FIRST REGULAR SESSION

[PERFECTED]

HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

HOUSE BILL NO. 457

94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Reported from the Committee on Ways and Means March 13, 2007 with recommendation that House Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 457 Do Pass. Referred to the Committee on Rules pursuant to Rule 25(21)(f).

Reported from the Committee on Rules March 15, 2007 with recommendation that House Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 457 Do Pass.

Taken up for Perfection April 3, 2007. House Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 457 ordered Perfected and printed, as amended.

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

1084L.02P

AN ACT

To repeal sections 135.010, 135.030, and 137.106, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof four new sections relating to homestead tax relief.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 135.010, 135.030, and 137.106, RSMo, are repealed and four new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 135.010, 135.030, 135.097, and 137.106, to read as follows:

135.010. **1. Sections 135.010 to 135.035 shall be known and may be cited as the "Senior Citizens' Homestead Tax Relief Act".**

2. As used in sections 135.010 to 135.030 the following words and terms mean:

(1) "Claimant", a person or persons claiming a credit under sections 135.010 to 135.030. If the persons are eligible to file a joint federal income tax return and reside at the same address at any time during the taxable year, then the credit may only be allowed if claimed on a combined Missouri income tax return or a combined claim return reporting their combined incomes and property taxes. A claimant shall not be allowed a property tax credit unless the claimant or spouse has attained the age of sixty-five on or before the last day of the calendar year and the

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[**thus**]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

claimant or spouse was a resident of Missouri for the entire year, or the claimant or spouse is a veteran of any branch of the armed forces of the United States or this state who became one hundred percent disabled as a result of such service, or the claimant or spouse is disabled as defined in subdivision (2) of this section, and such claimant or spouse provides proof of such disability in such form and manner, and at such times, as the director of revenue may require, or if the claimant has reached the age of sixty on or before the last day of the calendar year and such claimant received surviving spouse Social Security benefits during the calendar year and the claimant provides proof, as required by the director of revenue, that the claimant received surviving spouse Social Security benefits during the calendar year for which the credit will be claimed. A claimant shall not be allowed a property tax credit if the claimant filed a valid claim for a credit under section 137.106, RSMo, in the year following the year for which the property tax credit is claimed. The residency requirement shall be deemed to have been fulfilled for the purpose of determining the eligibility of a surviving spouse for a property tax credit if a person of the age of sixty-five years or older who would have otherwise met the requirements for a property tax credit dies before the last day of the calendar year. The residency requirement shall also be deemed to have been fulfilled for the purpose of determining the eligibility of a claimant who would have otherwise met the requirements for a property tax credit but who dies before the last day of the calendar year;

(2) "Disabled", the inability to engage in any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment which can be expected to result in death or which has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than twelve months. A claimant shall not be required to be gainfully employed prior to such disability to qualify for a property tax credit;

(3) "Gross rent", amount paid by a claimant to a landlord for the rental, at arm's length, of a homestead during the calendar year, exclusive of charges for health and personal care services and food furnished as part of the rental agreement, whether or not expressly set out in the rental agreement. If the director of revenue determines that the landlord and tenant have not dealt at arm's length, and that the gross rent is excessive, then **[**he**] the director** shall determine the gross rent based upon a reasonable amount of rent. Gross rent shall be deemed to be paid only if actually paid prior to the date a return is filed. The director of revenue may prescribe regulations requiring a return of information by a landlord receiving rent, certifying for a calendar year the amount of gross rent received from a tenant claiming a property tax credit and shall, by regulation, provide a method for certification by the claimant of the amount of gross rent paid for any calendar year for which a claim is made. The regulations authorized by this subdivision may require a landlord or a tenant or both to provide data relating to health and

personal care services and to food. Neither a landlord nor a tenant may be required to provide data relating to utilities, furniture, home furnishings or appliances;

(4) "Homestead", the dwelling in Missouri owned or rented by the claimant and not to exceed five acres of land surrounding it as is reasonably necessary for use of the dwelling as a home. It may consist of part of a multidwelling or multipurpose building and part of the land upon which it is built. "Owned" includes a vendee in possession under a land contract and one or more tenants by the entireties, joint tenants, or tenants in common and includes a claimant actually in possession if he was the immediate former owner of record, if a lineal descendant is presently the owner of record, and if the claimant actually pays all taxes upon the property. It may include a mobile home;

