

By Senator Haridopolos

26-1325A-06

See CS/HJR 353

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

Senate Joint Resolution

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to Section 6 of Article VII and the creation of Section 26 of Article XII of the State Constitution to increase the maximum additional homestead exemption for low income seniors from \$25,000 to \$50,000.

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

That the following amendment to Section 6 of Article VII and the creation of Section 26 of Article XII of the State Constitution are agreed to and shall be submitted to the electors of this state for approval or rejection at the next general election or at an earlier special election specifically authorized by law for that purpose:

ARTICLE VII

FINANCE AND TAXATION

SECTION 6. Homestead exemptions.--

(a) Every person who has the legal or equitable title to real estate and maintains thereon the permanent residence of the owner, or another legally or naturally dependent upon the owner, shall be exempt from taxation thereon, except assessments for special benefits, up to the assessed valuation of five thousand dollars, upon establishment of right thereto in the manner prescribed by law. The real estate may be held by legal or equitable title, by the entireties, jointly, in common, as a condominium, or indirectly by stock ownership or membership representing the owner's or member's proprietary interest in a corporation owning a fee or a leasehold initially in excess of ninety-eight years.

1 (b) Not more than one exemption shall be allowed any
2 individual or family unit or with respect to any residential
3 unit. No exemption shall exceed the value of the real estate
4 assessable to the owner or, in case of ownership through stock
5 or membership in a corporation, the value of the proportion
6 which the interest in the corporation bears to the assessed
7 value of the property.

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

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

1 (e) By general law and subject to conditions specified
2 therein, the Legislature may provide to renters, who are
3 permanent residents, ad valorem tax relief on all ad valorem
4 tax levies. Such ad valorem tax relief shall be in the form
5 and amount established by general law.

6 (f) The legislature may, by general law, allow
7 counties or municipalities, for the purpose of their
8 respective tax levies and subject to the provisions of general
9 law, to grant an additional homestead tax exemption not
10 exceeding fifty ~~twenty-five~~ thousand dollars to any person who
11 has the legal or equitable title to real estate and maintains
12 thereon the permanent residence of the owner and who has
13 attained age sixty-five and whose household income, as defined
14 by general law, does not exceed twenty thousand dollars. The
15 general law must allow counties and municipalities to grant
16 this additional exemption, within the limits prescribed in
17 this subsection, by ordinance adopted in the manner prescribed
18 by general law, and must provide for the periodic adjustment
19 of the income limitation prescribed in this subsection for
20 changes in the cost of living.

21 ARTICLE XII

22 SCHEDULE

23 SECTION 26. Additional homestead exemption.--The
24 amendment to Section 6 of Article VII increasing the maximum
25 additional homestead exemption for low income seniors shall
26 take effect January 1, 2007.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be
28 placed on the ballot:

29 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

30 INCREASED HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION.--Proposing an amendment
31 to Section 6 of Article VII and the creation of Section 26 of

1 Article XII of the State Constitution to increase the maximum
2 additional homestead exemption for low income seniors from
3 \$25,000 to \$50,000 effective January 1, 2007.
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