

Resolution in Support of Eliminating the Property Tax

WHEREAS, a property tax has been levied by various governments on Texans since before its independence from Mexico; and

WHEREAS, a Texas property owner never truly owns their property and instead is subjected to perpetual rent to the government based primarily on subjective valuations of appraisal review boards and tax rates established by local taxing entities with virtually no feedback from those whom the tax is being imposed upon; and

WHEREAS, the property tax is immoral and regressive, while ultimately impacting low and fixed-income Texans the most due to the cost of property taxes compounding over time; and

WHEREAS, in the last few decades the property tax burden on Texans has exponentially increased as a portion of the overall taxes paid, rising 181%, far outpacing other states. The *Tax Foundation* reported in 2021 that Texas had the 6th most burdensome property tax in the United States and *WalletHub* reported just one year earlier that Texas ranked 6th in most onerous property taxes. This growth happened despite Republican majorities in the state legislature during that time; and

WHEREAS, in recent polling, 82% of Texans indicated that property taxes are a serious issue, whilst 7 out of every 10 of those polled indicated that they would be upset if the most recent legislative sessions concluded with nothing done to lower their property tax burdens; and

WHEREAS, in the most recent Texas Legislative Sessions, virtually no real property tax relief was administered, and instead lawmakers approved of paltry gimmicks aimed at special classes of Texans, only slowing the growth of such burdens; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, _____ supports eliminating the property tax system and the idea of paying perpetual rent to the government; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, _____ supports finding other sources of existing revenue to fund important government services, including but not limited to, cutting government spending and using existing budget surpluses to aid in transitioning to a new fair tax system, should one be needed.