

Amendment No.

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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1 Representative(s) Altman offered the following:

2
3 **Amendment (with ballot statement amendment)**

4 Remove line(s) 175-332 and insert:

5 special benefits, on thirty percent of up to the just assessed
6 valuation of such property of five thousand dollars, upon
7 establishment of right thereto in the manner prescribed by law.
8 The exemption shall not be less than fifty thousand dollars but,
9 for low-income seniors who meet the eligibility criteria under
10 subsection (d), the exemption shall not be less than one hundred
11 thousand dollars. The real estate may be held by legal or
12 equitable title, by the entireties, jointly, in common, as a
13 condominium, or indirectly by stock ownership or membership
14 representing the owner's or member's proprietary interest in a
15 corporation owning a fee or a leasehold initially in excess of
16 ninety-eight years. The exemption shall not apply with respect

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17 to any assessment roll until such roll is first determined to be
18 in compliance with the provisions of section 4 by a state agency
19 designated by general law. This exemption is repealed on the
20 effective date of any amendment to this Article which provides
21 for the assessment of homestead property at less than just
22 value.

23 (b) Not more than one exemption shall be allowed any
24 individual or family unit or with respect to any residential
25 unit. No exemption shall exceed the value of the real estate
26 assessable to the owner or, in case of ownership through stock
27 or membership in a corporation, the value of the proportion
28 which the interest in the corporation bears to the assessed
29 value of the property.

30 ~~(c) By general law and subject to conditions specified~~
31 ~~therein, the exemption shall be increased to a total of twenty-~~
32 ~~five thousand dollars of the assessed value of the real estate~~
33 ~~for each school district levy. By general law and subject to~~
34 ~~conditions specified therein, the exemption for all other levies~~
35 ~~may be increased up to an amount not exceeding ten thousand~~
36 ~~dollars of the assessed value of the real estate if the owner~~
37 ~~has attained age sixty-five or is totally and permanently~~
38 ~~disabled and if the owner is not entitled to the exemption~~
39 ~~provided in subsection (d).~~

40 ~~(d) By general law and subject to conditions specified~~
41 ~~therein, the exemption shall be increased to a total of the~~
42 ~~following amounts of assessed value of real estate for each levy~~
43 ~~other than those of school districts: fifteen thousand dollars~~
44 ~~with respect to 1980 assessments; twenty thousand dollars with~~
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45 ~~respect to 1981 assessments; twenty five thousand dollars with~~
46 ~~respect to assessments for 1982 and each year thereafter.~~
47 ~~However, such increase shall not apply with respect to any~~
48 ~~assessment roll until such roll is first determined to be in~~
49 ~~compliance with the provisions of section 4 by a state agency~~
50 ~~designated by general law. This subsection shall stand repealed~~
51 ~~on the effective date of any amendment to section 4 which~~
52 ~~provides for the assessment of homestead property at a specified~~
53 ~~percentage of its just value.~~

54 ~~(c)~~(e) By general law and subject to conditions specified
55 therein, the Legislature may provide to renters, who are
56 permanent residents, ad valorem tax relief on all ad valorem tax
57 levies. Such ad valorem tax relief shall be in the form and
58 amount established by general law.

59 ~~(d)~~(f) The legislature may, by general law, allow counties
60 or municipalities, for the purpose of their respective tax
61 levies and subject to the provisions of general law, to grant an
62 additional homestead tax exemption not exceeding fifty thousand
63 dollars to any person who has the legal or equitable title to
64 real estate and maintains thereon the permanent residence of the
65 owner and who has attained age sixty-five and whose household
66 income, as defined by general law, does not exceed twenty
67 thousand dollars. The general law must allow counties and
68 municipalities to grant this additional exemption, within the
69 limits prescribed in this subsection, by ordinance adopted in
70 the manner prescribed by general law, and must provide for the
71 periodic adjustment of the income limitation prescribed in this
72 subsection for changes in the cost of living.

