



TOWN OF FAIRFAX
STAFF REPORT
December 4, 2013

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Michele Gardner, Town Clerk 

SUBJECT: Adoption of Resolution 13-__ in support of removing commercial properties from Proposition 13 to close the loophole to avoid tax assessments

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt resolution

DISCUSSION

Mayor John Reed has proposed the Town Council adopt the attached resolution.

Attached: Resolution

AGENDA ITEM # 10

RESOLUTION 13-__

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFAX
IN SUPPORT OF REMOVING COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES FROM
PROPOSITION 13 TO CLOSE THE LOOPHOLE
TO AVOID TAX ASSESSMENTS**

WHEREAS, Proposition 13, passed in 1978, is unfair in that it allows commercial property owners to avoid paying their fair share and has shifted the tax burden to residential property and away from business, including everyday homeowners and working families; and

WHEREAS, the state of California and local municipalities continue to face chronic budget crises in large part because Proposition 13 has forced the state to rely on more volatile revenue sources than the property tax, like income taxes and sales taxes paid by working families that move in tandem with economic cycles, causing deficits and requiring cuts to vital services that grow our economy and thereby worsening economic downturns; and

WHEREAS, regularly reassessing non-residential commercial property would, according to an analysis of data provided by the California Board of Equalization, generate at least \$6 billion in additional revenue for California, and shift the tax burden from homeowners, renters, and working families to corporations and commercial landholders;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Fairfax does hereby support commercial property tax reform that will require non-residential commercial properties to be reassessed regularly while maintaining residential property owners' protections under Prop 13; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to Governor Jerry Brown and state legislators.

The foregoing Resolution was adopted at a regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Fairfax held in said Town on the 4th day of December 2013, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:

JOHN REED, Mayor

Attest: _____
Michele Gardner, Town Clerk