

(for municipalities with municipal school systems)

**Town of \_\_\_\_\_ Board of Selectmen  
Resolution Regarding Property Tax Relief**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

TITLE: RESOLVE, TO DECLARE THE INTENT OF THE \_\_\_\_\_ BOARD OF SELECTMEN TO DEDICATE FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE TOWN AS A RESULT OF THE PASSAGE OF REFERENDUM QUESTION #1 TO PROPERTY TAX RATE REDUCTION AND RELATED PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, on June 8, 2004, the people of Maine decisively approved a referendum question (hereafter called "Question #1") requiring the State of Maine to pay a full 55% of local education costs, including 100% support for special education; and

WHEREAS, 55% state funding for education has been long sought by Maine municipalities due to the legislature's continual inability to meet this goal, which was established in law by the Maine legislature in 1984; and

WHEREAS, the impact of the legislature's failure in fully-funding the State's portion of local education costs has been a primary reason for Maine's high property tax rate, which has greatly overburdened both residents and businesses and made Maine less competitive in attracting new economic development; and

WHEREAS, the municipal officers of the Town of \_\_\_\_\_ and throughout Maine have long desired to reduce property taxes but have been unable to do so without sufficient State funding for education; and

WHEREAS, the passage of Question #1 will have the effect of providing significant new funding to the Town of \_\_\_\_\_ and other Maine municipalities for local education expenses;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen of the Town of \_\_\_\_\_ publicly and forcefully declares its intent to dedicate a minimum of ninety percent (90%), and if possible a full one-hundred percent (100%), of the new funding made available to the Town as a result of the passage of referendum Question #1 directly to the reduction of the property tax commitment for its citizens and businesses; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that to advance and implement this intention the \_\_\_\_\_ Board of Selectmen, in consultation with the \_\_\_\_\_ School Board, will present a municipal budget to the next annual town meeting that clearly identifies all additional revenue provided to the Town from the State as a result of the legislature's implementation of Question 1, and, working constructively with the School Board, will further recommend to that town meeting the adoption of a combined municipal and school budget that if adopted by the voters will result in a minimum of 90% and potentially 100% of that identified revenue being used for the purpose of a reduced property tax commitment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen hereby dedicates itself to the task of demonstrating to our citizens and businesses that this community is committed to lowering the property tax burden on our citizens and making this community and our State more competitive in the business world by lowering the property tax burden.