

## **RESOLUTION NO.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Austin offers ad valorem (property) tax exemptions to seniors and people with disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, these exemptions, first granted by Council in 1986 in the amount of \$51,000, have not been increased since that time; and

**WHEREAS**, Property tax increases impact affordability for Austinites, particularly for those on fixed incomes including many seniors and people with disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Task Force on Aging report noted that property taxes rose 38% in the Austin area over the past 10 years and cited continued increases in property taxes as one of the challenges to the goal of many seniors to stay in their homes as they age; and

**WHEREAS**, an annual adjustment in the property tax exemption for seniors and people with disabilities could offset the burden of a property tax increase; and

**WHEREAS**, an increase in the property tax exemption will impact general fund revenue and it is reasonable to assume that an estimate of the impact of a \$1000 increase in the exemption can be used to infer increases of other amounts; and

**WHEREAS**, although these exemptions are adopted with the budget each year, earlier notice to the Travis Central Appraisal District may be required to

allow for a change in the exemption amount for a given year; **NOW,**

**THEREFORE,**

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

The City Manager is directed to report to the City Council with an estimate of the impact on the general fund revenue for a one thousand dollar increase in the property tax exemptions for seniors and people with disabilities.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**

The City Manager is directed to draft an ordinance that increases the City of Austin property tax exemptions for seniors and people with disabilities in the Fiscal Year 2014 -2015 and to place it on the City Council agenda within a timeframe that would allow the appraisal district to implement a change in the exemption amount in the property taxes set by the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 City of Austin budget.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**

The City Manager is directed to propose a procedure that would allow the City Council to consider annual increases in the property tax exemptions for seniors and people with disabilities which would offset the burden of a property tax increase for the owner of a median priced home.

**ADOPTED:** \_\_\_\_\_, 2013    **ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_

Jannette S. Goodall  
City Clerk