

RESOLUTION NO. 24R-01-15

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL, FLORIDA OPPOSING A NUMBER OF PROPOSED BILLS BEFORE THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE WHICH SEEK TO INCREASE THE HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION FROM \$50,000 TO \$75,000 WHICH WOULD REDUCE THE OVERALL COLLECTIBLE HOMESTEAD PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENTS BY THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL AND WHICH WOULD ULTIMATELY RESULT IN THE NEED TO INCREASE THE TAX RATE; IMPLORING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO OPPOSE ANY SIMILAR LEGISLATION; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO TRANSMIT THIS RESOLUTION TO THE APPROPRIATE PARTIES; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (REQUESTED BY VICE MAYOR, LAWRENCE "JABOW" MARTIN)

WHEREAS, on Monday January 8th, 2024, the Florida House Ways and Means Committee considered three proposed committee bills that would negatively impact homestead property tax revenues for cities; and

WHEREAS, WMC1-2024 and WMC3-2024 consist of a proposed constitutional amendment and implementing bill that would increase the homestead exemption from \$50,000 to \$75,000, reducing homestead property tax assessments; and

WHEREAS, WMC1-2024 proposes a constitutional amendment and would require the approval of the Florida Legislature and the voters of Florida, and would therefore be on the ballot in November 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Committee will be considering WMC2-2024, which would apply an annual increase in exemption values to be determined based upon the Consumer Price Index percentages; and

WHEREAS, WMC3-2024 is a combined implementing bill for both WMC1-2024 and WMC2-2024; and

WHEREAS, these proposed bills would further reduce the taxable valuation on homestead properties, thereby reducing homestead ad valorem revenue that would be collectible by the City of Lauderhill and other agencies; and

WHEREAS, these proposed bills would have the effect of shifting tax burdens to businesses and renters from homestead property owners, exacerbating inequities in the property tax system;

WHEREAS, these bills could expose small businesses to tax hikes later resulting in small businesses having a larger share of the tax burden; and

WHEREAS, these bills will reduce general revenue funds, taking resources away from police and firefighters and could result in a loss or reduction of essential services; and

WHEREAS, tying the exemption to the Consumer Price Index creates uncertainty year to year for local governments and residents alike;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1. The foregoing "WHEREAS" clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby incorporated herein by reference thereto.

SECTION 2. The City Commission of the City of Lauderhill urges the Florida Legislature to oppose the adoption of any proposed Bill similar to WMC1-2024, WMC2-2024, or WMC3-2024, all of which seek to increase the Homestead Exemption from \$50,000 to \$75,000.

SECTION 3. The City Clerk is hereby directed to distribute this Resolution to: the Florida Governor, the President of the Florida Senate, the Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, the Broward County Legislative Delegation, the Florida League of Cities, the Florida Association of Counties, the Florida City County Management Association, the Board of County Commissioners for Broward County, the Broward County League of Cities, and each of the municipalities in Broward County, and any other interested parties.

SECTION 4. All Resolutions or parts of Resolutions in conflict herewith, be and the same, are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 5. If any section, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Resolution is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, then said holding shall in no way affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Resolution.

SECTION 6. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage and adoption.

DATED this _____ day of _____, 2024.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on first reading this _____ day of _____, 2024.

PRESIDING OFFICER

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

MOTION
SECOND

M. DUNN
D. GRANT
L. MARTIN
S. MARTIN
K. THURSTON

Approved as to Form

Angel Petti Rosenberg
City Attorney