CITY OF HAMILTON
BY-LAW NO. 19-126

To Adopt Municipal Options for Tax Capping

WHEREAS subsection 329 of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, provides for a cap which determines the maximum taxes for which particular classes of real property are liable during the taxation year; and

WHEREAS paragraph 329.1(1)(1) of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, authorizes the City of Hamilton to enact a by-law to establish a percentage greater than 5% and less than or equal to 10% by which tax increases shall be limited in respect of properties in the Commercial, Industrial, Landfill and Multi-Residential property tax classes; and

WHEREAS paragraph 329.1(1)(3) of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, authorizes the City of Hamilton to enact a by-law to establish a dollar amount threshold greater than $0 and less than or equal to $500 by which capped properties in the Commercial, Industrial, Landfill and Multi-Residential property tax classes move to their full Current Value Assessment taxes if they are at or below this dollar amount threshold of their Current Value Assessment taxes; and

WHEREAS paragraph 329.1(1)(8) of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, authorizes the City of Hamilton to enact a by-law to establish a percentage greater than 0% and less than or equal to 100% by which the amount of full Current Value Assessment taxes for a property which becomes an eligible property within the meaning of subsection 331(20) of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25 shall be limited in respect of properties in the Commercial, Industrial, Landfill and Multi-Residential property tax classes; and

WHEREAS Ontario Regulation 73/03 authorizes the City of Hamilton to enact a by-law to exempt a property from the application of Part IX of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, if taxes for the property in the previous year were equal to its full Current Value Assessment taxes for that year;

WHEREAS Ontario Regulation 73/03 authorizes the City of Hamilton to enact a by-law to exempt a property from the application of Part IX of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, if in the previous tax year in the municipality there were no properties within the commercial classes, industrial classes or multi-residential classes, as the case may be;

WHEREAS Ontario Regulation 73/03 authorizes the City of Hamilton to enact a by-law to exclude reassessment increases from the application of Part IX of the Municipal Act,
2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, for properties in the Commercial, Industrial, Landfill and Multi-Residential property tax classes; and

WHEREAS Ontario Regulation 73/03 authorizes the City of Hamilton to enact a by-law to phase out the application of part IX of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, if in the previous taxation year, the taxes for each property in the Commercial, Industrial, Landfill and Multi-Residential property tax classes, as the case may be, were equal or greater than 50% of the uncapped taxes for the property for the taxation year.

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the City of Hamilton enacts as follows:

Tax Increase - Maximum Percentage

1. For the purpose of paragraph 329.1(1)1 of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, the City of Hamilton establishes the maximum assessment-related tax increase allowed on the Commercial, Industrial and Multi-Residential property tax classes as 10% and accordingly limits properties in these classes to a maximum assessment-related tax increase of 10%.

Tax Increase – Maximum Dollar Amount

2. For the purpose of paragraph 329.1(1)3 of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, the City of Hamilton establishes the maximum dollar amount threshold allowed on the Commercial, Industrial and Multi-Residential property tax classes as $500 and accordingly properties in these classes move to their full Current Value Assessment taxes if they are at or below $500 of their Current Value Assessment taxes in the current year.

Tax Increase – New Construction / New to Class

3. For the purpose of paragraph 329.1(1)8 of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, the City of Hamilton establishes the maximum taxes allowed on a Commercial, Industrial and Multi-Residential property which becomes an eligible property within the meaning of subsection 331(20) of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25 as 100% of its full Current Value Assessment taxes in the current year.

Tax Capping Exemption

4. For the purpose of paragraph 8.0.2 of Ontario Regulation 73/03, the City of Hamilton exempts any property in the Commercial, Industrial or Multi-Residential property tax classes which paid full Current Value Assessment taxes for the previous year from Part IX of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, in the current year.

5. For the purpose of Part III.1 of Ontario Regulation 73/03, the City of Hamilton continues to limit the capping protection to reassessment related increases prior to 2017.
6. For the purpose of paragraph 8.2 of Ontario Regulation 73/03, the City of Hamilton ends the application of Part IX of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, to any property in the multi-residential property class.

7. For the purpose of paragraph 8.3(2) of Ontario Regulation 73/03, the City of Hamilton opts to exclude properties in a subclass for vacant land in determining whether the taxes for each property in a class were equal to or greater than 50% of its uncapped taxes.

8. For the purpose of paragraph 8.3 of Ontario Regulation 73/03, the City of Hamilton continues the phase out of the application of Part IX of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, for each property in the commercial property class which was commenced in 2018 by By-law 18-129.

9. For the purpose of paragraph 8.3 of Ontario Regulation 73/03, in 2019 the City of Hamilton will commence the phase out of the application of Part IX of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, for each property in the industrial property class.

General

9. The purpose of this By-law is to clarify the respective rights and obligations of the City of Hamilton and all persons liable for tax during the fiscal year.

10. This By-law is deemed to have come into force on January 1st, 2019.

PASSED this 22nd day of May, 2019.

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F. Eisenberger                                  J. Pilon
Mayor                                         Acting City Clerk