S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

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2013-2014 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

February 11, 2013

Introduced by Sens. LANZA, GOLDEN, HASSELL-THOMPSON, SMITH -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Cities

AN ACT to amend the real property tax law, in relation to a rebate of real property taxes on residential real property seriously damaged by the severe storm that occurred on the twenty-ninth and thirtieth of October, two thousand twelve in a city having a population of one million or more

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The real property tax law is amended by adding a new section 467-g to read as follows:

S 467-G. REBATE FOR OWNERS OF CERTAIN RESIDENTIAL REAL PROPERTY SERIOUSLY DAMAGED BY THE SEVERE STORM THAT OCCURRED ON THE TWENTY-NINTH AND THIRTIETH OF OCTOBER, TWO THOUSAND TWELVE IN A CITY HAVING A POPULATION OF ONE MILLION OR MORE. 1. GENERALLY. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY PROVISION OF ANY GENERAL, SPECIAL OR LOCAL LAW TO THE CONTRARY, ANY CITY HAVING A POPULATION OF ONE MILLION OR MORE IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED AND EMPOWERED TO ADOPT AND AMEND LOCAL LAWS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION TO GRANT A REBATE OF REAL PROPERTY TAXES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING ON THE FIRST OF JULY, TWO THOUSAND TWELVE, IN THE AMOUNT PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION. SUCH REBATE SHALL BE PAID BY THE COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE TO AN OWNER WHO OWNED ELIGIBLE REAL PROPERTY AS DEFINED IN SUBDIVISION THREE OF THIS SECTION OR A DWELLING UNIT IN SUCH ELIGIBLE REAL PROPERTY BOTH ON THE THIRTIETH OF OCTOBER, TWO THOUSAND TWELVE AND ON THE DATE OF THE MAILING OF SUCH REBATE. IF LEGAL TITLE TO ELIGIBLE REAL PROPERTY, OR OWNERSHIP OF SHARES OF STOCK REPRESENTING A DWELLING UNIT, IS HELD BY ONE OR MORE TRUSTEES, THE BENEFICIAL OWNER OR OWNERS SHALL BE DEEMED TO OWN THE PROPERTY OR DWELLING UNIT FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY PROVISION OF THIS ARTICLE TO THE CONTRARY, AN OWNER WHOSE PROPERTY IS RECEIVING BENEFITS PURSUANT TO ANY OTHER SECTION OF THIS ARTICLE

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [ ] is old law to be omitted.

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SHALL NOT BE PROHIBITED FROM RECEIVING A REBATE PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION IF SUCH OWNER IS OTHERWISE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE SUCH REBATE.

2. DEFINITIONS. AS USED IN THIS SECTION:

A. "ANNUAL TAX" MEANS THE AMOUNT OF REAL PROPERTY TAX THAT IS IMPOSED ON A PROPERTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING THE FIRST OF JULY, TWO THOUSAND TWELVE, DETERMINED AFTER REDUCTION FOR ANY AMOUNT FROM WHICH THE PROPERTY IS EXEMPT, OR WHICH IS ABATED, PURSUANT TO APPLICABLE LAW.

B. "ARREARS" MEANS REAL PROPERTY TAXES THAT REMAINED UNPAID FOLLOWING THE LAST DATE ALLOWED FOR PAYMENT OF SUCH TAXES WITHOUT INTEREST UNDER APPLICABLE LAW, AND ANY UNPAID INTEREST ACCRUED THEREON PURSUANT TO APPLICABLE LAW, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING THE FIRST OF JULY, TWO THOUSAND TWELVE AND ALL PRIOR FISCAL YEARS.

