



**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

Correspondence Received

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
LINDSEY P. HORVATH
JANICE HAHN
KATHRYN BARGER

			The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:	
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
28.		Favor	Gary Young	
			Guadalupe Davalos	
			Isabel Gomez	
			Kevriel Bellemort	
			Steven Torres Morales	
			Tamara Westfall	Ideally we'd stop selling housing out to banks and commodity vultures but this is a good interim safety for communities under attack by the Trump admin, LAPD's support of Trump, and Karen Bass's support of LAPD. This is the least thing you could do for the most vulnerable and affected.
		Other	Lucy Briggs	



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28.		Other	Vincent Corry	<p>Although valuable from February 2025 to June 2025, the reality is that the price gouging protections are no longer applicable. Tenant protections protect all tenants! The price gouging protection is superfluous.</p> <p>Affluent people who can afford market rental rates are taking advantage of the price gouging protections. These are not victims of the fire. These are people of means in many areas of LA County who are benefitting by this short-sided mandate.</p> <p>The data to support that only victims of the Palisades and Alta Dena fires are benefitting from this countywide price gouging protections is inconclusive. What data has been submitted to support victims of the fires have collected insurance claims and have relocated? What data has been collected to support that only those victims of the fires are benefitting from the price gouging protections.</p> <p>This is an attack on landlords many of whom are Mom and Pop far from the fire areas.</p> <p>Secondarily, homeowners / landlords are incurring property tax, maintenance, and upgrades costs that cannot be covered by rent because of this moratorium.</p> <p>If the County is wanting to protect all, then a property tax moratorium for landlords should be considered.</p> <p>Mom and Pop property owners / landlords are hurt by these price gouging protections' allegations and falsehoods by the claims made by entities like the Rent Brigade. The County must listen to voices of the landlords too. On balance, I beseech this Board to act with equity for all, especially since the unintended consequence is that these price gouging protections are hurting landlords and helping wealthy rich people who don't want to pay market rental rates.</p>



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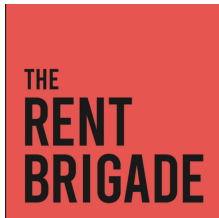
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		Item Total		
Grand Total			11	



rentbrigade.org
stoprentgouging@gmail.com

February 9, 2026

RE: Item 28: Price Gouging Protections

Dear members of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors:

The Rent Brigade strongly supports extending the LA County State of Emergency and preserving price-gouging protections for rental housing under California Penal Code 396.

Over the year following the Palisades and Eaton fires, The Rent Brigade has documented over 18,000 cases of illegal price-gouging, most heavily concentrated in the areas near the burn scars of the fires that destroyed tens of thousands of homes and livelihoods.

Our newest report, “[Rent Gouging After the LA Wildfires: How Landlord Crime Went Unpunished](#),” presents irrefutable evidence that landlords have continued to engage in illegal price-gouging. Despite this, enforcement has been nearly non-existent. No level of government has been more inept than LA County. District Attorney Nathan Hochman and the LA County Department of Consumer and Business Affairs (DCBA), have neglected to file a single charge or levy a single fine against a rent gouger, even after this Board voted to give DCBA the authority to issue fines to law-breaking landlords directly.

While enforcement lags, the disasters continue to compound. For over eight months now, Los Angeles has been subject to occupation by masked federal agents. This body has rightly declared a State of Emergency over the ICE raids and recognized, at least in writing, that this is a crisis we can’t ignore.

As The Rent Brigade, we have spent the last year researching, reporting, and organizing around the intersection of these interwoven crises: all across the County, landlords are taking advantage of wildfire victims and immigrant tenants alike, using their market power to price-gouge, harass, and evict vulnerable tenants.

It is far too early to end protections for wildfire victims. With thousands of families still displaced from their homes after the fires and thousands more facing eviction due to ICE, removing these protections at such a critical moment would risk unleashing immediate and cascading impacts on our region’s rental market. Overnight, landlords would have the green light to immediately raise rents on rental homes to a level constrained only by market dynamics that are still warped by the shocking destruction of thousands of homes and the flood of many

families into a rental market — one that, even before the fires, was characterized by an extreme shortage of affordable homes suitable for families.

By making the responsible decision to extend protections, this Board can continue to maintain a critical line of defense for tenants in LA County. This Board has shown a willingness to take seriously the grave threat working families are facing right now, and we hope that you do the right thing by continuing to extend protections for tenants until our region has had sufficient time to recover.

In solidarity,

The Rent Brigade