HLS 17RS-609 ORIGINAL

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 337

1

BY REPRESENTATIVE STOKES

TAX CREDITS: Provides for an individual income tax credit for improvements made to the residences of individuals with certain disabilities

AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 47:297(P)(1), (2), and (5) and to enact R.S. 47:297(P)(3)(e) and 3 (6), relative to individual income tax credits; to authorize an individual income tax 4 credit for certain residential improvements made by persons with certain disabilities; 5 to provide for a program cap; to provide for effectiveness; and to provide for related 6 matters. 7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana: 8 Section 1. R.S. 47:297(P)(1), (2), and (5) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 9 47:297(P)(3)(e) and (6) are hereby enacted to read as follows: 10 §297. Reduction to tax due 11 12 P.(1) There shall be allowed a credit against the individual income tax 13 liability of a taxpayer for the inclusion of accessible and barrier-free design elements 14 in either the construction of a new one- or two-family dwelling or the renovation of 15 an existing dwelling. For purposes of this Subsection, "taxpayer" shall mean an 16 individual who owns a newly constructed one- or two-family dwelling, or the 17 existing dwelling that is renovated, and who qualifies for and claims a homestead 18 exemption on a dwelling which meets all of the design elements necessary for 19 claiming the tax credit authorized by the provisions of this Subsection.

(2) The amount of the credit shall be seven hundred twenty five thousand
dollars, or seventy-two percent of the total tax liability of the taxpayer, whichever
is less. The credit shall be taken in the taxable year in which the construction of the
dwelling is completed. Only one tax credit may be granted per dwelling. If the
amount of the credit authorized by this Paragraph exceeds the amount of tax liability
for the tax year, the amount of unused credit may be carried forward as a credit
against subsequent Louisiana individual income tax liability for a period not to
exceed five years.
(3) A dwelling which meets all of the following requirements shall be
deemed to include accessible and barrier-free design elements for purposes of the tax
credit:
* * *
(e) It meets all of the accessibility standards as required by the 2010
Americans with Disabilities Act Standards for Accessible Design, or its successor.
* * *
(5) The total amount of tax credit granted by the department in any calendar
year shall not exceed five hundred thousand dollars. The department shall by rule
establish the method of allocating available tax credits. If the department does not
grant the entire five hundred thousand dollars of tax credits in any calendar year, the
amount of residual unused tax credits shall carry forward to subsequent calendar
years and may be granted in any year without regard to the five hundred thousand
dollar per year limitation.
(6) The provisions of this Subsection shall be effective for all tax years
beginning on or after January 1, 2012.
Section 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 8 of Act No. 125 of the 2015
Regular Session as amended by Act No. 29 of the 2016 First Extraordinary Session of the
Legislature, R.S. 47:297(P)(2) as enacted by Section 5 of Act No. 125 of the 2015 Regular
Session shall not become effective.

- 1 Section 3. The provisions of this Act shall be applicable for all taxable periods
- beginning on and after January 1, 2018.
- 3 Section 4. This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2018.

## **DIGEST**

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 337 Original

2017 Regular Session

Stokes

**Abstract:** Expands the individual income tax credit for the inclusion of accessible and barrier-free design elements in the construction of certain dwellings and provides for a program cap.

<u>Present law</u> authorizes a credit against individual income tax for the owner of a newly constructed one- or two-family dwelling that includes certain accessible and barrier-free design elements. Eligibility is limited to individuals who own such a dwelling, claim the homestead exemption thereon, and the dwelling meets all of the design elements necessary for claiming the tax credit.

<u>Present law</u> further requires that the tax credit be taken in the taxable year in which the construction is completed. The credit is limited to the lesser of \$720 or 72% of the taxpayer's total tax liability. Only one tax credit may be granted per dwelling.

<u>Proposed law</u> adds existing dwellings that are renovated to include accessible and barrier-free design elements as a dwelling for which a taxpayer may be eligible to receive the credit.

<u>Proposed law</u> changes the amount of the credit  $\underline{\text{from}}$  the lesser of \$720 or 72% of the taxpayer's total tax liability  $\underline{\text{to}}$  \$5,000. Further authorizes excess, unused credit to be carried forward and applied to subsequent tax liability for five years.

Present law requires the dwelling to meet certain standards to be eligible for the tax credit.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> and adds the requirement that the dwelling meet the accessibility standards required by <u>federal law</u>.

<u>Proposed law</u> establishes a program cap not to exceed \$500,000 in credits granted by the Dept. of Revenue each calendar year. Allows any amount not granted to roll over to subsequent years.

Effective Jan. 1, 2018.

(Amends R.S. 47:297(P)(1), (2), and (5); Adds R.S. 47:297(P)(3)(e) and (6))