

From: e-beth [REDACTED]
To: -- City Clerk
Subject: Petaluma's Anti-Housing Law
Date: Tuesday, March 7, 2023 2:06:02 PM

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Dear Honorable Mayor McDonnell and Council members,

I strongly urge the City Council to listen to its community and put an end to the Residential Tenancy Ordinance.

The recent release of Petaluma's staff report further that there is no identifiable problem to be solved. Housing providers are unjustifiably being punished through this anti-housing law.

This ordinance makes it nearly impossible to maintain rental properties, protect residents, and make necessary improvements to older rental homes. We proudly provide homes for local families and work closely with our residents to meet their needs.

I am a landlord who lives in Marin on a property with two additional units that I rent out. If I did not increase the rent and/or have the ability to remove tenants who are not paying rent I would need to sell my property because the rental units pay my mortgage. I would have a house of my own if I did not have rental units.

The idea that landlords cannot manage their own property to which they hold title, and on which they may depend for their own livelihood is, frankly, discriminatory and will make people like me sell their rental properties and move away--which in turn will initiate large corporations to buy up all the rental real estate and charge the highest rents possible..

The notion that we need new, strict rental housing regulations is beyond comprehension. We do not need to add layers of regulations and bureaucracy to California's existing Tenant Protection Act (AB 1482). Your proposal only causes further confusion and harm to all members of the community.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Underwood
