

Sen. Toi W. Hutchinson

Filed: 4/16/2015

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1	AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 505
2	AMENDMENT NO Amend Senate Bill 505 by replacing
3	everything after the enacting clause with the following:
4	"Section 5. The Property Tax Code is amended by changing
5	Sections 15-165, 15-167, 15-168, 15-169, 15-170, 15-172,
6	15-173, 15-175, and 15-180 and by adding Sections 15-162 and
7	15-163 as follows:
8	(35 ILCS 200/15-162 new)
9	Sec. 15-162. Homestead exemptions; definitions.
10	For the purposes of Article 15, the following terms have
11	the following meanings, except as otherwise provided:
12	(a) "Homestead property" means:
13	(1) property that is occupied as a principal dwelling
14	place by its owner who is liable for the payment of
15	property taxes;
16	(2) a leasehold interest in property on which a

detached single-family residence is situated, which is 1 2 occupied as a principal dwelling place by a person who has an ownership interest therein, legal or equitable or as a 3 4 lessee, and on which the person is liable for the payment 5 of property taxes; (3) a unit in an apartment building owned and operated 6 7 as a cooperative, that is occupied as a principal dwelling place by a person who is liable, by contract with the owner 8 9 or owners of record, for paying property taxes on the 10 property and is an owner of record of a legal or equitable interest in the cooperative apartment building, other than 11 12 a leasehold interest; or 13 (4) a unit within a building which is a life care 14 facility operated as a cooperative, occupied by a person 15 who is liable, by contract with the owner or owners of 16 record, for paying property taxes on the property and is an 17 owner of record of a legal or equitable interest in the cooperative apartment building, other than a leasehold 18 19 interest. (b) "Homestead owner" means any of the following: 20 21 (1) A person who owns and occupies residential property 22 as a principal dwelling place and who is liable for the 23 payment of property taxes as of January 1 of a taxable 24 year. 25 (2) A person who possesses a leasehold interest in 26 property on which a detached single-family residence is

situated, occupies that detached single-family residence 1 as a principal dwelling place, has an ownership interest 2 therein, legal or equitable or as a lessee, and is liable 3 4 for the payment of property taxes on that property. 5 (3) A person who is liable, by contract with the owner or owners of record, for paying property taxes on a unit in 6 7 an apartment building owned and operated as a cooperative, 8 occupies the unit as a principal dwelling place, and is an 9 owner of record of a legal or equitable interest in the 10 cooperative apartment building, other than a leasehold 11 interest. (4) A person who is liable, by contract with the owner 12 13 or owners of record, for paying property taxes on a unit 14 within a building which is a life care facility, occupies 15 the unit as a principal dwelling place, and is an owner of 16 record of a legal or equitable interest in the cooperative apartment building, other than a leasehold interest. 17 (c) "Life care facility" means a facility, as defined under 18 19 Section 2 of the Life Care Facilities Act, with which the 20 homestead owner has a life care contract as defined in that 21 Act. "State-licensed care facility" means a facility 22 (d) 23 licensed under the Assisted Living and Shared Housing Act, the 24 Nursing Home Care Act, the Specialized Mental Health 25 Rehabilitation Act of 2013, or the ID/DD Community Care Act. 26 (e) "Veterans care facility" means a facility operated by

1 the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

2	(35 ILCS 200/15-163 new)
3	Sec. 15-163. Homestead exemptions; general provisions.
4	(a) Unless otherwise provided, an initial application for
5	any homestead exemption must be made to the Chief County
6	Assessment Officer during the application period in effect for
7	the county in which the property is located. The Chief County
8	Assessment Officer may determine the eligibility of
9	residential property to receive the homestead exemption by
10	application, visual inspection, questionnaire, or other
11	reasonable methods. The determination must be made in
12	accordance with guidelines established by the Department.
13	(b) Unless otherwise provided, a county board may, by
14	resolution, provide that if a person has been granted a
15	homestead exemption, the person qualifying need not reapply for
16	the exemption.
17	(c) In counties with fewer than 3,000,000 inhabitants, if
18	the Chief County Assessment Officer requires an annual
19	application for verification of eligibility for a homestead
20	exemption, the application shall be mailed to the taxpayer.
21	(d) If a homestead exemption is granted to a property that
22	is operated as a cooperative or as a life care facility
23	operated as a cooperative, the cooperative association or
24	management firm shall credit the savings resulting from the
25	exemption to the apportioned tax liability of the homestead

1 <u>owner. The Chief County Assessment Officer may request</u> 2 <u>reasonable proof that the association or firm has properly</u> 3 <u>credited the exemption. A person who willfully refuses to</u> 4 <u>credit an exemption to the qualified person is quilty of a</u> 5 <u>Class B misdemeanor.</u>

6 (e) In counties with fewer than 3,000,000 inhabitants, the 7 Chief County Assessment Officer shall provide to each person granted a homestead exemption under Sections 15-168, 15-169, 8 9 15-170, and 15-172 a form to designate any other person to 10 receive a duplicate of any notice of delinquency in the payment 11 of taxes assessed and levied under this Code on the person's qualifying property. The duplicate notice shall be in addition 12 13 to the notice required to be provided to the person receiving 14 the exemption and shall be given in the manner required by this 15 Code. The person filing the request for the duplicate notice 16 shall pay an administrative fee of \$5 to the Chief County Assessment Officer. The Chief County Assessment Officer shall 17 then file the executed designation with the county collector, 18 19 who shall issue the duplicate notices as indicated by the designation. A designation may be rescinded by the person in 20 21 the manner required by the Chief County Assessment Officer.

(f) The Chief County Assessment Officer may, when considering whether to grant an exemption based on a homestead owner's eligibility pursuant to paragraph (2) of subsection (b) of Section 15-162, require the following conditions to be met: (1) that a notarized application for the exemption,

1	signed by both the owner and the lessee of the property,
2	must be submitted each year during the application period
3	in effect for the county in which the property is located;
4	(2) that a copy of the lease must be filed with the
5	Chief County Assessment Officer by the owner of the
6	property at the time the notarized application is
7	submitted;
8	(3) that the lease must expressly state that the lessee
9	is liable for the payment of property taxes; and
10	(4) that the lease must include the following language
11	in substantially the following form: "Lessee shall be
12	liable for the payment of real estate taxes with respect to
13	the residence in accordance with the terms and conditions
14	of Section 15-162(b)(2) of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS
15	200/15-162(b)(2)). The permanent real estate index number
16	for the premises is (insert number), and, according to the
17	most recent property tax bill, the current amount of real
18	estate taxes associated with the premises is (insert
19	amount) per year. The parties agree that the monthly rent
20	set forth above shall be increased or decreased pro rata
21	(effective January 1 of each calendar year) to reflect any
22	increase or decrease in real estate taxes. Lessee shall be
23	deemed to be satisfying Lessee's liability for the above
24	mentioned real estate taxes with the monthly rent payments
25	as set forth above (or increased or decreased as set forth
26	herein).".

1	In addition, if there is a change in lessee, or if the
2	lessee vacates the property, then the Chief County Assessment
3	Officer may require the owner of the property to notify the
4	Chief County Assessment Officer of that change.
5	This subsection (f) does not apply to leasehold interests
6	in property owned by a municipality.
7	(q) When a homestead exemption has been granted under this
8	Article 15 and the person qualifying subsequently becomes a
9	resident of a State-licensed care facility or veterans care
10	facility, the exemption shall continue so long as the residence
11	continues to be occupied by the qualifying person's spouse, or
12	if the residence remains unoccupied but is still owned by the
13	person qualified for the homestead exemption.
14	(h) Any taxpayer whose application for a homestead
15	exemption is denied by the Chief County Assessment Officer may
16	appeal that denial to the county board of review. The decision
17	of the board of review shall be final.
18	(i) Notwithstanding any other provision, if a property is
19	transferred or otherwise ceases to be homestead property after
20	the first date of eligibility within a taxable year, the
21	exemption shall remain with the property until the end of that
22	taxable year.

23 (35 ILCS 200/15-165)

Sec. 15-165. Disabled veterans <u>adapted housing homestead</u>
<u>exemption</u>.

