

Amendment No.

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

.

1 Representative(s) Seiler offered the following:

2

3 **Amendment (with ballot statement and title amendments)**

4 Remove line(s) 24-484 and insert:

5 That the following amendments to Sections 3, 4, and 6 of  
6 Article VII and Section 1 of Article VIII and the creation of  
7 Sections 27 and 28 of Article XII of the State Constitution are  
8 agreed to and shall be submitted to the electors of this state  
9 for approval or rejection at the next general election or at an  
10 earlier special election specifically authorized by law for that  
11 purpose:

12 ARTICLE VII

13 FINANCE AND TAXATION

14 SECTION 3. Taxes; exemptions.--

15 (a) All property owned by a municipality and used  
16 exclusively by it for municipal or public purposes shall be

075717

10/17/2007 7:53:56 AM

Amendment No.

17 exempt from taxation. A municipality, owning property outside  
18 the municipality, may be required by general law to make payment  
19 to the taxing unit in which the property is located. Such  
20 portions of property as are used predominantly for educational,  
21 literary, scientific, religious or charitable purposes may be  
22 exempted by general law from taxation.

23 (b) There shall be exempt from taxation, cumulatively, to  
24 every head of a family residing in this state, household goods  
25 and personal effects to the value fixed by general law, not less  
26 than one thousand dollars, and to every widow or widower or  
27 person who is blind or totally and permanently disabled,  
28 property to the value fixed by general law not less than five  
29 hundred dollars.

30 (c) Any county or municipality may, for the purpose of its  
31 respective tax levy and subject to the provisions of this  
32 subsection and general law, grant community and economic  
33 development ad valorem tax exemptions to new businesses and  
34 expansions of existing businesses, as defined by general law.  
35 Such an exemption may be granted only by ordinance of the county  
36 or municipality, and only after the electors of the county or  
37 municipality voting on such question in a referendum authorize  
38 the county or municipality to adopt such ordinances. An  
39 exemption so granted shall apply to improvements to real  
40 property made by or for the use of a new business and  
41 improvements to real property related to the expansion of an  
42 existing business and shall also apply to tangible personal  
43 property of such new business and tangible personal property  
44 related to the expansion of an existing business. The amount or  
075717

10/17/2007 7:53:56 AM

Amendment No.

45 limits of the amount of such exemption shall be specified by  
46 general law. The period of time for which such exemption may be  
47 granted to a new business or expansion of an existing business  
48 shall be determined by general law. The authority to grant such  
49 exemption shall expire ten years from the date of approval by  
50 the electors of the county or municipality, and may be renewable  
51 by referendum as provided by general law.

52 (d) By general law and subject to conditions specified  
53 therein, there may be granted an ad valorem tax exemption to a  
54 renewable energy source device and to real property on which  
55 such device is installed and operated, to the value fixed by  
56 general law not to exceed the original cost of the device, and  
57 for the period of time fixed by general law not to exceed ten  
58 years.

59 (e) Any county or municipality may, for the purpose of its  
60 respective tax levy and subject to the provisions of this  
61 subsection and general law, grant historic preservation ad  
62 valorem tax exemptions to owners of historic properties. This  
63 exemption may be granted only by ordinance of the county or  
64 municipality. The amount or limits of the amount of this  
65 exemption and the requirements for eligible properties must be  
66 specified by general law. The period of time for which this  
67 exemption may be granted to a property owner shall be determined  
68 by general law.

69 (f) By general law and subject to conditions specified  
70 therein, twenty-five thousand dollars of the assessed value of  
71 property subject to tangible personal property tax shall be  
72 exempt from ad valorem taxation.

075717

10/17/2007 7:53:56 AM

Amendment No.

73 SECTION 4. Taxation; assessments.--By general law  
74 regulations shall be prescribed which shall secure a just  
75 valuation of all property for ad valorem taxation, provided:

76 (a) Agricultural land, land producing high water recharge  
77 to Florida's aquifers, or land used exclusively for  
78 noncommercial recreational purposes may be classified by general  
79 law and assessed solely on the basis of character or use.

