RESOLUTION NO. 2018-43

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALBANY CITY COUNCIL IN SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES FUNDING ACT

WHEREAS, since the passage of Proposition 13 in 1978, cities and counties have faced significant limitations in their main source of funding, the property tax; and

WHEREAS, while the intent of Proposition 13 is to help homeowners, loopholes in the system have permitted major commercial and industrial properties to avoid reassessment, a windfall to commercial property owners at the expense of vital public services; and

WHEREAS, the property tax has shifted away from commercial property and toward residential property throughout the state and in virtually every county; and

WHEREAS, city and county finances have long been stressed while the state has failed in its intention to improve local finances; and

WHEREAS, the property tax is one of the few discretionary sources of revenue for cities and counties; and

WHEREAS, estimates by academic researchers at USC have identified that reassessing commercial property will bring $11.4 billion in property taxes to cities, counties, special districts, and schools; and

WHEREAS, USC has identified that nearly 80% of the revenue will come from just 8% of large properties, owned by corporations and wealthy investors, many of them out-of-state; and
WHEREAS, USC research shows that a majority of commercial owners already pay close to market value, making the current system inequitable among businesses, benefitting large owners who have held land for a long period; and

WHEREAS, the current failure to close the commercial property loophole has led to poor land use and inflated land values, particularly affect the ability to provide adequate high-density housing; and

Whereas, the Schools and Local Communities Funding Act is expected to be on the ballot in 2018; and

WHEREAS, allocation of revenues to cities, counties and special districts will follow current property tax allocation; and

WHEREAS, the Act will provide billions in locally-controlled property tax funding yearly for cities, counties, and special districts; and

WHEREAS, the Act contains provisions to benefit small businesses, and levels the playing field among businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Act will improve land use, infrastructure, public safety, housing, parks, libraries, health and human services and the environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the city of Albany go on record in support of the Schools and Local Communities Funding Act and urges its citizens to support its passage.

[Signature]

PEGGY M. QUAI'D. MAYOR
RESOLUTION NO. 2018-43

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALBANY.

The 2nd day of April, 2018, by the following votes:

AYES: Council Members Barnes, Maass, Nason, Pilch and Mayor McQuaid

NOES:

ABSENT: none

ABSTAINED: none

RECUSED: none

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF ALBANY, this

13th day of April, 2018.

Eileen Harrington
DEPUTY CITY CLERK