1	(a) Definitions. As used in this Section, in addition to
2	the definitions found in Section 15-162:
3	"Charitable organization" means any benevolent,
4	philanthropic, patriotic, or eleemosynary entity that solicits
5	and collects funds for charitable purposes and includes each
6	local, county, or area division of that charitable
7	organization.
8	"Disabled veteran" means a person who has served in the
9	Armed Forces of the United States and whose disability is of
10	such a nature that the Federal Government has authorized
11	payment for purchase or construction of Specially Adapted
12	Housing as set forth in the United States Code, Title 38,
13	Chapter 21, Section 2101.
14	"Eligible homestead property" means homestead property
15	that is occupied by a homestead owner who is Property up to an
16	assessed value of \$100,000, owned and used exclusively by a
17	disabled veteran, or the spouse or unmarried surviving spouse
18	of the <u>disabled</u> veteran, as a home, is exempt. As used in this
19	Section, a disabled veteran means a person who has served in
20	the Armed Forces of the United States and whose disability is
21	of such a nature that the Federal Government has authorized
22	payment for purchase or construction of Specially Adapted
23	Housing as set forth in the United States Code, Title 38,
24	Chapter 21, Section 2101.
25	"Unmarried surviving spouse" means the surviving spouse of
26	the veteran at any time after the death of the veteran during

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which such surviving spouse is not married.

2 (b) Eligibility. The exemption under this Section applies
3 to eligible homestead property up to an assessed value of
4 \$100,000.

5 The exemption applies to housing where Federal funds have 6 been used to purchase or construct special adaptations to suit 7 the veteran's disability.

8 The exemption also applies to housing that is specially 9 adapted to suit the veteran's disability, and purchased 10 entirely or in part by the proceeds of a sale, casualty loss 11 reimbursement, or other transfer of a home for which the 12 Federal Government had previously authorized payment for 13 purchase or construction as Specially Adapted Housing.

However, the entire proceeds of the sale, casualty loss reimbursement, or other transfer of that housing shall be applied to the acquisition of subsequent specially adapted housing to the extent that the proceeds equal the purchase price of the subsequently acquired housing.

Beginning with the 2015 tax year, the exemption also 19 20 applies to housing that is specifically constructed or adapted to suit a qualifying veteran's disability if the housing or 21 adaptations are donated by a charitable organization, the 22 23 veteran has been approved to receive funds for the purchase or 24 construction of Specially Adapted Housing under Title 38, 25 Chapter 21, Section 2101 of the United States Code, and the 26 home has been inspected and certified by a licensed home 09900SB0505sam001 -10- LRB099 03048 HLH 34176 a

inspector to be in compliance with applicable standards set
 forth in U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Benefits
 Administration Pamphlet 26-13 Handbook for Design of Specially
 Adapted Housing.

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(c) Amount. Eligible homestead property up to an assessed value of \$100,000 is exempt.

7 For purposes of this Section, "charitable organization" 8 means any benevolent, philanthropic, patriotic, or 9 eleemosynary entity that solicits and collects funds for 10 charitable purposes and includes each local, county, or area 11 division of that charitable organization.

12 For purposes of this Section, "unmarried surviving spouse" 13 means the surviving spouse of the veteran at any time after the 14 death of the veteran during which such surviving spouse is not 15 married.

16 <u>(d) Additional provisions.</u> This exemption must be 17 reestablished on an annual basis by certification from the 18 Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs to the Department, 19 which shall forward a copy of the certification to local 20 assessing officials.

(e) A taxpayer who claims an exemption under Section 15-168
 or 15-169 may not claim an exemption under this Section.
 (Source: P.A. 98-1145, eff. 12-30-14.)

24 (35 ILCS 200/15-167)

25 Sec. 15-167. Returning Veterans' Homestead Exemption.

1	(a) Definitions. As used in this Section, in addition to
2	the definitions found in Section 15-162, Beginning with taxable
3	year 2007, a homestead exemption, limited to a reduction set
4	forth under subsection (b), from the property's value, as
5	equalized or assessed by the Department, is granted for
6	property that is owned and occupied as the principal residence
7	of a veteran returning from an armed conflict involving the
8	armed forces of the United States who is liable for paying real
9	estate taxes on the property and is an owner of record of the
10	property or has a legal or equitable interest therein as
11	evidenced by a written instrument, except for a leasehold
12	interest, other than a leasehold interest of land on which a
13	single family residence is located, which is occupied as the
14	principal residence of a veteran returning from an armed
15	conflict involving the armed forces of the United States who
16	has an ownership interest therein, legal, equitable or as a
17	lessee, and on which he or she is liable for the payment of
18	property taxes. For purposes of the exemption under this
19	Section, "veteran" means an Illinois resident who has served as
20	a member of the United States Armed Forces, a member of the
21	Illinois National Guard, or a member of the United States
22	Reserve Forces.

(b) Eligibility. A homestead exemption is granted for
 homestead property that is occupied by a homestead owner who is
 a veteran returning from an armed conflict involving the armed
 forces of the United States.

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1 (b-5) Amount. In all counties, the reduction is \$5,000 for the taxable year in which the veteran returns from active duty 2 in an armed conflict involving the armed forces of the United 3 4 States; however, if the veteran first acquires his or her 5 principal residence during the taxable year in which he or she 6 returns, but after January 1 of that year, and if the property is owned and occupied by the veteran as a principal residence 7 8 on January 1 of the next taxable year, he or she may apply the 9 exemption for the next taxable year, and only the next taxable 10 year, after he or she returns. Beginning in taxable year 2010, 11 the reduction shall also be allowed for the taxable year after the taxable year in which the veteran returns from active duty 12 13 in an armed conflict involving the armed forces of the United 14 States. For land improved with an apartment building owned and 15 operated as a cooperative, the maximum reduction from the value 16 of the property, as equalized by the Department, must be multiplied by the number of apartments or units occupied by a 17 veteran returning from an armed conflict involving the armed 18 forces of the United States who is liable, by contract with the 19 20 owner or owners of record, for paying property taxes on the property and is an owner of record of a legal or equitable 21 22 interest in the cooperative apartment building, other than a 23 leasehold interest. In a cooperative where a homestead 24 exemption has been granted, the cooperative association or the 25 management firm of the cooperative or facility shall credit 26 savings resulting from that exemption only to the apportioned

1 tax liability of the owner or resident who qualified for the 2 exemption. Any person who willfully refuses to so credit the 3 savings is guilty of a Class B misdemeanor.

(Blank). Application must be made during the 4 (C) 5 application period in effect for the county of his or her residence. The assessor or chief county assessment officer may 6 determine the eligibility of residential property to receive 7 the homestead exemption provided by this Section 8 bv 9 application, visual inspection, questionnaire, or other 10 reasonable methods. The determination must be made in 11 accordance with guidelines established by the Department.

12 (d) <u>Additional provisions.</u> The exemption under this 13 Section is in addition to any other homestead exemption 14 provided in this Article 15. Notwithstanding Sections 6 and 8 15 of the State Mandates Act, no reimbursement by the State is 16 required for the implementation of any mandate created by this 17 Section.

18 (Source: P.A. 96-1288, eff. 7-26-10; 96-1418, eff. 8-2-10; 19 97-333, eff. 8-12-11.)

20 (35 ILCS 200/15-168)
21 Sec. 15-168. Disabled persons' homestead exemption.
22 (a) <u>Definitions. As used in this Section, in addition to</u>
23 <u>the definitions found in Section 15-162, "disabled person"</u>
24 <u>means a person unable to engage in any substantial gainful</u>
25 <u>activity by reason of a medically determinable physical or</u>

mental impairment which can be expected to result in death or
has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period
of not less than 12 months. Disabled persons filing claims
under this Section shall submit proof of disability in such
form and manner as the Department shall by rule and regulation
prescribe. Any one or more of the following shall constitute
proof of disability for purposes of this Act:
(1) proof that a claimant is eligible to receive
disability benefits under the federal Social Security Act;
(2) issuance of an Illinois Person with a Disability

11Identification Card stating that the claimant is under a12Class 2 or 2A disability, as defined in Section 4A of the13Illinois Identification Card Act; or

14 (3) a disabled person not covered under the federal 15 Social Security Act and not presenting an Illinois Person with a Disability Identification Card stating that the 16 claimant is under a Class 2 or 2A disability shall be 17 examined by a physician licensed to practice in the State 18 19 of Illinois, and his status as a disabled person shall be 20 determined using the same standards as used by the Social Security Administration. The costs of any required 21 22 examination shall be borne by the claimant.

