

CITY OF GIG HARBOR

RESOLUTION NO. 331

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING INITIATIVE 559 WHICH WOULD PLACE NEW LIMITATIONS ON PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENTS WITHIN THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

WHEREAS, Initiative 559 on the November ballot will ask voters, "Shall property value for tax purposes be the January 1, 1985 value or subsequent sale price, adjusted for cost of living changes?"; and,

WHEREAS, according to the Washington Research Council, the passage of Initiative 559 would threaten the State of Washington's sound property tax system which ranks high in both tax uniformity and equity; and,

WHEREAS, property taxes in the State of Washington are not out of line with other states in that Washington ranks 28th in state and local property tax burden both as a share of the economy and per person, and the property tax burden has consistently been below the national average over the last decade; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Washington already has other property tax limitations in place; and,

WHEREAS, compliance with the formula created by Initiative 559 would place a heavy burden on County Assessors; and

WHEREAS, the tax burden will be shifted more to moderate and lower valued property since the value of such homes will not change or will only receive a minor adjustment; and

WHEREAS, Initiative 559 would create tax shifting and inequities between long-term home owners and more recent purchasers of property;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Gig Harbor strongly opposes Initiative 559 and encourages voters to reject Initiative 559 during the general election this fall.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Gig Harbor at a regular meeting held on the 14th day of October, 1991.


Gretchen A. Wilbert, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michael R. Wilson
City Administrator/Clerk

Filed with city clerk: 10/10
Passed by city council: 10/14/91