subject: Oppose the Split Roll Tax!

name: Vladimir Val

to: Tax Commission

Personal Note: California is leading the nation in killing jobs, forcing businesses to close, and generally reduce the standard of living for all Americans. In the past 3 of every 5 jobs in California jobs were manufacturing jobs. Now only one in ten is in manufacturing.

California has lost 20,000 jobs a year for the last five years. That is 100,000 people have lost their jobs. 100,000 people were put on the unemployment rolls. That means around five billion dollars evaporated from the California economy. That means California lost millions of dollars of income tax and sales tax revenue. Current policy of California has just put thousands of farm workers out of a job and is threatening bankruptcy to hundreds of California farmers.

The golden goose is out of eggs. The only way to increase revenue is to create a a business friendly California.

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.