

SAMPLE PRESS RELEASE

PAST DUE (*Insert name*) COUNTY PROPERTY TAX AND STATE FEES CAN BE WAIVED FOR SOME MOBILEHOME OWNERS

***Eligible property owners could save hundreds to
thousands of dollars***

DATELINE (*Name of County Seat*) – County residents who own a mobilehome or manufactured home but didn't receive the necessary title to the property can properly register their homes and avoid paying hundreds or even thousands of dollars in past due local property taxes and state fees and penalties.

(*Insert name*) County is mandated under state law to waive past due local property taxes on mobilehomes or manufactured homes for owners who have never registered their home in their name with the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD).

As many as one in three mobilehome owners – or about 160,000 statewide – could be eligible for waivers of back due local property taxes and/or state fees, according to HCD.

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“This program provides a one-time opportunity to get the proper documentation and not have to pay many back taxes, fees, and penalties often incurred by previous owners,” said ***(insert name of County Official.)***

”The law was designed to bring mobilehomes back onto local and state active property rolls and make registration affordable to mobilehome owners. Homeowners can save money and protect themselves and their homes.”

To start an application, residents can go to www.RegisterYourMobileHomeCA.org and download the application and instructions. The ***(insert name of County Tax Collector or Assessor)*** and staff are available to provide information regarding the waiver of local property taxes as part of that application. The County office is located at ***(insert address)***. Staff can be reached by calling ***(insert phone number)***.

People who currently own mobilehomes that were manufactured *after* July 1, 1980 are required to pay local property taxes each year and are required to pay the annual HCD registration fee.

(Those who own mobilehomes or manufactured homes manufactured *before* July 1, 1980 do not pay local property tax but are required to pay state fees annually.)

Without current title and registration, homeowners can face liens for unpaid taxes and fees, preventing them from legally selling the home or transferring the property.

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According to HCD, mobilehome owners may also be unable to access fire or flood insurance, obtain building permits for major improvements or financial assistance for energy efficiency programs provided by utilities.

The Fee and Tax Waiver Program, passed as Assembly Bill 587 and signed by Gov. Edmund G. Brown in 2016, took effect in 2017.

For more information from the State of California, go to www.RegisterYourMobilehomeCA.org or call HCD at (800) 952-8356 for help. Free interpreter services are available in all languages.

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