

March 4, 2021

Dear Committee Members,

I am a tenant and I am oppose to SB 282. I am begging you to vote NO. I am a good tenant who knows how to prioritize my expenses. I lost an income but I am still able to pay my bills on time. It's about "self management." First, I buy food, then I pay rent and my utility bills. Then, I still have a few cents leftover. It's about prioritizing my expenses. Yes, it's very hard just to have a few cents in my pocket but I pray for endurance. I have to be happy to have just a few cents in my pocket, instead of on the street homeless.

When my paycheck dropped, I got scared and I went to talk to my landlord and I explained my situation. She replied and explained her situation also, she said "I understand and let's all just do the best we can because we all are affected by this pandemic."

Every time, I walked out of my apartment door. I passed by the management office. There are so many tenants who are abusing their accommodations. I could hear these tenants mocking my landlord by saying "you can't do anything to me because I am protected." I heard that they had not paid rents in 3 months but they're always going shopping. What's up with that? So many tenants are abusing the system. Let's stop this.

I also heard negative stories about "bad landlords." So, I did a research. Most landlords I know are just following their guidelines according to the law. The negative comments I heard were because the tenants broke the lease agreements. So they weren't happy about their landlords. These landlords are trying to do their best to provide us a clean and livable housing. I heard someone said "I don't want to be a landlord anymore."

I can't afford to buy a house yet. Without the rental properties and without the landlords, where should we go? Instead of punishing the landlords for doing their job, let's support them.

Please vote NO to SB 282 and instead focus on the #1 issue driving housing and stability right now: past due rent. We should pay rent. I don't want my rent to accumulate. If I can't afford one month rent, how am I supposed to pay the 6 months accumulated rent? Yes I heard about the forbearance. But, people are abusing it. Please vote NO to SB 282. Thank you ??

Sincerely,
Francis Price