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

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2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

May 27, 2015

Introduced by Sens. KLEIN, AVELLA, SAVINO -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Cities -- recommitted to the Committee on Cities 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 rebates of real property taxes on certain residential real property 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. Subdivision 1 of section 467-e of the real property tax law, as amended by chapter 483 of the laws of 2007, is amended to read as follows:

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 fiscal years beginning on the first of July, two thousand [three] SIXTEEN and ending on the thirtieth of June, two thousand [nine] NINETEEN in the amount of the lesser of [four] FIVE hundred dollars or the annual tax liability imposed on the property. [No such local law may be adopted unless, as originally adopted, it authorizes such rebate to be granted in accordance with this section for three consecutive fiscal years beginning with the fiscal year beginning on the first of July, two thousand three.] No such rebate shall be granted by local law for any fiscal year beginning on or after the first of July, two thousand [nine] NINETEEN, unless the council of such city, in fixing the annual tax rates for any such fiscal year, shall have uniformly reduced such rates for all classes of property in order to produce real property tax relief among such classes of property in an amount not less than, in the aggregate, the aggregate amount of rebate paid in such fiscal year. [No such

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

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local law implementing the provisions of this section, as amended by the chapter of the laws of two thousand seven which added this sentence, may be adopted unless, as originally adopted, such local law authorizes such rebate to be granted in accordance with this section for three consecutive fiscal years beginning with the fiscal year beginning on the first of July, two thousand six. Any rebate authorized by local law in accordance with this section shall be paid in the fiscal year following the fiscal year for which the rebate is granted.] If, with respect to the fiscal year of such city beginning on the first of July, two thousand [eight] SIXTEEN and ending on the thirtieth of June, two thousand [nine] NINETEEN, an increase in average real property tax rates would otherwise be necessary in the resolution of such city council fixing real property tax rates for such fiscal year pursuant to the charter of such city, then the rebate to be paid for such fiscal year shall be reduced or eliminated as follows: where the sum to be raised by such increase is less than seven hundred fifty million dollars, then such rebate shall be reduced by fifty cents for each dollar of increase, and where the sum to be raised by such increase is seven hundred fifty million dollars or more, then such rebate shall be eliminated. The determination of the reduction or elimination of such rebate shall be set forth in such resolution after consultation with the department of finance of such city and shall take effect upon the final adoption of such resolution. Such rebate shall be paid to an owner or tenant-stockholder who, as of the date the application provided for in subdivision four of this section is due, owns a one, two or three family residence or a dwelling unit in residential property held in the condominium or cooperative form of ownership that is the owner or tenant-stockholder's primary residence and meets all other eligibility requirements of this section. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in sections four hundred twenty-one-a, four hundred twenty-one-b or four hundred twenty-one-g of this title, an owner or tenant-stockholder whose property is receiving benefits pursuant to such sections shall not be prohibited from receiving a rebate pursuant to this section if such owner or tenant-stockholder is otherwise eligible to receive such rebate. Tenant-stockholders of dwelling units in a cooperative apartment corporation incorporated as a mutual company pursuant to article two, four, five or eleven of the private housing finance law shall not be entitled to the rebate authorized by this section. Such rebate shall be paid by the commissioner of finance to eligible owners or tenant-stockholders in accordance with rules promulgated by the commissioner of finance.

S 2. Subparagraphs 2 and 3 of paragraph a of subdivision 2 of section 467-e of the real property tax law, as added by section 1 of part V of chapter 60 of the laws of 2004, are amended and a new subparagraph 4 is added to read as follows:

(2) the property must serve as the primary residence of one or more of the owners or tenant-stockholders thereof; [and]

(3) the owner must not be in arrears in the payment of real property taxes in an amount in excess of twenty-five dollars for the fiscal year for which the rebate is claimed and all prior fiscal years, and for residential property held in the cooperative form of ownership, there must be no arrears in the payment of real property taxes in an amount in excess of an average of twenty-five dollars per dwelling unit in such cooperative apartment corporation for the fiscal year for which the rebate is claimed and all prior fiscal years[.]; AND

(4) THE FEDERAL ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME OF THE OWNER OR OWNERS, OR THE TENANT-STOCKHOLDER OR TENANT-STOCKHOLDERS DOES NOT EXCEED FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS IN THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING INCOME TAX YEAR.

S 3. Paragraph a of subdivision 4 of section 467-e of the real property tax law, as amended by chapter 483 of the laws of 2007, is amended to read as follows:

a. Generally. Notwithstanding any provision of any general, special or local law to the contrary, an application for a rebate pursuant to this section for the fiscal year beginning the first of July, two thousand [three] SIXTEEN, shall be made no later than the date published by the commissioner of finance in the city record and in other appropriate general notices pursuant to this subdivision, which date shall be no earlier than thirty days after the effective date of this subdivision. An application for a rebate pursuant to this section for fiscal years beginning on or after the first of July, two thousand [four] SEVENTEEN and ending on the thirtieth of June, two thousand [six] NINETEEN, shall be made no later than the fifteenth of March of the fiscal year for which the rebate is claimed. [An application for a rebate pursuant to this section for fiscal years beginning on or after the first of July, two thousand six, shall be made no later than the first of September following the fiscal year for which the rebate is claimed.] All owners or tenant-stockholders of property who primarily reside thereon must jointly file an application for the rebate on or before the application deadline, unless such owners or tenant-stockholders currently receive a real property tax exemption pursuant to section four hundred twenty-five, four hundred fifty-eight, four hundred fifty-eight-a, four hundred fifty-nine-c or four hundred sixty-seven of this title, in which case no separate application for a rebate pursuant to this section shall be required. Such application may be filed by mail if it is enclosed in a postpaid envelope properly addressed to the commissioner of finance, deposited in a post office or official depository under the exclusive care of the United States postal service, and postmarked by the United States postal service on or before the application deadline. Each such application shall be made on a form prescribed by the commissioner of finance, which shall require the applicant to agree to notify the commissioner of finance if his, her or their primary residence changes after receiving the rebate pursuant to this section, or after filing an application for such rebate, if his, her or their primary residence changes after filing such application, but before receiving such rebate. The commissioner of finance may request that proof of primary residence be submitted with the application. No rebate pursuant to this section shall be granted unless the applicant, if required to do so by this subdivision, files an application within the time periods prescribed in this subdivision.

S 4. This act shall take effect immediately.