

DATE

Dear Editor:

Gov. Brown recently released a budget proposal that includes the elimination of redevelopment agencies (Add “enterprise zones” if YOUR City has one).

The redevelopment proposal violates the will of the people and will have dire consequences for (name of city) and California’s economy. Voters approved Proposition 22 in November, reaffirming the message we have sent again and again: local funds should remain local and pay for services and programs in their own communities. (Give an example of what this will mean to your community)

The Enterprise Zone Program targets economically distressed areas throughout California, providing special incentives designed to encourage business investment and promote the creation of new jobs. (Add details on what this has meant to your city’s economy)

Redevelopment enterprise zones boost our economy, and are essential tools for economic recovery. Redevelopment builds and improves communities, spurs job growth and taxes and is the most significant provider of infrastructure, urban development and affordable housing in the state. Enterprise zones are one of the few economic development tools that local agencies have to bring jobs to depressed areas.

There is no doubt that the state’s budget situation is dire, and it is well past time that the state faces the consequences of years of gimmicks and temporary budget fixes. However, eliminating programs that create jobs and fuel economic growth is reckless and unwise.

Sincerely,