

THE CITY OF WARWICK
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

NO. _____ DATE _____

APPROVED _____ MAYOR

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING DATA AND FISCAL IMPACTS OF POTENTIAL
EXPANSION OF ACCESS TO AND INCREASING THE VALUES OF TAX
EXEMPTIONS FOR LOW INCOME, ELDERLY AND/OR DISABLED
HOMEOWNERS

Resolved that,

WHEREAS, the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Warwick are matters of paramount importance to the City Council; and

WHEREAS, many residents have expressed concerns relative to property taxes that residents are now paying and the potential adverse effects of market changes and tax revaluation(s) affecting Warwick homeowners with low household income; and

WHEREAS, the City Council Tax Relief Commission established pursuant to PCR-105-19, as amended, has held public meetings and discussed possible means for tax relief for Warwick property owners through exemptions; and

WHEREAS, the City's "Circuit Breaker" exemption is available for low-income homeowners on a sliding scale that as of tax year 2022, provides for tax relief to homeowners who are either 100% disabled or are at least 65 years of age who also hold title to and have resided in the property for which they are applying for such tax credit for at least five years and who have gross household income within the following income ranges to qualify for the following exemption amounts or tax credit amounts:

Income Range	Amount of Tax Credit
\$0.00 - \$18,016	\$1,000
\$18,017 - \$20,266	\$900
\$20,267 - \$22,518	\$800
\$22,519 - \$24,772	\$700
\$24,773 - \$27,023	\$600

1 WHEREAS, Warwick homeowners with household income so low as to qualify for the
2 City's Circuit Breaker Program but not so low that they may qualify for the City's Tax Freeze
3 Program may be particularly financially vulnerable in the event of a rising property valuation; and
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5 WHEREAS, the City Council desires to receive data and fiscal impacts of potential
6 expansion of access to and increasing the values of tax exemptions for low income, elderly and/or
7 disabled homeowners.
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9 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Warwick City Council hereby requests that
10 the Finance Director and the Tax Assessor compile the requested data and potential fiscal impacts
11 and report back to the City Council on their findings regarding:

- 12 1. What is the total cost to the City of the "Circuit Breaker" exemption for the current
13 fiscal year, FY 2022, and, how many households utilize the "Circuit Breaker"
14 exemption?
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- 16 2. How many households in Warwick currently utilize the "Circuit Breaker" exemption
17 but do not qualify for or otherwise do not utilize the "Tax Freeze" exemption?
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- 19 3. What would be the anticipated cost in FY 2023 if the relief available through the
20 "Circuit Breaker" exemption was increased by 50% to all currently-qualifying
21 recipients?
22
- 23 4. Alternatively, what would be the anticipated cost in FY 2023 if the relief available
24 through the "Circuit Breaker" exemption was increased by 50% to all currently-
25 qualifying recipients who do not presently also qualify for the Tax Freeze?

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27 The City Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Finance
28 Director and the Tax Assessor.
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30 This Resolution shall take effect upon passage.
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33 SPONSORED BY: COUNCILMAN RIX

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35 COMMITTEE: INTERGOVERNMENTAL
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