



JOEL ANDERSON

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November 9, 2021

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor
State of California
1303 10th Street, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsom,

Thank you for your leadership in providing forbearance on penalties incurred for late payment of property taxes due to COVID-19 related hardships. I have heard from my constituents that Executive Order N-61-20 was of great benefit to them, and in San Diego County, it resulted in small business owners and homeowners receiving much needed forgiveness in the amount of \$3.49 million dollars of late payment penalties.

I would also like to thank you for signing SB 219 (Nazarian) into law which continues to provide tax penalty forbearance for those who are having difficulty making their property tax payments due to circumstances arising from the shelter-in-place order. While this will be helpful to many who could not safely leave home during the shelter-in-place order, there is still a need to provide tax penalty forbearance for those with COVID-19 related financial hardships.

Although your executive order expired on June 30, 2021, both the County of San Diego and the State are still operating under a state of emergency and the reopening of the State's economy only occurred on June 15, 2021. I have been hearing from small business owners in my district that while business is returning, they still need more time to meet the first property tax payment installment of this year due to their diminished operations from mandatory State restrictions.

I have additionally heard from many small rental providers that State and local restrictions on evictions have put them in a bind. They have not been receiving rental payments, and the processing times can be lengthy for assistance payments through either the Emergency Rental Assistance Program or Rental Assistance for Small Landlords program – if they are even eligible or have a cooperative tenant. Providing more time to make this year's first installment on their property taxes would go a long way in easing cash flow challenges for these small landlords with 5 units or less, that make up 50% of our local rental stock.

On behalf of my constituents, I am respectfully requesting that you issue a new executive order with the same terms and provisions as Executive Order N-61-20, extending tax penalty forgiveness to qualifying small businesses and homeowners through March 31, 2022. This would cover the first installment period of FY 2021/22 with property taxes due November 1, 2021.

I believe that this broader forbearance mirroring your original executive order is warranted to provide small businesses and homeowners a chance to recover financially from COVID-19 economic hardships without falling further behind with more penalties.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of my request. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like to discuss this issue further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joel Anderson".

Joel Anderson
Supervisor, Second District