

Communication from Public

Name: Taylor Spaur

Date Submitted: 03/22/2021 05:12 PM

Council File No: 14-0268-S13

Comments for Public Posting: We are in a time of crisis and tenants must remain housed. The health crisis has created a jobs crisis and I am currently unemployed since last March. I want to get back to work, but if I were to be evicted from my apartment then that would make it even more difficult to find a job. Please help out tenants like me who are normally outstanding renters but find themselves with no options to pay bills. Stop the harassment from landlords and ensure that everyone can remain housed.

Communication from Public

Name: Judy Branfman

Date Submitted: 03/22/2021 09:19 PM

Council File No: 14-0268-S13

Comments for Public Posting: I support the proposed anti-harassment tenant ordinance as has been proposed. It should apply to all rental units in the City of Los Angeles. Harassment is a tactic frequently used by landlords to illegally silence and evict tenants. Tenants in LA need you to protect our right not to face harassment in any of its forms. Please do not weaken the important provisions in the draft ordinance.

Communication from Public

Name: B-Rod

Date Submitted: 03/22/2021 07:41 PM

Council File No: 14-0268-S13

Comments for Public Posting: My name is B-Rod. I am a resident of Sun Valley, CA in the Zipcode 91352. I support the strong anti-harassment tenant ordinance that applies to all rental units in the City of Los Angeles. Harassment is a tactic frequently used by landlords to silence and evict tenants. Do not weaken provisions in the draft ordinance. My undocumented parents unfortunately have suffered from these type of harassment, long before the COVID-19 but worsened by today's reality. Despite the fact that they qualify for the rent moratorium under current law, their landlord has continuously shown up to their door and demanded that they provide documentation like passports. My parents have gotten legal help from pro bono services and despite that they continue to suffer from constant visits demanding documentation. They fear from deportation, they fear being separated from their family, their friends, and their community, and they fear ending up homeless due to lack of protections. Furthermore, they had over the years repairs that have been fixed haphazardly and extremely hesitantly, repairs including having a tub that leaks out and damages the bathroom floor. I urge you to pass a strong tenant harassment protection for the residents of Los Angeles because it is crucial and necessary and long overdue. As tenants, we continue to suffer at the hands of uncertainty and poverty and we must step up as a community to protect the most vulnerable amongst us.

Communication from Public

Name: Westside Los Angeles Tenant

Date Submitted: 03/22/2021 08:35 PM

Council File No: 14-0268-S13

Comments for Public Posting: We at the Westside Los Angeles Tenants Union know first hand how traumatizing it can be to be subjected to landlord harassment. Over and over again we hear from terrified people who are subjected to brutal harassment. When your home no longer feels safe where can you go? We believe it is time to protect tenants from the rampant harassment they are subjected too from unscrupulous landlords. It is imperative that the Permanent Tenant Anti-harassment Ordinance passes. No one should live in fear because their landlord has decided that they can make more money if they don't have a home.

Communication from Public

Name: Nic Filiatrault

Date Submitted: 03/22/2021 08:47 PM

Council File No: 14-0268-S13

Comments for Public Posting: I know first hand how traumatizing it can be to suffer from landlord harassment. Twenty years ago when I was 18 with few other options I was forced to rent an apartment from an unscrupulous landlord. He demanded we pay him in cash in specific bill amounts every month. The apartment was run down and clearly the door had been kicked in multiple times. There were patches of floor missing. If you sat on the carpet you ended up with chemical burns. It was only after living there for months I found out that the previous tenants had been arrested for using the place as meth cook house. He had done no cleaning despite how toxic meth cook sites can be. When I naively asked him to replace the carpet he refused. Legal aide at the time suggested that I withhold rent. It was then I was subjected to escalating harassment. He had the neighbors spying on me, he had people come to the building to threaten me, it finally escalated to waking up to find that the windshield of my car had been smashed. Two decades later I still remember how scared I was. I was lucky at the time I was able to move, but so many people do not have that ability. Twenty years later I still remember how frightened I was and how few legal protections I had. No one should ever have to experience that fear. Please do the right thing and pass this ordinance.

Communication from Public

Name: Jessica Savio

Date Submitted: 03/22/2021 08:51 PM

Council File No: 14-0268-S13

Comments for Public Posting: I urge you to please pass this anti-harassment ordinance, which was long overdue!! I am a tenant in the City of L.A. I am a survivor of domestic violence and sexual assault. I am a single woman and i live alone. When i moved into my rental, i was escaping an abusive situation, and i thought that once i had my own place, i would finally be able to live in peace, and finally begin healing from all the trauma previously inflicted on me. Little did i know, my landlord and building manager are not trustworthy people, and would not hesitate to abuse their power as housing providers, actually making my trauma and misery far worse. My landlords have been subjecting me to many forms of harassment. They have made inappropriate comments at me and stalked me in unthinkable ways, even propping a ladder right up to my bathroom window!! They have entered the property without notice, destroyed my garden and belongings, and of course failed to make timely repairs. My roof has leaked many times, one rainy season after another, and even though now it is finally fixed, they took entirely too long to do so. I cannot count how many times they have entered without notice, often awakening me abruptly in the morning, as early as before 6am. To give you some context, a few years back, in the previous place where i lived, i was assaulted in my sleep by a man who broke into my room in the middle of the night. Now, every time i hear my landlord or his workers letting themselves into the yard and approaching the building without notice, those traumatic memories are triggered, sending me into a dysfunctional spiral of PTSD, sometimes for days at a time. I live in an RSO unit, and because of many factors, i am unable to relocate, despite all the harassment. I have had no power or recourse to get them to stop. When they put the ladder up to my bathroom window, i took photos of it, and i thought that finally i had evidence of something egregious enough, to finally get someone to help me. I went to the local division of the LAPD to show them the evidence and report the stalking, but instead of helping me, they laughed at me and treated me as if *i* were being the unreasonable person in the situation. After i repeatedly insisted, they agreed to take a report. However, nothing was ever done about it, and my landlords continued to harass me. I have never missed a rent payment. Despite losing work because of the pandemic, i have paid them the rent in full every single month.

Regardless, they continue to harass me. My landlord has told me to my face that he wants me to move out because, in his own words, he is "not making enough profit" off of me! Some months after i moved in, my landlord asked me for a rent increase. My employment is precarious, my income is very unstable, and barely enough to cover the rent. I asked them for a written notice, if they wanted to raise the rent, to follow the legally required procedures. They refused to do so, and instead increased the frequency and severity of harassment. I have looked up the transaction history of this property. They bought it in 1995 for only \$55,000 ! In the few years that i have lived here, i have already paid them more than that amount in rent! And they used to rent the downstairs too, making double the money, for many years before i moved in! They are clearly sick with greed, and perverted misogyny, and i have to suffer their constant harassment as a consequence, with no leverage or recourse to make them stop. If you are wondering whether this ordinance should pass, i believe that my situation speaks for itself. And please keep in mind, that i am not even experiencing the worst of the scenarios, as i have heard too many stories of other tenants being subjected to even worse. As long as there are no consequences for harassing tenants, landlords will continue to do so. Only you have the power to stop these abuses, and to protect tenants across the city, especially in the few-and-far-between rare units that still fall under the RSO. We NEED you to please pass this ordinance. I am honestly shocked that we don't have these protections already. But it's better late than never. I am aware that many members of the council are landlords themselves, but please, do not let your private interest blind you. If you care about curbing our homelessness crisis (and the spending required for homeless services), then first of all you must prevent housed people from losing their home! You MUST protect housed people from harassment. Please pass this ordinance. Thank you for your time and attention