

2025

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

ARTICLE 29:

To see if the Town will double the amount of certain tax exemptions for eligible Veterans, by accepting Clause 22J of the “**HERO** Act”



BOARD OF ASSESSORS

April 2025

VETERANS EXEMPTIONS

HERO Act

- ❑ Clause 22J of the HERO Act gives the Town another **local option** to increase certain tax exemptions for a Veteran with a 10% or greater service-related disability rating as determined by the Veterans Administration.
- ❑ Article 29 would **double** the exemptions granted to qualifying Veterans on their domiciles annually.

Below are the current statutory exemptions for Veterans and the proposed exemption amounts (before partial reimbursement by the Commonwealth).

G.L. c. 59 Section 5	Current Exemptions	Going Forward (if Article 29 is Adopted)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clause 22 (10% disability)	\$ 400	\$ 800
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clause 22E (100% disability)	\$1,000	\$2,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clause 22A	\$ 750	\$1,500
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clause 22B	\$1,250	\$2,500
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clause 22C	\$1,500	\$3,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clause 22F	Full tax exemption – No doubling	

IMPACT OF ARTICLE 29

- ❑ It is important to note that a qualifying Veteran **can receive only one tax exemption** each fiscal year, and a portion of the exemption is **reimbursed by the Commonwealth**. Presently **46 Wellesley Veterans** receive one of the available exemptions covered by Article 29. After the existing exemptions are applied, the amount of taxes uncollected from all qualifying Veterans who apply is \$25,200 (for FY25). The Commonwealth reimburses \$17,325, reducing the net ‘cost’ to the Town of all Veterans exemptions to \$7,875.
- ❑ The Commonwealth’s reimbursement is unchanged although the exemptions are increased. (This is because Clause 22J of the HERO Act is a local option). The Reimbursement still applies to the base exemption amount.
- ❑ If Article 29 is accepted by the Town, the taxes uncollected from these Veterans will rise. To illustrate, if the current exemptions are doubled as requested by Article 29, the additional amount of uncollected taxes townwide, after the Commonwealth’s partial reimbursement, is projected to be \$26,056 for FY26. The median single-family tax bill may increase in FY26 by approximately **\$2.37**.



***The Board of Assessors
requests your favorable action
on Article 29.***

Thank you!