-----Original Message-----
From: info@stophigherpropertytaxes.org
[mailto:info@stophigherpropertytaxes.org]
Sent: Thursday, September 03, 2009 3:19 PM
To: comment, cotce
Subject: Oppose the Split Roll Tax!

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by
(fjdmcc@aol.com) on Thursday, August 20, 2009 at 22:37:52
-----------------------------------------------------------------------
----
subject: Oppose the Split Roll Tax!
name: Frank De Smidt
to: Tax Commission
message:

Dear Commissioner Parsky,

I urge you to oppose the split roll tax proposal being considered by
the Commission for a 21st Century Economy. A split roll tax will hurt
struggling small businesses, raise costs for renters and consumers,
cost tens of thousands of jobs and hinder California's economic
recovery.

If taxes are raised on business property owners, those costs will be
passed on to tenants like neighborhood small businesses that will in
turn be forced to cut jobs or raise prices on consumers. The costs of
higher property taxes will also be passed on to seniors and others who
rent their homes and to working families who are trying to make ends
meet.

Recent studies show that a split roll tax would have devastating
impacts on the state. A study by former California state legislative
analyst Bill Hamm finds that even a one percent increase in the
business property tax will cost 43,000 jobs. And study conducted in
February by the Center for Government Analysis found that a split roll
tax would disproportionately harm Latino, women and minority-owned
businesses.

In order to push a split roll tax and chip away at Proposition 13,
proponents falsely claim that California businesses are not paying
their "fair share" of property taxes. The reality is that California
business, already paying some of the highest taxes of any state, have
historically had their property assessed at a higher rate than
residential property. For example, the state Board of Equalization
shows that business property is assessed much closer to market value.
In fact, since 1988, business property has been assessed, on average,
at 75.1 percent of market value, while homeowners' property has been
assessed at 66.3 percent of market value. And In 2006-07, tax
assessments on non-homeowner property subject to Proposition 13 were
$625.8 billion higher than those on homeowner property.

A split roll tax would hurt small business and consumers and make our economy worse. Please oppose the measure when it comes before you in the coming weeks.

Thank you for your consideration.

Personal Note: THIS IS THE WORST POLICY IDEA THAT WOULD DO MORE HARM KILLING JOBS IN CALIFORNIA DURING A DEEP RECESSION!!