STATE OF NEW YORK

6850

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

March 21, 2019

Introduced by M. of A. WILLIAMS -- read once and referred to the Committee on Aging

AN ACT to amend the real property tax law, in relation to granting a tax deferment for persons sixty-five years of age or older who reside in a city having a population of one million or more persons

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. The real property tax law is amended by adding a new section 467-l to read as follows:

§ 467-l. Deferral of real property tax for persons sixty-five years of age or older residing in a city having a population of one million or more persons. 1. (a) Any city of one million or more persons may, by local law, grant a tax deferment for real property owned and occupied by one or more persons, each of whom is sixty-five years of age or older, or real property owned and occupied by husband and wife or by siblings, one of whom is sixty-five years of age or older. For purposes of this section, "sibling" shall mean a brother or a sister, whether related through half blood, whole blood or adoption.

(b) Application for such deferment shall be made annually by the owner or owners of such real property. No application for such deferment shall be granted to any owner with a total income exceeding fifty-eight thousand four hundred dollars. For purposes of this section, "income" shall mean the gross income of the owner or owners of such property for the income tax year immediately preceding the date of application for such deferment and shall include social security and retirement benefits, interest, dividends, total gain from the sale or exchange of a capital asset which may be offset by a loss from the sale or exchange of a capital asset in the same income tax year, net rental income, earned income from salary or earnings and net income from self-employment, but shall not include a return of capital, gifts or inheritances. The age of each owner of such property shall be the age of such person at the commence-

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

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ment of the city's fiscal year for which an application for tax deferment is made.

2. Such deferment shall equal the total per centum of the deferment base. For purposes of this section, "deferment base" shall mean the increase in real property tax attributable to the increase in the assessed value of such property from the tax year immediately preceding the year in which such person reached the age of sixty-five years to the tax year for which an application for tax deferment is made.

3. The amount of taxes deferred shall accrue against such person, without interest, and shall, on the date such deferment is granted, constitute a lien against such property in favor of the appropriate municipal corporation. The owner or owners of such property, having received such deferment pursuant to this section, may, at any time, terminate the deferment and remove the resultant lien on said property by paying in full the cumulative amount of such lien.

4. A tax deferment granted to a husband and wife pursuant to this section, once granted, shall not be rescinded solely because of the death of the older spouse so long as the surviving spouse is at least sixty-two years of age. In the event that the surviving spouse is less than sixty-two years of age, such surviving spouse shall be eligible for the tax deferment upon reaching sixty-two years of age provided all other eligibility requirements are met.

5. Any person who has already attained the age of sixty-five years or older is eligible for such deferral and shall be entitled to a tax deferment based on the tax year immediately preceding the effective date of this section.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after it shall have become a law.