COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

AGENDA PACKET CONTENTS LIST

Committee: Land Use and Transportation Committee Date June 7, 2021

	of Supervisors Meeting	Date		
Cmte B	oard			
	Motion			
	Resolution			
	Ordinance			
	Legislative Digest			
	Budget and Legislative Analyst Re	port		
	Youth Commission Report	•		
	Introduction Form			
	Department/Agency Cover Letter a	nd/or Report		
	MOU y	•		
	Grant Information Form			
	Grant Budget			
	Subcontract Budget			
	Contract/Agreement			
	Form 126 – Ethics Commission			
	Award Letter			
	Application			
	Public Correspondence			
	- •			
OTHER	(Use back side if additional space i	s needed)		
	Presidential Action Memo 012121	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
	Referral FYI 012221			
	Melgar Comm Rpt Memo 012821			
	COB Memo 020221			
	Melgar Comm Rpt Memo 060321			
Completed by: Erica Major Date June 3, 2021				
Completed by: Erica Major Date				

FILE NO. 210053

ORDINANCE NO.

1	[Emergency Ordinance - Eviction Protection for Tenants Unable to Pay Rent]			
2				
3	Emergency ordinance to temporarily restrict landlords from evicting residential tenants			
4	for non-payment of rent due to the COVID-19 pandemic; to prohibit landlords from			
5	imposing late fees, penalties, or similar charges on such tenants; and making findings			
6	as required by the California Tenant Protection Act of 2019.			
7				
8	NOTE: Unchanged Code text and uncodified text are in plain Arial font.			
9	Additions to Codes are in <u>single-underline italics Times New Roman font</u> . Deletions to Codes are in strikethrough italics Times New Roman font.			
10	Board amendment additions are in <u>double-underlined Arial font</u> . Board amendment deletions are in strikethrough Arial font.			
11	Asterisks (* * * *) indicate the omission of unchanged Code subsections or parts of tables.			
12				
13	Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:			
14				
15	Section 1. Declaration of Emergency under Charter Section 2.107.			
16	(a) Section 2.107 of the Charter authorizes passage of an emergency ordinance in			
17	cases of public emergency affecting life, health, or property, or for the uninterrupted operation			
18	of any City or County department or office required to comply with time limitations established			
19	by law. The Board of Supervisors hereby finds and declares that an actual emergency exists			
20	that requires the passage of this emergency ordinance.			
21	(b) The City and County of San Francisco is facing an unprecedented public health			
22	and economic crisis due to the COVID-19 pandemic. On February 25, 2020, the Mayor			
23	declared a state of emergency due to COVID-19 and the Board of Supervisors concurred in			
24	the emergency. On March 13, 2020, the Mayor adopted the first of a series of emergency			
25	orders, and the Board of Supervisors later adopted an ordinance signed by the Mayor			

Supervisors Preston; Walton, Chan **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

(Ordinance No. 093-20), to limit the eviction of tenants who had been unable to pay certain
months' rent due to financial impacts resulting from COVID-19. Thereafter, the Legislature
adopted the Tenant, Homeowner, and Small Landlord Relief and Stabilization Act of 2020
(hereafter, "AB 3088"), which enacted additional protections for tenants who were unable to
pay their rent due to COVID-19. But AB 3088 only applies to rent payments that came due
between March 1, 2020 and January 31, 2021, and does not protect tenants from being
evicted due to rent payments missed on or after February 1, 2021.

8 (c) Regardless whether the California Legislature extends AB 3088, there is an 9 ongoing, dire emergency in San Francisco. The pandemic is surging, hospital resources are stretched thin, the City has had to abruptly shutter businesses across the City, and many 10 residents are out of work entirely or have otherwise suffered a loss of income due to the 11 12 pandemic. And the threat of mass evictions starting February 1, 2021 is a looming housing 13 crisis for tenants who could be directly affected, as well as for the City as a whole. The City has a shortage of affordable rental housing, and a significant percentage of its households are 14 15 renters and at risk of permanent displacement should they be forced to leave their current 16 homes. Many potentially impacted renters are also essential workers, and the City could be 17 at even greater risk in the event of a future pandemic if they are displaced.

