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**Business Council Membership Unanimously Votes to Oppose Rent Control**

*The Santa Cruz County Business Council Membership in their vote chose to follow the recommendation of our Board of Directors to oppose the Rent Control and Just Cause Eviction Measure as well as the repeal of Costa Hawkins on the November ballot.*

July 18th, 2018 - Following the Rent Control and Just Cause Eviction Measure qualifying for the November 2018 election the Santa Cruz County Business Council (SCCBC) Board of Directors voted unanimously, with three abstentions, to oppose this measure, as well as the potential repeal of Costa Hawkins at the state level. This led SCCBC staff to distribute a survey amongst Council Membership representatives to vote on behalf of their companies and our community at large — the consensus of which was, once more, unanimous opposition to both.

In response to this decision the SCC Business Council Staff will now begin actively working against the potential passage of this local measure as well as of the Costa Hawkins Repeal. The reasons cited for the opposing stance include the potential impact the measure may have in discouraging the development of new housing, the financial impact of the measure on the City of Santa Cruz and those who own real property, the added and unnecessarily elected rent control board, and the limiting instances in which rental property owners could exercise their rights to terminate rental contracts and occupy their own units.

“Our membership is essentially 100% against this initiative,” said Executive Director Robert Singleton, “because we think it will be catastrophic for local renters and local employees by further restricting the housing supply”

The Santa Cruz County Business Council is a non profit advocacy organization representing the 80 largest employers in Santa Cruz County, working to support the economic and community vitality.