

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

5992--A

2013-2014 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

November 22, 2013

Introduced by Sen. SEWARD -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Rules -- recommitted to the Committee on Housing, Construction and Community Development in accordance with Senate Rule 6, sec. 8 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the real property tax law, in relation to exemption of capital improvements to multiple dwellings within certain cities

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

1 Section 1. The real property tax law is amended by adding a new
2 section 421-n to read as follows:
3 S 421-N. EXEMPTION OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS TO MULTIPLE DWELLING BUILD-
4 INGS WITHIN CERTAIN CITIES. 1. MULTIPLE DWELLING BUILDINGS, RECON-
5 STRUCTED, ALTERED, CONVERTED BACK TO AN OWNER OCCUPIED SINGLE FAMILY
6 DWELLING OR ANY OWNER OCCUPIED MULTIPLE DWELLING LOCATED IN ANY CITY
7 HAVING A POPULATION OF MORE THAN THIRTEEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED INHABIT-
8 ANTS BUT LESS THAN FOURTEEN THOUSAND INHABITANTS, DETERMINED IN ACCORD-
9 ANCE WITH THE LATEST FEDERAL DECENNIAL CENSUS, THAT IS REDUCED TO AT
10 MOST TWO UNITS BY SUCH RECONSTRUCTION SUBSEQUENT TO THE EFFECTIVE DATE
11 OF A LOCAL LAW PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM TAXATION
12 AND SPECIAL AD VALOREM LEVIES TO THE EXTENT PROVIDED HEREINAFTER. AFTER
13 A PUBLIC HEARING, THE GOVERNING BOARD OF SUCH CITY MAY ADOPT A LOCAL LAW
14 TO GRANT THE EXEMPTION AUTHORIZED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION. A COPY OF
15 SUCH LOCAL LAW SHALL BE FILED WITH THE COMMISSIONER AND THE ASSESSOR OF
16 SUCH CITY WHO PREPARES THE ASSESSMENT ROLL ON WHICH THE TAXES OF SUCH
17 CITY ARE LEVIED.
18 2. (A) SUCH BUILDINGS WITHIN SUCH CITY SHALL BE EXEMPT FOR A PERIOD OF
19 ONE YEAR TO THE EXTENT OF ONE HUNDRED PERCENT OF THE INCREASE IN
20 ASSESSED VALUE ATTRIBUTABLE TO SUCH RECONSTRUCTION, ALTERATION OR

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

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1 IMPROVEMENT AND FOR AN ADDITIONAL PERIOD OF SEVEN YEARS SUBJECT TO THE
2 FOLLOWING:

3 (I) THE EXTENT OF SUCH EXEMPTION SHALL BE DECREASED BY TWELVE AND
4 ONE-HALF PERCENT OF THE "EXEMPTION BASE" EACH YEAR DURING SUCH ADDI-
5 TIONAL PERIOD. THE "EXEMPTION BASE" SHALL BE THE INCREASE IN ASSESSED
6 VALUE AS DETERMINED IN THE INITIAL YEAR OF THE TERM OF THE EXEMPTION,
7 EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH.

