

ARTICLE 7

**PETITION GENERAL COURT TO AMEND LEGISLATION
REGARDING TAX DEFERRALS**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to petition the Massachusetts General Court to enact legislation regarding real property tax deferrals in the Town of Lexington in substantially the form below, and further to authorize the Select Board to approve amendments to said act before its enactment by the General Court that are within the scope of the general objectives of the petition; or act in any other manner in relation thereto.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 2 of Chapter 190 of the Acts of 2008, is hereby renumbered to be Section 3.

SECTION 2. A new Section 2 of Chapter 190 of the Acts of 2008, is hereby added as follows:

“Section 2. The imposition of interest required pursuant to section 62 of chapter 60 shall be delayed by one year in the case of a person whose taxes have been deferred pursuant to clause 41A of section 5 of chapter 59.”

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

(Inserted by the Select Board)

DESCRIPTION: The senior property tax deferral program, known as Clause 41A, allows people 65 or over to defer their property taxes until their home is sold or conveyed, or until the death of the applicant. During the time property taxes are deferred, the interest rate charged on the deferral is a low rate tied to a government index that generally runs three percent below the Prime Rate, however upon the death of the applicant the rate increases to 16 percent per annum. This article would delay the interest rate increase of an estate with tax deferral for a year after the death of the applicant.