HB 1291 2012

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to an additional homestead exemption; amending s. 196.031, F.S.; providing an additional homestead exemption to be calculated in a specified manner for all levies other than school district levies; providing for retroactive application under certain circumstances; providing contingent effective dates.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 196.031, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

14 196.031 Exemption of homesteads.—

(1) (a) Every person who, on January 1, has the legal title or beneficial title in equity to real property in this state and who resides thereon and in good faith makes the same his or her permanent residence, or the permanent residence of another or others legally or naturally dependent upon such person, is entitled to an exemption from all taxation, except for assessments for special benefits, up to the assessed valuation of \$25,000 on the residence and contiguous real property, as defined in s. 6, Art. VII of the State Constitution. Such title may be held by the entireties, jointly, or in common with others, and the exemption may be apportioned among such of the owners as shall reside thereon, as their respective interests shall appear. If only one of the owners of an estate held by the entireties or held jointly with the right of survivorship

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resides on the property, that owner is allowed an exemption of up to the assessed valuation of \$25,000 on the residence and contiguous real property. However, no such exemption of more than \$25,000 is allowed to any one person or on any one dwelling house, except that an exemption up to the assessed valuation of \$25,000 may be allowed on each apartment or mobile home occupied by a tenant-stockholder or member of a cooperative corporation and on each condominium parcel occupied by its owner. Except for owners of an estate held by the entireties or held jointly with the right of survivorship, the amount of the exemption may not exceed the proportionate assessed valuation of all owners who reside on the property. Before such exemption may be granted, the deed or instrument shall be recorded in the official records of the county in which the property is located. The property appraiser may request the applicant to provide additional ownership documents to establish title.

- (b) Every person who qualifies to receive the exemption provided in paragraph (a) is entitled to:
- $\underline{1.}$ An additional exemption of up to \$25,000 on the assessed valuation greater than \$50,000 for all levies other than school district levies.
- 2. An additional exemption for all levies other than school district levies in an amount equal to 30 percent of the homestead property's just value in excess of \$75,000 but less than or equal to \$200,000, plus 15 percent of the homestead property's just value in excess of \$200,000 but less than or equal to \$400,000. The value of the additional homestead exemption shall be reduced by the difference between the just

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value of the property and the assessed value of the property determined under s. 196.075.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect January 1, 2013, if House Joint Resolution 1289, or a similar joint resolution having substantially the same specific intent and purpose, is approved at the general election to be held in November 2012, or if approved at an earlier special election specifically authorized by law for that purpose, shall take effect upon approval of the electors and operate retroactively to January 1, 2012.