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

3603--B

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

February 13, 2015

Introduced by Sens. RANZENHOFER, MURPHY, FUNKE, O'MARA, RITCHIE, SEWARD, YOUNG -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations -- reported favorably from said committee and committed to the Committee on Finance -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee -- recommitted to the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations 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 tax law, in relation to establishing a credit for farmers who donate to a food bank or other emergency food program

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

Section 1. Section 606 of the tax law is amended by adding a new subsection (n-2) to read as follows:

(N-2) CREDIT FOR DONATIONS TO FOOD BANK OR EMERGENCY FOOD PROGRAM. (1) GENERAL. IN THE CASE OF A TAXPAYER WHO IS AN ELIGIBLE FARMER, THERE SHALL BE ALLOWED A CREDIT, TO BE COMPUTED AS HEREINAFTER PROVIDED AGAINST THE TAX IMPOSED BY THIS ARTICLE FOR THE TAXABLE YEAR REDUCED BY THE CREDITS PERMITTED BY THIS ARTICLE. THE AMOUNT OF THE CREDIT SHALL BE TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT OF THE TAXPAYER'S QUALIFIED DONATIONS, AS DEFINED IN PARAGRAPH THREE OF THIS SUBSECTION, MADE TO ANY FOOD BANK OR OTHER PUBLIC, CHARITABLE OR NOT-FOR-PROFIT EMERGENCY FOOD PROGRAM OPERATING WITHIN THIS STATE UP TO A ONE THOUSAND DOLLAR LIMIT DURING THE TAXABLE YEAR. IF THE AMOUNT OF THE CREDIT UNDER THIS SUBSECTION FOR ANY TAXABLE YEAR SHALL EXCEED THE TAXPAYER'S TAX FOR SUCH YEAR, THE EXCESS SHALL BE TREATED AS AN OVERPAYMENT OF TAX TO BE CREDITED OR REFUNDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION SIX HUNDRED EIGHTY-SIX OF THIS ARTICLE, PROVIDED, HOWEVER THAT NO INTEREST SHALL BE PAID THEREON.

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

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(2) ELIGIBLE FARMER. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE TERM "ELIGIBLE FARMER" MEANS A TAXPAYER WHOSE FEDERAL GROSS INCOME FROM FARMING FOR THE TAXABLE YEAR IS AT LEAST TWO-THIRDS OF EXCESS FEDERAL GROSS INCOME. EXCESS FEDERAL GROSS INCOME MEANS THE AMOUNT OF FEDERAL GROSS INCOME FROM ALL SOURCES FOR THE TAXABLE YEAR REDUCED BY THE SUM (NOT TO EXCEED THIRTY THOUSAND DOLLARS) OF THOSE ITEMS INCLUDED IN FEDERAL GROSS INCOME WHICH CONSIST OF (I) EARNED INCOME, (II) PENSION PAYMENTS, INCLUDING SOCIAL SECURITY PAYMENTS, (III) INTEREST, AND (IV) DIVIDENDS. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THE TERM "EARNED INCOME" SHALL MEAN WAGES, SALARIES, TIPS AND OTHER EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION, AND THOSE ITEMS OF GROSS INCOME WHICH ARE INCLUDIBLE IN THE COMPUTATION OF NET EARNINGS FROM SELF-EMPLOYMENT. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS PARAGRAPH, PAYMENTS FROM THE STATE'S FARMLAND PROTECTION PROGRAM, ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS, SHALL BE INCLUDED AS FEDERAL GROSS INCOME FROM FARMING FOR OTHERWISE ELIGIBLE FARMERS.

(3) QUALIFIED DONATION. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE TERM "QUALIFIED DONATION" MEANS THE WHOLESALE VALUE OF A DONATION OF ANY EDIBLE FOOD ITEM TO A FOOD BANK OR OTHER EMERGENCY FOOD PROGRAM OPERATING WITHIN THIS STATE.

S 2. Subsection (b) of section 612 of the tax law is amended by adding a new paragraph 43 to read as follows:

(43) THE AMOUNT OF ALL QUALIFIED DONATIONS FOR WHICH A TAXPAYER CLAIMS A CREDIT FOR DONATIONS TO A FOOD BANK OR EMERGENCY FOOD PROGRAM PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (N-2) OF SECTION SIX HUNDRED SIX OF THIS ARTICLE.

S 3. This act shall take effect on the first of January next succeeding the date on which it shall have become a law and shall apply to taxable years beginning on or after such date.