C. "ASSESSED VALUATION" MEANS THE ASSESSED VALUATION OF REAL PROPERTY THAT WAS USED TO DETERMINE THE ANNUAL TAX AS DEFINED IN PARAGRAPH A OF THIS SUBDIVISION, AND WHICH IS NOT REDUCED BY ANY EXEMPTION FROM REAL PROPERTY TAXES. FOR REAL PROPERTY CLASSIFIED AS CLASS TWO REAL PROPERTY AS DEFINED IN SUBDIVISION ONE OF SECTION EIGHTEEN HUNDRED TWO OF THIS CHAPTER TO WHICH SUBDIVISION THREE OF SECTION EIGHTEEN HUNDRED FIVE OF THIS CHAPTER APPLIES, THE ASSESSED EVALUATION IS THE LOWER OF THE ASSESSED VALUATION AND TRANSITIONAL ASSESSED VALUATION AS PROVIDED IN SUBDIVISION THREE OF SECTION EIGHTEEN HUNDRED FIVE OF THIS CHAPTER, AND WHICH IS NOT REDUCED BY ANY EXEMPTION FROM REAL PROPERTY TAXES.

D. "COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE" MEANS THE COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE OF A CITY HAVING A POPULATION OF ONE MILLION OR MORE, OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE.

E. "COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT" MEANS, WITH RESPECT TO PROPERTIES DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH (C) OF SUBDIVISION ONE OF SECTION EIGHTEEN HUNDRED TWO OF THIS CHAPTER, ALL OF THE PROPERTIES, INCLUDING THE LAND AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON, AS TO WHICH THE LAND IS HELD BY A SINGLE COOPERATIVE CORPORATION.

F. "DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS OF A CITY HAVING A POPULATION OF ONE MILLION OR MORE.

G. "DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE OF A CITY HAVING A POPULATION OF ONE MILLION OR MORE.

H. "OWNER" MEANS THE OWNER OF REAL PROPERTY, OR A TENANT-STOCKHOLDER OF A DWELLING UNIT IN RESIDENTIAL REAL PROPERTY HELD IN THE COOPERATIVE FORM OF OWNERSHIP.

3. ELIGIBLE REAL PROPERTY. A. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "ELIGIBLE REAL PROPERTY" MEANS ANY TAX LOT THAT CONTAINED, ON THE APPLICABLE TAXABLE STATUS DATE, CLASS ONE OR CLASS TWO REAL PROPERTY AS SUCH CLASSES OF REAL PROPERTY ARE DEFINED IN SUBDIVISION ONE OF SECTION EIGHTEEN HUNDRED TWO OF THIS CHAPTER, ON WHICH ANY BUILDING HAS BEEN DESIGNATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH B OF THIS SUBDIVISION.

B. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, A BUILDING HAS BEEN DESIGNATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS IF:

(1) DURING THE PERIOD BEGINNING THE FIRST OF NOVEMBER, TWO THOUSAND TWELVE AND ENDING THE THIRTIETH OF NOVEMBER, TWO THOUSAND TWELVE, AFTER INSPECTION BY THE DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS, SUCH BUILDING HAS BEEN DETERMINED TO BE SERIOUSLY DAMAGED AND UNSAFE TO ENTER OR OCCUPY OR COMPLETELY DEMOLISHED AS A RESULT OF DAMAGE CAUSED BY THE EFFECTS OF THE SEVERE STORM THAT OCCURRED ON THE TWENTY-NINTH AND THIRTIETH OF OCTOBER, TWO THOUSAND TWELVE, AND SUCH DETERMINATION HAS BEEN INDICATED BY A NOTATION ON SUCH DEPARTMENT'S RECORDS AND/OR BY THE POSTING OF A RED PLACARD WARNING ON THE BUILDING; OR

(2) DURING THE PERIOD BEGINNING THE FIRST OF NOVEMBER, TWO THOUSAND TWELVE AND ENDING THE THIRTIETH OF NOVEMBER, TWO THOUSAND TWELVE, AFTER

