

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 659 (SB 289)

2018 Regular Session

Perry

Prior law granted a special assessment level to the homestead of a person 65 or older that prohibits the assessment of the homestead from increasing above the property's total assessed value for the first year that the owner qualifies for and receives the special assessment level.

Proposed constitutional amendment and new law grant the special assessment level to certain trusts if the settlors of the trust meet the requirements of present constitution and as provided in new law.

Proposed constitutional amendment and new law provides that if the trust would have been eligible for the special assessment level prior to the most recent reappraisal, the total assessment of the property held in trust shall be the assessed value on the last appraisal before the reappraisal.

New law provides that if a trust has remitted a payment at the higher assessment level and the trust is later determined to be eligible for the special assessment level, upon a showing by the trust of eligibility, any excess payment shall be held on account by the collector and used as a prepayment of subsequent years' ad valorem taxes.

Present constitution establishes an ad valorem tax exemption equal to \$7,500 of a property's assessed value for a military veteran with a 100% disability rating or their surviving spouse.

Proposed constitutional amendment and proposed law extend eligibility for this exemption to certain trusts if the settlors of the trust meet the requirements of present constitution and as provided in new law.

Present constitution establishes a 100% ad valorem tax exemption for the surviving spouse of a person who died while performing their duty as a member of the U.S. armed forces or the La. National Guard, or as a state police, law enforcement, or fire protection officer, or as a volunteer firefighter, or as an emergency medical responder, technician, or paramedic.

Proposed constitutional amendment and new law extend eligibility for this exemption to certain trusts if the settlors of the trust meet the requirements of present constitution and as provided in new law.

New law provides that eligibility for a trust for the special assessment level, the \$7,500 tax exemption and the 100% tax exemption requires the settlors of the trust to have been the immediate prior owners of the homestead, that they retain a usufruct, and that they occupy the homestead.

Effective if and when the proposed addition of Article VII, Sections 18(G)(6), 21(K) and (M) of the Constitution of Louisiana contained in the Act which originated as SB 163 of the 2018 RS is adopted at the statewide election to be held on Nov. 6, 2018, and becomes effective.

(Adds R.S. 47:1713,1714, and 1715)