctuary Alliance
7. DRIVERS LISTOS
8. Lois Capps , former U.S. Representative
9. Young Democrats
10. Dudley Conneely
11. The Fund for Santa Barbara
12. Justice & Outreach Council Trinity Episcopal Church
13. Anita Perez Ferguson Ph.D
14. Jean Davis
15. Betsy Kain
16. Mary Ann Evans Ph.D
17. Jennifer Bergquist
18. Jeffrey Krutzsch
19. Kathryn Dean
20. Pandra Moriarty
21. Immigrant Hope
22. Rev. Mark Asman
23. Nic Filzen
24. Rev. Julia Hamilton
25. Evely Laser Shlensky
26. Landon Ranck
27. Rich Sander
28. Jan Ross
29. Pastor Alan Strout
30. Rev. Toni Stuart



## Ramirez, Angelica

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**From:** paulvanleer@ucsb.edu  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2020 2:53 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** RE: BOS Hearing on Sept 15th- Item # D3- Resolution Supporting Proposition 15

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Hart, Honorable Members of the Board.

I am voicing my opposition to supporting Proposition 15.

Although it exempts Agricultural land from reassessment, it fails to exempt agriculture structures, fixtures and improvements IE; Fruit Trees, Vineyards, Irrigation systems, Fences, Wineries, And Barns to name a few.

Having these taxed at higher rates will be detrimental to Ranchers and Farmers.

Please vote **NO** on this Resolution,

Thank you,  
Paul Van Leer

## Ramirez, Angelica

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**From:** Daniel Gonzalez <daniel@futureleadersnow.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2020 3:43 PM  
**To:** sbcob; Williams, Das; Hart, Gregg; Hartmann, Joan; Adam, Peter; Lavagnino, Steve  
**Subject:** In support of Proposition 15

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors:

I am writing in support of Proposition 15.

Covid-19 has not only revealed to us the shortfalls in America's ability to handle a pandemic but it has also exacerbated existing inequalities that reside within our cities and local school systems. Our cities have been hit hard by the economic downturn and pandemic; cities have been forced to lay off people while Counties have had to step up public health efforts to contain the Pandemic. Additionally, prior to the pandemic, California's schools were already severely underfunded; California ranks last in the nation for class size to school counselor ratios. The problem couldn't be clearer, we need more funding for our schools and communities. This November, Californians have the opportunity to right the ship and bring more funding to our communities and schools by voting YES on Proposition 15 which puts "Schools & Communities First."

Prop. 15 will level the playing field by closing the costliest corporate property tax loophole in California's history. It will ensure that the Disney's of California, among others, and other large wealthy corporations pay their fair share. Prop. 15 will generate \$12 billion dollars and create 15,000 jobs in a struggling economy. More importantly, the County of Santa Barbara will receive over \$30.4 million in general funds to address quality of life and social ills exacerbated by COVID19. This funding has the potential to hire more additional public officials, mental health services, firefighters and even increase rental assistance for families who have been disproportionately hurt by COVID19 and economic recession.

Prop. 15 closes large property tax loopholes for ultra-wealthy corporations and puts that money back into our schools. Only commercial properties valued at \$3 million, or more, will be assessed if Proposition 15 passes. 92% of Prop 15 revenue will come from the top 10% corporations in the state. Schools and Communities First protects homeowners, housing units (homes, apartment complexes) and agricultural land by exempting reassessment under Prop 15.

The passage of Prop 15 can be the first step towards a bright future for our community. The County of Santa Barbara must endorse voting YES on Prop 15, it is our best route to close the funding gap issues that exist and provide our community the tools needed to thrive.

--  
Daniel Gonzalez  
Lead Organizer  
Future Leaders of America  
1500 Camino Del Sol #18 Oxnard, CA 93030  
Phone:(805) 642-6208  
[www.futureleadersnow.org](http://www.futureleadersnow.org)  
[www.facebook.com/futureleadersnow](https://www.facebook.com/futureleadersnow)

## Ramirez, Angelica

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**From:** Yesenia Ramirez <yesi4502@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2020 3:46 PM  
**To:** sbcob; Williams, Das; Hart, Gregg; Hartmann, Joan; Adam, Peter; Lavagnino, Steve  
**Subject:** In support of Proposition 15

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors:

I am writing in support of Proposition 15.

