



City of Cambridge

43.

IN CITY COUNCIL

April 7, 1997

COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO
VICE MAYOR BORN
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
COUNCILLOR DUEHAY
COUNCILLOR REEVES
MAYOR RUSSELL
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council go on record supporting a bill recently filed in the Massachusetts Legislature which would give a \$500 tax refund to property owners who pay more than ten percent of their annual income to property taxes, water and sewer charges, as outlined on the attached newspaper article.

In City Council April 7, 1997

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "D. Margaret Drury".

Councilor Galluccio 43

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AG

E. b y d e e l o r

\$500

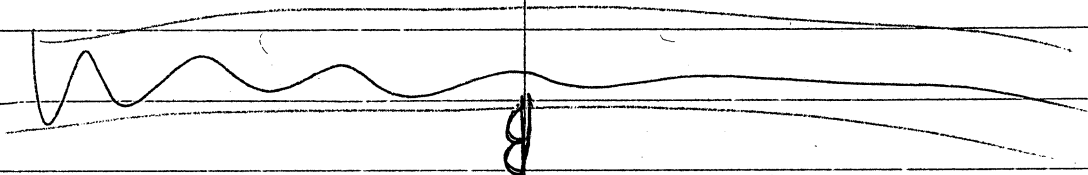
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Globe 04/01/97



**'Property taxes
have been
relatively stable
for the past
decade . . . but
water and sewer
charges have
been going
through the roof.'**

REPRESENTATIVE
JAMES MARZILLI
(LEFT)

Legislation aims to help the poor

Under bill, Mass. taxpayers who meet requirements get refund of up to \$500

By Jacqueline Kornish
GLOBE STAFF

In a move that could help low-income taxpayers, two Democratic state representatives yesterday filed a bill to grant a \$50 million tax cut to people who pay more than 10 percent of their annual income in property tax and water and sewer charges.

"Property taxes have been relatively stable for the past decade because of Proposition 2½," said Representative James Marzilli (D-Arlington), but "water and sewer charges have been going through the roof."

There will be a hearing on the bill today.

If passed, the bill would give qualified taxpayers a credit of up to \$500. The refunds would be restricted to joint filers with an annual income that falls below \$35,000, single heads of households who make less than \$30,000 a year, and single filers who earn less than \$25,000 annually.

The refunds would be restricted to residences valued at less than \$250,000.

"Property has the least to do with your ability to pay. It falls most heavily on people who are living on low and fixed incomes," said Marzilli who is cosponsoring the bill with Representative Jay Kaufman, a Lexington Democrat. "Property taxes are unfair because they're assessed not upon your income, but something you own."

Cities and towns would get the same revenue they do now under the bill. Taxpayers would continue to pay the same rate, and would be partially reimbursed by the state. It is estimated that the refunds would cost the state about \$53 million.

The revenue that comes from the property taxes, and water and sewer charges is used by cities and towns. With this bill, municipalities will continue to receive their funding, and the individual taxpayers would be given refunds from the state.

Governor William F. Weld showed interest in the bill, but would not commit himself, saying "I'd be very happy to go over the economics of that."

Metro/Region News B1-5, B8-9

Lottery B2

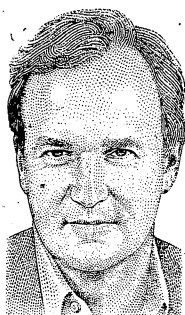
Comet Watch B2

New England Briefs B4

M

MIKE BARNICLE

Three cheers for Archie Walsh



BY 9 O'CLOCK YESTER-day morning, the freshly polished hallways of the William E. Russell Elementary School in Dorchester were filled with the sounds of happy voices belonging to all the children who arrived for class on a dreary Monday that would be Archie Walsh's last day in the system where he has worked for 44

years. Walsh, 69 now, has been principal of the Russell since 1971, but he still walks the corridors with the eagerness and energy of someone half his age.

"Don't make a big deal of this," Archie Walsh said. "Everybody retires eventually. So what."

He said this just as Dwayne DeAllie, 9 years old, appeared in the open doorway of Walsh's office. DeAllie is a third-grader and he is a spectacularly handsome lad who had come to deliver a note his mother had written to a school principal who knows nearly each of his 460 students by name.

"How was your bus ride, Dwayne?" Walsh wanted to know.

"Just OK," the boy replied. "I was referee."

"And what's up today, Dwayne?" the principal asked.

"I just wanted to know if I could have something to remember you by," Dwayne DeAllie wondered. "Like a pencil."

Archie Walsh laughed, took the note and gave him a pencil off the top of his cluttered desk. The boy smiled, shook the man's hand and said: "I'm gonna miss you."

At 17, Archie Walsh went from Mattapan and the Boston public schools right into the Navy and

Harvard University
Project and came

Re



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Handwritten notes in the left margin, including the word "Cambridge" and other illegible text.

Consent Order #43

S-202

Born, Davis, Puchay, Reeves, Russell
Sullivan & Triantafyllou

Councillor Galluccio re: Support bill in
Massachusetts Legislature which would
give a \$500 tax refund to property owners
who pay more than ten percent of their
annual income to property taxes, water
and sewer charges.

In City Council April 7, 1997

ORDER ADOPTED