8 (II) IN ANY YEAR IN WHICH A CHANGE IN LEVEL OF ASSESSMENT OF FIFTEEN
9 PERCENT OR MORE IS CERTIFIED FOR A FINAL ASSESSMENT ROLL PURSUANT TO THE
10 RULES OF THE COMMISSIONER, THE EXEMPTION BASE SHALL BE MULTIPLIED BY A
11 FRACTION, THE NUMERATOR OF WHICH SHALL BE THE TOTAL ASSESSED VALUE OF
12 THE PARCEL ON SUCH FINAL ASSESSMENT ROLL (AFTER ACCOUNTING FOR ANY PHYS-
13 ICAL OR QUANTITY CHANGES TO THE PARCEL SINCE THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING
14 ASSESSMENT ROLL), AND THE DENOMINATOR OF WHICH SHALL BE THE TOTAL
15 ASSESSED VALUE OF THE PARCEL ON THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING FINAL ASSESS-
16 MENT ROLL. THE RESULT SHALL BE THE NEW EXEMPTION BASE. THE EXEMPTION
17 SHALL THEREUPON BE RECOMPUTED TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE NEW EXEMPTION
18 BASE, NOTWITHSTANDING THE FACT THAT THE ASSESSOR RECEIVES CERTIFICATION
19 OF THE CHANGE IN LEVEL OF ASSESSMENT AFTER THE COMPLETION, VERIFICATION
20 AND FILING OF THE FINAL ASSESSMENT ROLL. IN THE EVENT THE ASSESSOR DOES
21 NOT HAVE CUSTODY OF THE ROLL WHEN SUCH CERTIFICATION IS RECEIVED, THE
22 ASSESSOR SHALL CERTIFY THE RECOMPUTED EXEMPTION TO THE LOCAL OFFICERS
23 HAVING CUSTODY AND CONTROL OF THE ROLL, AND SUCH LOCAL OFFICERS ARE
24 HEREBY DIRECTED AND AUTHORIZED TO ENTER THE RECOMPUTED EXEMPTION CERTI-
25 FIED BY THE ASSESSOR ON THE ROLL. THE ASSESSOR SHALL GIVE WRITTEN NOTICE
26 OF SUCH RECOMPUTED EXEMPTION TO THE PROPERTY OWNER, WHO MAY, IF HE OR
27 SHE BELIEVES THAT THE EXEMPTION WAS RECOMPUTED INCORRECTLY, APPLY FOR A
28 CORRECTION IN THE MANNER PROVIDED BY TITLE THREE OF ARTICLE FIVE OF THIS
29 CHAPTER FOR THE CORRECTION OF CLERICAL ERRORS.

30 (III) SUCH EXEMPTION SHALL BE LIMITED TO ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS
31 IN INCREASED MARKET VALUE, OR SUCH OTHER SUM LESS THAN ONE HUNDRED THOU-
32 SAND DOLLARS, BUT NOT LESS THAN TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS AS MAY BE PROVIDED
33 BY THE LOCAL LAW OR RESOLUTION, OF THE PROPERTY ATTRIBUTABLE TO SUCH
34 RECONSTRUCTION, ALTERATION OR IMPROVEMENT AND ANY INCREASE IN MARKET
35 VALUE GREATER THAN SUCH AMOUNT SHALL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE EXEMPTION
36 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, THE MARKET
37 VALUE OF THE RECONSTRUCTION, ALTERATION OR IMPROVEMENT SHALL BE EQUAL TO
38 THE INCREASED ASSESSED VALUE ATTRIBUTABLE TO SUCH RECONSTRUCTION, ALTER-
39 ATION OR IMPROVEMENT DIVIDED BY THE MOST RECENTLY ESTABLISHED STATE
40 EQUALIZATION RATE FOR SUCH CITY. WHERE THE STATE EQUALIZATION RATE OR
41 SPECIAL EQUALIZATION RATE EQUALS OR EXCEEDS NINETY-FIVE PERCENT, THE
42 INCREASE IN ASSESSED VALUE ATTRIBUTABLE TO SUCH RECONSTRUCTION, ALTER-
43 ATION OR IMPROVEMENT SHALL BE DEEMED TO EQUAL THE MARKET VALUE OF SUCH
44 RECONSTRUCTION, ALTERATION OR IMPROVEMENT.

45 (B) NO SUCH EXEMPTION SHALL BE GRANTED FOR RECONSTRUCTION, ALTERATIONS
46 OR IMPROVEMENTS UNLESS:

47 (I) SUCH RECONSTRUCTION, ALTERATION OR CONVERTED IMPROVEMENT WAS
48 COMMENCED SUBSEQUENT TO THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE LOCAL LAW ADOPTED
49 PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION BY SUCH CITY; AND

50 (II) THE VALUE OF SUCH RECONSTRUCTION, ALTERATION OR IMPROVEMENT
51 EXCEEDS FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS; AND

52 (III) THE GREATER PORTION, AS SO DETERMINED BY SQUARE FOOTAGE, OF THE
53 BUILDING RECONSTRUCTED, ALTERED OR IMPROVED IS AT LEAST FIVE YEARS OLD.

