

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
HINSDALE COUNTY, COLORADO**

**RESOLUTION NO. 6
SERIES 2020**

**A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE STATE OF COLORADO JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE STAFF
RECOMMENDATION TO SUSPEND THE SENIOR CITIZENS' AND DISABLED
VETERANS' REAL PROPERTY TAX HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION PROVIDED
UNDER §39-3-2 03, C.R.S.**

WHEREAS, on April 10, 2020, the Colorado State Joint Budget Committee ('JBC ') published a JBC Working Document containing staff recommendations for balancing the Colorado State Budget for fiscal year 2020-2021; and

WHEREAS, C.R.S. §39-3-203 provides a " homestead" exemption to qualifying senior citizens and qualifying disabled veterans from real property taxes for fifty percent of the first two hundred thousand dollars of property value; and

WHEREAS, the JBC working document recommends suspension of the tax exemption to senior citizens changing the exemption to fifty percent of zero dollars of property value; and

WHEREAS, many senior citizens and disabled veterans in the Hinsdale County community live on minimal fixed income and are dependent on the homestead property tax exemption, which enables them to pay bills, stay in their homes and make ends meet; and

WHEREAS, Hinsdale County Elected Officials recognize and respect the value of the senior citizens and disabled veterans in the community and believe they must be protected as some of the most vulnerable population; and

WHEREAS, Hinsdale County veterans are the lifeblood of the entire country and have given the gift of freedom, thereby earning our utmost respect and financial protection; and

WHEREAS, Hinsdale County senior citizens enjoy a shared history and community knowledge, enabling them to share collective wisdom with the other members of the community; and

WHEREAS, senior citizens who qualify for the homestead exemption are 65 years old or above, have lived in their primary residence for at least ten years and are established members of the community; and

WHEREAS, senior citizens and disabled veterans are population groups that are least able to withstand an increase in property taxes to help relieve an anticipated shortfall in state revenue; and

WHEREAS, the senior citizen and disabled veterans homestead exemption was approved by the voters of the State of Colorado through a statewide referendum ballot issue, demonstrating state-wide financial support for the homeowners; and

WHEREAS, Hinsdale County has approximately 92 property owners who qualify for and benefit from the senior citizens and disabled veterans homestead exemption; and

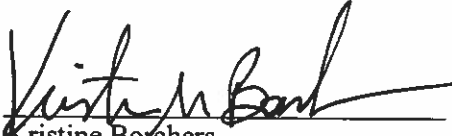
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED we, the Commissioners and Elected Officials of Hinsdale County, oppose the State of Colorado Joint Budget Committee Staff recommendation to suspend the senior citizens' and disabled veterans' real property tax Homestead Exemption.

INTRODUCED by Commissioner Kristine Borchers, seconded by Commissioner

Sara Gutterman, and passed this 20th day of May, 2020.



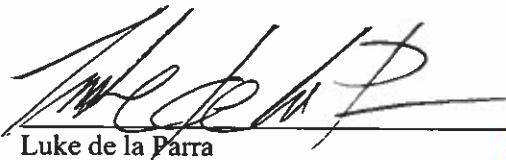
Susan Thompson
Chair, Board of County Commissioners



Kristine Borchers
Commissioner



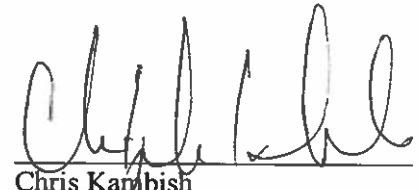
Sara Gutterman
Commissioner



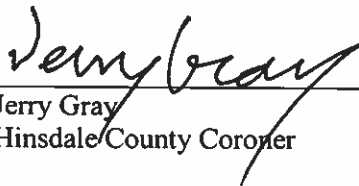
Luke de la Parra
Hinsdale County Assessor



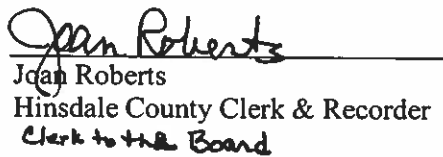
Lori Lawrence
Hinsdale County Treasurer



Chris Karbush
Hinsdale County Sheriff



Jerry Gray
Hinsdale County Coroner



Joan Roberts
Hinsdale County Clerk & Recorder
Clerk to the Board