INSPECTION BY THE DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS, SUCH BUILDING HAS BEEN DETERMINED TO REQUIRE REPAIRS OR TO HAVE A RESTRICTED AREA AND SUCH DETERMINATION HAS BEEN INDICATED BY A NOTATION ON SUCH DEPARTMENT'S RECORDS AND/OR BY THE POSTING OF A YELLOW STICKER ON THE BUILDING, AND DURING THE PERIOD BEGINNING THE FIRST OF DECEMBER, TWO THOUSAND TWELVE AND ENDING THE TWENTY-EIGHTH OF DECEMBER, TWO THOUSAND TWELVE, AFTER INSPECTION BY THE DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS, HAS BEEN DETERMINED TO BE SERIOUSLY DAMAGED AND UNSAFE TO ENTER OR OCCUPY OR COMPLETELY DEMOLISHED AS A RESULT OF DAMAGE CAUSED BY THE EFFECTS OF THE SEVERE STORM THAT OCCURRED ON THE TWENTY-NINTH AND THIRTIETH OF OCTOBER, TWO THOUSAND TWELVE, AND SUCH DETERMINATION HAS BEEN INDICATED BY A NOTATION ON SUCH DEPARTMENT'S RECORDS AND/OR BY THE POSTING OF A RED PLACARD WARNING ON THE BUILDING.

4. AMOUNT OF REBATE. A. THE AMOUNT OF THE REBATE TO BE PAID BY THE COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE FOR ELIGIBLE REAL PROPERTY PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE EQUAL TO TWO-THIRDS OF THE ANNUAL TAX, MULTIPLIED BY A FRACTION, THE NUMERATOR OF WHICH IS EQUAL TO THAT PORTION OF THE ASSESSED VALUATION OF THE ELIGIBLE REAL PROPERTY THAT IS ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE IMPROVEMENTS ON THE PROPERTY, AND THE DENOMINATOR OF WHICH IS EQUAL TO THE TOTAL ASSESSED VALUATION OF THE ELIGIBLE REAL PROPERTY.

B. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBDIVISION FIVE OF THIS SECTION, FOR RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY HELD IN THE COOPERATIVE FORM OF OWNERSHIP, THE AMOUNT OF THE REBATE TO BE PAID TO THE OWNER OF A DWELLING UNIT THEREIN SHALL BE EQUAL TO THAT PROPORTION OF THE AMOUNT CALCULATED UNDER PARAGRAPH A OF THIS SUBDIVISION THAT IS ATTRIBUTABLE TO SUCH DWELLING UNIT, AS DETERMINED BY THE PROPORTIONAL RELATIONSHIP OF THE OWNER'S SHARE OR SHARES OF STOCK IN THE COOPERATIVE APARTMENT CORPORATION THAT OWNS SUCH REAL PROPERTY TO THE TOTAL OUTSTANDING STOCK OF THE COOPERATIVE APARTMENT CORPORATION.

C. ELIGIBLE REAL PROPERTY WITH NO ANNUAL TAX SHALL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR A REBATE UNDER THIS SECTION.

5. CALCULATION OF REBATE FOR CERTAIN CLASS ONE REAL PROPERTY CONSISTING OF ONE FAMILY HOUSE STRUCTURES SITUATED ON LAND HELD IN COOPERATIVE OWNERSHIP. A. NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF SUBDIVISION FOUR OF THIS SECTION, THE AMOUNT OF THE REBATE TO BE PAID BY THE COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE TO THE OWNER OF A BUILDING THAT WAS DESIGNATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH B OF SUBDIVISION THREE OF THIS SECTION, THAT IS LOCATED ON ELIGIBLE REAL PROPERTY THAT IS DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH (C) OF SUBDIVISION ONE OF SECTION EIGHTEEN HUNDRED TWO OF THIS CHAPTER, SHALL BE EQUAL TO TWO-THIRDS OF THE ANNUAL TAX ON THE PROPERTY OF THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT, (1) MULTIPLIED BY A FRACTION, THE NUMERATOR OF WHICH IS EQUAL TO THAT PORTION OF THE ASSESSED VALUATION OF THE ELIGIBLE REAL PROPERTY IN THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT THAT IS ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE IMPROVEMENTS ON THE PROPERTY, AND THE DENOMINATOR OF WHICH IS EQUAL TO THE TOTAL ASSESSED VALUATION OF THE ELIGIBLE REAL PROPERTY IN THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT, AND (2) MULTIPLIED BY A SECOND FRACTION, THE NUMERATOR OF WHICH IS EQUAL TO THE NUMBER OF BUILDINGS IN THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT THAT HAVE BEEN DESIGNATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH B OF SUBDIVISION THREE OF THIS SECTION, AND THE DENOMINATOR OF WHICH IS THE TOTAL NUMBER OF BUILDINGS THAT WERE LOCATED IN THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AS OF THE TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY OF OCTOBER, TWO THOUSAND TWELVE, THEN (3) DIVIDED BY THE NUMBER OF BUILDINGS IN THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT THAT HAVE BEEN DESIGNATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH B OF SUBDIVISION THREE OF THIS SECTION.

