



**COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM BARBARA BRY  
CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
DISTRICT 1**

July 9, 2020

Governor Gavin Newsom  
1303 10th Street, Suite 1173  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: California Statewide Eviction Moratorium**

Dear Governor Newsom,

I am writing to request that the state fund a comprehensive and sustainable eviction moratorium.

I support your recent action to extend the moratorium. However, the extended period of pandemic-related shutdown compels emergency action that also includes funding. The state has both the tools and sufficient borrowing capacity to establish a “no eviction” plan that can be sustained through this crisis. No local government can keep such a promise.

The city of San Diego has adopted a plan that I support to utilize Federal COVID funds for rent relief. However, those funds are so limited, so we must conduct a lottery to determine eligibility. This is inherently unfair and, candidly, a fatal flaw in any local eviction moratorium. We need to be honest with people about the limits of our authority and our financial capacity.

With the opening of our businesses being slowed, both renters and homeowners need additional state and/or federally funded financial relief. We also have thousands of senior citizens, including many in residential care homes, whose only income is rental property. Ensuring that their tenants can both stay in their homes and pay their rent keeps two households in place.

The State Legislature should act immediately to fund and empower the State’s Department of Housing and Community Development to provide direct rental assistance to tenants coupled with the state’s extension of the eviction moratorium. I would hope that this would be at the top of the Legislature’s agenda when it returns to session. Only the state and federal governments have the capacity and the tools to stabilize the entire chain of capital that stands behind the rental and mortgage markets. I hope that you will encourage both to do so.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Barbara Bry". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Barbara" and the last name "Bry" clearly distinguishable.

Barbara Bry  
Council President Pro Tem

*Cc: Toni G. Atkins, Senate President Pro Tempore  
Anthony Rendon, Speaker of the Assembly*