96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2009 and 2010

HB4743

Introduced 1/11/2010, by Rep. Thomas Holbrook

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

35 ILCS 200/15-169

Amends the Property Tax Code. Provides that, beginning in taxable year 2010, for veterans with a service-connected disability of less than 75%, the disabled veterans standard homestead exemption is \$5,000 multiplied by the veteran's certified percentage of service-connected disability. Effective immediately.

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FISCAL NOTE ACT MAY APPLY HOUSING AFFORDABILITY IMPACT NOTE ACT MAY APPLY STATE MANDATES ACT MAY REQUIRE REIMBURSEMENT 1 AN ACT concerning revenue.

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

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

6 (35 ILCS 200/15-169)

7 Sec. 15-169. Disabled veterans standard homestead 8 exemption.

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

13 (b) The amount of the exemption under this Section is as 14 follows:

(1) for veterans with a service-connected disability of at least 75%, as certified by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, the annual exemption is \$5,000; and

19 (2) <u>through taxable year 2009</u>, for veterans with a
20 service-connected disability of at least 50%, but less than
21 75%, as certified by the United States Department of
22 Veterans Affairs, the annual exemption is \$2,500; and23 (3) beginning in taxable year 2010, for veterans with a

1	service-connected disability of less than 75%, as
2	certified by the United States Department of Veterans
3	Affairs, the annual exemption is \$5,000 multiplied by the
4	veteran's certified percentage of service-connected
5	disability.

6 (c) The tax exemption under this Section carries over to 7 the benefit of the veteran's surviving spouse as long as the 8 spouse holds the legal or beneficial title to the homestead, 9 permanently resides thereon, and does not remarry. If the 10 surviving spouse sells the property, an exemption not to exceed 11 the amount granted from the most recent ad valorem tax roll may 12 be transferred to his or her new residence as long as it is 13 used as his or her primary residence and he or she does not 14 remarrv.

15 (d) The exemption under this Section applies for taxable 16 year 2007 and thereafter. A taxpayer who claims an exemption 17 under Section 15-165 or 15-168 may not claim an exemption under 18 this Section.

19 (e) Application must be made during the application period 20 in effect for the county of his or her residence. The assessor 21 or chief county assessment officer may determine the 22 eligibility of residential property to receive the homestead 23 exemption provided by this Section by application, visual inspection, questionnaire, or other reasonable methods. The 24 25 determination must be made in accordance with guidelines 26 established by the Department.

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(f) For the purposes of this Section:

"Qualified residence" means real property, but less any portion of that property that is used for commercial purposes, with an equalized assessed value of less than \$250,000 that is the disabled veteran's primary residence. Property rented for more than 6 months is presumed to be used for commercial purposes.

8 "Veteran" means an Illinois resident who has served as a 9 member of the United States Armed Forces on active duty or 10 State active duty, a member of the Illinois National Guard, or 11 a member of the United States Reserve Forces and who has 12 received an honorable discharge.

13 (Source: P.A. 95-644, eff. 10-12-07.)

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