

**(20-13) RESOLUTION OF THE REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING OF THE
TOWN OF DARIEN TO ESTABLISH A PROGRAM TO PROVIDE RELIEF AND SUPPORT TO
ELIGIBLE TAXPAYERS, BUSINESSES, NON-PROFITS AND RESIDENTS WHO MAY HAVE
BEEN ECONOMICALLY AFFECTED BY THE
COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

Primary – Finance & Budget

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, the Governor of the State of Connecticut declared a public health emergency and civil preparedness emergency for the State of Connecticut, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Sections 19a-131 and 28-9, in response to the global pandemic of COVID-19 disease associated with a novel coronavirus that is currently affecting multiple countries and states; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency to combat the coronavirus that is currently infecting the population of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the effects the transmission of COVID-19 has resulted in the spread of infections in Connecticut and throughout the country, as well as resulting in shortages of personal protective equipment and other supplies that could jeopardize public safety and civil preparedness; and

WHEREAS, in response to the issuance of declarations of a public health emergency and civil preparedness emergency by the Governor of this State, and a national emergency by the President of the United States, and the spread of COVID-19 to an unknown number of Connecticut residents as a result of the global pandemic, the Chief Executive Officer of the Town of Darien, its First Selectman, has declared that a local state of emergency now exists in the Town of Darien; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 204 of the Connecticut General Statutes sets forth tax collection deadlines that will be difficult for residential and commercial property owners to meet in light of significant job and economic losses experienced by Connecticut residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, municipalities have sought relief on behalf of taxpayers who are struggling due to business operations being suspended or ceased, layoffs and other complications due to the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, Executive Order 7-S provides and orders that there shall be established programs to offer support to eligible taxpayers, businesses, non-profits and residents who have been economically affected by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 7-S orders that each municipality shall participate in one or both programs known as a deferment program and/or a low interest rate program.

WHEREAS, the Board of Finance of the Town of Darien at its regular meeting of April 14, 2020, recommended to the Representative Town Meeting, a deferment program with eligibility criteria as set forth by the Office of Policy and Management.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Darien, acting through its legislative body hereby approves said deferment program with eligibility criteria established by the Office of Policy and Management.