

By Senator Aronberg

27-1719A-03

See HB 39

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31

A bill to be entitled  
An act relating to homestead exemption;  
amending s. 196.131, F.S.; providing a penalty  
for claiming homestead exemption if the funds  
for the home came from fraudulent sources;  
providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 196.131, Florida Statutes, is  
amended to read:

196.131 Homestead exemptions; claims.--

(1) At the time each taxpayer files claim for  
homestead exemption, the property appraiser shall deliver to  
the taxpayer a receipt over his or her signature, or that of a  
duly authorized deputy, which shall appropriately identify the  
property covered in the application, shall bear date as of the  
day such application is received by the property appraiser,  
and shall include any serial number or other identifying data  
desired by said property appraiser. The possession of such  
receipt shall constitute conclusive proof of the timely filing  
of such application.

(2) Any person who knowingly and willfully gives false  
information for the purpose of claiming homestead exemption as  
provided for in this chapter commits ~~is guilty of~~ a  
misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s.  
775.082 or by fine not exceeding \$5,000, or both.

(3) Any person who knowingly and willfully claims  
homestead exemption on a home that has been paid for, in part  
or in whole, with funds that are derived from a fraudulent  
source, such as through corporate fraud, commits a misdemeanor

1 of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or  
2 by fine not exceeding \$5,000, or both.

3           Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003.  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31