

RESOLUTION NO. 495

A RESOLUTION URGING SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MISSOURI GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO OPPOSE ANY LEGISLATION OR PROPOSAL TO ELIMINATE THE TAXATION OF RETAIL SALES ON FOOD

WHEREAS, Chesterfield's elected and appointed officials maintain steadfast stewardship of the public's finances by efficiently and effectively balancing revenues and expenses; and,

WHEREAS, more than 57 percent of the Chesterfield's annual revenue is generated by sales taxes on the retail sale of goods and services within its boundaries; and,

WHEREAS, the Citizens of Chesterfield, by their votes over the years, have chosen taxation on the retail sale of goods and services within its boundaries to fund their government including the Police Department, Parks, and Public Works; AND,

WHEREAS, Chesterfield relies on the sales taxes derived from food items an exempting food from sales tax would reduce Chesterfield's sales tax revenue by more than \$5 million dollars; and,

WHEREAS, senators and representatives in the Missouri General Assembly have collectively introduced six bills to eliminate the collection of sales tax on food items without proposing any plan to replace lost municipal revenue; and

WHEREAS, the proposed elimination of municipal sales tax on food products poses a significant threat to the financial stability and operational capacity of the City of Chesterfield, neighboring cities, and all counties, villages, townships, and municipalities in the State of Missouri; and,

WHEREAS, the elimination of this voter approved revenue stream would have an extremely harmful and dangerous impact on the People of Chesterfield by defunding the City's police force, and in fact, funding for law enforcement throughout Missouri would be significantly reduced; and

WHEREAS, The State of Missouri mandates balanced budgets and elimination of the current tax revenues from food items is critical to ensuring that local governments can provide necessary services and fulfill their responsibilities to residents and businesses.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHESTERFIELD, ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City of Chesterfield, Missouri City Council recognizes the necessity of maintaining municipal sales tax on food items to sustain critical local government services and functions, including Law Enforcement, Public Works, and Parks.

Section 2. The City of Chesterfield, Missouri City Council calls on the senators and representatives of the Missouri General Assembly to oppose any

legislation or proposal seeking the elimination of municipal sales tax on food products. In doing so, securing the safety and welfare of Missouri residents and safeguarding the financial viability of local government across the state.

Section 3. The City of Chesterfield, Missouri City Council urges neighboring municipalities to educate its state elected officials and residents on the negative effects of eliminating the taxation of retail sales on food.

Section 4. The City of Chesterfield, Missouri City Council directs the City Administrator to forward a copy of this Resolution to senators and representatives of the Missouri General Assembly representing the St. Louis County region.

Section 5. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval as provided by law.

This Resolution passed and approved on this 5th day of February, 2024.



PRESIDING OFFICER



MAYOR BOB NATION

ATTEST:



Deputy CITY CLERK ~~VICKIE MCGOWN~~
Amanda Hurley