

2018 JUL 19 PM 2:01

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Resolution No. C.M.S.

Introduced by the Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment

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RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE CALIFORNIA AFFORDABLE HOUSING ACT.

**WHEREAS**, rent control policies have provided Seniors, the disabled and low- income tenants, immigrants and African Americans with stabilized housing and maintained the integrity of neighborhoods and communities throughout California; and

**WHEREAS**, rent increases in buildings without rent control and the sale of buildings subject to rent control have led to hundreds of thousands of tenants being displaced by abusing existing loopholes in rental law, Costa Hawkins exemptions and skyrocketing rents are being experienced in more and more parts of the state; and

**WHEREAS**, California now has the highest poverty rate in the country based on the Supplemental Poverty Measure, due almost entirely to the high cost of housing. California also has a growing crisis of homelessness in both rural and urban parts of the state; and

**WHEREAS**, the California Democratic Party recognizes through its endorsement of Proposition 10 on Saturday, July 14, 2018, that shelter (including affordable housing) are among the basic human rights of all individuals; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 60% of Oakland's residents are tenants, and Oakland is undergoing a sustained housing crisis; it has been asserted that there has been a shortage of decent, safe, deeply affordable, and sanitary housing in the City of Oakland for too long; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Oakland's Renter Adjustment Protection Laws were enacted in 1980 and 2002, and their purpose is to promote neighborhood and community stability, healthy housing, and affordability for renters in the city by (1) controlling excessive rent increases and (2) serving as an arbitrary to between evictions and (3) ensuring sure Landlords are receiving a reasonable return on their investment and homeowner protection; and

**WHEREAS**, the Just Cause for Eviction protections, enacted by voters in 2001, have prevented thousands of tenants from being displaced or evicted from most rental units in the City of Oakland for reasons other than the ones lawfully established; and

**WHEREAS**, the Rent Control program has served as a mediator between Landlords and Tenants to lessen the ongoing housing and rent crisis the City of Oakland and major urban regions of the state face; and

**WHEREAS**, the Oakland City Council, in 2017, adopted a resolution to repeal the Costa Hawkins Rental Housing Act recognizes the efforts and services the Rent Adjustment program has provided to address housing and rent affordability and tenant protection, and acknowledged the importance that suitable legislative action must be taken statewide.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Oakland City Council affirms its commitment to protect renters and prevent homelessness by endorsing the repeal of the Costa Hawkins Rental Housing Act, a state law that limits the ability of cities and towns to enact locally tailored renter protections; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City Council of the City of Oakland hereby endorses the effort to repeal the Costa Hawkins Rental Housing Act to strengthen efforts to prevent homelessness and protect renters as means to stabilize our communities.

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the City Clerk shall communicate this resolution to all City Departments, to the President Pro Tempore of the California Senate and the Speaker of the California Assembly, to the Alameda County District Attorney, to the California Congressional delegation and Senators.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES- BROOKS, CAMPBELL-WASHINGTON, GALLO, GUILLEN, KALB, KAPLAN, REID  
AND PRESIDENT GIBSON MCELHANEY

NOES-

ABSENT-

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST:

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LATONDA SIMMONS

City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the City of Oakland, California