STATE OF NEW YORK

3967--A

Cal. No. 444

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 1, 2021

Introduced by Sen. REICHLIN-MELNICK -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Local Government -- reported favorably from said committee, ordered to first and second report, ordered to a third reading, amended and ordered reprinted, retaining its place in the order of third reading

AN ACT to amend the real property tax law, in relation to providing a tax exemption on real property owned by active auxiliary police officers in local law enforcement agencies in certain counties

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 465 to read as follows:

§ 465. Volunteer auxiliary police officers; certain counties. 1. Real property owned by an active auxiliary police officer in a local law enforcement agency or such active officer and spouse residing in any county having a population of more than three hundred twenty thousand and less than three hundred fifty thousand, determined in accordance with the latest federal decennial census, shall be exempt from taxation to the extent of ten percent of the assessed value of such property for city, village, town, part town, special district, school district, fire district or county purposes, exclusive of special assessments, provided that the governing body of a city, village, town, school district, fire district or county, after a public hearing, adopts a local law, ordinance or resolution providing therefor, provided further, however, that such exemption shall in no event exceed three thousand dollars multiplied by the latest state equalization rate for the assessing unit in which real property is located.

2. Such exemption shall not be granted to an active auxiliary police officer in a local law enforcement agency residing in such county unless:

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

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(a) the applicant resides in the city, town or village which is served by such auxiliary police department;

(b) the property is the primary residence of the applicant;

(c) the property is used exclusively for residential purposes; provided however, that in the event any portion of such property is not used exclusively for the applicant's residence but is used for other purposes, such portion shall be subject to taxation and the remaining portion only shall be entitled to the exemption provided by this section; and

(d) the applicant has been certified by the law enforcement agency in which such volunteer auxiliary police officer serves as being an active member as determined by the local enforcement agency's standards for at least five years. It shall be the duty and responsibility of the municipality, school district and/or fire district which adopts a local law, ordinance or resolution pursuant to this section to determine the procedure for certification.

3. Application for such exemption shall be filed with the assessor or other agency, department or office designated by the municipality, school district and/or fire district offering such exemption on or before the taxable status date on a form as prescribed by the commissioner.

4. An active auxiliary police officer shall not be eligible to receive the exemption if such applicant receives either a real property tax exemption pursuant to this title, or an income tax credit pursuant to section six hundred six of the tax law, related to services as a volunteer firefighter or ambulance worker.

§ 2. 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 status dates occurring on or after such date.