

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to homestead exemptions; amending s.
 3 218.125, F.S.; requiring the Legislature to
 4 appropriate moneys, beginning in a specified fiscal
 5 year, to offset reductions in ad valorem tax revenue
 6 experienced by certain rural communities resulting
 7 from increased exemptions; requiring the moneys
 8 appropriated for this purpose to be distributed each
 9 fiscal year among rural communities based on each
 10 region's proportion of the total reduction in ad
 11 valorem tax revenue; providing application
 12 requirements for such rural counties; providing for
 13 calculation of each rural community's reduction in ad
 14 valorem tax revenue; requiring the rural community's
 15 share to revert to the fund from which the
 16 appropriation was made under certain circumstances;
 17 providing a contingent effective date.

18
 19 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 21 Section 1. Section 218.125, Florida Statutes, as amended
 22 by chapter 2017-35, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

23 218.125 Offset for tax loss associated with certain
 24 constitutional amendments affecting fiscally constrained
 25 counties and rural communities within a rural area of

26 opportunity.—

27 (1) (a) Beginning in the 2010-2011 fiscal year, the
 28 Legislature shall appropriate moneys to offset the reductions in
 29 ad valorem tax revenue experienced by fiscally constrained
 30 counties, as defined in s. 218.67(1), which occur as a direct
 31 result of the implementation of revisions of ss. 3(f) and 4(b)
 32 of Art. VII of the State Constitution which were approved in the
 33 general election held in November 2008. The moneys appropriated
 34 for this purpose shall be distributed in January of each fiscal
 35 year among the fiscally constrained counties based on each
 36 county's proportion of the total reduction in ad valorem tax
 37 revenue resulting from the implementation of the revisions.

38 (b) Beginning in the 2019-2020 fiscal year, the
 39 Legislature shall appropriate moneys to offset reductions in ad
 40 valorem tax revenue experienced by fiscally constrained
 41 counties, as defined in s. 218.67(1), and by rural communities
 42 within a rural area of opportunity, as those terms are defined
 43 in s. 288.0656(2), designated by the Governor under s.
 44 288.0656(7) (a), which occur as a direct result of implementation
 45 of the revision to s. 6(a) of Art. VII of the State Constitution
 46 approved in November 2018 which authorizes an additional
 47 exemption of up to \$25,000 for all levies other than school
 48 district levies. The moneys appropriated for this purpose shall
 49 be distributed in January of each fiscal year among the fiscally
 50 constrained counties and the rural communities within a rural

51 area of opportunity based on each region's ~~county's~~ proportion
52 of the total reduction in ad valorem tax revenue resulting from
53 the implementation of the revisions.

54 (2) On or before November 15 of each year, each fiscally
55 constrained county and each rural community within a rural area
56 of opportunity shall apply to the Department of Revenue to
57 participate in the distribution of the appropriation and provide
58 documentation supporting the region's ~~county's~~ estimated
59 reduction in ad valorem tax revenue in the form and manner
60 prescribed by the department. The documentation must include an
61 estimate of the reduction in taxable value directly attributable
62 to revisions of Art. VII of the State Constitution for all
63 ~~county~~ taxing jurisdictions within the region ~~county~~ and shall
64 be prepared by the appropriate property appraiser ~~in each~~
65 ~~fiscally constrained county~~. The documentation must also include
66 the ~~county~~ millage rates applicable in all such jurisdictions
67 for the current year and the prior year, rolled-back rates
68 determined as provided in s. 200.065 for each ~~county~~ taxing
69 jurisdiction, and maximum millage rates that could have been
70 levied by majority vote pursuant to s. 200.065(5).

71 (a) For purposes of paragraph (1)(a), each fiscally
72 constrained county's reduction in ad valorem tax revenue shall
73 be calculated as 95 percent of the estimated reduction in
74 taxable value multiplied by the lesser of the 2010 applicable
75 millage rate or the applicable millage rate for each county

76 | taxing jurisdiction in the current year. If a fiscally
77 | constrained county fails to apply for the distribution, its
78 | share shall revert to the fund from which the appropriation was
79 | made.

80 | (b) For purposes of paragraph (1)(b), the reduction in ad
81 | valorem tax revenue for each fiscally constrained ~~county's~~
82 | county and each rural community within a rural area of
83 | opportunity ~~reduction in ad valorem tax revenue~~ shall be
84 | calculated as 95 percent of the estimated reduction in taxable
85 | value multiplied by the lesser of the 2017 applicable millage
86 | rate or the applicable millage rate for each ~~county~~ taxing
87 | jurisdiction in the current year. If a fiscally constrained
88 | county or a rural community within a rural area of opportunity
89 | fails to apply for the distribution, its share shall revert to
90 | the fund from which the appropriation was made.

91 | Section 2. This act shall take effect on the effective
92 | date of House Joint Resolution 7105 (2017) if such amendment to
93 | the State Constitution is approved at the general election held
94 | in November 2018, and shall first apply to the 2019 tax roll.