

Resolution No. 21 – 001

A resolution of the Rent Control Board of the City of Santa Monica in support of AB 854, legislation pending in the California Legislature relating to the Ellis Act, and authorizing the Administrator to send a letter of support on the Board’s behalf.

The Rent Control Board of the City of Santa Monica (“The Board”) resolves as follows:

WHEREAS, the Board is a government agency; and

WHEREAS, as a local government agency, the Board is empowered to exercise its right to free speech, which includes the right to take positions on state legislation affecting its regulatory subject matter and its regulatory function; and

WHEREAS, the Board’s regulatory subject matter and regulatory function, as stated in Santa Monica City Charter (“SMCC”) Article XVIII—commonly known as the Rent Control Law—include providing “relief to persons facing particular hardship,” which persons may include, “especially the poor, minorities, students, young families, and senior citizens,” by helping them to remain in their rent-controlled units, and also to limit displacement of tenants from rent-controlled units regardless of economic status; and

WHEREAS, AB 854 would require property owners to hold property for at least 5 years before evicting tenants pursuant to the Ellis Act and would prohibit the use of the Ellis Act for any rental property purchased within 10 years of the initial withdrawal, which would preserve rent-controlled housing stock and guard against tenant displacement from abuse of the Ellis Act.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Rent Control Board of the City of Santa Monica supports the enactment of Assembly Bill 854 (Lee), an act amending the Ellis Act to add Section 7060.8 to the California Government Code, and authorizes the Administrator to submit to the bill’s authors letters of support.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 8th day of April 2021.

DocuSigned by:
Naomi Sultan
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Naomi Sultan, Chair

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:
Alvin Ho
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Alvin Ho,
Board Secretary