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September 14, 2020

Attn: Board of Supervisors

RE: Proposition 15

Dear Chair Hart and Members of the Board,

On behalf of the Buellton Chamber of Commerce and in support of our business community, we are strongly against Prop 15 given that it would raise property taxes on our commercial and industrial businesses. Understanding we are experiencing one of the worst economic recessions we have seen in our history, we feel it would be insensitive and detrimental to approve a tax hike on our business community.

A Split Roll tax is wrong for California. California is already one of the most expensive places to live and do business in the United States, which is most likely why we see so many people and businesses leaving California. Prop 15 will ultimately make income inequality worse by driving up the cost of living.

We will experience an increase in items like food, utilities, daycare, and healthcare. There will inevitably be a loss of jobs due to rising costs of doing business. Also increasing in price will be, the cost of goods, services, products, and rental prices making it a less-competitive climate for California businesses to grow and create jobs.

As the Chamber, we are here to advocate for our business community and support our local economy. A No on 15 will show that we care, we are concerned, we understand the basics of doing business. A Yes in support of Prop 15 will only prove to be insensitive and reckless to our commercial and industrial businesses and to those who have struggled the most to stay open during this pandemic.

We appreciate your consideration and would ask that you would stand with our business community and decline the request to support this proposition.

Sincerely,

Kathy Vreeland, Executive Director

Buellton Chamber of Commerce