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73 ~~(e)~~ (g) Each veteran who is age 65 or older who is
74 partially or totally permanently disabled shall receive a
75 discount from the amount of the ad valorem tax otherwise owed on
76 homestead property the veteran owns and resides in if the
77 disability was combat related, the veteran was a resident of
78 this state at the time of entering the military service of the
79 United States, and the veteran was honorably discharged upon
80 separation from military service. The discount shall be in a
81 percentage equal to the percentage of the veteran's permanent,
82 service-connected disability as determined by the United States
83 Department of Veterans Affairs. To qualify for the discount
84 granted by this subsection, an applicant must submit to the
85 county property appraiser, by March 1, proof of residency at the
86 time of entering military service, an official letter from the
87 United States Department of Veterans Affairs stating the
88 percentage of the veteran's service-connected disability and
89 such evidence that reasonably identifies the disability as
90 combat related, and a copy of the veteran's honorable discharge.
91 If the property appraiser denies the request for a discount, the
92 appraiser must notify the applicant in writing of the reasons
93 for the denial, and the veteran may reapply. The Legislature
94 may, by general law, waive the annual application requirement in
95 subsequent years. This subsection shall take effect December 7,
96 2006, is self-executing, and does not require implementing
97 legislation.

98 SECTION 9. Local taxes.--

99 (a) Counties, school districts, and municipalities shall,
100 and special districts may, be authorized by law to levy ad
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101 | valorem taxes and may be authorized by general law to levy other
102 | taxes, for their respective purposes, except ad valorem taxes on
103 | intangible personal property and taxes prohibited by this
104 | constitution.

105 | (b) Ad valorem taxes, exclusive of taxes levied for the
106 | payment of bonds and taxes levied for periods not longer than
107 | two years when authorized by vote of the electors who are the
108 | owners of freeholds therein not wholly exempt from taxation,
109 | shall not be levied in excess of the following millages upon the
110 | assessed value of real estate and tangible personal property:
111 | for all county purposes, ten mills; for all municipal purposes,
112 | ten mills; for all school purposes, ten mills; for water
113 | management purposes for the northwest portion of the state lying
114 | west of the line between ranges two and three east, 0.05 mill;
115 | for water management purposes for the remaining portions of the
116 | state, 1.0 mill; and for all other special districts a millage
117 | authorized by law approved by vote of the electors who are
118 | owners of freeholds therein not wholly exempt from taxation. A
119 | county furnishing municipal services may, to the extent
120 | authorized by law, levy additional taxes within the limits fixed
121 | for municipal purposes.

122 | (c) By general law, the legislature shall limit the
123 | authority of counties, municipalities, and special districts to
124 | increase ad valorem taxes.

125 | ARTICLE XII

126 | SCHEDULE

127 | SECTION 27. Transitional assessments of homestead
128 | property; effective date.--

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129 (a) Each person entitled to a homestead exemption under
130 Section 6 of Article VII on January 1, 2008, shall continue to
131 have the person's current homestead assessed under Section 4(c)
132 of Article VII so long as, on January 1 of each year, the sum of
133 the exemption the person would have received under Section 6(a)-
134 (d) of Article VII, as it existed on December 31, 2007, plus the
135 difference between the homestead's just value and its assessed
136 value determined pursuant to Section 4(c) of Article VII is
137 greater than the exemption provided by Section 6(a) of Article
138 VII. After the exemption provided in Section 6(a) of Article VII
139 exceeds such sum in any year, the homestead may not be assessed
140 under Section 4(c) of Article VII.

141 (b) The exemption provided in Section 6(a) of Article VII
142 to each person entitled to have the person's homestead assessed
143 under Section 4(c) of Article VII pursuant to subsection (a)
144 shall be limited to the exemption the person would have been
145 entitled to under Section 6(a)-(d) of Article VII as it existed
146 on December 31, 2007.

147 (c) The amendments to Sections 3, 4, 6, and 9 of Article
148 VII, providing an exemption from ad valorem taxation for
149 tangible personal property, revising provisions limiting an
150 increase in the assessed value of homestead property, providing
151 for assessing rent-restricted affordable housing and commercial
152 and public-access waterfront property pursuant to general law,
153 increasing the homestead exemption, and requiring the
154 legislature to limit

155
156 == B A L L O T S T A T E M E N T A M E N D M E N T ==

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157 Remove line(s) 346-351 and insert:
158 30 percent of the just value of the property and to