

RESOLUTION NO. 128-17

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA,
EXPRESSING THE SUPPORT OF THE SAN FRANCISCO DEMOCRATIC COUNTY
CENTRAL COMMITTEE FOR TENANT PROTECTION**

WHEREAS, rent control policies have provided Seniors, the disabled and low-income tenants with stabilized housing and maintained the integrity of neighborhoods and communities throughout California; and

WHEREAS, evictions due to rent de-control and the sale of buildings subject to rent control have led to hundreds of thousands of tenants being displaced under Ellis Act and Costa Hawkins evictions, and skyrocketing rents are being experienced in more and more parts of the state; and

WHEREAS, California now has the highest poverty rate in the country based on the Supplemental Poverty Measure, due almost entirely to the high cost of housing, of which in result California also has a growing crisis of homelessness in both rural and urban parts of the state; and

WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party Recognizes in its platform that shelter (including affordable housing) are among the basic human rights of all individuals; and

WHEREAS, per the US Census Bureau more than half of Richmond's residents are tenants, and it has been asserted that there has been a shortage of decent, safe, affordable and sanitary housing in the City of Richmond for too long; and

WHEREAS, the City of Richmond's Fair Rent, Just Cause for Eviction and Homeowner Protection Ordinance went into effect on December 30, 2016 and its purpose is to promote neighborhood and community stability, healthy housing, and affordability for renters in the city by (1) controlling excessive rent increases and (2) serving as an arbitrary to between evictions and (3) making sure Landlords are receiving a reasonable return on their investment and homeowner protection; and

WHEREAS, the Fair Rent and Just-Cause for Eviction Ordinance has prevented hundreds of tenants from being displaced or evicted from most rental units in the City of Richmond for reasons other than the ones lawfully established; and

WHEREAS, tenants in the City of Richmond are able to file excess rent complaints, file rent adjustments petitions to the Board and under no tenant at fault reason(s) receive temporary or permanent relocation payments; and

WHEREAS, the Rent Control program has served as a mediator between Landlords and Tenants from the ongoing housing and rent crisis the City of Richmond and major urban regions of the state face; and

WHEREAS, the Richmond City Council recognizes the efforts and services the Rent Control program has provided to address the housing and rent affordability and tenant protection. It is highly important that suitable legislative action be taken state-wide immediately.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Richmond City Council affirms its commitment to prevent homelessness and protect renters by supporting the repeal of the Ellis Act and the Costa Hawkins Rental Housing Act, both state laws which limit the power of cities and towns to enact locally tailored renter protections; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Richmond hereby stand in support of the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee in efforts to repeal the Ellis Act and the Costa Hawkins Rental Housing Act to strengthen efforts to prevent homelessness and protect renters as means to stabilize our communities.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting thereof held November 7, 2017, by the following vote:

- AYES: Councilmembers Choi, Martinez, Willis, and Vice Mayor Beckles.
- NOES: Mayor Butt.
- ABSTENTIONS: None.
- ABSENT: Councilmembers Myrick and Recinos.

PAMELA CHRISTIAN
CLERK OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND
(SEAL)

Approved:

TOM BUTT
Mayor

Approved as to form:

BRUCE GOODMILLER
City Attorney

State of California }
County of Contra Costa } : ss.
City of Richmond }

I certify that the foregoing is a true copy of **Resolution No. 129-17**, finally passed and adopted by the Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting held on November 7, 2017.



Pamela Christian, Clerk of the City of Richmond