(d) 18 The Board of Supervisors finds it is in the public interest to prevent tenant 19 displacement in San Francisco due to COVID-19 to the maximum extent permitted by law. 20 Pursuant to the City's authority to regulate evictions, and consistent with AB 3088, this 21 emergency ordinance applies to rent payments that originally came due on or after February 22 1, 2021. Nothing in this ordinance shall affect or impair the application of any other City law or 23 AB 3088 with respect to rent payments that came due before February 1, 2021. (e) This emergency ordinance is intended to prevent residential tenants from being 24

evicted due to having suffered an adverse financial impact arising out of the COVID-19

pandemic. As compared to the just cause protections of the California Tenant Protection Act
of 2019 ("AB 1482"), this ordinance further limits the permissible reasons for termination of a
residential tenancy and provides additional tenant protections. The Board of Supervisors
therefore finds that this ordinance is more protective of tenants than AB 1482, and intends
that this emergency ordinance shall apply rather than AB 1482.

6

7

Section 2. Suspending Evictions and Penalties Due to Non-Payment of Rent.

8 (a) Notwithstanding Administrative Code Section 37.9(a)(1) or any other City law to 9 the contrary, a landlord may not endeavor to recover possession of a residential unit due to 10 the tenant's non-payment of rent, if the rent payment originally became due on or after February 1, 2021, provided that the tenant's failure to pay (1) arose out of a substantial 11 12 decrease in household income (including, but not limited to, a substantial decrease in 13 household income caused by layoffs or a reduction in the number of compensable hours of 14 work, or substantial out-of-pocket expenses); (2) that was caused by the COVID-19 15 pandemic, or by any local, state, or federal government response to COVID-19; and (3) is 16 documented. The types of documentation that a tenant may use to show an inability to pay 17 due to COVID-19 may include, without limitation, bank statements, pay stubs, employment 18 termination notices, proof of unemployment insurance claim filings, sworn affidavits, and completed forms prepared by the Rent Board. A tenant shall have the option, but shall not be 19 20 required, to use third-party documentation such as a letter from an employer to show an 21 inability to pay.

(b) Notwithstanding any lease provision to the contrary, a landlord may not impose
late fees, penalties, interest, liquidated damages, or similar charges due to a residential
tenant's non-payment of rent that originally became due on or after February 1, 2021, if the
tenant can demonstrate that it missed the rent payment due to the COVID-19 pandemic, as

set forth in subsection (a). A landlord also may not recover possession of a unit due to a
 tenant's failure to pay such late charges when subsection (a) applies, notwithstanding
 Administrative Code Section 37.9(a)(2) or any other City law to the contrary. The foregoing
 sentence shall not enlarge or diminish a landlord's rights with respect to such charges when
 subsection (a) does not apply.

6 (c) This emergency ordinance shall apply to all residential units in the City, including 7 without limitation (1) all rental units as defined in Administrative Code Section 37.2(r), 8 including those that are otherwise exempt from just cause protections pursuant to Section 9 37.9(b); (2) all residential units in residential hotels regardless of how long the unit has been 10 occupied; and (3) all units where the rent is controlled or regulated by the City (e.g., privately-11 operated units controlled or regulated by the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community 12 Development and/or the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing).

(d) This emergency ordinance is intended to suspend evictions and late penalties
as stated in subsections (a) and (b) as soon as it takes effect, and shall therefore apply to all
residential units as stated in subsection (c), including those where a notice to vacate or quit
was pending as of the date that this ordinance took effect and regardless whether the notice
was served before, on, or after February 1, 2021.

(e) The provisions of this emergency ordinance, being necessary for the welfare of
 the City and its residents, shall be liberally construed to effectuate its purpose, which is to
 protect tenants from being evicted or incurring penalties due to missing rent payments
 because of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, nothing in this ordinance shall relieve a
 tenant of the obligation to pay rent, nor restrict a landlord's ability to recover rent due.

23

24 Section 3. Effective Date. Consistent with Charter Section 2.107, this emergency 25 ordinance shall become effective immediately upon enactment. Enactment occurs when the Mayor signs the ordinance, the Mayor returns the ordinance unsigned or does not sign the
 ordinance within ten days of receiving it, or the Board of Supervisors overrides the Mayor's
 veto of the ordinance. Once enacted, it shall remain in effect for 60 days, unless reenacted as
 provided by Section 2.107. If not reenacted, it shall expire on the 61st day after enactment.

5

6 Section 4. Severability. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or word 7 of this emergency ordinance, or any application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held 8 to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, such 9 decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions or applications of the ordinance. The Board of Supervisors hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance and each 10 and every section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, and word not declared invalid or 11 12 unconstitutional without regard to whether any other portion of this ordinance or application 13 thereof would be subsequently declared invalid or unconstitutional.

