

Letter of Consideration from Congressman Khanna

RO KHANNA  
17TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON  
ARMED SERVICES  
Subcommittee on Intelligence,  
Emerging Threats, and Capabilities  
Subcommittee on Strategic Forces

COMMITTEE ON  
THE BUDGET

COMMITTEE ON  
OVERSIGHT AND REFORM  
Subcommittee on Economic  
and Consumer Policy  
Subcommittee on Government Operations

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-0517

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San Jose City Council  
200 E. Santa Clara St.  
San Jose, CA 95113

April 7, 2020

Dear San José City Council:

I am writing to relay the concerns of our constituents who face considerable threats to their health, employment, and housing due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, I understand that Council Members Carrasco and Peralez proposed a “residential rent suspension for 90-days” in San José for tenants who can demonstrate a direct financial impact due to the coronavirus pandemic in a memo submitted to Council on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. On the federal level, my office is working to ensure that the federal government will step in to cover the lost revenue for landlords. Action at the local level, such as the San Jose city rent suspension resolution, would help our communities through these challenging times, and can provide a model for the rest of the nation.

Given that (1) \$11 million in Santa Clara County housing support was recently exhausted in less than four days (demonstrating incredible need); and that (2) San José continues to be the most expensive rental market in the country; a 90-day rent suspension could offer struggling tenants the time necessary to access available resources, re-establish sustainable employment, and avoid becoming helplessly behind on rent.

I respectfully request your fair consideration of our constituents’ calls to support a 90-day residential rent suspension for San José tenants impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. If you have any questions, you may contact Kate Gould in my Washington D.C. office. She can be reached by email at [REDACTED] or by phone at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

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Ro Khanna  
Member of Congress