80 (b) Pursuant to general law tangible personal property  
81 held for sale as stock in trade and livestock may be valued for  
82 taxation at a specified percentage of its value, may be  
83 classified for tax purposes, or may be exempted from taxation.

84 (c) All persons entitled to a homestead exemption under  
85 Section 6 of this Article shall have their homestead assessed at  
86 just value as of January 1 of the year following the effective  
87 date of this amendment. This assessment shall change only as  
88 provided herein.

89 (1) Assessments subject to this provision shall be changed  
90 annually on January 1st of each year; but those changes in  
91 assessments shall not exceed the lower of the following:

92 a. Three percent (3%) of the assessment for the prior  
93 year.

94 b. The percent change in the Consumer Price Index for all  
95 urban consumers, U.S. City Average, all items 1967=100, or  
96 successor reports for the preceding calendar year as initially  
97 reported by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of  
98 Labor Statistics.

99 (2) No assessment shall exceed just value.

075717

10/17/2007 7:53:56 AM

Amendment No.

100 (3) After any change of ownership, as provided by general  
101 law, homestead property shall be assessed at just value as of  
102 January 1 of the following year, unless the provisions of  
103 paragraph (8) apply. Thereafter, the homestead shall be assessed  
104 as provided herein.

105 (4) New homestead property shall be assessed at just value  
106 as of January 1st of the year following the establishment of the  
107 homestead, unless the provisions of paragraph (8) apply. That  
108 assessment shall only change as provided herein.

109 (5) Changes, additions, reductions, or improvements to  
110 homestead property shall be assessed as provided for by general  
111 law; provided, however, after the adjustment for any change,  
112 addition, reduction, or improvement, the property shall be  
113 assessed as provided herein.

114 (6) In the event of a termination of homestead status, the  
115 property shall be assessed as provided by general law.

116 (7) The provisions of this amendment are severable. If any  
117 of the provisions of this amendment shall be held  
118 unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, the  
119 decision of such court shall not affect or impair any remaining  
120 provisions of this amendment.

121 (8)a. For all levies other than school district levies, a  
122 person who establishes a new homestead as of January 1, 2009, or  
123 January 1 of any subsequent year and who has received a  
124 homestead exemption pursuant to Section 6 of this Article as of  
125 January 1 of either of the two years immediately preceding the  
126 establishment of the new homestead is entitled to have the new  
127 homestead assessed at less than just value. A person who

075717

10/17/2007 7:53:56 AM

Amendment No.

128 establishes a new homestead as of January 1, 2008, is entitled  
129 to have the new homestead assessed at less than just value only  
130 if that person received a homestead exemption on January 1,  
131 2007. The assessed value of the newly established homestead  
132 shall be determined as follows:

133 1. If the just value of the new homestead is greater than  
134 or equal to the just value of the prior homestead of the person  
135 establishing the new homestead as of January 1 of the year in  
136 which the prior homestead was abandoned, the assessed value of  
137 the new homestead shall be the just value of the new homestead  
138 minus an amount equal to the lesser of \$1 million or the  
139 difference between the just value and the assessed value of the  
140 prior homestead as of January 1 of the year in which the prior  
141 homestead was abandoned. Thereafter, the homestead shall be  
142 assessed as provided herein.

143 2. If the just value of the new homestead is less than the  
144 just value of the prior homestead of the person establishing the  
145 new homestead as of January 1 of the year in which the prior  
146 homestead was abandoned, the assessed value of the new homestead  
147 shall be equal to the just value of the new homestead divided by  
148 the just value of the prior homestead and multiplied by the  
149 assessed value of the prior homestead. However, if the  
150 difference between the just value of the new homestead and the  
151 assessed value of the new homestead calculated pursuant to this  
152 sub-subparagraph is greater than \$1 million, the assessed value  
153 of the new homestead shall be increased so that the difference  
154 between the just value and the assessed value equals \$1 million.  
155 Thereafter, the homestead shall be assessed as provided herein.

075717

10/17/2007 7:53:56 AM

Amendment No.

156 b. By general law and subject to conditions specified  
157 therein, the legislature shall provide for application of this  
158 paragraph to property owned by more than one person.

159 (d) The legislature may, by general law, for assessment  
160 purposes and subject to the provisions of this subsection, allow  
161 counties and municipalities to authorize by ordinance that  
162 historic property may be assessed solely on the basis of  
163 character or use. Such character or use assessment shall apply  
164 only to the jurisdiction adopting the ordinance. The  
165 requirements for eligible properties must be specified by  
166 general law.

167 (e) A county may, in the manner prescribed by general law,  
168 provide for a reduction in the assessed value of homestead  
169 property to the extent of any increase in the assessed value of  
170 that property which results from the construction or  
171 reconstruction of the property for the purpose of providing  
172 living quarters for one or more natural or adoptive grandparents  
173 or parents of the owner of the property or of the owner's spouse  
174 if at least one of the grandparents or parents for whom the  
175 living quarters are provided is 62 years of age or older. Such a  
176 reduction may not exceed the lesser of the following:

177 (1) The increase in assessed value resulting from  
178 construction or reconstruction of the property.

179 (2) Twenty percent of the total assessed value of the  
180 property as improved.

181 (f) As defined by general law, real property that is used  
182 to provide affordable housing and is subject to rent  
183 restrictions imposed by a governmental agency may be assessed as

075717

10/17/2007 7:53:56 AM

Amendment No.

184 provided by general law, subject to conditions or limitations  
185 specified therein. This subsection shall apply to all levies  
186 other than school district levies.

187 (g) As defined by general law, land that is used  
188 exclusively for commercial fishing purposes or that is open to  
189 the public and used predominantly for commercial water-dependent  
190 activities or for public access to waters that are navigable may  
191 be assessed as provided by general law, subject to conditions or  
192 limitations specified therein. For purposes of this paragraph,  
193 the term "water-dependent activity" means any activity that can  
194 be conducted only on, in, over, or adjacent to waters that are  
195 navigable and that requires direct access to water and involves  
196 the use of water as an integral part of such activity. This  
197 subsection shall apply to all levies other than school district  
198 levies.

199 (h) Increases in assessments each year for all property  
200 other than property entitled to the assessment increase  
201 limitations provided in this section shall not exceed the  
202 limitations specified in paragraph (1) of subsection (c) of this  
203 section.

204 SECTION 6. Homestead exemptions.--

205 (a) Every person who has the legal or equitable title to  
206 real estate and maintains thereon the permanent residence of the  
207 owner, or another legally or naturally dependent upon the owner,  
208 shall be exempt from taxation thereon, except assessments for  
209 special benefits, up to the assessed valuation of twenty-five  
210 five thousand dollars and, for all levies other than school  
211 district levies, on the assessed valuation greater than fifty

075717

10/17/2007 7:53:56 AM



Amendment No.

212 thousand dollars and up to seventy-five thousand dollars, upon  
213 establishment of right thereto in the manner prescribed by law.  
214 The real estate may be held by legal or equitable title, by the  
215 entireties, jointly, in common, as a condominium, or indirectly  
216 by stock ownership or membership representing the owner's or  
217 member's proprietary interest in a corporation owning a fee or a  
218 leasehold initially in excess of ninety-eight years. The  
219 exemption shall not apply with respect to any assessment roll  
220 until such roll is first determined to be in compliance with the  
221 provisions of Section 4 of this Article by a state agency  
222 designated by general law. This exemption is repealed on the  
223 effective date of any amendment to Section 4 of this Article  
224 that provides for the assessment of homestead property at less  
225 than just value.

226 (b) Not more than one exemption shall be allowed any  
227 individual or family unit or with respect to any residential  
228 unit. No exemption shall exceed the value of the real estate  
229 assessable to the owner or, in case of ownership through stock  
230 or membership in a corporation, the value of the proportion  
231 which the interest in the corporation bears to the assessed  
232 value of the property.

233 (c) As provided by general law and subject to conditions  
234 specified therein, each person who establishes the right to  
235 receive the homestead exemption provided in subsection (a)  
236 within one year after purchasing the homestead property and who  
237 had not previously owned property receiving the homestead  
238 exemption provided in subsection (a) is entitled to an  
239 additional homestead exemption in an amount equal to twenty-five

075717

10/17/2007 7:53:56 AM

Amendment No.

240 percent of the homestead property's just value on January 1 of  
241 the year the homestead exemption is established, not to exceed  
242 twenty-five percent of the median just value of homesteads in  
243 the county in which the homestead is located in the year prior  
244 to establishing the new homestead. This exemption is not  
245 available if any owner of the property has previously owned  
246 property that received the homestead exemption provided in  
247 subsection (a). The additional homestead exemption shall be  
248 reduced each year by the difference between the homestead's just  
249 value and assessed value as determined under subsection (c) of  
250 Section 4 of this Article until the value of the exemption is  
251 reduced to zero. The exemption provided under this subsection  
252 shall apply to all levies other than school district levies.

253 ~~(c) By general law and subject to conditions specified~~  
254 ~~therein, the exemption shall be increased to a total of twenty-~~  
255 ~~five thousand dollars of the assessed value of the real estate~~  
256 ~~for each school district levy. By general law and subject to~~  
257 ~~conditions specified therein, the exemption for all other levies~~  
258 ~~may be increased up to an amount not exceeding ten thousand~~  
259 ~~dollars of the assessed value of the real estate if the owner~~  
260 ~~has attained age sixty-five or is totally and permanently~~  
261 ~~disabled and if the owner is not entitled to the exemption~~  
262 ~~provided in subsection (d).~~

263 ~~(d) By general law and subject to conditions specified~~  
264 ~~therein, the exemption shall be increased to a total of the~~  
265 ~~following amounts of assessed value of real estate for each levy~~  
266 ~~other than those of school districts: fifteen thousand dollars~~  
267 ~~with respect to 1980 assessments; twenty thousand dollars with~~  
075717

10/17/2007 7:53:56 AM

Amendment No.

268 ~~respect to 1981 assessments; twenty five thousand dollars with~~  
269 ~~respect to assessments for 1982 and each year thereafter.~~  
270 ~~However, such increase shall not apply with respect to any~~  
271 ~~assessment roll until such roll is first determined to be in~~  
272 ~~compliance with the provisions of section 4 by a state agency~~  
273 ~~designated by general law. This subsection shall stand repealed~~  
274 ~~on the effective date of any amendment to section 4 which~~  
275 ~~provides for the assessment of homestead property at a specified~~  
276 ~~percentage of its just value.~~

277 ~~(d)~~(e) By general law and subject to conditions specified  
278 therein, the Legislature may provide to renters, who are  
279 permanent residents, ad valorem tax relief on all ad valorem tax  
280 levies. Such ad valorem tax relief shall be in the form and  
281 amount established by general law.

282 ~~(e)~~(f) The legislature may, by general law, allow counties  
283 or municipalities, for the purpose of their respective tax  
284 levies and subject to the provisions of general law, to grant an  
285 additional homestead tax exemption not exceeding fifty thousand  
286 dollars to any person who has the legal or equitable title to  
287 real estate and maintains thereon the permanent residence of the  
288 owner and who has attained age sixty-five and whose household  
289 income, as defined by general law, does not exceed twenty  
290 thousand dollars. The general law must allow counties and  
291 municipalities to grant this additional exemption, within the  
292 limits prescribed in this subsection, by ordinance adopted in  
293 the manner prescribed by general law, and must provide for the  
294 periodic adjustment of the income limitation prescribed in this  
295 subsection for changes in the cost of living.

075717

10/17/2007 7:53:56 AM

Amendment No.

296        (f)~~(g)~~ Each veteran who is age 65 or older who is  
297 partially or totally permanently disabled shall receive a  
298 discount from the amount of the ad valorem tax otherwise owed on  
299 homestead property the veteran owns and resides in if the  
300 disability was combat related, the veteran was a resident of  
301 this state at the time of entering the military service of the  
302 United States, and the veteran was honorably discharged upon  
303 separation from military service. The discount shall be in a  
304 percentage equal to the percentage of the veteran's permanent,  
305 service-connected disability as determined by the United States  
306 Department of Veterans Affairs. To qualify for the discount  
307 granted by this subsection, an applicant must submit to the  
308 county property appraiser, by March 1, proof of residency at the  
309 time of entering military service, an official letter from the  
310 United States Department of Veterans Affairs stating the  
311 percentage of the veteran's service-connected disability and  
312 such evidence that reasonably identifies the disability as  
313 combat related, and a copy of the veteran's honorable discharge.  
314 If the property appraiser denies the request for a discount, the  
315 appraiser must notify the applicant in writing of the reasons  
316 for the denial, and the veteran may reapply. The Legislature  
317 may, by general law, waive the annual application requirement in  
318 subsequent years. This subsection shall take effect December 7,  
319 2006, is self-executing, and does not require implementing  
320 legislation.

321        (g) Real property owned and used as a homestead by a  
322 person who has attained age sixty-five and whose household  
323 income, as defined by general law, does not exceed \$23,604 is  
075717

10/17/2007 7:53:56 AM

Amendment No.

324 exempt from ad valorem taxation. The legislature shall provide  
325 for an annual adjustment of the income limitation prescribed in  
326 this subsection for changes in the cost of living and may  
327 provide additional financial eligibility requirements or other  
328 eligibility requirements.

329 ARTICLE VIII

330 LOCAL GOVERNMENT

331 SECTION 1. Counties.--

332 (a) POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS. The state shall be divided by  
333 law into political subdivisions called counties. Counties may be  
334 created, abolished or changed by law, with provision for payment  
335 or apportionment of the public debt.

336 (b) COUNTY FUNDS. The care, custody and method of  
337 disbursing county funds shall be provided by general law.

338 (c) GOVERNMENT. Pursuant to general or special law, a  
339 county government may be established by charter which shall be  
340 adopted, amended or repealed only upon vote of the electors of  
341 the county in a special election called for that purpose.

342 (d) COUNTY OFFICERS. There shall be elected by the  
343 electors of each county, for terms of four years, a sheriff, a  
344 tax collector, a property appraiser, a supervisor of elections,  
345 and a clerk of the circuit court; except, when provided by  
346 county charter or special law approved by vote of the electors  
347 of the county, any county officer other than a property  
348 appraiser may be chosen in another manner therein specified, or  
349 any county office other than the office of property appraiser  
350 may be abolished when all the duties of the office prescribed by  
351 general law are transferred to another office. When not

075717

10/17/2007 7:53:56 AM

Amendment No.

352 otherwise provided by county charter or special law approved by  
353 vote of the electors, the clerk of the circuit court shall be ex  
354 officio clerk of the board of county commissioners, auditor,  
355 recorder and custodian of all county funds.

356 (e) COMMISSIONERS. Except when otherwise provided by  
357 county charter, the governing body of each county shall be a  
358 board of county commissioners composed of five or seven members  
359 serving staggered terms of four years. After each decennial  
360 census the board of county commissioners shall divide the county  
361 into districts of contiguous territory as nearly equal in  
362 population as practicable. One commissioner residing in each  
363 district shall be elected as provided by law.

364 (f) NON-CHARTER GOVERNMENT. Counties not operating under  
365 county charters shall have such power of self-government as is  
366 provided by general or special law. The board of county  
367 commissioners of a county not operating under a charter may  
368 enact, in a manner prescribed by general law, county ordinances  
369 not inconsistent with general or special law, but an ordinance  
370 in conflict with a municipal ordinance shall not be effective  
371 within the municipality to the extent of such conflict.

372 (g) CHARTER GOVERNMENT. Counties operating under county  
373 charters shall have all powers of local self-government not  
374 inconsistent with general law, or with special law approved by  
375 vote of the electors. The governing body of a county operating  
376 under a charter may enact county ordinances not inconsistent  
377 with general law. The charter shall provide which shall prevail  
378 in the event of conflict between county and municipal  
379 ordinances.