23 (b) Eligibility. An Beginning with taxable year 2007, an 24 annual homestead exemption is granted to <u>homestead property</u> 25 <u>occupied by homestead owners who are also</u> disabled persons in 26 the amount of \$2,000, except as provided in subsection (c), to

be deducted from the property's value as equalized or assessed 1 by the Department of Revenue. The disabled person shall receive 2 the homestead exemption upon meeting the following 3 4 requirements: 5 (1) The property must be occupied as the primary residence by the disabled person. 6 (2) The disabled person must be liable for paying the 7 8 real estate taxes on the property. 9 (3) The disabled person must be an owner of record of 10 the property or have a legal or equitable interest in the 11 property as evidenced by a written instrument. In the case of a leasehold interest in property, the lease must be for 12 a single family residence. 13 A person who is disabled during the taxable year is 14 15 eligible to receive apply for this homestead exemption during 16 that taxable year. Application must be made during the application period in effect for the county of residence. If a 17 homestead exemption has been granted under this Section and the 18 person awarded the exemption subsequently becomes a resident of 19 20 a facility licensed under the Nursing Home Care Act, the Specialized Mental Health Rehabilitation Act of 2013, or the 21 ID/DD Community Care Act, then the exemption shall continue (i) 22 so long as the residence continues to be occupied by the 23 qualifying person's spouse or (ii) if the residence remains 24 25 unoccupied but is still owned by the person qualified for the 26 homestead exemption.

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1	(b) For the purposes of this Section, "disabled person"
2	means a person unable to engage in any substantial gainful
3	activity by reason of a medically determinable physical or
4	mental impairment which can be expected to result in death or
5	has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period
6	of not less than 12 months. Disabled persons filing claims
7	under this Act shall submit proof of disability in such form
8	and manner as the Department shall by rule and regulation
9	prescribe. Proof that a claimant is eligible to receive
10	disability benefits under the Federal Social Security Act shall
11	constitute proof of disability for purposes of this Act.
12	Issuance of an Illinois Person with a Disability Identification
13	Card stating that the claimant is under a Class 2 disability,
14	as defined in Section 4A of the Illinois Identification Card
15	Act, shall constitute proof that the person named thereon is a
16	disabled person for purposes of this Act. A disabled person not
17	covered under the Federal Social Security Act and not
18	presenting an Illinois Person with a Disability Identification
19	Card stating that the claimant is under a Class 2 disability
20	shall be examined by a physician designated by the Department,
21	and his status as a disabled person determined using the same
22	standards as used by the Social Security Administration. The
23	costs of any required examination shall be borne by the
24	claimant.
25	(c) Amount. The annual exemption amount is \$2,000, to be

(c) Amount. The annual exemption amount is \$2,000, to be 25 26 deducted from the property's value as equalized or assessed by 09900SB0505sam001 -17- LRB099 03048 HLH 34176 a

1 the Department; except that, for For land improved with (i) an apartment building owned and operated as a cooperative or (ii) 2 a life care facility as defined under Section 2 of the Life 3 4 Care Facilities Act that is considered to be a cooperative, the 5 maximum reduction from the value of the property, as equalized 6 or assessed by the Department, shall be multiplied by the number of apartments or units occupied by a disabled person. 7 8 The disabled person shall receive the homestead exemption upon 9 meeting the following requirements:

10 (1) The property must be occupied as the primary 11 residence by the disabled person.

12 (2) The disabled person must be liable by contract with 13 the owner or owners of record for paying the apportioned 14 property taxes on the property of the cooperative or life 15 care facility. In the case of a life care facility, the 16 disabled person must be liable for paying the apportioned 17 property taxes under a life care contract as defined in 18 Section 2 of the Life Care Facilities Act.

19 (3) The disabled person must be an owner of record of a 20 legal or equitable interest in the cooperative apartment 21 building. A leasehold interest does not meet this 22 requirement.

23 If a homestead exemption is granted under this subsection, the 24 cooperative association or management firm shall credit the 25 savings resulting from the exemption to the apportioned tax 26 liability of the qualifying disabled person. The chief county 1 assessment officer may request reasonable proof that the 2 association or firm has properly credited the exemption. A 3 person who willfully refuses to credit an exemption to the 4 qualified disabled person is quilty of a Class B misdemeanor.

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5 (d) <u>(Blank).</u> The chief county assessment officer shall 6 determine the eligibility of property to receive the homestead 7 exemption according to guidelines established by the 8 Department. After a person has received an exemption under this 9 Section, an annual verification of eligibility for the 10 exemption shall be mailed to the taxpayer.

In counties with fewer than 3,000,000 inhabitants, the 11 chief county assessment officer shall provide to each person 12 granted a homestead exemption under this Section a form to 13 designate any other person to receive a duplicate of any notice 14 15 of delinquency in the payment of taxes assessed and levied 16 under this Code on the person's qualifying property. The duplicate notice shall be in addition to the notice required to 17 be provided to the person receiving the exemption and shall be 18 given in the manner required by this Code. The person filing 19 the request for the duplicate notice shall pay an 20 administrative fee of \$5 to the chief county assessment 21 officer. The assessment officer shall then file the executed 22 designation with the county collector, who shall issue the 23 duplicate notices as indicated by the designation. 24 designation may be rescinded by the disabled person in the 25 26 manner required by the chief county assessment officer.

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1 Additional provisions. A taxpayer who claims an (e) 2 exemption under Section 15-165 or 15-169 may not claim an 3 exemption under this Section. 4 (Source: P.A. 97-38, eff. 6-28-11; 97-227, eff. 1-1-12; 97-813, eff. 7-13-12; 97-1064, eff. 1-1-13; 98-104, eff. 7-22-13.) 5 (35 ILCS 200/15-169) 6 Sec. 15-169. Disabled veterans 7 standard homestead 8 exemption. 9 (a) Definitions. As used in this Section, in addition to 10 the definitions found in Section 15-162: "Qualified residence" means homestead property, but less 11 12 any portion of that property that is used for commercial 13 purposes, with an equalized assessed value of less than \$250,000. Property rented for more than 6 months is presumed to 14 15 be used for commercial purposes. "Veteran" means an Illinois resident who has served as a 16 member of the United States Armed Forces on active duty or 17 State active duty, a member of the Illinois National Guard, or 18 19 a member of the United States Reserve Forces and who has 20 received an honorable discharge. 21 (a-5) Eligibility. An Beginning with taxable year 2007, an annual homestead exemption, limited to the amounts set forth in 22 23 subsection (b), is granted for homestead property that is used 24 as a qualified residence by a homestead owner who is a disabled 25 veteran.

1 (b) <u>Amount.</u> The amount of the exemption under this Section 2 is as follows:

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

9 (2) for veterans with a service-connected disability 10 of at least 50%, but less than (i) 75% for exemptions 11 granted in taxable years 2007 through 2009 and (ii) 70% for 12 exemptions granted in taxable year 2010 and each taxable 13 year thereafter, as certified by the United States 14 Department of Veterans Affairs, the annual exemption is 15 \$2,500.

16 (b-5) (Blank). If a homestead exemption is granted under 17 this Section and the person awarded the exemption subsequently becomes a resident of a facility licensed under the Nursing 18 19 Home Care Act or a facility operated by the United States 20 Department of Veterans Affairs, then the exemption shall 21 continue (i) so long as the residence continues to be occupied by the qualifying person's spouse or (ii) if the residence 22 remains unoccupied but is still owned by the person who 23 24 qualified for the homestead exemption.

25

(c) Additional provisions.

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(1) The tax exemption under this Section carries over

1 to the benefit of the veteran's surviving spouse as long as the spouse holds the legal or beneficial title to the 2 homestead, permanently resides thereon, and does not 3 4 remarry. If the surviving spouse sells the property, an 5 exemption not to exceed the amount granted from the most recent ad valorem tax roll may be transferred to his or her 6 new residence as long as it is used as his or her primary 7 8 residence and he or she does not remarry.

9 (c-1) Beginning with taxable year 2015, nothing in this 10 Section shall require the veteran to have qualified for or 11 obtained the exemption before death if the veteran was killed 12 in the line of duty.

