

Urban Village by the Bay

# ALBANY CALIFORNIA



CITY OF ALBANY  
1000 SAN PABLO AVENUE  
ALBANY, CA 94706  
[www.AlbanyCA.org](http://www.AlbanyCA.org)

Senator Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senate  
331 Hart Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

November 20, 2017

Dear Senator Feinstein,

On behalf of the City of Albany I urge you to oppose any Senate legislative tax proposal that would eliminate or reduce the state and local tax (SALT) deduction. Any repeal or reduction of this deduction will hit middle-class taxpayers in California particularly hard. The SALT deduction has been part of the federal tax code as long as it has existed to guard against double taxation, to encourage home ownership, and to protect state and local fiscal systems. Repealing or reducing this important middle-class deduction would raise taxes on Californians, diminish home values, and take away sorely needed revenues for state and local budgets. California is a net payer state. We already pay more in federal taxes to the federal government than we receive in benefits. We urge you to protect Californians from yet another tax grab from Washington.

The SALT deduction makes the cost of living more affordable in states like California. For example, the average SALT deduction in our state was \$18,438.00 in 2015 -- the third highest of any state. The deduction was claimed by 6.1 million California households, which represents 34% of all tax filers. According to the Institute for Taxation Economic Policy, nearly 40% of California families making between \$75,500 and \$129,500 would see an average tax increase of \$2,260.00. Moreover, 58% of families with incomes between \$129,500 and \$303,200 would see an average tax increase of \$3,980.00. Middle-class families in our cities have not seen real income gains since the Great Recession. They deserve a tax break, not a tax increase.

We urge our California Senators to help our state by ensuring the Senate does not repeal or reduce our state and local tax deductions.

Sincerely

Peggy McQuaid  
Albany Mayor

# ALBANY CALIFORNIA



CITY OF ALBANY  
1000 SAN PABLO AVENUE  
ALBANY, CA 94706  
[www.AlbanyCA.org](http://www.AlbanyCA.org)

Senator Kamala Harris  
United States Senate  
112 Hart Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
[kamala\\_harris@harris.senate.gov](mailto:kamala_harris@harris.senate.gov)

November 20, 2017

Dear Senator Harris,

On behalf of the City of Albany I urge you to oppose any Senate legislative tax proposal that would eliminate or reduce the state and local tax (SALT) deduction. Any repeal or reduction of this deduction will hit middle-class taxpayers in California particularly hard. The SALT deduction has been part of the federal tax code as long as it has existed to guard against double taxation, to encourage home ownership, and to protect state and local fiscal systems. Repealing or reducing this important middle-class deduction would raise taxes on Californians, diminish home values, and take away sorely needed revenues for state and local budgets. California is a net payer state. We already pay more in federal taxes to the federal government than we receive in benefits. We urge you to protect Californians from yet another tax grab from Washington.

The SALT deduction makes the cost of living more affordable in states like California. For example, the average SALT deduction in our state was \$18,438.00 in 2015 -- the third highest of any state. The deduction was claimed by 6.1 million California households, which represents 34% of all tax filers. According to the Institute for Taxation Economic Policy, nearly 40% of California families making between \$75,500 and \$129,500 would see an average tax increase of \$2,260.00. Moreover, 58% of families with incomes between \$129,500 and \$303,200 would see an average tax increase of \$3,980.00. Middle-class families in our cities have not seen real income gains since the Great Recession. They deserve a tax break, not a tax increase.

We urge our California Senators to help our state by ensuring the Senate does not repeal or reduce our state and local tax deductions.

Sincerely

Peggy McQuaid  
Albany Mayor