

Offered by Councilor Mark Ciommo



City of Boston

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND SEVENTEEN

HOME RULE PETITION

WHEREAS: The City of Boston is committed to cultivating strong, stable, and interconnected communities; And

WHEREAS: Boston seeks to encourage homeownership and for individuals and families to occupy the city property that they own; And

WHEREAS: The current residential exemption policy deprives homeowners who buy their homes between January 2nd and July 1st from reaping the benefits of the savings for potentially over a year after the purchase of their home; And

WHEREAS: Homeowners saved as much as \$2,432.91 on their tax bills during Fiscal Year 2017 due to the residential exemption, a critical source of savings for first-time owners; And

THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED:

That a petition to the General Court, accompanied by a bill for a special law relating to the City of Boston to be filed with an attested copy of this order be, and hereby is, approved under Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article II, as amended, of the Articles of Amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to the end that legislation be adopted precisely as follows, except for clerical or editorial changes of form only:

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE OWNERSHIP AND OCCUPANCY DEADLINE FOR RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY EXEMPTIONS IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding section 5C of chapter 59 of the General Laws or any other general or special law to the contrary, with respect to each parcel of real property

classified as Class One, residential, in the city of Boston, the date of determination for an application for exemption under section 5C of chapter 59 of the General Laws shall be the January 1st preceding the start of the fiscal year to which it applies. However, for any year in which a taxpayer obtains their principal residence, as evidenced by the recording of a deed with the Suffolk County Registry of Deeds, after January 1st, the and before July 1st, the date of determination, for the transfer year only, will be July 1st of said year.

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