

RESOLUTION NO. _____ - 23

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS
OPPOSING PROPOSITION HH, AN UNDUE LIMITATION ON
MUNICIPAL BUDGETS AND LOCAL CONTROL OF PROPERTY
TAX RELIEF

WHEREAS, the City of Colorado Springs is aware of the financial burden that increased property tax valuations may create and desires to provide locally-appropriate relief without negatively impacting its ability to provide needed services and programs; and

WHEREAS, the City of Colorado Springs is a Home Rule City with an elected City Council and Mayor; and

WHEREAS, the City of Colorado Springs annually prepares a budget and certifies a property tax mill levy through an open and public process under existing law; and

WHEREAS, by Senate Bill 23-303, the Colorado General Assembly referred to voters Proposition "HH" that, among other things, would:

- lower property taxes compared to what would be owed under current law by temporarily lowering the assessment rates for residential and certain types of non-residential property, applying value reductions for certain types of residential properties, and by creating new property tax exemptions;
- impose an unnecessary and arbitrary limit on the growth of property tax revenue for certain local governments (excluding school districts and home rule local governments) unless the governing body votes to exceed the limit after a public hearing and does not provide any opportunity for reimbursement of revenues lost due to the limit;
- permit the state to retain money that would be otherwise refunded to taxpayers under the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights to be used for education, partial reimbursements to local governments for reduced property tax revenue, and rental assistance programs; and

WHEREAS, Proposition HH would unnecessarily constrain the ability of the City Council to control its budget and to provide locally-appropriate property tax relief; and

WHEREAS, the long-term fiscal impact of Proposition HH on the City of Colorado Springs and other local governments that serve our community is unclear and will cause uncertainty in our budgeting process; and

WHEREAS, the complexity of Proposition HH will impose unnecessary administrative burdens on the City of Colorado Springs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS:

Section 1. The City Council opposes Proposition HH and strongly urges a vote of NO this November.

Dated at Colorado Springs, Colorado this 24th day of October, 2023.

Council President

ATTEST:

Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk