

Tenant Protections Task Force

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We won! After our incredible “Right to a Roof” campaign, rent stabilization and just cause eviction policies were passed by the Santa Rosa City Council, and set to begin on October 1, 2016. Under this ordinance landlords need a valid reason to evict tenants, and landlords can only raise rents 3% per year. These are the most significant tenant protections passed in California in 30 years, and our people power made them happen!

Who is protected? Anyone living in an apartment complex of 4 units or more built before 1995. And anyone who is living in a triplex built before 1995 where the owner is not an occupant. The same tenants are protected by just cause eviction policies although we are working to expand the protection to all tenants in Santa Rosa.

What now? Corporate landlords and their ultra wealthy friends are not happy about our victory, and are concentrating their forces across the State to overturn it. They recently brought in over 20 out-of-town signature gatherers, who were being paid between \$5 and \$7 per signature, to gather the necessary signatures to overturn the policy, or to have it sent to a special election in 2017. As it stands right now, the policy is “frozen”. Please stay connected to NBOP because we will need to do everything in our power to maintain our policy, and not let our local democracy be hijacked by millionaires. Please let us know if you are interested in working to maintain the policy, we need as many compassionate people as possible!

We seek to live in a county where dignified housing is accessible to all, and where working families have the stability to begin planning and saving financially for their futures, without fear of eviction and harassment. We do not want our beautiful county turned into a playground for the rich, where only the wealthy can afford rents, and workers are forced to commute into town everyday to serve the desires of others. Rent stabilization and just cause eviction policies are the first, simple steps towards creating a resilient future.

The Tenants Protections Task Force is also working in other cities such as Petaluma and Sonoma to organize tenants around the rights that they have, and the rights that they need in the near future. Sonoma County will belong to those willing to organize to maintain her beauty and diversity. We are all we have — it's up to us to struggle together. Strength in Diversity!