13 (2) (d) The exemption under this Section applies for 14 taxable year 2007 and thereafter. A taxpayer who claims an 15 exemption under Section 15-165 or 15-168 may not claim an 16 exemption under this Section.

17 (3) (e) Each taxpayer who has been granted an exemption
18 under this Section must reapply on an annual basis.
19 Application must be made during the application period in
20 effect for the county of his or her residence.

21 (c-1) Beginning with taxable year 2015, nothing in this
22 Section shall require the veteran to have qualified for or
23 obtained the exemption before death if the veteran was killed
24 in the line of duty. The assessor or chief county assessment
25 officer may determine the eligibility of residential property
26 to receive the homestead exemption provided by this Section by

1	application, visual inspection, questionnaire, or other
2	reasonable methods. The determination must be made in
3	accordance with guidelines established by the Department.
4	(f) For the purposes of this Section:
5	"Qualified residence" means real property, but less any
6	portion of that property that is used for commercial purposes,
7	with an equalized assessed value of less than \$250,000 that is
8	the disabled veteran's primary residence. Property rented for
9	more than 6 months is presumed to be used for commercial
10	purposes.
11	"Veteran" means an Illinois resident who has served as a
12	member of the United States Armed Forces on active duty or
13	State active duty, a member of the Illinois National Guard, or
14	a member of the United States Reserve Forces and who has
15	received an honorable discharge.
16	(Source: P.A. 97-333, eff. 8-12-11; 98-1145, eff. 12-30-14.)
17	(35 ILCS 200/15-170)
18	Sec. 15-170. Senior Citizens Homestead Exemption.
19	(a) Definitions. The definitions found in Section 15-162
20	shall apply to this Section.
21	(b) Eligibility. An annual homestead exemption limited,
22	except as described here with relation to cooperatives or life
23	care facilities, to a maximum reduction set forth below from
24	the property's value, as equalized or assessed by the
25	Department, is granted for <u>homestead</u> property that is occupied

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by a homestead owner as a residence by a person who will be 65 1 years of age or older by December 31 of the taxable year who is 2 liable for paying real estate taxes on the property and is an 3 4 owner of record of the property or has a legal or equitable 5 interest therein as evidenced by a written instrument, except for a leasehold interest, other than a leasehold interest of 6 land on which a single family residence is located, which is 7 8 occupied as a residence by a person 65 years or older who has 9 an ownership interest therein, legal, equitable or as a lessee, and on which he or she is liable for the payment of property 10 11 taxes.

(c) Amount. Before taxable year 2004, the maximum reduction 12 shall be \$2,500 in counties with 3,000,000 or more inhabitants 13 and \$2,000 in all other counties. For taxable years 2004 14 15 through 2005, the maximum reduction shall be \$3,000 in all counties. For taxable years 2006 and 2007, the maximum 16 reduction shall be \$3,500. For taxable years 2008 through 2011, 17 the maximum reduction is \$4,000 in all counties. For taxable 18 year 2012, the maximum reduction is \$5,000 in counties with 19 20 3,000,000 or more inhabitants and \$4,000 in all other counties. For taxable years 2013 and thereafter, the maximum reduction is 21 \$5,000 in all counties. 22

For land improved with an apartment building owned and operated as a cooperative, the maximum reduction from the value of the property, as equalized by the Department, shall be multiplied by the number of apartments or units occupied by a 09900SB0505sam001 -24- LRB099 03048 HLH 34176 a

1 person 65 years of age or older who is liable, by contract with 2 the owner or owners of record, for paying property taxes on the property and is an owner of record of a legal or equitable 3 4 interest in the cooperative apartment building, other than a 5 leasehold interest. For land improved with a life care 6 facility, the maximum reduction from the value of the property, as equalized by the Department, shall be multiplied by the 7 number of apartments or units occupied by persons 65 years of 8 9 age or older, irrespective of any legal, equitable, or 10 leasehold interest in the facility, who are liable, under a contract with the owner or owners of record of the facility, 11 for paying property taxes on the property. In a cooperative or 12 13 a life care facility where a homestead exemption has been granted, the cooperative association or the management firm of 14 15 the cooperative or facility shall credit the savings resulting 16 from that exemption only to the apportioned tax liability of the owner or resident who qualified for the exemption. Any 17 person who willfully refuses to so credit the savings shall be 18 Class B misdemeanor. Under this Section and 19 guilty -of a Sections 15-175, 15-176, and 15-177, "life care facility" means 20 a facility, as defined in Section 2 of the Life Care Facilities 21 22 Act, with which the applicant for the homestead exemption has a life care contract as defined in that Act. 23

When a homestead exemption has been granted under this
Section and the person qualifying subsequently becomes a
resident of a facility licensed under the Assisted Living and

Shared Housing Act, the Nursing Home Care Act, the Specialized Mental Health Rehabilitation Act of 2013, or the ID/DD Community Care Act, the exemption shall continue so long as the residence continues to be occupied by the qualifying person's spouse if the spouse is 65 years of age or older, or if the residence remains unoccupied but is still owned by the person qualified for the homestead exemption.

8 A person who will be 65 years of age during the current 9 assessment year shall be eligible to apply for the homestead 10 exemption during that assessment year. Application shall be 11 made during the application period in effect for the county of 12 his residence.

13 Property Beginning with assessment year 2003, for taxes payable in 2004, property that is first occupied as a residence 14 15 after January 1 of any assessment year by a person who is 16 eligible for the senior citizens homestead exemption under this Section must be granted a pro-rata exemption for the assessment 17 year. The amount of the pro-rata exemption is the exemption 18 allowed in the county under this Section divided by 365 and 19 20 multiplied by the number of days during the assessment year the property is occupied as a residence by a person eligible for 21 the exemption under this Section. The chief county assessment 22 23 adopt reasonable procedures to establish officer must 24 eligibility for this pro-rata exemption.

25 (d) Additional provisions. The assessor or chief county
 26 assessment officer may determine the eligibility of a life care

facility to receive the benefits provided by this Section, by
affidavit, application, visual inspection, questionnaire or
other reasonable methods in order to insure that the tax
savings resulting from the exemption are credited by the
management firm to the apportioned tax liability of each
qualifying resident. The assessor may request reasonable proof
that the management firm has so credited the exemption.

The chief county assessment officer of each county with 8 less than 3,000,000 inhabitants shall provide to each person 9 10 allowed a homestead exemption under this Section a form to designate any other person to receive a duplicate of any notice 11 of delinguency in the payment of taxes assessed and levied 12 13 under this Code on the property of the person receiving the exemption. The duplicate notice shall be in addition to the 14 15 notice required to be provided to the person receiving the exemption, and shall be given in the manner required by this 16 Code. The person filing the request for the duplicate notice 17 shall pay a fee of \$5 to cover administrative costs to the 18 supervisor of assessments, who shall then file the executed 19 designation with the county collector. Notwithstanding any 20 other provision of this Code to the contrary, the filing of 21 such an executed designation requires the county collector to 22 provide duplicate notices as indicated by the designation. A 23 designation may be rescinded by the person who executed such 24 25 designation at any time, in the manner and form required by the 26 chief county assessment officer.

1 Thechief county assessment -officer may 2 determine the eligibility of residential property to receive 3 the homestead exemption provided by this Section -bv application, visual inspection, questionnaire or other 4 5 reasonable methods. The determination shall be made in accordance with guidelines established by the Department. 6

(1) In counties with 3,000,000 or more inhabitants, 7 beginning in taxable year 2010, each taxpayer who has been 8 9 granted an exemption under this Section must reapply on an 10 annual basis. The chief county assessment officer shall mail the application to the taxpayer. In counties with less 11 than 3,000,000 inhabitants, the county board may by 12 13 resolution provide that if a person has been granted a 14 homestead exemption under this Section, the person 15 qualifying need not reapply for the exemption.

16 In counties with less than 3,000,000 inhabitants, if the 17 assessor or chief county assessment officer requires annual 18 application for verification of eligibility for an exemption 19 once granted under this Section, the application shall be 20 mailed to the taxpayer.

21 (2) The assessor or chief county assessment officer 22 shall notify each person who qualifies for an exemption 23 under this Section that the person may also qualify for 24 deferral of real estate taxes under the Senior Citizens 25 Real Estate Tax Deferral Act. The notice shall set forth 26 the qualifications needed for deferral of real estate 09900SB0505sam001 -28- LRB099 03048 HLH 34176 a

1 taxes, the address and telephone number of county 2 collector, and a statement that applications for deferral 3 of real estate taxes may be obtained from the county 4 collector.