14

Section 5. Supermajority Vote Required. In accordance with Charter Section 2.107,
passage of this emergency ordinance by the Board of Supervisors requires an affirmative vote
of two-thirds of the Board of Supervisors.

18

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
 DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

21

22 By: <u>/s/</u> MANU PRADHAN 23 Deputy City Attorney n:\legana\as2020\2000387\01506644.docx

25

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Emergency Ordinance - Eviction Protection for Tenants Unable to Pay Rent]

Emergency ordinance to temporarily restrict landlords from evicting residential tenants for non-payment of rent due to the COVID-19 pandemic; to prohibit landlords from imposing late fees, penalties, or similar charges on such tenants; and making findings as required by the California Tenant Protection Act of 2019.

Existing Law

The Tenant, Homeowner, and Small Landlord Relief and Stabilization Act of 2020 (hereafter, "AB 3088") limits when a landlord may evict a residential tenant for non-payment of rent that came due between March 1, 2020 and January 31, 2021, but does not protect tenants from being evicted due to rent payments missed on or after February 1, 2021.

Amendments to Current Law

The emergency ordinance would restrict landlords from evicting tenants due to the nonpayment of rent that originally came due on or after February 1, 2021, notwithstanding any City law (e.g., Admin. Code § 37.9(a)(1)) that might otherwise allow the eviction to go forward. To be protected from an eviction, the tenant would need to show with documentation that their failure to pay (1) arose out of a substantial decrease in household income or increase in outof-pocket expenses, and (2) was caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The ordinance would also prohibit landlords from imposing late fees or penalties or similar charges on a tenant who missed their post-January rent in these circumstances, and would prohibit landlords from evicting their tenants due to these unpaid fees/charges, notwithstanding any local law that may otherwise apply (e.g., Admin. Code § 37.9(a)(2)).

Consistent with Charter Section 2.107, the emergency ordinance would become effective immediately upon enactment but would remain in effect for only 60 days, unless reenacted.

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President, District 10 BOARD of SUPERVISORS



City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244 San Francisco, CA 94102-4689 Tel. No. 554-6516 Fax No. 554-7674 TDD/TTY No. 544-6546

Shamann Walton

PRESIDENTIAL ACTION

Date: 1/21/2021

To: Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

Madam Clerk,

Pursuant to Board Rules, I am hereby:

X Waiving 30-Day Rule (Board Rule No. 3.23)

File N	0.	210053		Preston			
÷.				(Primary Sponsor)		-	
Title.	Emergency Rent	y Ordinance - Ev	viction	Protection for Tena	ants I	Jnable	to Pay
Transferr	ing (Board Ru	ıle No 3.3)					
File N	ю.			(Drimony Spaces			
Title.				(Primary Sponso))		
From	:					Comm	ittee
To:						Comm	
Assigning	g Tempora	ry Committee A	Appoin	tment (Board Rule No.	3.1)		
Supervis	or:		Repl	acing Supervisor:			
Fe	or:						Meeting
	I)	Date)		(Committee)			
Start	Time:	End Tin	ne:				
Temp	oorary Assi	gnment: 🔿 Par	tial	• Full Meeting			
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			-		~	<u> </u>	1
				Shamann Walton, I		lent	
				Board of Supervise	ors		



MYRNA MELGAR

DATE:	June 3, 2021
TO:	Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
FROM:	Supervisor Myrna Melgar, Chair, Land Use and Transportation Committe $\mathcal{M}\mathcal{M}$
RE:	Land Use and Transportation Committee COMMITTEE REPORT

Pursuant to Board Rule 4.20, as Chair of the Land Use and Transportation Committee, I have deemed the following matter is of an urgent nature and request it be considered by the full Board on Tuesday, June 8, 2021

File No. 210053Emergency Ordinance - Eviction Protection for Tenants Unable to Pay Rent
Sponsors: Preston, Walton, Chan, Ronen

Emergency ordinance to temporarily restrict landlords from evicting residential tenants for nonpayment of rent due to the COVID-19 pandemic; to prohibit landlords from imposing late fees, penalties, or similar charges on such tenants; and making findings as required by the California Tenant Protection Act of 2019.

This matter will be heard in the Land Use and Transportation Committee at a Regular Meeting on Monday, June 7, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.



