

SB2189



99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2015 and 2016

SB2189

Introduced 10/20/2015, by Sen. Julie A. Morrison

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

35 ILCS 200/15-169

Amends the Property Tax Code. Provides that the homestead exemption for veterans with disabilities applies to all real property that is the primary residence of a veteran with a disability (currently, the exemption applies only to property with an equalized assessed value of less than \$250,000). Provides that, if the veteran has a service connected disability of 70% or more, then the maximum exemption amount is \$250,000 (currently, the property is exempt). Effective immediately.

LRB099 14530 HLH 38647 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 annual exemption
17 is \$250,000 ~~property is exempt from taxation under this~~
18 ~~Code.~~

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

1 qualified for the homestead exemption.

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

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

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) Each taxpayer who has been granted an exemption under
20 this Section must reapply on an annual basis. Application must
21 be made during the application period in effect for the county
22 of his or her residence. The assessor or chief county
23 assessment officer may determine the eligibility of
24 residential property to receive the homestead exemption
25 provided by this Section by application, visual inspection,
26 questionnaire, or other reasonable methods. The determination

1 must be made in accordance with guidelines established by the
2 Department.

3 (f) For the purposes of this Section:

4 "Qualified residence" means real property, but less any
5 portion of that property that is used for commercial purposes,
6 ~~with an equalized assessed value of less than \$250,000~~ that is
7 the primary residence of a veteran with a disability. Property
8 rented for more than 6 months is presumed to be used for
9 commercial purposes.

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

15 (Source: P.A. 98-1145, eff. 12-30-14; 99-143, eff. 7-27-15;
16 99-375, eff. 8-17-15; revised 10-9-15.)

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