



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: Inf 185 **Version:** 1 **Name:**
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In control: Legislative Department

On agenda:

Final Action: **Ord. No.**

Title: A RESOLUTION requesting that the Office of Intergovernmental Relations seek a change in the State of Washington laws in order to expand eligibility for the existing low-income property tax exemption.

Sponsors: Kshama Sawant

Indexes:

Attachments: 1. Resolution Text, 2. Summary and Fiscal Note

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
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CITY OF SEATTLE
RESOLUTION _____

A RESOLUTION requesting that the Office of Intergovernmental Relations seek a change in the State of Washington laws in order to expand eligibility for the existing low-income property tax exemption. WHEREAS, the Institute on Taxation Economic Policy’s 2015 “Who Pays?” report concluded that Washington

State has the most regressive taxes of any state in the United States; and

WHEREAS, The City of Seattle wishes to collect property taxes in a more equitable manner; and

WHEREAS, on November 8, 1966, voters approved legislatively-referred Constitutional Amendment 47 and

thereby authorized the Legislature to exempt occupied residential property from property taxes for certain retired persons; and

WHEREAS, in 1967 the State of Washington granted a property tax exemption to low-income seniors and certain low-income disabled individuals in RCW 84.36.379 <<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=84.36.379>>; and

WHEREAS, The City of Seattle adopted its 2015 State Legislative Agenda through Resolution 31557; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE THAT:

Section 1. The City of Seattle (City) amends its 2015 State Legislative Agenda, set forth in Resolution

31557, to support expanding the existing residential property tax exemption. Current law restricts eligibility to those owner-occupants of real property who (a) are senior citizens or disabled and (b) have less than \$35,000 in household income. The City supports changes that would expand eligibility to include all owner-occupant households with incomes up to 80 percent of Area Median Income.

Adopted by the City Council the ____ day of _____, 2015, and signed by me in open session in authentication of its adoption this _____ day of _____, 2015.

President _____ of the City Council

The Mayor concurred the ____ day of _____, 2015.

Edward B. Murray, Mayor

Filed by me this ____ day of _____, 2015.

Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

(Seal)