

RESOLUTION NO. _____

WHEREAS, the Texas Constitution, Art. VIII, sec. 1-b(e), and Texas Tax Code, Sec.11.13(n), limit the ability of local governments (other than school districts) to offer a homestead ad valorem tax exemption to a percentage of a home's appraised value (other than to homeowners age 65 or older and/or disabled); and

WHEREAS, a flat-dollar-amount exemption would concentrate more of its benefits on lower- and middle-income homeowners than does the currently authorized percentage exemption; and

WHEREAS, the revenue loss to a local government with a flat-tax exemption would increase only with the number of homesteads, while the revenue loss for a percentage exemption grows much faster, increasing with both the number and value of homesteads; and

WHEREAS, HJR 138 and HB 3348 propose to amend the Texas Constitution and Tax Code to allow for a local-option flat-tax exemption to ad valorem taxes for a municipality; and

WHEREAS, HJR 138 and HB 3348 have been endorsed by the Conference of Urban Counties; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

That the Council supports HJR 138 and HB 3348 and directs the City Manager to add the support of HJR 138 and HB 3348 to the City's Legislative Agenda for the 83rd Session.

ADOPTED: _____, 2013

ATTEST: _____

Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk