

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to property tax exemptions; amending
 3 s. 196.202, F.S.; increasing the property tax
 4 exemption for residents who are widows, widowers,
 5 blind, or totally and permanently disabled; providing
 6 applicability; providing an effective date.

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

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 10 Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 196.202, Florida
 11 Statutes, is amended to read:

12 196.202 Property of widows, widowers, blind persons, and
 13 persons totally and permanently disabled.—

14 (1) Property to the value of \$5,000 ~~\$500~~ of every widow,
 15 widower, blind person, or totally and permanently disabled
 16 person who is a bona fide resident of this state is exempt from
 17 taxation. As used in this section, the term "totally and
 18 permanently disabled person" means a person who is currently
 19 certified by a physician licensed in this state, by the United
 20 States Department of Veterans Affairs or its predecessor, or by
 21 the Social Security Administration to be totally and permanently
 22 disabled.

23 Section 2. The amendments made by this act to s.
 24 196.202(1), Florida Statutes, apply to tax years beginning on or
 25 after January 1, 2016.

26 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.