

## REBUTTAL TO THE ARGUMENT IN SUPPORT OF MEASURE A

Why when politicians want more of YOUR money its always for “public safety and vital City services?”

The City Council’s proposed ballot Measure A, to increase the city’s transient occupancy tax (hotel tax) from 9% to 13% will not help Benicia’s public safety or vital City services. While the council claims that this tax hike will add \$250,000 to the city’s general fund annually, it is important to consider the potential negative impact on the local economy.

A higher hotel tax rate could discourage tourism and lead to a decline in hotel bookings, which would ultimately hurt local businesses and the city’s economy.

The council’s decision to impose this tax increase during a time of economic uncertainty is questionable. The city is already facing a deficit, and the proposed tax increase could further burden residents and businesses. Instead of increasing taxes, the council should focus on finding ways to reduce expenses and improve efficiency.

While the Benicia City Council’s proposal to increase the transient occupancy tax may seem like a quick fix to the city’s financial woes, it could have long-term negative consequences for the local economy. The council should consider alternative solutions that do not place an undue burden on residents and businesses.

The measure boasts for a so called "independent citizen oversight," but the measure contains no spending guaranties that the oversight committee could enforce.

**Vote NO on Measure A.** You alone are the best "Oversight" on how your money is spent, not their Appointees.

s/Michael Nolan

