By the Committees on Appropriations; and Finance and Tax; and Senators Rodriguez and Pizzo

576-03530-22 20221610c2

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to taxation; creating s. 197.319, F.S.; defining the term "residential improvement"; providing for the eligibility for abatement of ad valorem taxes and non-ad valorem assessments for residential improvements destroyed following certain events; requiring property appraisers to provide specified statements to tax collectors; providing that owners of parcels meeting certain requirements are not required to remit payments; prohibiting property appraisers and tax collectors from issuing specified notices for parcels meeting certain requirements; requiring property appraisers to notify taxpayers of the abatement of taxes and non-ad valorem assessments under certain circumstances; requiring value adjustment boards to dismiss petitions under certain circumstances; specifying requirements for determining the assessed value of certain new homesteads; providing for a refund of taxes for parcels meeting certain requirements under certain circumstances; providing for future repeal; providing for retroactive application; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Section 197.319, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

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197.319 Abatement of ad valorem taxes and non-ad valorem assessments following destruction caused by a sudden and

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unforeseen collapse.-

(1) As used in this section, the term "residential improvement" means a multistory residential building that consists of at least 50 dwelling units.

- (2) Each parcel owned and assessed as homestead property under s. 193.155 or as nonhomestead residential property under s. 193.1554 which is within a residential improvement that is destroyed due to a sudden and unforeseen collapse of the residential improvement or due to the subsequent demolition of the residential improvement after such collapse is eligible for an abatement of all taxes and non-ad valorem assessments for the year in which the destruction occurred if the property appraiser determines that the condition of the residential improvement on the January 1 immediately preceding the collapse was such that the residential improvement had no value due to a latent defect of the property not readily discernable by inspection.
- (a) The property appraiser shall provide to the tax collector an official written statement that provides the information necessary for the tax collector to abate the taxes and non-ad valorem assessments for each parcel owner.
- (b) For parcels meeting the requirements of this subsection, a parcel owner is not required to remit a payment, the property appraiser may not issue a notice of proposed property taxes pursuant to s. 200.069, and the tax collector may not issue a tax notice pursuant to s. 197.322. In lieu of the notice of proposed property taxes, the property appraiser must notify the taxpayer that all taxes and non-ad valorem assessments have been abated for the year in which the property was destroyed. If a parcel owner files a petition to the value

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adjustment board concerning the value of the parcel for the year of the collapse, the value adjustment board must dismiss the petition.

- (3) For purposes of determining the assessed value under s. 193.155(8) of a new homestead established by an owner of a parcel within the destroyed residential improvement, the just value and assessed value of the destroyed parcel on the January 1 of the year preceding the year of the destruction must be used.
- (4) Tax payments received by the tax collector for taxes and non-ad valorem assessments levied in the year of collapse on parcels meeting the requirements of subsection (2) are eligible for a refund upon application made to the tax collector. For purposes of this subsection, the parcel owner or the parcel owner's legal representative may apply for a refund.
- (5) This section is repealed December 31, 2023, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.
- Section 2. This act applies retroactively to January 1, 2021.
 - Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.