

From: July 22-23, 2020 Board Meeting-Public Comment
To: Meeting Info
Subject: [External] July 22-23, 2020 Board Meeting-Public Comment
Date: Thursday, July 23, 2020 8:44:25 AM

STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION



Paul Vetter _____ Item # ____

Item Name: Info Hearing – Split Roll Initiative

Meeting Date: 7/23/20 Minutes Exhibit #: 7.102

PUBLIC COMMENT

Name: Paul Vetter

E-mail Address:

Phone:

Agenda Item(s):

7. Public Comment

Comment:

My name is Paul Vetter. I am an Oakland resident, a parent of children in Oakland's public schools, and an organizer of the Oakland annual "Ride for a Reason" cycling event, which has to date raised more than \$1.3 million to donate to Oakland's public schools, with particular emphasis on equity in public school funding and channeling money to schools which serve socio-economically disadvantaged children. Having studied issues related to public education and its funding for more than a decade, I am convinced that the best way to address the inequities in our public education system (which are engendered by America's and California's systemic racism) is to address the root causes of underfunding of our public schools. I support Proposition 15, because it would restore a better, fairer balance of tax revenue by closing long-abused corporate tax loopholes, restoring billions of dollars annually to funding our public schools. Frankly, in a state as amazing as California, it is a matter of international shame that we do such a terrible job of funding our public schools. We cannot be a successful 21st century polity if we continue to neglect and dismiss the education of our young people. On behalf of the hundreds of cyclists, volunteers, donors, teachers, students, and families who participate in our protest bike ride to the State Capitol each year, we demand that the Board of Equalization support Proposition 15, the Schools and Communities First initiative. Sincerely, Paul Vetter, Ph.D. Oakland, California