075717

10/17/2007 7:53:56 AM

Amendment No.

380 (h) TAXES; LIMITATION. Property situate within  
381 municipalities shall not be subject to taxation for services  
382 rendered by the county exclusively for the benefit of the  
383 property or residents in unincorporated areas.

384 (i) COUNTY ORDINANCES. Each county ordinance shall be  
385 filed with the custodian of state records and shall become  
386 effective at such time thereafter as is provided by general law.

387 (j) VIOLATION OF ORDINANCES. Persons violating county  
388 ordinances shall be prosecuted and punished as provided by law.

389 (k) COUNTY SEAT. In every county there shall be a county  
390 seat at which shall be located the principal offices and  
391 permanent records of all county officers. The county seat may  
392 not be moved except as provided by general law. Branch offices  
393 for the conduct of county business may be established elsewhere  
394 in the county by resolution of the governing body of the county  
395 in the manner prescribed by law. No instrument shall be deemed  
396 recorded until filed at the county seat, or a branch office  
397 designated by the governing body of the county for the recording  
398 of instruments, according to law.

399 ARTICLE XII

400 SCHEDULE

401 SECTION 27. Elected property appraisers; application.--The  
402 requirement in Section 1(d) of Article VIII for a property  
403 appraiser to be elected by the electors of the county shall  
404 apply in each county, including each charter county, regardless  
405 of whether the charter was adopted pursuant to Section 1(g) of  
406 Article VIII or pursuant to Section 9, Section 10, Section 11,  
407 or Section 24 of Article VIII of the Constitution of 1885, as  
075717

10/17/2007 7:53:56 AM

Amendment No.

408 amended and incorporated by reference in Section 6(e) of Article  
409 VIII. Any county that does not have an elected property  
410 appraiser on the effective date of the amendment to Section 1 of  
411 Article VIII of this constitution shall provide for electing a  
412 property appraiser at the next general election as provided by  
413 general law.

414 SECTION 28. Property tax exemptions and ad valorem tax  
415 limitations.--The amendments to Sections 3, 4, and 6 of Article  
416 VII, providing a \$25,000 exemption from ad valorem taxation for  
417 tangible personal property, providing an additional \$25,000  
418 homestead exemption, authorizing the transfer of the accrued  
419 benefit from the limitation on the assessment of homestead  
420 property, providing an additional homestead exemption for first-  
421 time homestead property owners, providing a complete homestead  
422 exemption for low-income seniors, providing for assessing rent-  
423 restricted affordable housing and commercial and public-access  
424 waterfront property pursuant to general law, and limiting annual  
425 increases in assessments of nonhomestead real property; the  
426 amendment to Section 1 of Article VIII, requiring property  
427 appraisers to be elected; and the creation of Section 27 of this  
428 Article, providing for election of county property appraisers,  
429 and this section, if submitted to the electors of this state for  
430 approval or rejection at a special election authorized by law to  
431 be held on January 29, 2008, shall take effect upon approval by  
432 the electors and shall operate retroactively to January 1, 2008,  
433 or, if submitted to the electors of this state for approval or  
434 rejection at the next general election, shall take effect  
435 January 1 of the year following such general election.

075717

10/17/2007 7:53:56 AM



Amendment No.

436  
437  
438  
439  
440  
441  
442  
443  
444  
445  
446  
447  
448  
449  
450  
451  
452  
453  
454  
455  
456  
457  
458  
459  
460  
461  
462

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

Remove line(s) 488-562 and insert:

ARTICLE VII, SECTIONS 3, 4, AND 6

ARTICLE VIII, SECTION 1

ARTICLE XII, SECTIONS 27 AND 28

PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS; LIMITATIONS ON AD VALOREM TAX INCREASES; ELECTED PROPERTY APPRAISERS.--This revision proposes changes to the State Constitution relating to ad valorem taxation and elected property appraisers. With respect to homestead property, this revision 1) adds an additional homestead exemption for most homestead owners, 2) exempts certain low-income seniors from ad valorem tax on their homesteads, 3) provides an additional homestead exemption that diminishes over time for first-time Florida homebuyers, and 4) provides for the transfer of accumulated Save Our Homes benefits. With respect to non-homestead property, this revision allows the Legislature to limit ad valorem assessments on 5) affordable housing and 6) on working waterfronts under specific circumstances, 7) provides a \$25,000 exemption for tangible personal property, and 8) limits annual increases in assessments of nonhomestead real property. Further, this revision 9) requires all county property appraisers to be elected.