5 (3) Notwithstanding Sections 6 and 8 of the State
6 Mandates Act, no reimbursement by the State is required for
7 the implementation of any mandate created by this Section.
8 (Source: P.A. 97-38, eff. 6-28-11; 97-227, eff. 1-1-12; 97-813,
9 eff. 7-13-12; 98-7, eff. 4-23-13; 98-104, eff. 7-22-13; 98-756,
10 eff. 7-16-14.)

11 (35 ILCS 200/15-172)

Sec. 15-172. Senior Citizens Assessment Freeze Homestead
 Exemption.

14 (a) <u>Definitions. As used in this Section, in addition to</u>
 15 <u>the definitions found in Section 15-162:</u> This Section may be
 16 cited as the Senior Citizens Assessment Freeze Homestead
 17 Exemption.

18 (b) As used in this Section:

19 "Applicant" means an individual who has filed an 20 application under this Section.

"Base amount" means the base year equalized assessed value of the residence plus the first year's equalized assessed value of any added improvements which increased the assessed value of the residence after the base year.

25 "Base year" means the taxable year prior to the taxable

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1 year for which the applicant first qualifies and applies for 2 the exemption provided that in the prior taxable year the property was improved with a permanent structure that was 3 4 occupied as a residence by the applicant who was liable for 5 paying real property taxes on the property and who was either 6 (i) an owner of record of the property or had legal or equitable interest in the property as evidenced by a written 7 8 instrument or (ii) had a legal or equitable interest as a 9 lessee in the parcel of property that was single family 10 residence. If in any subsequent taxable year for which the 11 applicant applies and qualifies for the exemption the equalized assessed value of the residence is less than the equalized 12 13 assessed value in the existing base year (provided that such equalized assessed value is not based on an assessed value that 14 15 results from a temporary irregularity in the property that 16 reduces the assessed value for one or more taxable years), then 17 that subsequent taxable year shall become the base year until a 18 new base year is established under the terms of this paragraph. 19 For taxable year 1999 only, the Chief County Assessment Officer 20 shall review (i) all taxable years for which the applicant 21 applied and qualified for the exemption and (ii) the existing 22 base year. The assessment officer shall select as the new base 23 year the year with the lowest equalized assessed value. An 24 equalized assessed value that is based on an assessed value 25 that results from a temporary irregularity in the property that 26 reduces the assessed value for one or more taxable years shall

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not be considered the lowest equalized assessed value. The selected year shall be the base year for taxable year 1999 and thereafter until a new base year is established under the terms of this paragraph.

5 "Chief County Assessment Officer" means the County 6 Assessor or Supervisor of Assessments of the county in which 7 the property is located.

8 "Equalized assessed value" means the assessed value as 9 equalized by the Illinois Department of Revenue.

10 "Household" means the applicant, the spouse of the 11 applicant, and all persons using the residence of the applicant 12 as their principal place of residence.

13 "Household income" means the combined income of the members 14 of a household for the calendar year preceding the taxable 15 year.

"Income" has the same meaning as provided in Section 3.07 of the Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons Property Tax Relief Act, except that, beginning in assessment year 2001, "income" does not include veteran's benefits.

20 "Internal Revenue Code of 1986" means the United States 21 Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or any successor law or laws 22 relating to federal income taxes in effect for the year 23 preceding the taxable year.

24 "Life care facility that qualifies as a cooperative" means 25 a facility as defined in Section 2 of the Life Care Facilities 26 Act. 1 "Maximum income limitation" means <u>\$55,000.</u>+
2 (1) <u>\$35,000 prior to taxable year 1999;</u>
3 (2) <u>\$40,000 in taxable years 1999 through 2003;</u>
4 (3) <u>\$45,000 in taxable years 2004 through 2005;</u>
5 (4) <u>\$50,000 in taxable years 2006 and 2007; and</u>
6 (5) <u>\$55,000 in taxable year 2008 and thereafter.</u>

7 "Residence" means the principal dwelling place and appurtenant structures used for residential purposes in this 8 9 State occupied on January 1 of the taxable year by a household 10 and so much of the surrounding land, constituting the parcel 11 upon which the dwelling place is situated, as is used for residential purposes. If the Chief County Assessment Officer 12 13 has established a specific legal description for a portion of 14 property constituting the residence, then that portion of 15 property shall be deemed the residence for the purposes of this 16 Section.

17 "Taxable year" means the calendar year during which ad 18 valorem property taxes payable in the next succeeding year are 19 levied.

20 (b) Eligibility. A (c) Beginning in taxable year 1994, a 21 senior citizens assessment freeze homestead exemption is 22 granted for <u>homestead</u> real property that is improved with a 23 permanent structure that is occupied as a residence by <u>a</u> 24 <u>homestead owner</u> an <u>applicant</u> who (i) is 65 years of age or 25 older <u>by December 31 of</u> during the taxable year <u>and</u> τ (ii) has 26 a household income that does not exceed the maximum income

limitation, (iii) is liable for paying real property 1 taxes on the property, and (iv) is an owner of record of the property or 2 3 has a legal or equitable interest in the property as evidenced 4 by a written instrument. This homestead exemption shall also 5 apply to a leasehold interest in a parcel of property improved 6 with a permanent structure that is a single family residence that is occupied as a residence by a person who (i) is 65 years 7 of age or older during the taxable year, (ii) has a household 8 income that does not exceed the maximum income limitation, 9 10 (iii) has a legal or equitable ownership interest in the property as lessee, and (iv) is liable for the payment of real 11 12 property taxes on that property.

13 (c) Amount. In all counties of 3,000,000 or more inhabitants, the amount of the exemption for all taxable years 14 15 is the equalized assessed value of the residence in the taxable 16 year for which application is made minus the base amount. In all other counties, the amount of the exemption is as follows: 17 (i) through taxable year 2005 and for taxable year 2007 and 18 thereafter, the amount of this exemption shall be the equalized 19 20 assessed value of the residence in the taxable year for which 21 application is made minus the base amount; and (ii) for taxable 22 year 2006, the amount of the exemption is as follows:

(1) For an applicant who has a household income of
 \$45,000 or less, the amount of the exemption is the
 equalized assessed value of the residence in the taxable
 year for which application is made minus the base amount.

(2) For an applicant who has a household income 1 exceeding \$45,000 but not exceeding \$46,250, the amount of 2 3 the exemption is (i) the equalized assessed value of the residence in the taxable year for which application is made 4 5 minus the base amount (ii) multiplied by 0.8. (3) For an applicant who has a household income 6 exceeding \$46,250 but not exceeding \$47,500, the amount of 7 the exemption is (i) the equalized assessed value of the 8 9 residence in the taxable year for which application is made 10 minus the base amount (ii) multiplied by 0.6. (4) For an applicant who has a household income 11 exceeding \$47,500 but not exceeding \$48,750, the amount of 12 13 the exemption is (i) the equalized assessed value of the residence in the taxable year for which application is made 14 15 minus the base amount (ii) multiplied by 0.4. (5) For an applicant who has a household income 16 exceeding \$48,750 but not exceeding \$50,000, the amount of 17 the exemption is (i) the equalized assessed value of the 18 residence in the taxable year for which application is made 19 20 minus the base amount (ii) multiplied by 0.2.

21 When the applicant is a surviving spouse of an applicant 22 for a prior year for the same residence for which an exemption 23 under this Section has been granted, the base year and base 24 amount for that residence are the same as for the applicant for 25 the prior year.

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Each year at the time the assessment books are certified to

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the County Clerk, the Board of Review or Board of Appeals shall give to the County Clerk a list of the assessed values of improvements on each parcel qualifying for this exemption that were added after the base year for this parcel and that increased the assessed value of the property.

