

**From:** February 11, 2021 Board Meeting-Public Comment  
**To:** Meeting Info  
**Subject:** [External] February 11, 2021 Board Meeting-Public Comment  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 3, 2021 9:44:51 PM



**Public Comment**

**From:** Derek Fohs

**Agenda Item:** M1. Prop 19 Strike Team Updates

**Meeting Date:** 02/11/21

Name: Derek Fohs

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Agenda Item(s):

M2b. Education and Outreach

Comment:

Dear Board Members, I am a CPA in Santa Cruz County frantically trying to educate and evaluate Prop 19 issues with my clients. While I feel that the voters were misled by a massive marketing campaign led by realtor associations and that the proposition should be challenged, I'm only seeking a motion to extend the February 15 due date to file paperwork needed to transfer properties from parents to children. Due to the pandemic, many county offices are limited or closed and meeting the February 15 deadline is challenging, especially since it falls on a holiday weekend. Furthermore, the BOE still hasn't released enough guidance on the issue and advisors are left guessing on strategies to mitigate the effects. Some advice may prove to be more detrimental and lead to malpractice. Many voters were misled by the marketing of the proposition claiming to help the disabled, elderly and fire victims and are unaware of what they truly voted for. It's very common for children and grandchildren to move in with Mom and Dad in order to afford to live in the area where they grew up. Mom and Dad may have moved into another residence or care facility, and the \$1 million exemption won't apply. The next generation will be uprooted or blindsided by a higher cost of living. Those who are willing to pay the new assessments will need to raise rents on rental properties making rents even less affordable. Multi-generation business owners who own their buildings may need to sell. Wealthy retirees (not necessarily seniors) will be allowed to move to other counties and carry their low tax basis and have the advantage to out bid other would be home buyers. Fire victims will now have less time to rebuild with no relief for their business property. These are just some of the issues that taxpayers need to be educated on. I hope that the BOE will consider these issues and offer an extension of several months so that the public can be educated and avoid being blindsided by a proposition that by its title alone is misleading. Sincerely, Derek Fohs, CPA