

HB2471



100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2017 and 2018

HB2471

by Rep. Allen Skillicorn

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

35 ILCS 200/15-169

Amends the Property Tax Code. Provides a taxpayer qualifying to receive the homestead exemption for veterans with disabilities is entitled to a refund of State income taxes in the amount of the exemption, if no exemption was granted to the taxpayer during the year of purchase of the qualified residence. Provides that a taxpayer qualifying to receive the homestead exemption for veterans with disabilities shall be automatically granted the exemption in future years without reapplying. Effective immediately.

LRB100 10759 HLH 20990 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

HOUSING
AFFORDABILITY
IMPACT NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning revenue.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Property Tax Code is amended by changing
5 Section 15-169 as follows:

6 (35 ILCS 200/15-169)

7 Sec. 15-169. Homestead exemption for veterans with
8 disabilities.

9 (a) Beginning with taxable year 2007, an annual homestead
10 exemption, limited to the amounts set forth in subsections (b)
11 and (b-3), is granted for property that is used as a qualified
12 residence by a veteran with a disability.

13 (b) For taxable years prior to 2015, the amount of the
14 exemption under this Section is as follows:

15 (1) for veterans with a service-connected disability
16 of at least (i) 75% for exemptions granted in taxable years
17 2007 through 2009 and (ii) 70% for exemptions granted in
18 taxable year 2010 and each taxable year thereafter, as
19 certified by the United States Department of Veterans
20 Affairs, the annual exemption is \$5,000; and

21 (2) for veterans with a service-connected disability
22 of at least 50%, but less than (i) 75% for exemptions
23 granted in taxable years 2007 through 2009 and (ii) 70% for

1 exemptions granted in taxable year 2010 and each taxable
2 year thereafter, as certified by the United States
3 Department of Veterans Affairs, the annual exemption is
4 \$2,500.

5 (b-3) For taxable years 2015 and thereafter:

6 (1) if the veteran has a service connected disability
7 of 30% or more but less than 50%, as certified by the
8 United States Department of Veterans Affairs, then the
9 annual exemption is \$2,500;

10 (2) if the veteran has a service connected disability
11 of 50% or more but less than 70%, as certified by the
12 United States Department of Veterans Affairs, then the
13 annual exemption is \$5,000; and

14 (3) if the veteran has a service connected disability
15 of 70% or more, as certified by the United States
16 Department of Veterans Affairs, then the property is exempt
17 from taxation under this Code.

18 (b-5) If a homestead exemption is granted under this
19 Section and the person awarded the exemption subsequently
20 becomes a resident of a facility licensed under the Nursing
21 Home Care Act or a facility operated by the United States
22 Department of Veterans Affairs, then the exemption shall
23 continue (i) so long as the residence continues to be occupied
24 by the qualifying person's spouse or (ii) if the residence
25 remains unoccupied but is still owned by the person who
26 qualified for the homestead exemption.

1 (b-6) Beginning with taxable year 2017, if a homestead
2 exemption is granted under this Section for the taxable year
3 immediately following the initial year of purchase of a
4 qualified residence, the taxpayer is entitled to a refund under
5 this Act in an amount equal to the annual exemption that has
6 otherwise been granted to the taxpayer under this Section if no
7 exemption was granted to the taxpayer during the year of
8 purchase of the qualified residence.

9 (c) The tax exemption under this Section carries over to
10 the benefit of the veteran's surviving spouse as long as the
11 spouse holds the legal or beneficial title to the homestead,
12 permanently resides thereon, and does not remarry. If the
13 surviving spouse sells the property, an exemption not to exceed
14 the amount granted from the most recent ad valorem tax roll may
15 be transferred to his or her new residence as long as it is
16 used as his or her primary residence and he or she does not
17 remarry.

18 (c-1) Beginning with taxable year 2015, nothing in this
19 Section shall require the veteran to have qualified for or
20 obtained the exemption before death if the veteran was killed
21 in the line of duty.

22 (d) The exemption under this Section applies for taxable
23 year 2007 and thereafter. A taxpayer who claims an exemption
24 under Section 15-165 or 15-168 may not claim an exemption under
25 this Section.

26 (e) Each taxpayer who has been granted an exemption under

1 this Section shall automatically be granted the exemption each
2 following year without reapplication ~~must reapply on an annual~~
3 ~~basis~~. Application must be made during the application period
4 in effect for the county of his or her residence. The assessor
5 or chief county assessment officer may determine the
6 eligibility of residential property to receive the homestead
7 exemption provided by this Section by application, visual
8 inspection, questionnaire, or other reasonable methods. The
9 determination must be made in accordance with guidelines
10 established by the Department.

11 (f) For the purposes of this Section:

12 "Qualified residence" means real property, but less any
13 portion of that property that is used for commercial purposes,
14 with an equalized assessed value of less than \$250,000 that is
15 the primary residence of a veteran with a disability. Property
16 rented for more than 6 months is presumed to be used for
17 commercial purposes.

18 "Veteran" means an Illinois resident who has served as a
19 member of the United States Armed Forces on active duty or
20 State active duty, a member of the Illinois National Guard, or
21 a member of the United States Reserve Forces and who has
22 received an honorable discharge.

23 "Year of purchase" means the tax year in which the veteran
24 bought a qualified residence.

25 (Source: P.A. 98-1145, eff. 12-30-14; 99-143, eff. 7-27-15;
26 99-375, eff. 8-17-15; 99-642, eff. 7-28-16.)

1 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
2 becoming law.