

# RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 100

Approved February 28, 2025

WHEREAS, The Providence City Council recognizes and honors the invaluable contributions and sacrifices made by veterans and their families in service to our nation; and

WHEREAS, Representative Anthony DeSimone (D-District 5, Providence) has introduced House Bill H5307, which, if enacted, would grant the Providence City Council the authority to set and adjust Providence veteran's tax exemption amounts through ordinance or resolution; and

WHEREAS, Senator Frank Ciccone (D-District 7, Providence, Johnston), is working to introduce companion legislation in the Rhode Island Senate; and

WHEREAS, Under current state law, veterans tax exemption amounts are statutorily fixed, which limits the ability of the City Council to adjust exemption amounts in response to changing economic conditions and the diverse needs of the city's veteran community; and

WHEREAS, Granting the Providence City Council the ability to set and modify veterans tax exemptions would provide greater flexibility for the city to support its residents who have served in the armed forces, ensuring they receive fair and meaningful tax relief; and

WHEREAS, The passage of this legislation would empower the Providence City Council to enhance the well-being and quality of life for Providence veterans and their families; and

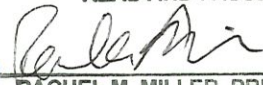

WHEREAS, The Providence City Council is deeply committed to advocating for policies that benefit our veterans and their families, to whom we all owe an enormous debt of gratitude, by recognizing the sacrifices they have made for all of us and their contributions to our communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council hereby expresses its strong support for House Bill H5307 and incoming Rhode Island Senate companion bill, and urges the Rhode Island General Assembly to pass this legislation; and


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon passage of this resolution, copies be transmitted to Representative Anthony DeSimone, Senator Frank Ciccone, and the members of the Providence Special Commission on Veterans Affairs.

IN CITY COUNCIL  
FEB 20 2025

READ AND PASSED

  
RACHEL M. MILLER, PRESIDENT.  
  
CLERK

I HEREBY APPROVE.

  
Brett P. Smith  
Mayor  
Date: 2/28/2025

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

A N A C T

RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION

Introduced By: Representatives DeSimone, Biah, Azzinaro, Ajello, Diaz, Slater, and Hull

Date Introduced: February 05, 2025

Referred To: House Municipal Government & Housing

(City of Providence)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 44-3-31 of the General Laws in Chapter 44-3 entitled "Property  
2 Subject to Taxation" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **44-3-31. Providence — Certain tax exemptions.**

4 (a) ~~Notwithstanding any other provisions of general or special law to the contrary, the city~~  
5 ~~council of the city of Providence is authorized to fix, by ordinance or resolution, the amount of the~~  
6 ~~exemptions with respect to assessed value from local taxation on taxable property to the following~~  
7 ~~persons: veterans and the unmarried widow or widower of veterans as defined in § 44-3-4 at three~~  
8 ~~thousand dollars (\$3,000); for persons who are blind as defined in § 44-3-12 at eighteen thousand~~  
9 ~~dollars (\$18,000); for veterans or the unmarried widow or widower of veterans who are totally~~  
10 ~~disabled as defined in section 44-3-4 at six thousand dollars (\$6,000); for gold star parents as~~  
11 ~~defined in § 44-3-5 at nine thousand dollars (\$9,000); for persons who are one hundred percent~~  
12 ~~(100%) disabled as determined pursuant to title II and title XVI of the Social Security Act, 42~~  
13 ~~U.S.C. § 401 et seq., and 42 U.S.C. § 1381 et seq., or who, by reason of their being one hundred~~  
14 ~~percent (100%) disabled, are receiving disability payments from sources other than the Social~~  
15 ~~Security Administration (such as employees of the railroad, federal civil service, postal service,~~  
16 ~~and the Providence police and fire departments) at nine thousand dollars (\$9,000); for specially~~  
17 ~~adapted housing for veterans with paraplegia as defined in § 44-3-4 at thirty thousand dollars~~  
18 ~~(\$30,000); for any person sixty five (65) years of age, or over, at ten thousand dollars (\$10,000);~~  
19 ~~for any person sixty two (62) through sixty four (64) years of age, who is receiving social security~~

1 ~~benefits, ten thousand dollars (\$10,000). Any increase in exemption provided for in this section~~  
2 ~~over the amount previously provided by general or special law applies only to real property.~~

3 The city council of the city of Providence is hereby authorized, by ordinance or resolution,  
4 to exempt from taxation a specified dollar amount of real and/or personal property of qualified  
5 individuals as defined in §§ 44-3-4 and 44-3-5, who are residents of the city of Providence and are:

6 (1) Veterans of war;

7 (2) Unmarried spouses of veterans of war;

8 (3) Veterans or the unmarried widow or widower of veterans who are one hundred percent  
9 (100%) totally disabled through service connected disability;

10 (4) For persons who are one hundred percent (100%) disabled as determined pursuant to  
11 title II and title XVI of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. § 401 et seq., and 42 U.S.C. § 1381 et  
12 seq., or who, by reason of their being one hundred percent (100%) disabled, are receiving disability  
13 payments from sources other than the social security administration (such as employees of the  
14 railroad, federal civil service, postal service, and the Providence police and fire departments or any  
15 person receiving federal disability retirement):

16 (5) Persons who are blind as provided in § 44-3-12;

17 (6) Gold star parents as provided in § 44-3-5;

18 (7) Veterans who were prisoners of war;

19 (8) Any person sixty-five (65) years of age, or over;

20 (9) Any person sixty-two (62) through sixty-four (64) years of age, who is receiving social  
21 security benefits;

22 (10) Using the exemption for specially adapted housing for veterans with paraplegia as  
23 defined in § 44-3-4.

24 (b) The city council of the city of Providence may subject the exemptions provided in this  
25 section to verifications with respect to qualification for exemptions that it deems necessary or  
26 desirable.

27 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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LC000972  
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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION

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- 1           This act would authorize the Providence city council to set the veterans tax exemption limit  
2 to an amount determined by the city council via ordinance or resolution.  
3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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LC000972  
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