ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE R

Don't hurt Albany's seniors and renters. Vote NO on R, the ill-conceived business license tax.

Measure R, which proposes a supplemental special business license tax on residential rental business, is a misguided policy that will harm the very people it claims to protect. Albany's seniors and renters are at risk of being disproportionately affected by this poorly thought-out measure.

R Hurts Seniors

Measure R is particularly concerning for Albany seniors in assisted living facilities, many of whom struggle to meet existing expenses. Due to the rush to get this on the ballot, is unclear exactly how the tax will be levied on these facilities and the impact on residents.

R Could Displace Renters

Renters of all ages will also feel the impact. Owners facing increased costs due to this tax will likely pass these expenses onto tenants with higher rents. With rental prices already high, Measure R would exacerbate the affordability crisis, making it even harder for renters to find and keep a place to live. The trickle-down effect of this tax could force our neighbors out of Albany, resulting in family disruption and distress.

R Decreases Affordable Homes

Owners renting in-law units and ADUs may take their units off the market rather than subjecting themselves to more regulation and expense. The number of building applications for new units may drop. This will only lead to further constraining housing supply and affordability in Albany.

Measure R fails to address housing insecurity effectively while targeting those who provide much needed housing. We need a more equitable, data driven approach with practical and proven solutions that support Albany's diverse community and housing goals.

Join community leaders, seniors and small businesses: Vote no on R

/s/ Jennifer Hansen-Romero, Councilmember
/s/ Peggy McQuaid, Former Mayor
/s/ Judith A. Kerr, Albany Financial Advisory Committee Member
/s/ Francesco Papalia, Albany Financial Advisory Committee Member