

1 [Supporting California Assembly Bill 2175 (Daly and Ting) - The Renter's Tax Assistance Act]

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3 **Resolution supporting Assembly Bill 2175, introduced by Assemblymembers Daly and**
4 **Ting, a tax rebate program for low-income renters to create financial security for low-**
5 **income tenants and address the affordable housing needs in the State of California.**

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7 WHEREAS, Recent annual studies by the Council for Community and Economic
8 Research found that California is home to three of the top 10 areas in the country with the
9 highest cost of living, including San Francisco, and growing numbers of low-income tenants
10 have struggled to make ends meet; and

11 WHEREAS, Under current state and federal tax laws, homeowners receive significant
12 tax benefits, including the mortgage interest deduction and the homeowner's exemption, but
13 renters do not receive comparable benefits; and

14 WHEREAS, In 1972, the California State Legislature enacted a renter's tax credit for
15 about two decades, but suspended the program in the nineties as a result of the economic
16 downturn; and

17 WHEREAS, In 2008, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger used a line-item veto to
18 eliminate \$191 million of state funding for a rebate program, of which \$150 million were for
19 low-income renters and \$41 million for low-income homeowners, impacting more than
20 450,000 low-income households; and

21 WHERAS, That same year, Governor Schwarzenegger and the State Legislature cut
22 an additional \$1 billion in annual support for affordable housing through the dissolution of local
23 redevelopment agencies; and

24 WHEREAS, Since 2008, California has not offered any tax based programs for renters,
25 while working families across California face the challenge of finding affordable housing; and

1 WHEREAS, The Renter’s Tax Assistance Act, AB 2175, proposed by Assembly
2 Members Tom Daly and Phil Ting, would offer financial assistance to low-income renters by
3 providing thousands of families with rebates ranging from \$250 to \$347.50 per year; and

4 WHEREAS, Eligible renters must be individuals that have occupied their apartment as
5 their principal place of residence during the calendar year of their claim and earn no more
6 than \$42,5888 in annual household income; and

7 WHEREAS, AB 2175 would provide financial assistance for low-income tenants,
8 address the affordable housing needs in California, and have an overall positive effect on the
9 state economy; and

10 WHEREAS, AB 2175 is supported by the California Apartment Association, Tenants
11 Together, California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation, Western Center on Law and Poverty,
12 the City of Berkeley Rent Stabilization Board, the Apartment Association of California
13 Southern Cities, the East Bay Rental Housing Association, the Apartment Association of
14 Orange County, and the NorCal Rental Properties Association; therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
16 hereby urges the California State Legislature to pass AB 2175 and create a tax rebate for low-
17 income renters.