

STATE OF NEW YORK

6326--A

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

April 21, 2021

Introduced by Sens. BROUK, KAVANAGH -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Local Government -- 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 tax exemptions for community land trusts and income-restricted homeownership properties

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

1 Section 1. Section 420-a of the real property tax law is amended by
2 adding a new subdivision 17 to read as follows:

3 17. Other than in a city having a population of one million or more,
4 any land owned by a community land trust and separately assessed
5 improvements owned by the residents thereof, shall be exempt from local
6 real property taxation and exempt from special ad valorem levies and
7 special assessments to the extent provided in section four hundred nine-
8 ty of this article.

9 (a) For the purposes of this subdivision, "community land trust" shall
10 mean a corporation organized pursuant to the not-for-profit corporation
11 law and exempt from taxation pursuant to section 501(c)(3) of the inter-
12 nal revenue code that satisfies the following criteria:

13 (i) such nonprofit corporation's purpose is the creation and mainte-
14 nance of permanently affordable single-family or multi-family resi-
15 dences;

16 (ii) all dwellings and units located on land owned by such nonprofit
17 corporation is sold to a qualified owner to be occupied as the qualified
18 owner's primary residence or rented to persons or families of low
19 income; and

20 (iii) any lease with the owner of a single-family home or multi-family
21 residence shall be for an initial term of ninety-nine years with renewal
22 rights under the same initial terms and conditions.

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

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1 (b) Failure to comply with the provisions of this subdivision that
2 require the development and preservation of permanently affordable
3 single-family or multi-family residences for persons or families of low
4 income at any time during the duration of the exemption shall result in
5 revocation of any exemption under this subdivision for the period of
6 such non-compliance. If an ongoing pattern of non-compliance is found to
7 exist, such exemption may be revoked from its inception.

8 (c) Enforcement of this subdivision shall be in addition to any other
9 provisions contained in this chapter or any other law.

10 (d) The revocation of an exemption authorized by this subdivision
11 shall not exempt a community land trust from continued compliance with
12 the requirements of this subdivision.

13 § 2. Section 422 of the real property tax law is amended by adding two
14 new subdivisions 3 and 4 to read as follows:

15 3. Exemption of income-restricted homeownership property in a municipi-
16 pality with a population of less than one million. Income-restricted
17 homeownership property, including but not limited to a single or two-fa-
18 family home or multi-family residence, which is owned by and operated
19 exclusively for the benefit of persons or families of low income as
20 defined in subdivision nineteen of section two of the private housing
21 finance law that is subject to a ground lease with a ninety-nine year
22 renewable term with a community land trust as defined in paragraph (a)
23 of subdivision seventeen of section four hundred twenty-a of this title,
24 which is not otherwise fully exempt from taxation, shall be assessed
25 based upon the resale and rent restrictions set forth in the ground
26 lease when determining the taxable value of such income-restricted
27 homeownership property. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subdivi-
28 sion, any local assessor that currently employs a method of property
29 assessment and taxation for any income-restricted homeownership property
30 as of the effective date of the chapter of the laws of two thousand
31 twenty-one that added this subdivision that would result in a lesser tax
32 burden for such income-restricted homeowner may continue to employ such
33 method as if fully authorized by this subdivision.

34 4. Exemption from local real property taxation in a city having a
35 population of one million or more for certain low-income housing accom-
36 modations. (a) Eligible real property in a city having a population of
37 one million or more shall be exempt from local real property taxation
38 except as may be otherwise provided in the regulatory agreement of such
39 eligible real property. Such exemption from local real property taxa-
40 tion shall commence as of the effective date of the regulatory agree-
41 ment. Upon a default under the regulatory agreement or non-compliance
42 with this subdivision, the agency may suspend, reduce, terminate or
43 revoke such exemption, with respect to all or a portion of such eligible
44 real property as of the date of such default or non-compliance, unless
45 such default or non-compliance is cured within the time period specified
46 for any such cure under such regulatory agreement.

47 (b) For the purposes of this subdivision, the following terms shall
48 have the following meanings:

49 (1) The term "agency" shall mean the department of housing preserva-
50 tion and development.

51 (2) The term "community land trust" shall mean a corporation organized
52 pursuant to the not-for-profit corporation law for the purpose of devel-
53 oping and/or preserving housing accommodations that serve persons and
54 families of low income through its ownership and stewardship of the land
55 beneath such housing accommodations.

1 (3) The term "eligible entity" shall mean a corporation (i) that is a
2 housing development fund company formed pursuant to article eleven of
3 the private housing finance law and section four hundred two of the
4 not-for-profit corporation law and (ii) the certificate of incorporation
5 of which requires such housing development fund company to operate sole-
6 ly as a community land trust.

7 (4) The term "eligible real property" shall mean real property that
8 provides housing accommodations for persons and families of low income
9 pursuant to a regulatory agreement, provided that the land portion of
10 such real property is owned by an eligible entity.

11 (5) The term "persons and families of low income" shall have the mean-
12 ing set forth in subdivision nineteen of section two of the private
13 housing finance law.

14 (6) The term "regulatory agreement" shall mean a regulatory agreement
15 with or approved by the agency that (i) is executed or approved after
16 the effective date of this subdivision, (ii) requires the provision of
17 housing accommodations for persons and families of low income, (iii) is
18 recorded against the eligible real property, (iv) binds all parties in
19 interest to such eligible real property and their respective successors
20 and assigns and (v) includes such other terms and conditions as the
21 agency shall determine, including, but not limited to, provisions
22 requiring payments in lieu of taxes, for the purpose of developing
23 and/or preserving housing accommodations that serve persons and families
24 of low income.

25 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall apply to all
26 assessment rolls published after the date this act shall have become a
27 law.