Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: Oppose: Strengthening the Tenant Anti-Harassment Program (TAHO) in Los Angeles is crucial to protecting tenants from unfair and illegal practices. Here are some potential areas for improvement: **Increased Enforcement and Investigations:** * **More resources:** Allocate more funding and personnel to the LA Housing Department (LAHD) for investigating and enforcing TAHO violations. This could involve hiring additional investigators, creating a specialized TAHO unit, and streamlining the investigation process. * **Improved data collection:** Track TAHO complaints, investigations, and resolutions to identify trends and prioritize enforcement efforts. Utilize data to understand which neighborhoods or types of harassment are most prevalent. * **Swifter action:** Reduce the time it takes to investigate and resolve complaints. Consider creating tiered procedures based on the severity of the alleged harassment. **Enhanced Tenant Education and Outreach:** * **Multilingual resources:** Increase TAHO information availability in various languages spoken in Los Angeles to ensure all tenants understand their rights and resources. * **Community partnerships:** Collaborate with tenant unions, legal aid organizations, and community centers to conduct workshops, distribute materials, and provide legal assistance. * **Public awareness campaigns: ** Utilize various media channels like radio, social media, and public transportation to raise awareness about TAHO and empower tenants to report harassment. **Improved Accountability and Transparency:** * **Public reporting:** Regularly publish reports on TAHO enforcement activities, including the number of complaints, investigations, and outcomes. This increases transparency and public trust. * **Landlord education:** Offer educational programs for landlords on their obligations under TAHO and the consequences of violating the ordinance. * **Tenant support:** Provide resources and support to tenants who experience harassment, including legal aid, relocation assistance, and counseling. **Additional Considerations:** * **Expand the definition of harassment:** Consider broadening the definition of harassment to encompass emerging tactics used by landlords, such as excessive inspections, noise disturbances, and manipulation of utilities. * **Civil penalties:** Explore increasing the civil penalties for violating

TAHO to deter future misconduct. * **Alternative dispute resolution:** Establish mediation or arbitration programs to resolve disputes more quickly and efficiently than the court system. Remember, these are just a few suggestions, and the best approach to strengthening TAHO will depend on the specific needs and challenges of Los Angeles. Evaluating the effectiveness of existing programs and gathering feedback from stakeholders is crucial for developing effective solutions.