

By Representative Gibson

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to ad valorem taxation;
 3 creating s. 193.703, F.S.; providing for a
 4 reduction in assessment for living quarters of
 5 parents or grandparents of property owners or
 6 of their spouses; providing limitations;
 7 providing application procedures; providing
 8 penalties for making a willfully false
 9 statement in the application; providing a
 10 contingent effective date.

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

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 14 Section 1. Section 193.703, Florida Statutes, is
 15 created to read:

16 193.703 Reduction in assessment for living quarters of
 17 parents or grandparents.--

18 (1) In accordance with s. 4(3), Art. VII of the State
 19 Constitution, a county may provide for a reduction in the
 20 assessed value of residential property which results from the
 21 construction or reconstruction of the property for the purpose
 22 of providing living quarters for one or more natural or
 23 adopted parents or grandparents of the owner of the property
 24 or of the owner's spouse if at least one of the parents or
 25 grandparents for whom the living quarters are provided is at
 26 least 62 years of age.

27 (2) A reduction may be granted under subsection (1)
 28 only to residential property that is within the geographical
 29 area in which such construction or reconstruction is allowed
 30 and is the principal place of residence of the owner.
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1 (3) A reduction in assessment which is granted under
2 this section applies only to construction or reconstruction
3 that occurred after the effective date of this section and
4 applies only during taxable years during which at least one
5 such parent or grandparent maintains his or her primary place
6 of residence in such living quarters.

7 (4) Such a reduction in assessment may be granted only
8 upon an application made annually, upon a form to be adopted
9 by the county property appraiser, which application must be
10 made before April 1 of the year for which the reduction is to
11 be granted. If the property appraiser is satisfied that the
12 property is entitled to a reduction in assessment under this
13 section, the property appraiser shall approve the application,
14 and the value of such residential improvements shall be
15 excluded from the value of the property for purposes of ad
16 valorem taxation.

17 (5) If the owner of a residential property for which
18 such a reduction in assessed value has been granted is found
19 to have made any willfully false statement in the application
20 for the reduction, the reduction shall be revoked, the owner
21 is subject to a civil penalty of not more than \$1,000, and the
22 owner shall be disqualified from receiving any such reduction
23 for a period of 5 years.

24 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon the
25 effective date of an amendment to Section 4 of Article VII of
26 the State Constitution which allows counties to provide for a
27 reduction in assessed value of living quarters constructed for
28 property owners' parents or grandparents.

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SENATE SUMMARY

Provides that counties may allow a reduction in assessed value for the construction of living quarters for the parent or grandparent of a property owner or owner's spouse if the parent or grandparent is 62 years of age or older. Provides limitations. Sets forth application procedures. Provides penalties for making a willfully false statement in the application. Provides an effective date that is contingent upon the effective date of an amendment to Section 4 of Article VII of the State Constitution.