



TOWN OF EXETER, RI

TOWN COUNCIL

Daniel W. Patterson, President
Raymond A. Morrissey, Jr., Vice President
Diane Bampton Allen
Olivia DeFrancesco
Calvin A. Ellis

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**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
TOWN OF EXETER**

**RESOLUTION
NO. 2025-03**

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF EXETER REGARDING
THE RESTORATION OF GENERAL REVENUE SHARING
TO THE STATE'S CITIES AND TOWNS**

- WHEREAS:** All thirty-nine (39) Cities and Towns across Rhode Island have been struggling with the recent inflationary environment; and
- WHEREAS:** The Rhode Island Governor and General Assembly eliminated General Revenue Sharing from the FY 2010 budget due to declining State revenues as a result of the declining State and National economic collapse; and
- WHEREAS:** The removal of the General Revenue Sharing forced the State's cities and towns to increase property taxes to make up for this loss in revenue; and
- WHEREAS:** The State of Rhode Island, however, has seen a significant rebound from the economic crisis brought on by the COVID-19 Pandemic and finished its fiscal budgets with significant surpluses; and
- WHEREAS:** In the past three fiscal years, the State of Rhode Island has benefitted from the economic rebound with \$417 and \$878 million respectively and a \$410 million surplus for FY 2023 and an estimated \$98 million for FY24; and
- WHEREAS:** The car tax phase payments benefitted our citizens in the short term, but did not provide the State's cities and towns with an escalator to make up for lost revenue and inflation; and
- WHEREAS:** Property taxes currently represent approximately two thirds of revenue for municipal budgets statewide and Rhode Island has the eighth highest property tax burden in the nation; and

WHEREAS: Rhode Island's municipalities are an important piece of Rhode Island's economic success and need additional revenue from the State of Rhode Island in order to alleviate the property tax burden on its residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Town of Exeter Town Council respectfully requests the Rhode Island Governor and General Assembly reinstate General Revenue Sharing for the State's thirty-nine (39) cities and towns to help reduce the impact of inflation and the property tax burden on the citizens of Rhode Island; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Town of Exeter Town Council respectfully requests all thirty-nine City and Town Councils of Rhode Island to join in our request to have the General Assembly restore General Revenue Sharing in the upcoming FY 2025 budget; and

AND BE IT ALSO FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Town Clerk is directed to forward a copy of this resolution to Rhode Island Governor Daniel McKee, the President of the Rhode Island State Senate, the Speaker of the Rhode Island House of Representatives, the State Senator and Representatives of the Town of Exeter, and all City and Town Councils of Rhode Island.

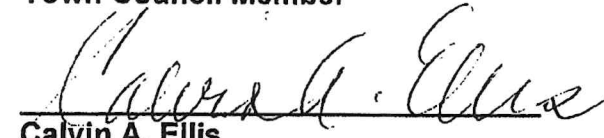
Approved by vote of the Exeter Town Council on this 7th day of April, 2025.


Daniel W. Patterson
Town Council President

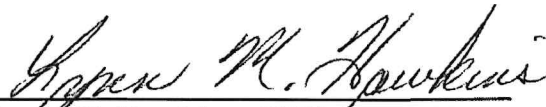

Raymond A. Morrissey
Town Council Vice President


Diane Bampton Allen
Town Council Member


Olivia DeFrancesco
Town Council Member


Calvin A. Ellis
Town Council Member

IN WITNESS HEREOF, I hereby set my hand and the Official Seal of The Town of Exeter this 7TH day of April, 2025.


Lynn M. Hawkins, CMC
Town Clerk

Introduced by: TOWN COUNCIL PRESIDENT
DANIEL W. PATTERSON

Introduced on: 4/7/2025

Approved on: 4/7/2025