

Communication from Public

Name: Nikki Harris

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Comments for Public Posting: My name is Nikki Harris in District 5. I am a clinical psychologist. The Rent Stabilization Ordinance is an incredibly important law that helps keep millions of Angelenos stably housed. But the rent increases allowed right now are too high and unaffordable for Angelenos who are already struggling to make the rent. I will not be able to stay in my home with the rent increasing at the current rate. I urge the City Council to adopt Keep LA Housed's demands for the RSO formula: -Rent increases based on 60% CPI All Items. -A cap of 3% with no floor. -No rent banking. -No bumps for utilities and additional occupants. Every extra percentage point is less money for tenants to spend on other necessities like food, medical care, transportation, and childcare. The average rent for a unit in a small RSO property is \$2,357 - that means a renter would need to make nearly six figures a year – \$94,000 – to stay within the recommended 30% rent-to-income ratio. Rent, even in RSO units, is already deeply unaffordable-- it cannot keep going up at the rate currently allowed. These are fair, common-sense changes that will ultimately benefit all Angelenos. We need this update immediately--new rent increases go into effect in July and we can't afford any more increases under the current formula. The City Council must vote now to update the RSO with a new formula to keep Angelenos housed.