

TO: Mayor Steve Adler and Austin City Council Members

FROM: Taylor G. Smith, Deputy Director of Government Affairs Jules 2. Smith

DATE: October 13, 2022

SUBJECT: Items 27 – Support for Postponement – Tenant Organizing Ordinance

The Austin Board of REALTORS® recognizes Council's desire to help ensure that residents have the ability and opportunity to organize on the properties they lease. However, in such a tight rental housing market, it is critical for Council to consider the impacts new rental regulations will have on the entire rental market. Item 27 is a draft ordinance developed by City Staff to provide certain tenant protections related to tenant organizing. Thank you for allowing stakeholders the time these past few weeks to further discuss this item.

On behalf of our more than 15,000 Central Texas REALTORS®, we ask Council to support the postponement of Item 27 to allow stakeholders the ability to further discuss and refine City Staff's proposed ordinance, address outstanding concerns, and have an adequate amount of time to review the final ordinance language in order to effectively communicate with Council Members and the community.

We would like to thank Council Member Vela, Mayor Adler, and their offices for effectively facilitating these ongoing conversations among the stakeholders. We are committed to continuing these conversations with all stakeholders on this item and hope this additional postponement will give stakeholders the needed time to come to a sustainable solution for Austin.

Thank you for carefully considering this request. We appreciate your leadership, and we are here to work with you as you continue to make these decisions.

Cc: Spencer Cronk, Austin City Manager