

Dear Honorable House Members:

I strongly urge that you oppose the endorsement of HB 1325. Passing of this bill would severely limit the ability of a city to continue to function. Cities provide basic services to its residence in a responsible and efficient manner to the best of their ability. This bill is restrictive and an over reach of State government and takes away local control. All citizens benefit from police and fire protection, water, sewer, streets, snow removal and garbage collection services. Freezing some property taxes would create an unfair burden and possibly discriminatory on the homeowners below the age of 65. What tools would the cities have to be able to operate without declaring bankruptcy? Will the state compensate the cities with the dollars needed to operate due to the loss of revenue? Many older homeowners are in better financial situations with their homes paid for while younger working families, still making house payments, would be burdened with the possibility of having to pay much higher taxes to make up for the city's financial loss. I urge you to give this bill a do not pass recommendation. Thank you for your consideration.