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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

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A N A C T

RELATING TO TAXATION

Introduced By: Senators Cote, and Pichardo

Date Introduced: April 04, 2013

Referred To: Senate Finance

(by request)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Chapter 44-5 of the General Laws entitled "Levy and Assessment of Local  
2 Taxes" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3           **44-5-74.4. Woonsocket - Supplemental Tax. -- (a) In order to execute a five (5) year**  
4 **financial plan for the city of Woonsocket, and notwithstanding any provision of law, general or**  
5 **special to the contrary, including, without limitation, sections 44-5-74.1 and 44-5-74.2 of the**  
6 **general laws, or any provisions of the home rule charter of the city of Woonsocket, any municipal**  
7 **ordinance or existing judicial decision, the city of Woonsocket is authorized to levy a**  
8 **supplemental tax as herein specified on some of the ratable property of the city, including motor**  
9 **vehicles and trailers, for the city's fiscal year 2012-2013 in such sum, not to exceed two million,**  
10 **five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000), as shall be set by action of the Woonsocket budget**  
11 **commission or any individual or body authorized by law to take such action.**

12           **(b) The supplemental tax with respect to motor vehicles and trailers shall not be subject**  
13 **to the provisions of subdivision 44-34.1-1(c)(4) freezing excise tax rates at a level identical to the**  
14 **rate in effect for fiscal year 1998 or a lesser rate. For the city's fiscal year 2013-2014 and**  
15 **thereafter, the excise tax rate for motor vehicles and trailers shall not exceed the city's excise tax**  
16 **rate in effect for fiscal year 1998. The supplemental tax shall become part of the certified tax**  
17 **levy for the city's fiscal year 2012-2013 for purposes of calculating the maximum property tax**  
18 **levy according to section 44-5-2 of the general laws for the city's fiscal year 2013-2014, and shall**  
19 **also not be subject to the maximum levy limitations of section 44-5-2 of the general laws for the**

1 city's fiscal year 2012-2013. Such supplemental tax shall be imposed by increasing the levy on  
2 motor vehicles and trailers by up to twelve and seven tenths percent (12.7%) and by increasing  
3 the levy on residential real estate, including residential properties with eleven (11) units or more,  
4 by up to four and six tenths percent (4.6%) for the city's fiscal year 2012-2013 only. Within  
5 seven (7) days succeeding the certification, the assessor shall cause to be published in a  
6 newspaper of general circulation within the city of Woonsocket, the rate of tax and the percentage  
7 of fair market value employed in assessing the supplemental tax.

8 (c) Said supplemental tax shall be paid in one installment on a date as shall be set by the  
9 action of the Woonsocket budget commission or any individual or body authorized by law to take  
10 such action, but no later than June 15, 2013, and shall carry interest commencing on August 31,  
11 2013 as the Woonsocket budget commission or any individual or body authorized by law to take  
12 such action shall prescribe. No tax sale shall be conducted by the city prior to June 15, 2014 for  
13 nonpayment of the supplemental tax. In all other respects, the provisions of chapters 44-5, 44-7,  
14 44-8, 44-9 and 44-34 of the general laws shall be applicable to the assessment, levy and collection  
15 of said supplemental tax.

16 **44-5-74.5. Woonsocket - Exemption for elderly residents. --** (a) For the city's fiscal  
17 year 2013-2014 and thereafter, the budget commission for the city of Woonsocket or any  
18 individual or body authorized by law to take such action is authorized to annually fix the amount,  
19 if any, of a real estate tax exemption for Woonsocket residents based on age upon such terms and  
20 conditions as it deems reasonable. Exemption rates may be tiered based upon income level.

21 (b) Any such exemption shall only apply to residential property owned and occupied by  
22 the applicant.

23 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
RELATING TO TAXATION

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1           This act would authorize the city of Woonsocket to levy supplemental taxes for fiscal  
2 year 2012-2013 and authorize a homestead exemption for elderly residents commencing fiscal  
3 year 2013-2014, and thereafter.

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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