

RESOLUTION NO. 73-15

Whereas, the Environmental Quality and Conservation Commission, pursuant to Ordinance Nos. 71-39 and 72-35, has the duty of preparing and submitting reports and recommendations to the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Bloomington, and,

Whereas, the Environmental Quality and Conservation Commission recognizes that the historical, architectural, and cultural heritage of the City is among its most important environmental assets, and,

Whereas, the rapid social and economic development of contemporary society threatens to destroy the remaining vestiges of this heritage, and,

Whereas, it is in the public interest of the City to promote the use and conservation of such property for the historical and educational value and the architectural variety and enrichment of said City, and,

Whereas, it is essential that the preservation of historic properties be an economically viable alternative to redevelopment that destroys the historic integrity of the property, and,

Whereas, economic factors, such as difficulties in obtaining bank mortgages, high taxes levied on residences located within districts which have become commercial, and continuing demands for maintenance and repair, make the preservation of such structures financially unfeasible and threaten their continued existence, and,

Whereas, these structures, whose values are economically unquantifiable, should not be forced into land-use competition with structures which do not make similar contributions to the City's social and cultural heritage, and,

Whereas, the State of Indiana can alleviate the impact of these inequities through a program of tax abatement for such structures,

Now therefore be it hereby resolved that the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Indiana, accepts the recommendation of the Environmental Quality and Conservation Commission and supports the passage of House Bill 1158, which provides for the abatement of property taxes on structures of historical or architectural merit and provides for the State of Indiana to reimburse the municipality for the abatement.

Charlotte T. Zietlow  
Charlotte T. Zietlow, President  
Common Council

Francis X. McCloskey  
Francis X. McCloskey  
Mayor

Adopted: February 1, 1973