

By the Committee on Community Affairs; and Senator Margolis

578-1788-06

1                                    A bill to be entitled  
 2                    An act relating to the deferral of ad valorem  
 3                    property taxes; amending s. 197.252, F.S.;  
 4                    decreasing the age and increasing the income  
 5                    threshold required for eligibility to defer ad  
 6                    valorem property taxes; decreasing the maximum  
 7                    interest rate that may be charged on deferred  
 8                    ad valorem taxes; providing an effective date.

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

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12                    Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) and  
13 subsection (4) of section 197.252, Florida Statutes, are  
14 amended to read:

15                    197.252 Homestead tax deferral.--

16                    (2)

17                    (b) ~~If in the event~~ the applicant is entitled to claim  
 18 the increased exemption by reason of age and residency as  
 19 provided in s. 196.031(3)(a), approval of such application  
 20 shall defer that portion of such ad valorem taxes plus non-ad  
 21 valorem assessments which exceeds 3 percent of the applicant's  
 22 household's income for the prior calendar year. If any such  
 23 applicant's household income for the prior calendar year is  
 24 less than \$10,000, or is less than the amount of the household  
 25 income designated for the additional homestead exemption  
 26 pursuant to s. 196.075 and the \$12,000 if such applicant is 65  
 27 ~~70~~ years of age or older, approval of the such application  
 28 shall defer such ad valorem taxes plus non-ad valorem  
 29 assessments in their entirety.

30                    (4) The amount of taxes, non-ad valorem assessments,  
 31 and interest deferred pursuant to this act shall accrue

1 interest at a rate equal to the semiannually compounded rate  
2 of one-half of 1 percent plus the average yield to maturity of  
3 the long-term fixed-income portion of the Florida Retirement  
4 System investments as of the end of the quarter preceding the  
5 date of the sale of the deferred payment tax certificates;  
6 however, the interest rate may not exceed 7 ~~9.5~~ percent.

7 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.

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9 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN  
10 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
11 Senate Bill 1268

12 The committee substitute reduces the maximum interest rate on  
13 deferred ad valorem taxes and non-ad valorem assessments from  
14 9.5 to 7 percent.  
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