6 In the case of land improved with an apartment building owned and operated as a cooperative or a building that is a 7 life care facility that qualifies as a cooperative, the maximum 8 9 reduction from the equalized assessed value of the property is 10 limited to the sum of the reductions calculated for each unit 11 occupied as a residence by a person or persons (i) 65 years of age or older, (ii) with a household income that does not exceed 12 13 the maximum income limitation, (iii) who is liable, by contract with the owner or owners of record, for paying real property 14 15 taxes on the property, and (iv) who is an owner of record of a 16 legal or equitable interest in the cooperative apartment building, other than a leasehold interest. In the instance of a 17 18 cooperative where a homestead exemption has been granted under 19 this Section, the cooperative association or its management 20 firm shall credit the savings resulting from that exemption 21 only to the apportioned tax liability of the owner who 22 qualified for the exemption. Any person who willfully refuses 23 to credit that savings to an owner who qualifies for the 24 exemption is guilty of a Class B misdemeanor.

When a homestead exemption has been granted under this
 Section and an applicant then becomes a resident of a facility

1 licensed under the Assisted Living and Shared Housing Act, the Nursing Home Care Act, the Specialized Mental Health 2 Rehabilitation Act of 2013, or the ID/DD Community Care Act, 3 the exemption shall be granted in subsequent years so long as 4 5 the residence (i) continues to be occupied by the qualified 6 applicant's spouse or (ii) if remaining unoccupied, is still 7 owned by the qualified applicant for the homestead exemption. 8 (d) Additional provisions. 9 (1) When Beginning January 1, 1997, when an individual 10 dies who would have qualified for an exemption under this Section, and the surviving spouse does not independently 11 qualify for this exemption because of age, the exemption 12 13 under this Section shall be granted to the surviving spouse 14 for the taxable year preceding and the taxable year of the 15 death, provided that, except for age, the surviving spouse meets all other qualifications for the granting of this 16 17 exemption for those years.

18 (2) When married persons maintain separate residences, 19 the exemption provided for in this Section may be claimed 20 by only one of such persons and for only one residence.

21 For taxable year 1994 only, in counties having less than 22 3,000,000 inhabitants, to receive the exemption, a person shall 23 submit an application by February 15, 1995 to the Chief County 24 Assessment Officer of the county in which the property is 25 located.

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(3) In counties having 3,000,000 or more inhabitants,

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for taxable year 1994 and all subsequent taxable years, to
receive the exemption, a person may submit an application
to the Chief County Assessment Officer of the county in
which the property is located during such period as may be
specified by the Chief County Assessment Officer.

6 <u>(4)</u> The Chief County Assessment Officer in counties of 7 3,000,000 or more inhabitants shall annually give notice of 8 the application period by mail or by publication.

9 (5) In counties having less than 3,000,000 10 inhabitants, beginning with taxable year 1995 and thereafter, to receive the exemption, a person shall submit 11 an application by July 1 of each taxable year to the Chief 12 13 County Assessment Officer of the county in which the 14 property is located.

15 (6) A county may, by ordinance, establish a date for
 16 submission of applications that is different than July 1.

17 <u>(7)</u> The applicant shall submit with the application an 18 affidavit of the applicant's total household income, age, 19 marital status (and if married the name and address of the 20 applicant's spouse, if known), and principal dwelling 21 place of members of the household on January 1 of the 22 taxable year.

(8) The Department shall establish, by rule, a method
 for verifying the accuracy of affidavits filed by
 applicants under this Section, and the Chief County
 Assessment Officer may conduct audits of any taxpayer

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claiming an exemption under this Section to verify that the

taxpayer is eligible to receive the exemption. <u>(9)</u> Each application shall contain or be verified by a <u>notarized</u> written declaration that it is made under the penalties of perjury. A taxpayer's signing a fraudulent

application under this Act is perjury, as defined in
Section 32-2 of the Criminal Code of 2012.

8 <u>(10)</u> The applications shall be clearly marked as 9 applications for the Senior Citizens Assessment Freeze 10 Homestead Exemption and must contain a notice that any 11 taxpayer who receives the exemption is subject to an audit 12 by the Chief County Assessment Officer.

13 Notwithstanding any other provision to the contrary, in counties having fewer than 3,000,000 inhabitants, 14 if an 15 applicant fails to file the application required by this 16 Section in a timely manner and this failure to file is due to a mental or physical condition sufficiently severe so as 17 render the applicant incapable of filing the application in a 18 timely manner, the Chief County Assessment Officer may extend 19 20 the filing deadline for a period of 30 days after the applicant 21 regains the capability to file the application, but in no case 22 may the filing deadline be extended beyond 3 months of the 23 original filing deadline. In order to receive the extension 24 provided in this paragraph, the applicant shall provide the 25 Chief County Assessment Officer with a signed statement the applicant's physician stating the nature and extent of the 26

condition, that, in the physician's opinion, the condition was so severe that it rendered the applicant incapable of filing the application in a timely manner, and the date on which the applicant regained the capability to file the application.

Beginning January 1, 1998, notwithstanding any other 5 provision to the contrary, in counties having fewer than 6 3,000,000 inhabitants, if an applicant fails to file the 7 application required by this Section in a timely manner and 8 this failure to file is due to a mental or physical condition 9 10 sufficiently severe so as to render the applicant incapable of filing the application in a timely manner, the Chief County 11 Assessment Officer may extend the filing deadline for a period 12 13 of 3 months. In order to receive the extension provided in this paragraph, the applicant shall provide the Chief County 14 15 Assessment Officer with a signed statement from the applicant's physician stating the nature and extent of the condition, and 16 that, in the physician's opinion, the condition was so severe 17 that it rendered the applicant incapable of filing the 18 application in a timely manner. 19

In counties having less than 3,000,000 inhabitants, if an applicant was denied an exemption in taxable year 1994 and the denial occurred due to an error on the part of an assessment official, or his or her agent or employee, then beginning in taxable year 1997 the applicant's base year, for purposes of determining the amount of the exemption, shall be 1993 rather than 1994. In addition, in taxable year 1997, the applicant's

exemption shall also include an amount equal to (i) the amount 1 of any exemption denied to the applicant in taxable year 1995 2 as a result of using 1994, rather than 1993, as the base year, 3 4 (ii) the amount of any exemption denied to the applicant in 5 taxable year 1996 as a result of using 1994, rather than 1993, as the base year, and (iii) the amount of the exemption 6 erroneously denied for taxable year 1994. 7 For purposes of this Section, a person who will be 65 years 8 of age during the current taxable year shall be eligible to 9 10 apply for the homestead exemption during that taxable year. Application shall be made during the application period in 11 effect for the county of his or her residence. 12 13 The Chief County Assessment Officer may determine the eligibility of a life care facility that qualifies as 14 15 cooperative to receive the benefits provided by this Section by use of an affidavit, application, visual inspection, 16 questionnaire, or other reasonable method in order to insure 17 that the tax savings resulting from the exemption are credited 18 by the management firm to the apportioned tax liability of each 19 20 qualifying resident. The Chief County Assessment Officer may request reasonable proof that the management firm has so

credited that exemption. 22

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23 (11) Except as provided in this Section, all 24 information received by the chief county assessment 25 officer or the Department from applications filed under this Section, or from any investigation conducted under the 26

1 provisions of this Section, shall be confidential, except for official purposes or pursuant to official procedures 2 3 for collection of any State or local tax or enforcement of any civil or criminal penalty or sanction imposed by this 4 5 Act or by any statute or ordinance imposing a State or local tax. Any person who divulges any such information in 6 7 any manner, except in accordance with a proper judicial 8 order, is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

9 <u>(12)</u> Nothing contained in this Section shall prevent 10 the Director or chief county assessment officer from 11 publishing or making available reasonable statistics 12 concerning the operation of the exemption contained in this 13 Section in which the contents of claims are grouped into 14 aggregates in such a way that information contained in any 15 individual claim shall not be disclosed.

(13) (d) Each Chief County Assessment Officer shall 16 17 annually publish a notice of availability of the exemption provided under this Section. The notice shall be published 18 19 at least 60 days but no more than 75 days prior to the date 20 on which the application must be submitted to the Chief 21 County Assessment Officer of the county in which the 22 property is located. The notice shall appear in a newspaper 23 of general circulation in the county.

24 <u>(14)</u> Notwithstanding Sections 6 and 8 of the State 25 Mandates Act, no reimbursement by the State is required for 26 the implementation of any mandate created by this Section.