54 (C) FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION THE TERMS RECONSTRUCTION, ALTERATION
55 AND IMPROVEMENT SHALL NOT INCLUDE ORDINARY MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS.

1 3. SUCH EXEMPTION SHALL BE GRANTED ONLY UPON APPLICATION BY THE OWNER
2 OF SUCH BUILDING ON A FORM PRESCRIBED BY THE COMMISSIONER. THE APPLICA-
3 TION SHALL BE FILED WITH THE ASSESSOR OF SUCH CITY ON OR BEFORE THE
4 APPROPRIATE TAXABLE STATUS DATE OF SUCH CITY.

5 4. IF SATISFIED THAT THE APPLICANT IS ENTITLED TO AN EXEMPTION PURSU-
6 ANT TO THIS SECTION, THE ASSESSOR SHALL APPROVE THE APPLICATION AND SUCH
7 BUILDING SHALL THEREAFTER BE EXEMPT FROM TAXATION AND SPECIAL AD VALOREM
8 LEVIES AS PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION COMMENCING WITH THE ASSESSMENT ROLL
9 PREPARED ON THE BASIS OF THE TAXABLE STATUS DATE REFERRED TO IN SUBDIVI-
10 SION THREE OF THIS SECTION. THE ASSESSED VALUE OF ANY EXEMPTION GRANTED
11 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL BE ENTERED BY THE ASSESSOR ON THE ASSESS-
12 MENT ROLL WITH THE TAXABLE PROPERTY, WITH THE AMOUNT OF THE EXEMPTION
13 SHOWN IN A SEPARATE COLUMN.

14 5. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, AN OWNER OCCUPIED MULTIPLE DWELL-
15 ING BUILDING SHALL MEAN ANY BUILDING OR STRUCTURE DESIGNED AND OCCUPIED
16 AS THE TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT RESIDENCE OR HOME OF TWO OR MORE FAMILIES,
17 INCLUDING THE OWNER OF SUCH BUILDING.

18 6. IN THE EVENT THAT A BUILDING GRANTED AN EXEMPTION PURSUANT TO THIS
19 SECTION CEASES TO BE USED PRIMARILY FOR RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES OR TITLE
20 THERETO IS TRANSFERRED TO OTHER THAN THE HEIRS OR DISTRIBUTEES OF THE
21 OWNER, THE EXEMPTION GRANTED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL CEASE.

22 7. (A) THE ENACTMENT OF A LOCAL LAW IN SUCH CITY MAY:

23 (I) REDUCE THE PERCENT OF EXEMPTION OTHERWISE ALLOWED PURSUANT TO THIS
24 SECTION;

25 (II) LIMIT ELIGIBILITY FOR THE EXEMPTION TO THOSE FORMS OF RECON-
26 STRUCTION, ALTERATIONS OR IMPROVEMENTS AS ARE PRESCRIBED IN SUCH LOCAL
27 LAW OR RESOLUTION;

28 (III) PROVIDE THAT THE EXEMPTION SHALL BE APPLICABLE ONLY TO THOSE
29 IMPROVEMENTS WHICH WOULD OTHERWISE RESULT IN AN INCREASE IN THE ASSESSED
30 VALUATION OF THE REAL PROPERTY BUT WHICH CONSIST OF AN ADDITION, REMOD-
31 ELING OR MODERNIZATION TO AN EXISTING OWNER OCCUPIED MULTIPLE RESIDENCE
32 STRUCTURE TO PREVENT PHYSICAL DETERIORATION OF THE STRUCTURE OR TO
33 COMPLY WITH APPLICABLE BUILDING, SANITARY, HEALTH AND/OR FIRE CODES.

34 (B) NO SUCH LOCAL LAW SHALL REDUCE OR REPEAL AN EXEMPTION GRANTED
35 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION UNTIL THE EXPIRATION OF THE PERIOD FOR WHICH
36 SUCH EXEMPTION WAS GRANTED.

37 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.