MYRNA MELGAR

DATE:	January 28, 2021
TO:	Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
FROM:	Supervisor Myrna Melgar, Chair, Land Use and Transportation Committee
RE:	Land Use and Transportation Committee COMMITTEE REPORT

Pursuant to Board Rule 4.20, as Chair of the Land Use and Transportation Committee, I have deemed the following matter is of an urgent nature and request it be considered by the full Board on Tuesday, February 2, 2021, as a Committee Report:

210053 Emergency Ordinance - Eviction Protection for Tenants Unable to Pay Rent

Emergency ordinance to temporarily restrict landlords from evicting residential tenants for nonpayment of rent due to the COVID-19 pandemic; to prohibit landlords from imposing late fees, penalties, or similar charges on such tenants; and making findings as required by the California Tenant Protection Act of 2019.

This matter will be heard in the Land Use and Transportation Committee at a Regular Meeting on Monday, February 1, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244 San Francisco 94102-4689 Tel. No. 554-5184 Fax No. 554-5163 TDD/TTY No. 554-5227

MEMORANDUM

- TO: Abigail Stewart-Kahn, Interim Director, Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing Dr. Grant Colfax, Director, Department of Public Health Robert Collins, Executive Director, Rent Board
- FROM: Erica Major, Assistant Clerk, Land Use and Transportation Committee
- DATE: January 22, 2021

SUBJECT: LEGISLATION INTRODUCED

The Board of Supervisors' Land Use and Transportation Committee has received the following proposed legislation, introduced by Supervisor Preston on January 19, 2021:

File No. 210053

Emergency ordinance to temporarily restrict landlords from evicting residential tenants for non-payment of rent due to the COVID-19 pandemic; to prohibit landlords from imposing late fees, penalties, or similar charges on such tenants; and making findings as required by the California Tenant Protection Act of 2019.

If you have comments or reports to be included with the file, please forward them to me at the Board of Supervisors, City Hall, Room 244, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102 or by email at: <u>erica.major@sfgov.org</u>.

cc: Dylan Schneider, Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing Emily Cohen, Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing Greg Wagner, Department of Public Health Dr. Naveena Bobb, Department of Public Health Sneha Patil, Department of Public Health Arielle Fleisher, Department of Public Health **BOARD of SUPERVISORS**



City Hall Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244 San Francisco 94102-4689 Tel. No. 554-5184 Fax No. 554-5163 TDD/TTY No. 554-5227

MEMORANDUM

LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

SAN FRANCISCO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

TO: Supervisor Myrna Melgar, Chair, Land Use and Transportation Committee

FROM: Erica Major, Assistant Clerk, Land Use and Transportation Committee

DATE: February 1, 2021

SUBJECT: NO COMMITTEE REPORT, BOARD MEETING Tuesday, February 2, 2021

The following file should not be presented as a **COMMITTEE REPORT** at the Board meeting, Tuesday, February 2, 2021. This item was acted upon at the Committee Meeting on Monday, February 1, 2021, at 1:30 p.m., by the votes indicated.

Item No. 31 File No. 210053

Emergency ordinance to temporarily restrict landlords from evicting residential tenants for non-payment of rent due to the COVID-19 pandemic; to prohibit landlords from imposing late fees, penalties, or similar charges on such tenants; and making findings as required by the California Tenant Protection Act of 2019.

CONTINUED TO THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

Vote:

Supervisor Myrna Melgar - Aye Supervisor Dean Preston - Aye Supervisor Aaron Peskin - Aye

c: Board of Supervisors Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board Alisa Somera, Legislative Deputy Anne Pearson, Deputy City Attorney

Introduction Form

By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or Mayor

Time stamp or meeting date

I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):

\checkmark 1. For reference to Committee. (An Ordinance	e, Resolution, Motion or Charter Amendment).	
2. Request for next printed agenda Without R	eference to Committee.	
3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at C	Committee.	
4. Request for letter beginning :"Supervisor		inquiries"
5. City Attorney Request.		
6. Call File No.	from Committee.	
7. Budget Analyst request (attached written m	notion).	
8. Substitute Legislation File No.		
9. Reactivate File No.		
10. Topic submitted for Mayoral Appearance	before the BOS on	
	L	
Please check the appropriate boxes. The propos	ed legislation should be forwarded to the following	g:
Small Business Commission	Youth Commission Ethics Commi	ssion
Planning Commission	Building Inspection Commission	
Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution	not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative	Form.
Sponsor(s):		
Supervisor Dean Preston		
Subject:		
Emergency Ordinance - Eviction Protection For T	Fenants Unable To Pay Rent	
The text is listed:		
	lords from evicting residential tenants for non-pay s from imposing late fees, penalties, or similar char California Tenant Protection Act of 2019.	
Signature of Spo	onsoring Supervisor:	

For Clerk's Use Only