(Source: P.A. 97-38, eff. 6-28-11; 97-227, eff. 1-1-12; 97-689, 1 eff. 6-14-12; 97-813, eff. 7-13-12; 97-1150, eff. 1-25-13; 2 98-104, eff. 7-22-13.) 3 4 (35 ILCS 200/15-173) 5 Sec. 15-173. Natural Disaster Homestead Exemption. 6 (a) Definitions. As used in this Section, in addition to the definitions found in Section 15-162: This Section may be 7 8 cited as the Natural Disaster Homestead Exemption. 9 (b) As used in this Section: 10 "Base amount" means the base year equalized assessed value of the residence. 11 12 "Base year" means the taxable year prior to the taxable year in which the natural disaster occurred. 13 14 "Chief county assessment officer" means the County 15 Assessor or Supervisor of Assessments of the county in which 16 the property is located. "Equalized assessed value" means the assessed value as 17 18 equalized by the Illinois Department of Revenue. 19 "Homestead property" has the meaning ascribed to that term in Section 15-175 of this Code. 20 21 "Natural disaster" means an occurrence of widespread or 22 severe damage or loss of property resulting from any 23 catastrophic cause including but not limited to fire, flood, 24 earthquake, wind, storm, or extended period of severe inclement weather. In the case of a residential structure affected by 25

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flooding, the structure shall not be eligible for this homestead improvement exemption unless it is located within a local jurisdiction which is participating in the National Flood Insurance Program. A proclamation of disaster by the President of the United States or Governor of the State of Illinois is not a prerequisite to the classification of an occurrence as a natural disaster under this Section.

8 (b) Eliqibility. (c) A homestead exemption shall be granted 9 by the chief county assessment officer for homestead properties 10 containing a residential structure that has been rebuilt 11 following a natural disaster occurring in taxable year 2012 or 12 any taxable year thereafter.

13 (c) Amount. The amount of the exemption is the equalized 14 assessed value of the residence in the first taxable year for 15 which the taxpayer applies for an exemption under this Section 16 minus the base amount. To be eligible for an exemption under this Section: (i) the residential structure must be rebuilt 17 within 2 years after the date of the natural disaster; and (ii) 18 the square footage of the rebuilt residential structure may not 19 20 be more than 110% of the square footage of the original 21 residential structure as it existed immediately prior to the 22 natural disaster. The taxpayer's initial application for an 23 exemption under this Section must be made no later than the 24 first taxable year after the residential structure is rebuilt. 25 The exemption shall continue at the same annual amount until 26 the taxable year in which the property is sold or transferred.

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(d) Additional provisions.

(1) To receive the exemption, the taxpayer shall submit 2 3 an application to the chief county assessment officer of the county in which the property is located by July 1 of 4 5 each taxable year. A county may, by resolution, establish a date for submission of applications that is different than 6 7 July 1. The chief county assessment officer may require 8 additional documentation to be provided by the applicant. 9 The applications shall be clearly marked as applications 10 for the Natural Disaster Homestead Exemption.

11 (2) (e) Property is not eligible for an exemption under 12 this Section and Section 15-180 for the same natural 13 disaster or catastrophic event. The property may, however, 14 remain eligible for an additional exemption under Section 15 15-180 for any separate event occurring after the property 16 qualified for an exemption under this Section.

17 <u>(3)</u> (f) The exemption under this Section carries over 18 to the benefit of the surviving spouse as long as the 19 spouse holds the legal or beneficial title to the homestead 20 and permanently resides thereon.

21 (4) (g) Notwithstanding Sections 6 and 8 of the State
22 Mandates Act, no reimbursement by the State is required for
23 the implementation of any mandate created by this Section.
24 (Source: P.A. 97-716, eff. 6-29-12.)

25

(35 ILCS 200/15-175)

1	Sec. 15-175. General homestead exemption.
2	(a) Definitions. As used in this Section, in addition to
3	the definitions found in Section 15-162:
4	"Household", as used in this Section, means the owner, the
5	spouse of the owner, and all persons using the residence of the
6	owner as their principal place of residence.
7	"Household income", as used in this Section, means the
8	combined income of the members of a household for the calendar
9	year preceding the taxable year.
10	"Income", as used in this Section, has the same meaning as
11	provided in Section 3.07 of the Senior Citizens and Disabled
12	Persons Property Tax Relief Act, except that "income" does not
13	include veteran's benefits.
14	(b) Eligibility. Except as provided in Sections 15-176 and
15	15-177, homestead property is entitled to an annual homestead
16	exemption limited, except as described here with relation to
17	cooperatives, to a reduction in the equalized assessed value of
18	homestead property equal to the increase in equalized assessed
19	value for the current assessment year above the equalized
20	assessed value of the property for 1977, up to the maximum
21	reduction set forth below. If however, the 1977 equalized
22	assessed value upon which taxes were paid is subsequently
23	determined by local assessing officials, the Property Tax
24	Appeal Board, or a court to have been excessive, the equalized
25	assessed value which should have been placed on the property
26	for 1977 shall be used to determine the amount of the

1 exemption.

2 (c) Amount. (b) 3 (1) Except as provided in Section 15-176, the maximum reduction before taxable year 2004 shall be \$4,500 4 5 counties with 3,000,000 or more inhabitants and \$3,500 in all other counties. Except as provided in Sections 15-176 6 and 15-177, for taxable years 2004 through 2007, the 7 8 maximum reduction shall be \$5,000, for taxable year 2008, 9 the maximum reduction is \$5,500, and, for taxable years 10 2009 through 2011, the maximum reduction is \$6,000 in all counties. For taxable years 2012 and thereafter, the 11 maximum reduction is \$7,000 in counties with 3,000,000 or 12 13 more inhabitants and \$6,000 in all other counties. If a 14 county has elected to subject itself to the provisions of 15 Section 15-176 as provided in subsection (k) of that Section, then, for the first taxable year only after the 16 provisions of Section 15-176 no longer apply, for owners 17 18 who, for the taxable year, have not been granted a senior 19 citizens assessment freeze homestead exemption under 20 Section 15-172 or a long-time occupant homestead exemption under Section 15-177, there shall be an additional 21 22 exemption of \$5,000 for owners with a household income of 23 \$30,000 or less.

24 <u>(2)</u> (c) In counties with fewer than 3,000,000 25 inhabitants, if, based on the most recent assessment, the 26 equalized assessed value of the homestead property for the current assessment year is greater than the equalized assessed value of the property for 1977, the owner of the property shall automatically receive the exemption granted under this Section in an amount equal to the increase over the 1977 assessment up to the maximum reduction set forth in this Section.

(d) Additional provisions.

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8 (1) If in any assessment year beginning with the 2000 9 assessment year, homestead property has а pro-rata 10 valuation under Section 9-180 resulting in an increase in the assessed valuation, a reduction in equalized assessed 11 valuation equal to the increase in equalized assessed value 12 13 of the property for the year of the pro-rata valuation 14 above the equalized assessed value of the property for 1977 15 shall be applied to the property on a proportionate basis for the period the property qualified as homestead property 16 during the assessment year. The maximum proportionate 17 18 homestead exemption shall not exceed the maximum homestead exemption allowed in the county under this Section divided 19 20 by 365 and multiplied by the number of days the property 21 qualified as homestead property.

(e) The chief county assessment officer may, when
 considering whether to grant a leasehold exemption under this
 Section, require the following conditions to be met:

25 (1) that a notarized application for the exemption,
 26 signed by both the owner and the lessee of the property,

1	must be submitted each year during the application period
2	in effect for the county in which the property is located;
3	(2) that a copy of the lease must be filed with the
4	chief county assessment officer by the owner of the
5	property at the time the notarized application is
6	submitted;
7	(3) that the lease must expressly state that the lessee
8	is liable for the payment of property taxes; and
9	(4) that the lease must include the following language
10	in substantially the following form:
11	"Lessee shall be liable for the payment of real
12	estate taxes with respect to the residence in
13	accordance with the terms and conditions of Section
14	15 175 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/15 175).
15	The permanent real estate index number for the premises
16	is (insert number), and, according to the most recent
17	property tax bill, the current amount of real estate
18	taxes associated with the premises is (insert amount)
19	per year. The parties agree that the monthly rent set
20	forth above shall be increased or decreased pro rata
21	(effective January 1 of each calendar year) to reflect
22	any increase or decrease in real estate taxes. Lessee
23	shall be deemed to be satisfying Lessee's liability for
24	the above mentioned real estate taxes with the monthly
25	rent payments as set forth above (or increased or
26	decreased as set forth herein).".