In more detail, this revision:

1. Increases the homestead exemption by providing an additional \$25,000 homestead exemption for the portion of the

Amendment No.

463 assessed value above \$50,000 up to \$75,000. This exemption does  
464 not apply to school taxes.

465 2. Exempts certain low-income seniors from ad valorem tax  
466 on their homes. Persons 65 or older whose household income is  
467 less than \$23,604, adjusted annually for inflation, will be  
468 totally exempt from ad valorem taxes, including school taxes, on  
469 their homestead property.

470 3. Provides an increased exemption for first-time Florida  
471 homebuyers beginning in 2008. First-time homebuyers in Florida  
472 who qualify for homestead exemption will be eligible for an  
473 additional exemption equal to 25 percent of the assessed value  
474 of their new home, not to exceed 25 percent of the county median  
475 homestead just value for the prior year. The amount of the  
476 exemption will decrease each year by the amount of the home's  
477 Save Our Homes benefit. When the amount of the home's Save Our  
478 Homes benefit meets or exceeds this exemption, the exemption is  
479 lost. This exemption also is available to 2007 first-time  
480 homebuyers who qualify for homestead exemption January 1, 2008.  
481 This exemption does not apply to school taxes.

482 4. Provides for the transfer of accumulated Save Our Homes  
483 benefits. Homestead property owners will be able to transfer  
484 their Save Our Homes benefit to a new homestead within two years  
485 of relinquishing their previous homestead exemption; except, if  
486 the new homestead is established on January 1, 2008, the  
487 previous homestead must have been relinquished in 2007. If the  
488 new homestead has a higher just value than the old one, the  
489 entire benefit can be transferred; if the new homestead has a  
490 lower just value, the amount of benefit transferred will be  
075717

10/17/2007 7:53:56 AM

Amendment No.

491 reduced in proportion of the just value of the new homestead to  
492 the just value of the old homestead. The transferred benefit may  
493 not exceed \$1 million. This provision does not apply to school  
494 taxes.

495 5. Provides for assessing certain rent-restricted  
496 affordable housing property as provided by general law. This  
497 provision will not apply to school taxes.

498 6. Provides for assessing certain waterfront property used  
499 for commercial fishing, commercial water-dependent activities,  
500 and public access as provided by general law. This provision  
501 will not apply to school taxes.

502 7. Limits increases in assessments each year for all  
503 property other than homestead property to the lower of 3 percent  
504 or the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index.

505 8. Authorizes an exemption from ad valorem taxes of  
506 \$25,000 of assessed value of tangible personal property. This  
507 provision applies to all tax levies.

508 9. Requires each county to have an elected property  
509

510 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

511 Remove line(s) 3-17 and insert:

512 and 6 of Article VII and Section 1 of Article VIII and the  
513 creation of Sections 27 and 28 of Article XII of the State  
514 Constitution, to require an exemption from ad valorem taxation  
515 for tangible personal property, to provide for the transfer of  
516 the accrued benefit from the limitation on the assessed value of  
517 homestead property, to provide for assessing rent-restricted  
518 affordable housing and commercial and public-access waterfront  
075717

10/17/2007 7:53:56 AM

HOUSE AMENDMENT

Bill No. CS/HJR 7001D

Amendment No.

519 | property by general law, to limit assessment increases for  
520 | nonhomestead real property, to increase the homestead exemption,  
521 | to create an additional homestead exemption for first-time  
522 | homestead property owners, to provide a complete homestead  
523 | exemption for low-income seniors,

075717

10/17/2007 7:53:56 AM