



NEWS

From the County of San Bernardino

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LARRY WALKER SEEKS REINSTATEMENT OF SENIOR AND DISABLED CITIZENS PROPERTY TAX POSTPONEMENT PROGRAM

San Bernardino, CA — San Bernardino County Auditor-Controller/Treasurer/Tax Collector Larry Walker announced his support for AB 2231, which would reinstate the Senior Citizens and Disabled Citizens Property Tax Postponement (PTP) program. At Walker's urging, San Bernardino County has issued a letter of support for the legislation that was distributed to Assemblyman Richard Gordon expressing the County's desire to reinstate this vital program. Addressing the housing needs of special populations, including homeless, seniors, and veterans is an important element in the Countywide Vision.

"This program is offered by the State Controller's Office, and designed to help homeowners who qualify, to ease the hardship of paying their property taxes," Walker said. "I support the County's effort to re-evaluate and institute programs that are designed to assist taxpayers with the greatest financial need."

The PTP program would provide tax deferment to qualified seniors and disabled persons in San Bernardino County. If signed into law, AB 2231 would allow low-income homeowners over the age of 62, or qualified low-income disabled individuals to postpone their property tax payments until they choose to sell the property. In exchange, the state would place a lien on the property, which is payable with interest when the property is sold. "This program is a sensible response to the challenge of balancing the needs of individual homeowners with their responsibility as taxpayers", Walker noted.

In 2009, when the PTP program was eliminated by the state, there were 354 active program participants in San Bernardino County. Restoring the PTP program would provide needed support for qualified individuals to assist them in keeping their homes, improving their well-being, and their overall quality of life.

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