B. ELIGIBLE REAL PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THIS SUBDIVISION WITH NO ANNUAL TAX SHALL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR A REBATE UNDER THIS SECTION.

6. ARREARS. A. IN ORDER FOR AN OWNER TO QUALIFY FOR THE REBATE AUTHORIZED BY THIS SECTION, THERE MUST NOT BE ARREARS ON THE OWNER'S ELIGIBLE REAL PROPERTY IN AN AMOUNT IN EXCESS OF TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS, AND WITH RESPECT TO RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY HELD IN THE COOPERATIVE FORM OF OWNERSHIP, THERE MUST NOT BE ARREARS IN AN AMOUNT IN EXCESS OF AN AVERAGE OF TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS PER DWELLING UNIT IN THE COOPERATIVE APARTMENT CORPORATION, WHICH IS DETERMINED BY DIVIDING THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF ARREARS ON THE RESIDENTIAL REAL PROPERTY HELD IN THE COOPERATIVE FORM OF OWNERSHIP BY THE TOTAL NUMBER OF DWELLING UNITS IN SUCH PROPERTY.

B. IF THE COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE DETERMINES THAT AN OWNER DOES NOT QUALIFY FOR THE REBATE SOLELY BECAUSE OF THE PROVISIONS OF PARAGRAPH A OF THIS SUBDIVISION, THE COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE SHALL NOTIFY THE OWNER OF HIS OR HER DETERMINATION BY MAILING A NOTICE TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED IN SUBDIVISION SEVEN OF THIS SECTION. IF SUCH OWNER PAYS THE ARREARS IN FULL NO LATER THAN SIX MONTHS FOLLOWING THE DATE OF THE MAILING OF SUCH NOTICE, THE OWNER SHALL BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE THE REBATE.

7. MAILING OF REBATE. A. THE COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE SHALL MAIL THE REBATE AUTHORIZED BY THIS SECTION TO THE PERSON WHOSE NAME APPEARS ON THE RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AS THE OWNER OF THE ELIGIBLE REAL PROPERTY OR DWELLING UNIT LOCATED THEREIN, AT AN ADDRESS ON THE RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AS THE ADDRESS OF SUCH OWNER, AND IF NO SUCH ADDRESS APPEARS ON THE RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, THEN TO THE ADDRESS, IF ANY, APPEARING IN THE LATEST ASSESSMENT ROLL AS THE ADDRESS OF THE OWNER OF THE ELIGIBLE REAL PROPERTY. NOTWITHSTANDING THE PREVIOUS SENTENCE, IF AN OWNER HAS NOTIFIED THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE OF A FORWARDING ADDRESS FOR MAIL THAT WOULD OTHERWISE HAVE BEEN SENT TO ANY OF THE ADDRESSES DESCRIBED IN THE PREVIOUS SENTENCE, THEN THE COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE MAY MAIL THE REBATE AUTHORIZED BY THIS SECTION TO SUCH FORWARDING ADDRESS.

B. NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF PARAGRAPH A OF THIS SUBDIVISION, WITH RESPECT TO ANY REBATE TO WHICH AN OWNER OF A BUILDING THAT WAS DESIGNATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH B OF SUBDIVISION THREE OF THIS SECTION THAT IS LOCATED ON ELIGIBLE REAL PROPERTY THAT IS DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH (C) OF SUBDIVISION ONE OF SECTION EIGHTEEN HUNDRED TWO OF THIS CHAPTER IS ENTITLED UNDER THIS SECTION, THE COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE SHALL MAIL THE REBATE TO THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT OF WHICH THE OWNER'S PROPERTY IS A PART, AT THE ADDRESS ON THE RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AS THE ADDRESS OF THE COOPERATIVE CORPORATION THAT IS THE OWNER OF THE LAND INCLUDED IN THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT, AND IF NO SUCH ADDRESS APPEARS ON THE RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, THEN TO THE ADDRESS, IF ANY, APPEARING IN THE LATEST ASSESSMENT ROLL AS THE ADDRESS OF THE OWNER OF SUCH LAND. NOTWITHSTANDING THE PREVIOUS SENTENCE, IF THE COOPERATIVE CORPORATION HAS NOTIFIED THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE OF A FORWARDING ADDRESS FOR MAIL THAT WOULD OTHERWISE HAVE BEEN SENT TO ANY OF THE ADDRESSES DESCRIBED IN THE PREVIOUS SENTENCE, THEN THE COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE MAY MAIL THE REBATE AUTHORIZED BY THIS SECTION TO SUCH FORWARDING ADDRESS.

8. RECOVERY OF ERRONEOUS REBATE. IF THE COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE DETERMINES (A) THAT AN OWNER WHO RECEIVED A REBATE WAS NOT ENTITLED TO A REBATE UNDER THIS SECTION, OR (B) THAT A REBATE WAS PAID OR CALCULATED IN ERROR UNDER THIS SECTION, THE COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE SHALL RECOVER OR RECALCULATE SUCH REBATE AND THE AMOUNT OF THE REBATE OR AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE REBATE ORIGINALLY PAID AND THE

AMOUNT TO WHICH THE OWNER WAS ENTITLED SHALL BE DEDUCTED FROM ANY REFUND OR REBATE OTHERWISE PAYABLE TO THE OWNER, AND ANY BALANCE OF SUCH AMOUNT REMAINING UNPAID SHALL BE PAID TO THE COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE NO LATER THAN THE DUE AND PAYABLE DATE PROVIDED ON A NOTICE OF THE AMOUNT PAYABLE MAILED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE. SUCH AMOUNT PAYABLE SHALL CONSTITUTE A TAX LIEN ON THE REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY SUCH OWNER AS OF THE DUE AND PAYABLE DATE PROVIDED ON SUCH NOTICE, AND, IF NOT PAID BY SUCH DUE AND PAYABLE DATE, INTEREST AT THE RATE APPLICABLE TO DELINQUENT REAL PROPERTY TAXES ON SUCH PROPERTY SHALL BE CHARGED AND COLLECTED ON SUCH AMOUNT FROM THE DUE AND PAYABLE DATE PROVIDED ON SUCH NOTICE TO THE DATE OF PAYMENT, AND SUCH AMOUNT PAYABLE SHALL BE ENFORCEABLE AS A TAX LIEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATING TO THE ENFORCEMENT OF TAX LIENS IN ANY SUCH CITY.

9. REBATE NOT DEEMED A REFUND. ANY REBATE AUTHORIZED BY THIS SECTION TO BE PAID BY THE COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE SHALL NOT BE DEEMED TO BE A REFUND OF A REAL PROPERTY TAX PAYMENT.

10. RULEMAKING. THE COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE SHALL BE AUTHORIZED TO PROMULGATE RULES NECESSARY TO EFFECTUATE THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION.

S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.