



March 20, 2020

Keith Williams, President
Tina Vernon, President-Elect
California Association of County Treasurers and Tax Collectors
1415 L Street, Suite 1000
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Williams and Ms. Vernon:

In the past few days, we have received numerous questions from constituents concerned about the upcoming April 10th deadline for property tax payments. As you know, the Governor recently issued a "stay at home" order to protect the health and wellbeing of all Californians. Individuals and business owners are dealing with an unprecedented disruption to their daily lives and many are already experiencing financial hardship. Taxpayers who are unable to pay their property taxes by April 10th because of the COVID-19 pandemic should be granted every form of relief available.

We understand that tax collectors have the ability to waive late payment penalties and costs for reasonable cause, including the closure of tax collector offices. We appreciate your organization's efforts to inform property owners of this relief. To the greatest extent possible, we ask that all tax collectors speak with one voice to inform taxpayers that these provisions will be applied consistently and generously across counties to maximize relief during this emergency.

To that end, we are also informing you of our plans to advance emergency legislation as soon as practicable to codify this direction and retroactively waive interest and penalties for homeowners and other taxpayers adversely impacted by this pandemic. Working together, we can provide meaningful relief to those who need it most. As California's leaders, that is our responsibility.

Sincerely,

Philip Y. Ting
Assemblymember, 19th District
Chair, Assembly Committee on Budget

Autumn R. Burke
Assemblywoman, 62nd District
Chairwoman, Assembly Committee on
Revenue & Taxation