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The passage of Prop 15 can be the first step towards a bright future for our community. The County of Santa Barbara must endorse voting YES on Prop 15, it is our best route to close the funding gap issues that exist and provide our community with the tools needed to thrive.

## Ramirez, Angelica

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**From:** Dr. Connie Stomper <cms320@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2020 3:47 PM  
**To:** sbcob; Williams, Das; Hart, Gregg; Hartmann, Joan; Adam, Peter; Lavagnino, Steve  
**Subject:** Proposition 15: the Schools and Communities First initiative

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

I support the passage of Proposition 15.

## Ramirez, Angelica

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**From:** Marisol Mendoza <mendozamarisol92@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2020 3:50 PM  
**To:** sbcob; Williams, Das; Hart, Gregg; Hartmann, Joan; Adam, Peter; Lavagnino, Steve  
**Subject:** In support of Proposition 15

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors:

I am writing in support of Proposition 15.

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## Ramirez, Angelica

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**From:** Melisa Villafuerte Mendoza <melisav50@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2020 4:00 PM  
**To:** sbcob; Williams, Das; Hart, Gregg; Hartmann, Joan; Adam, Peter; Lavagnino, Steve  
**Subject:** In support of Proposition 15

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Dear County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors:

I am writing in support of Proposition 15.

Covid-19 has not only revealed to us the shortfalls in America's ability to handle a pandemic but it has also exacerbated existing inequalities that reside within our cities and local school systems. Our cities have been hit hard by the economic downturn and pandemic; cities have been forced to lay off people while Counties have had to step up public health efforts to contain the Pandemic. Additionally, prior to the pandemic, California's schools were already severely underfunded; California ranks last in the nation for class size to school counselor ratios. The problem couldn't be clearer, we need more funding for our schools and communities. This November, Californians have the opportunity to right the ship and bring more funding to our communities and schools by voting YES on Proposition 15 which puts "Schools & Communities First."

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Best,  
Melisa Villafuerte Mendoza  
Community Member

## Ramirez, Angelica

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**From:** Alicia V. <vasquezalicia344@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2020 4:00 PM  
**To:** sbcob; Williams, Das; Hart, Gregg; Hartmann, Joan; Adam, Peter; Lavagnino, Steve  
**Subject:** In support of Proposition 15

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Dear County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors:

I am writing in support of Proposition 15.

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**Ramirez, Angelica**

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**From:** Irene Cooke <irene.cooke@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2020 4:04 PM  
**To:** sbcob; Williams, Das; Hart, Gregg; Hartmann, Joan; Adam, Peter; Lavagnino, Steve  
**Subject:** Support for Proposition 15

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Please pass the Resolution in support of Proposition 15! This state needs the billions of dollars in revenue that would be raised by this measure. This revenue will be critical to preventing cuts to local government and school district budgets. I urge you to ignore the misinformation and scare tactics being used by the opposition and help to provide a reliable source of revenue for our schools and communities.

Sincerely,  
Irene Cooke  
Goleta, CA  
970-531-0831

--

**Irene C. Cooke**  
**970-531-0831**



## Ramirez, Angelica

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**From:** Lizbeth Vazquez <lizbethvazquez@ucsb.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2020 4:08 PM  
**To:** sbcob; Williams, Das; Hart, Gregg; Hartmann, Joan; Adam, Peter; Lavagnino, Steve  
**Subject:** In Support of Prop 15 Schools and Communities First

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors:

I am writing in support of Proposition 15.

Covid-19 has not only revealed to us the shortfalls in America's ability to handle a pandemic but it has also exacerbated existing inequalities that reside within our cities and local school systems. Our cities have been hit hard by the economic downturn and pandemic; cities have been forced to lay off people while Counties have had to step up public health efforts to contain the Pandemic. Additionally, prior to the pandemic, California's schools were already severely underfunded; California ranks last in the nation for class size to school counselor ratios. The problem couldn't be clearer, we need more funding for our schools and communities. This November, Californians have the opportunity to right the ship and bring more funding to our communities and schools by voting YES on Proposition 15 which puts "Schools & Communities First."

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Respectfully,

Lizbeth Vazquez  
Santa Barbara Community Member