1 In addition, if there is a change in lessee, or if tho lessee vacates the property, then the chief county assessment 2 officer may require the owner of the property to notify the 3 4 chief county assessment officer of that change. 5 This subsection (e) does not apply to leasehold interests in property owned by a municipality. 6 (f) "Homestead property" under this Section includes 7 residential property that is occupied by its owner or owners as 8 9 his or their principal dwelling place, or that is a leasehold 10 interest on which a single family residence is situated, which is occupied as a residence by a person who has an ownership 11 interest therein, legal or equitable or as a lessee, and on 12 13 which the person is liable for the payment of property taxes. For land improved with an apartment building owned and operated 14 15 as a cooperative or a building which is a life care facility as defined in Section 15 170 and considered to be a cooperative 16 under Section 15 170, the maximum reduction from the equalized 17 assessed value shall be limited to the increase in the value 18 above the equalized assessed value of the property for 1977, up 19 20 to the maximum reduction set forth above, multiplied by the 21 number of apartments or units occupied by a person or persons 22 who is liable, by contract with the owner or owners of record, 23 for paying property taxes on the property and is an owner of record of a legal or equitable interest in the cooperative 24 apartment building, other than a leasehold interest. 25 For purposes of this Section, the term "life care facility" has the 26

meaning stated in Section 15-170. 1 "Household", as used in this Section, means the owner, the 2 spouse of the owner, and all persons using the residence of the 3 4 owner as their principal place of residence. 5 "Household income", as used in this Section, means the combined income of the members of a household for the calendar 6 year preceding the taxable year. 7 "Income", as used in this Section, has the same meaning 8 provided in Section 3.07 of the Senior Citizens and Disabled 9 10 Persons Property Tax Relief Act, except that "income" does not include veteran's benefits. 11 (g) In a cooperative where a homestead exemption has been 12 13 granted, the cooperative association or its management firm shall credit the savings resulting from that exemption only to 14 15 the apportioned tax liability of the owner who qualified 16 the exemption. Any person who willfully refuses to so credit the savings shall be guilty of a Class B misdemeanor. 17 (2) (h) Where married persons maintain and reside in 18 separate residences qualifying as homestead property, each 19 residence shall receive 50% of the total reduction in 20 equalized assessed valuation provided by this Section. 21 22 (3) (i) In all counties which have elected to be

22 <u>(3)</u> (1) In all counties <u>which have elected to be</u> 23 <u>subject to the provisions of section 15-176 as provided in</u> 24 <u>subsection (k) of that Section, the assessor or chief</u> 25 <u>county assessment officer may determine the eligibility of</u> 26 residential property to receive the homestead exemption

1 of the exemption by applicat and amount ion, vigual 2 inspection, questionnaire or other reasonable methods. The 3 determination shall be made in accordance with guidelines 4 established by the Department, provided that the taxpayer 5 applying for an additional general exemption under this Section shall submit to the chief county assessment officer 6 an application with an affidavit of the applicant's total 7 8 household income, age, marital status (and, if married, the name and address of the applicant's spouse, if known), and 9 10 principal dwelling place of members of the household on 11 January 1 of the taxable year. The Department shall issue quidelines establishing a method for verifying the 12 13 accuracy of the affidavits filed by applicants under this 14 paragraph. The applications shall be clearly marked as 15 applications for the Additional General Homestead 16 Exemption.

(j) In counties with fewer than 3,000,000 inhabitants, in 17 18 the event of a sale of homestead property the homestead 19 exemption shall remain in effect for the remainder the 20 assessment year of the sale. The assessor or chief -county 21 assessment officer may require the new owner of the property to 22 apply for the homestead exemption for the following assessment 23 year.

(4) (k) Notwithstanding Sections 6 and 8 of the State
 Mandates Act, no reimbursement by the State is required for
 the implementation of any mandate created by this Section.

1	(Source: P.A. 97-689, eff. 6-14-12; 97-1125, eff. 8-28-12;
2	98-7, eff. 4-23-13; 98-463, eff. 8-16-13.)
3	(35 ILCS 200/15-180)
4	Sec. 15-180. Homestead <u>improvement exemption</u> improvements.
5	(a) Definitions. As used in this Section, in addition to
6	the definitions found in Section 15-162, a "catastrophic event"
7	may include an occurrence of widespread or severe damage or
8	loss of property resulting from any catastrophic cause
9	including but not limited to fire, including arson (provided
10	the fire was not caused by the willful action of an owner or
11	resident of the property), flood, earthquake, wind, storm,
12	explosion, or extended periods of severe inclement weather. In
13	the case of a residential structure affected by flooding, the
14	structure shall not be eligible for this homestead improvement
15	exemption unless it is located within a local jurisdiction
16	which is participating in the National Flood Insurance Program.
17	A proclamation of disaster by the President of the United
18	<u>States or Governor of the State of Illinois is not a</u>
19	prerequisite to the classification of an occurrence as a
20	catastrophic event under this Section.
01	(b) Eligibility Hemostand properties that have been

21 <u>(b) Eligibility.</u> Homestead properties that have been 22 improved and residential structures on homestead property that 23 have been rebuilt following a catastrophic event are entitled 24 to a homestead improvement exemption, limited to \$30,000 per 25 year through December 31, 1997, \$45,000 beginning January 1, 09900SB0505sam001 -52- LRB099 03048 HLH 34176 a

1998 and through December 31, 2003, and \$75,000 per 1 vear that homestead property beginning January 1, 2004 and 2 3 thereafter, in fair eash value, when that property is owned by 4 a homestead owner and used exclusively for a residential 5 purpose and upon demonstration that a proposed increase in 6 assessed value is attributable solely to a new improvement of an existing structure or the rebuilding of a residential 7 8 structure following a catastrophic event. To be eligible for an exemption under this Section after a catastrophic event, the 9 10 residential structure must be rebuilt within 2 years after the 11 catastrophic event. The exemption for rebuilt structures under this Section applies to the increase in value of the rebuilt 12 13 structure over the value of the structure before the 14 catastrophic event.

15 <u>(c) Amount.</u> The amount of the exemption shall be limited to 16 the fair cash value added by the new improvement or rebuilding 17 and shall continue for 4 years from the date the improvement or 18 rebuilding is completed and occupied, or until the next 19 following general assessment of that property, whichever is 20 later. <u>The exemption is limited to \$75,000 per year for that</u> 21 <u>homestead property in fair cash value.</u>

A proclamation of disaster by the President of the United States or Governor of the State of Illinois is not a prerequisite to the classification of an occurrence as a catastrophic event under this Section. A "catastrophic event" may include an occurrence of widespread or severe damage or

1 property resulting from any catastrophic 1099 -of2 including but not limited to fire, including arson (provided 3 the fire was not caused by the willful action of an owner or resident of the property), flood, earthquake, wind, storm, 4 5 explosion, or extended periods of severe inclement weather. In 6 the case of a residential structure affected by flooding, the 7 structure shall not be eligible for this homestead improvement 8 exemption unless it is located within a local jurisdiction 9 which is participating in the National Flood Insurance Program. 10 (d) Additional provisions.

(1) In counties of less than 3,000,000 inhabitants, in 11 addition to the notice requirement under Section 12-30, a 12 13 supervisor of assessments, county assessor, or township or 14 multi-township assessor responsible for adding an 15 improvement to a residential assessable property's assessment shall either notify a taxpayer whose assessment 16 has been changed since the last preceding assessment that 17 he or she may be eligible for the exemption provided under 18 19 this Section or shall grant the exemption automatically.

20 (2) In Beginning January 1, 1999, in counties of 3,000,000 or more inhabitants, an application for a 21 exemption 22 homestead improvement for а residential 23 structure that has been rebuilt following a catastrophic 24 event must be submitted to the Chief County Assessment 25 Officer with a valuation complaint and a copy of the 26 building permit to rebuild the structure. The Chief County 09900SB0505sam001 -54- LRB099 03048 HLH 34176 a

Assessment Officer may require additional documentation which must be provided by the applicant.
(3) Notwithstanding Sections 6 and 8 of the State Mandates Act, no reimbursement by the State is required for the implementation of any mandate created by this Section.
(Source: P.A. 93-715, eff. 7-12-04.)

7 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect January8 1, 2016.".