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

5098

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

February 10, 2009

Introduced by M. of A. BRENNAN, CLARK, COLTON, ROSENTHAL, PERRY -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. COOK, GLICK, GOTTFRIED, JACOBS, MILLMAN, ORTIZ, J. RIVERA, N. RIVERA, SCARBOROUGH -- read once and referred to the Committee on Real Property Taxation

AN ACT to amend the real property tax law, in relation to setting forth the criteria for continued participation in the school tax relief exemption and to require notification prior to the date for submission of a renewal STAR application; and to implement an outreach program designed to educate and inform owners of real property about the real property tax exemption

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

Section 1. Subdivision 5 of section 425 of the real property tax law is amended by adding a new paragraph (a-1) to read as follows:

(A-1) NOTICE. WITHIN THE CITY OF NEW YORK, THE CITY SHALL ANNUALLY NOTIFY OR CAUSE TO BE NOTIFIED ANY RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY OWNER NOT RECEIVING AN EXEMPTION PURSUANT TO THE NEW YORK STATE SCHOOL TAX RELIEF (STAR) PROGRAM, OF THE PROGRAM AND ITS CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY. SUCH NOTICE SHALL CONTAIN A STATEMENT PRINTED IN AT LEAST EIGHTEEN POINT BOLD FACED TYPE IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE FOLLOWING FORM: "YOU WILL SAVE MONEY ON YOUR PROPERTY TAXES IF THIS IS YOUR PRIMARY RESIDENCE AND YOU SUBMIT THE NECESSARY FORM WHICH IS ENCLOSED IN THIS MAILING." SUCH NOTICE SHALL BE MAILED TO SUCH PROPERTY OWNERS AT LEAST SIXTY BUT NOT MORE THAN NINETY DAYS PRIOR TO THE TAXABLE STATUS DATE. SUCH MAILING SHALL INCLUDE AN APPLICATION AND SUCH APPLICATION SHALL BE DEEMED TO BE SUBMITTED ON TIME IF IT IS RECEIVED BY SUCH CITY NO LATER THAN THE DATE OF FILING OF THE TENTATIVE TAX ROLL. APPLICATIONS SHALL BE AVAILABLE AT ANY BOROUGH ASSESSOR'S OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND SHALL BE ACCEPTED FOR FILING AT SUCH OFFICES. APPLICATIONS SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE BY MAIL, OVER THE INTERNET, OR AT ANY BOROUGH ASSESSOR'S OFFICE. SUCH APPLICATIONS SHALL BE AVAILABLE IN LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH, INCLUDING, BUT

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

LBD07143-01-9

NOT LIMITED TO, SPANISH, CHINESE AND RUSSIAN. THE APPLICATIONS SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE IN SUFFICIENT QUANTITY TO STATE AND LOCAL PUBLIC OFFICIALS, ALL CITY AND STATE OFFICES WHERE THE PUBLIC HAS ACCESS, SENIOR CENTERS AND COMMUNITY CENTERS.

S 2. The city of New York is hereby authorized and directed to develop and implement an outreach program designed to educate and inform owners of real property about the real property tax exemption and the enhanced real property tax exemption available under the New York state school tax relief program, and to encourage such owners to apply for such exemptions.

S 3. This act shall take effect immediately.