Amendment of the whole in committee. 12/17/02

FILE NO. 020350

[Corporate property reassessments.]

RESOLUTION NO. 3-03

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Resolution urging the California State Legislature to place on the ballot a constitutional amendment modifying current tax code to close corporate loopholes in Proposition 13 and allow reassessment of corporate property at current value.

WHEREAS, Proposition 13, which was passed by California voters in 1978, made no distinction between residential and commercial property; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 13 changed the process by which property is reassessed so that property is reassessed at no greater than 2% annually or only when property ownership changes or when new construction occurs or when there is a decline in property due to damage; and,

WHEREAS, While Proposition 13 was represented as benefiting homeowners, two thirds of the tax cut went to corporate property owners; and

WHEREAS, Because homes change ownership more often than corporate property, they are reassessed more frequently, which results in homeowners carrying a larger proportion of the tax burden than they otherwise would; and

WHEREAS, The higher tax burden for new businesses as compared with businesses that have continued to hold the same property for some time can result in a disincentive for the formation of new businesses and a reduction in competition; and

WHEREAS, Under current tax law, even if more than 50% of the stock of a corporation changes hands, that is not considered a change in ownership, and reassessment of property owned by the corporation will not result; and

WHEREAS, The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities estimates that the corporate loopholes in Proposition 13 results in a loss of tax revenue of \$3.5 to \$5 billion annually; and

WHEREAS, The lack of tax revenue resulting from Proposition 13 has resulted in a scarcity of funds for California's public schools; and

WHEREAS, Allowing periodic reassessment for commercial property rather than the current system would result in property being valued and taxed based on its actual worth, rather than based on acquisition value; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of San Francisco urges the California State Legislature to place on the ballot a constitutional amendment modifying current tax code to allow reassessment of corporate property periodically; and, be it

RESOLVED, That a change in ownership for non-residential property shall result in reassessment when a cumulative 50% ownership change hands; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors shall forward a copy of this resolution to San Francisco's State legislative delegation.



City and County of San Francisco Tails

City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Resolution

File Number:

020350

Date Passed:

Resolution urging the California State Legislature to place on the ballot a constitutional amendment modifying current tax code to close corporate loopholes in Proposition 13 and allow reassessment of corporate property at current value.

March 4, 2002 Board of Supervisors — REFERRED: Rules and Audits Committee

January 13, 2003 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 10 - Daly, Dufty, Gonzalez, Ma, Maxwell, McGoldrick, Newsom, Peskin,

Ammiano, Sandoval

Noes: 1 - Hall

File No. 020350

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on January 13, 2003 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Gloria L. Young

Clerk of the Board

JAN 2 4 2003

Date Approved

Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.