



THE CITY OF NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND - AMERICA'S FIRST RESORT

March 4, 2025

To Whom it may concern,

The City of Newport strongly opposes the proposed legislation 2025-H5696. Any cap of property value increase will be a detriment to all taxpayers, favoring those who have the largest increase in value and forcing those with a more moderate or no increase to absorb that tax liability, and resulting in a higher tax rate for all.

Revaluations, by their nature are revenue neutral. They serve to equalize the tax burden amongst individual tax payers. To place a cap on the growth a property owner's parcel flies in the face of **44-5-12 (a), All real property subject to taxation shall be assessed at its full and fair cash value, or a uniform percentage thereof.**

Furthermore, the act of capping rates will result in a significant increase in the number of appeals each municipality will face, citing a Disproportion Assessment due to "an intentional discriminatory assessment policy".

For these reasons I urge you not to support H5696.

Respectfully,

Jade K. Phillips, RICA
Tax Assessor
City of Newport, RI