



Boston City Council

Committee on Government Operations

Maureen Feeney, *Chair*

December 15, 2009

Dear Councilors:

The Committee on Government Operations held a hearing on an order regarding local adoption of the senior citizen property tax work-off abatement (Docket #0948). This matter was sponsored by Mayor Menino, referred to this Committee on Wednesday, July 8, 2009, and heard at a public hearing on Monday, December 14, 2009 at which public comment was taken.

The proposed local adoption order would increase the senior citizen property tax work-off abatement from \$750 to \$1000. In June 2009 the General Court increased the maximum abatement amount allowed, but it cannot become effective without local adoption. At the hearing a representative from the City's Assessor's office testified in support of the measure. The City representative explained how during the current fiscal year twelve seniors participated in the program and eleven of the twelve worked the full amount of allowed hours. Increasing the maximum amount would allow seniors more opportunity to receive much needed abatements. This program grants financial benefits as well as social benefits by granting seniors the opportunity to interact more with the community and continue to make a difference.

By the Chair of the Committee on Government Operations, to which the following was referred:

Docket #0948 An order regarding local adoption of the senior citizen property tax work-off abatement

based on information presented at the hearing and public comment gathered by the Committee and having considered the same, respectfully recommends that this matter **ought to pass.**

For the Chair:

Maureen Feeney, *Chair*
Committee on Government Operations



CITY OF BOSTON • MASSACHUSETTS

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
THOMAS M. MENINO

July 7, 2009

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councilors:

I transmit herewith for your approval an increase in the abatement amount for elderly taxpayers who participate in the Senior Citizen Work-off Abatement program under the provisions of Chapter 59, Section 5K of the Massachusetts General Laws. Previously, the maximum amount of the exemption under the program was \$750. Last month, the General Court adopted a provision that increases the maximum abatement amount to \$1,000. The attached ordinance would increase the exemption amount in Boston to the new \$1,000 limit. This change will provide additional relief to elderly taxpayers who participate in the Work-off abatement program.

I urge your Honorable Body to adopt this local option.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Menino
Mayor of Boston

BOSTON

MASSACHUSETTS

CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL

**AN ORDER REGARDING
LOCAL ADOPTION OF THE SENIOR CITIZEN
PROPERTY TAX WORK-OFF ABATEMENT**

ORDERED: That pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 59, Section 5k, as amended by Section 24 of Chapter 27 of the Acts of 2009, the maximum abatement under the Senior Property Tax Work-off Abatement be increased to one thousand dollars (\$1,000);

**I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT
THE FOREGOING, IF PASSED IN
THE ABOVE FORM, WILL BE IN
ACCORDANCE WITH LAW.**



**WILLIAM F. SINNOTT
CORPORATION COUNSEL**



000948

In City Council REFERRED TO
COMMITTEE ON

JUL 08 2009

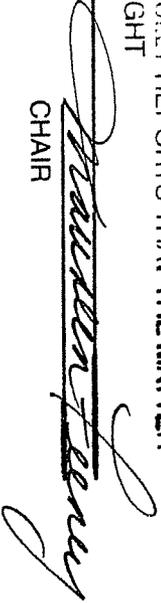
Government Operations

CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL

_____ 20 _____

THE COMMITTEE/CHAIR _____
RESPECTFULLY REPORTS THAT THE MATTER
WITHIN OUGHT

CHAIR



ACCEPTED,

CITY CLERK