6359

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

December 28, 2009

Introduced by Sen. FOLEY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Rules

AN ACT to amend the real property tax law, in relation to establishing a capped real property school tax rate for persons seventy years of age or older who meet the eligibility requirements for the enhanced STAR exemption

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 431 to read as follows:
- S 431. PERSONS SEVENTY YEARS OF AGE OR OVER; CAPPED REAL PROPERTY SCHOOL TAX RATE. 1. (A) RESIDENTIAL REAL PROPERTY OWNED AND OCCUPIED BY 5 ONE OR MORE PERSONS, EACH OF WHOM IS SEVENTY YEARS OF AGE OR OVER AND 6 REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ENHANCED EXEMPTION FOR SENIOR EACH OF THE7 CITIZENS SET FORTH IN SECTION FOUR HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE OF THIS OR RESIDENTIAL REAL PROPERTY OWNED AND OCCUPIED BY HUSBAND AND WIFE, ONE 8 WHOM IS SEVENTY YEARS OF AGE OR OVER AND MEETS EACH OF THE REQUIRE-9 10 MENTS FOR THE ENHANCED EXEMPTION FOR SENIOR CITIZENS SET FORTH IN FOUR HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE OF THIS ARTICLE, SHALL BE ELIGIBLE FOR 11 12 THE CAPPED REAL PROPERTY SCHOOL TAX RATE SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION, 13 PROVIDED THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, AFTER PUBLIC HEARING, ADOPTS A RESOLUTION 14 PROVIDING THEREFOR.
- 15 (B) FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, THE TERM "CAPPED REAL PROPERTY 16 SCHOOL TAX RATE" SHALL MEAN THE LOWER OF:
- 17 (I) THE REAL PROPERTY SCHOOL TAX RATE ESTABLISHED ON THE TAXABLE 18 STATUS DATE NEXT SUCCEEDING THE DATE ON WHICH AN ELIGIBLE PERSON ATTAINS 19 THE AGE OF SEVENTY YEARS; OR
- 20 (II) THE REAL PROPERTY SCHOOL TAX RATE ESTABLISHED ON ANY TAXABLE 21 STATUS DATE SUBSEQUENT TO THE DATE ON WHICH AN ELIGIBLE PERSON ATTAINS 22 THE AGE OF SEVENTY YEARS, WHICH IS LOWER THAN THE REAL PROPERTY SCHOOL 23 TAX RATE ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH.

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

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 (C) THE CAPPED REAL PROPERTY SCHOOL TAX RATE SHALL BE DETERMINED ANNUALLY FOR EACH ELIGIBLE PERSON SEVENTY YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF PARAGRAPHS (A) AND (B) OF THIS SUBDIVISION.

- 2. ANY PERSON ELIGIBLE FOR THE CAPPED REAL PROPERTY SCHOOL TAX RATE SHALL APPLY ANNUALLY FOR SUCH CAPPED RATE. SUCH APPLICATION SHALL BE MADE IN A MANNER AND FORM DETERMINED BY THE STATE BOARD AND SHALL REQUIRE PROOF OF THE APPLICANT'S AGE. SUCH APPLICATION SHALL BE FILED WITH THE LOCAL ASSESSOR ON OR BEFORE THE TAXABLE STATUS DATE FOR SUCH DISTRICT.
- 3. EVERY SCHOOL DISTRICT SHALL NOTIFY, OR CAUSE TO BE NOTIFIED, EACH PERSON OWNING RESIDENTIAL REAL PROPERTY IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION. THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBDIVISION MAY BE MET BY A NOTICE SENT TO SUCH PERSONS IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE FOLLOWING FORM: "RESIDENTIAL REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY PERSONS SEVENTY YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR A CAPPED REAL PROPERTY SCHOOL TAX RATE. TO RECEIVE SUCH CAPPED RATE, ELIGIBLE OWNERS OF QUALIFYING PROPERTY MUST FILE AN APPLICATION WITH THEIR LOCAL ASSESSOR ON OR BEFORE THE APPLICABLE TAXABLE STATUS DATE. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR LOCAL ASSESSOR."
- 4. A SCHOOL DISTRICT WHICH PROVIDES A CAPPED REAL PROPERTY SCHOOL TAX RATE FOR PERSONS SEVENTY YEARS OF AGE OR OVER PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL BE ELIGIBLE FOR REIMBURSEMENT BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, AS APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF REAL PROPERTY SERVICES, FOR ONE HUNDRED PERCENT OF THE DIRECT COST TO SUCH SCHOOL DISTRICT RESULTING FROM THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SECTION. SUCH DIRECT COST SHALL BE CALCULATED PURSUANT TO REGULATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF REAL PROPERTY SERVICES. A CLAIM FOR SUCH REIMBURSEMENT SHALL BE MADE BY SUCH SCHOOL DISTRICT IN A MANNER AND FORM PRESCRIBED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION.
- 32 S 2. This act shall take effect January 1, 2011 and shall apply to 33 assessment rolls prepared on the basis of taxable status dates occurring 34 on or after such date.