

# RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 29

Approved January 23, 2026

WHEREAS, Due to the significant number of parcels presently exempt from property taxation under Chapter 5 of Title 44 of the Rhode Island General Laws, the City of Providence must rely on various forms of state aid to balance its operating budget and to ensure that the maintenance of vital services; and

WHEREAS, Compensatory aid from state programs, including the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) program, reduces the dependence of the City on residential and commercial property taxation for its operations and its service provision; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 13 of Title 45 of the General Laws presently maximally reimburses twenty-seven percent (27%) of revenues that would have been received from certain exempt parcels, with municipalities often receiving less than that percentage; and

WHEREAS, The statutory reimbursement percentage has not been adjusted for several decades, necessitating onerous increases on homeowners and businesses while rising costs and increasing demand for the services needed by all persons and institutions resident in Providence strain municipal resources; and

WHEREAS, One percent of PILOT reimbursement aid represents over \$1.5 million in funding to the City that will not be derived from the property tax levy, which is limited in its growth under Chapter 5 of Title 44 of the General Laws excepting enumerated, verifiable circumstances and required a bill before the Rhode Island General Assembly to increase beyond the aforesaid limit; and



WHEREAS, In support of its own needs and those of all Rhode Island municipalities so affected, The City has announced its intention to submit legislation to the General Assembly in its 2026 legislative package to increase the state PILOT reimbursement rate from twenty-seven percent (27%) to thirty percent (30%); and

WHEREAS, The Providence City Council recognizes both the immediacy of the need for increased compensatory aid and the eventuality of meaningful contention with enduring inequities in property taxation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council hereby offers its unwavering support for legislation proposed by the City to increase the state PILOT reimbursement rate from 27% to 30%; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon passage, copies of this resolution shall be transmitted to the Honorable Speaker of the House Joseph Shekarchi, the Honorable Senate President Valerie Lawson, and the members of the Providence legislative delegation.

IN CITY COUNCIL  
JAN 22 2026  
READ AND PASSED

  
RACHEL M. MILLER, PRESIDENT  
  
CLERK

I HEREBY APPROVE.

  
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Mayor

Date: 1/23/26