Florida House of Representatives - 1998 By Representatives Villalobos and Barreiro

1 House Joint Resolution A joint resolution proposing an amendment to 2 Section 6, Article VII of the State 3 Constitution relating to an additional 4 5 homestead tax exemption. 6 7 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 8 9 That the following amendment to Section 6 of Article VII of the State Constitution is agreed to and shall be 10 submitted to the electors of this state for approval or 11 12 rejection at the next general election, and, if approved, 13 shall take effect January 1, 1999: 14 ARTICLE VII 15 FINANCE AND TAXATION SECTION 6. Homestead exemptions .--16 17 (a) Every person who has the legal or equitable title 18 to real estate and maintains thereon the permanent residence 19 of the owner, or another legally or naturally dependent upon the owner, shall be exempt from taxation thereon, except 20 21 assessments for special benefits, up to the assessed valuation 22 of five thousand dollars, upon establishment of right thereto 23 in the manner prescribed by law. The real estate may be held 24 by legal or equitable title, by the entireties, jointly, in 25 common, as a condominium, or indirectly by stock ownership or 26 membership representing the owner's or member's proprietary 27 interest in a corporation owning a fee or a leasehold 28 initially in excess of ninety-eight years. 29 (b) Not more than one exemption shall be allowed any 30 individual or family unit or with respect to any residential 31 unit. No exemption shall exceed the value of the real estate

1

CODING:Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

Florida House of Representatives - 1998 509-136B-98 HJR 3151

1 assessable to the owner or, in case of ownership through stock 2 or membership in a corporation, the value of the proportion 3 which his interest in the corporation bears to the assessed 4 value of the property.

5 (c) By general law and subject to conditions specified 6 therein, the exemption shall be increased to a total of 7 twenty-five thousand dollars of the assessed value of the real estate for each school district levy. By general law and 8 9 subject to conditions specified therein, the exemption for all other levies may be increased up to an amount not exceeding 10 ten thousand dollars of the assessed value of the real estate 11 if the owner has attained age sixty-five or is totally and 12 13 permanently disabled and if the owner is not entitled to the 14 exemption provided in subsection (d).

15 (d) By general law and subject to conditions specified therein, the exemption shall be increased to a total of the 16 following amounts of assessed value of real estate for each 17 18 levy other than those of school districts: fifteen thousand 19 dollars with respect to 1980 assessments; twenty thousand 20 dollars with respect to 1981 assessments; twenty-five thousand 21 dollars with respect to assessments for 1982 and each year 22 thereafter. However, such increase shall not apply with 23 respect to any assessment roll until such roll is first determined to be in compliance with the provisions of section 24 25 4 by a state agency designated by general law. This subsection 26 shall stand repealed on the effective date of any amendment to 27 section 4 which provides for the assessment of homestead 28 property at a specified percentage of its just value. 29 (e) By general law and subject to conditions specified 30 therein, the Legislature may provide to renters, who are 31 permanent residents, ad valorem tax relief on all ad valorem

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

Florida House of Representatives - 1998 509-136B-98 HJR 3151

tax levies. Such ad valorem tax relief shall be in the form 1 and amount established by general law. 2 (f) The legislature may, by general law, allow 3 counties or municipalities, for the purpose of their 4 5 respective tax levies and subject to the provisions of general 6 law, to grant an additional homestead tax exemption not 7 exceeding twenty-five thousand dollars to any person who has 8 the legal or equitable title to real estate and maintains 9 thereon the permanent residence of the owner and who has attained age sixty-five and whose household income, as defined 10 by general law, does not exceed twenty thousand dollars. The 11 general law must allow counties and municipalities to grant 12 13 this additional exemption, within the limits prescribed in this subsection, by ordinance adopted in the manner prescribed 14 15 by general law, and must provide for the periodic adjustment of the income limitation prescribed in this subsection for 16 17 changes in the cost of living. 18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be 19 placed on the ballot: 20 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 21 ARTICLE VII, SECTION 6 22 ADDITIONAL HOMESTEAD TAX EXEMPTION. -- Proposing an 23 amendment to the State Constitution, effective January 1, 1999, to authorize the Legislature to allow counties and 24 25 municipalities to grant an additional homestead tax exemption 26 not exceeding \$25,000 to certain persons 65 years of age or 27 older whose household income does not exceed a specified 2.8 amount. 29 30 31

CODING:Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.