(5) "Income", Missouri adjusted gross income as defined in section 143.121, RSMo, less two thousand dollars as an exemption for the claimant's spouse residing at the same address, and increased, where necessary, to reflect the following:

(a) Social Security, railroad retirement, and veterans payments and benefits unless the claimant is a one hundred percent service-connected, disabled veteran or a spouse of a one hundred percent service-connected, disabled veteran. The one hundred percent service-connected disabled veteran shall not be required to list veterans payments and benefits;

(b) The total amount of all other public and private pensions and annuities;

(c) Public relief, public assistance, and unemployment benefits received in cash, other than benefits received under this chapter;

(d) No deduction being allowed for losses not incurred in a trade or business;

(e) Interest on the obligations of the United States, any state, or any of their subdivisions and instrumentalities;

(6) "Property taxes accrued", property taxes paid, exclusive of special assessments, penalties, interest, and charges for service levied on a claimant's homestead in any calendar year. Property taxes shall qualify for the credit only if actually paid prior to the date a return is filed. The director of revenue shall require a tax receipt or other proof of property tax payment. If a homestead is owned only partially by claimant, then "property taxes accrued" is that part of property taxes levied on the homestead which was actually paid by the claimant. For purposes of this subdivision, property taxes are "levied" when the tax roll is delivered to the director of revenue for collection. If a claimant owns a homestead part of the preceding calendar year and rents it or a different homestead for part of the same year, "property taxes accrued" means only taxes levied on the homestead both owned and occupied by the claimant, multiplied by the percentage of twelve months that such property was owned and occupied as the homestead of the claimant during the year. When a claimant owns and occupies two or more different homesteads in the same calendar year, property taxes accrued shall be the sum of taxes allocable

to those several properties occupied by the claimant as a homestead for the year. If a homestead is an integral part of a larger unit such as a farm, or multipurpose or multidwelling building, property taxes accrued shall be that percentage of the total property taxes accrued as the value of the homestead is of the total value. For purposes of this subdivision "unit" refers to the parcel of property covered by a single tax statement of which the homestead is a part;

(7) "Rent constituting property taxes accrued", twenty percent of the gross rent paid by a claimant and spouse in the calendar year.

135.030. 1. As used in this section:

(1) The term "maximum upper limit" shall, **[**in the calendar year 1989, be the sum of thirteen thousand five hundred dollars. For each calendar year through December 31, 1992, the maximum upper limit shall be increased by five hundred dollars per year. For calendar years after December 31, 1992, and prior to calendar year 1998, the maximum upper limit shall be the sum used on December 31, 1992.**]** for each calendar year after December 31, 1997, **[**the maximum upper limit shall**] but before calendar year 2008,** be the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars**. For the calendar year beginning on January 1, 2008, the maximum upper limit shall be the sum of twenty-five thousand five hundred dollars if the taxpayer's filing status is single and thirty-two thousand dollars if the taxpayer's filing status is married filing combined. For each calendar year beginning on or after January 1, 2009, the maximum upper limit shall be increased, rounded to the nearest fifty dollar increment, by the same percentage as the increase in the general price level as measured by the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers for the United States, or its successor index, as defined and officially recorded by the United States Department of Labor, or its successor agency**;

(2) The term "minimum base" shall, **[**in the calendar year 1989, be the sum of five thousand dollars. For each succeeding calendar year through December 31, 1992, the minimum base shall be increased, in one hundred-dollar increments, by the same percentage as the increase in the general price level as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers for the United States, or its successor index, as defined and officially recorded by the United States Department of Labor, or its successor agency, or five percent, whichever is greater. The increase in the index shall be that as first published by the Department of Labor for the calendar year immediately preceding the year in which the minimum base is calculated. For calendar years after December 31, 1992, and prior to calendar year 1998, the minimum base shall be the sum used on December 31, 1992.**]** for each calendar year after December 31, 1997, **[**the minimum base shall**] but before calendar year 2008,** be the sum of thirteen thousand dollars. **For the calendar year beginning January 1, 2008, the minimum base shall be the sum of thirteen thousand three hundred dollars. For each calendar year beginning on or after January 1, 2009, the minimum base shall be increased, rounded to the nearest fifty dollar**

increment, by the same percentage as the increase in the general price level as measured by the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers for the United States, or its successor index, as defined and officially recorded by the United States Department of Labor, or its successor agency.

2. **[**When calculating the minimum base for purposes of this section, whenever the increase in the Consumer Price Index used in the calculation would result in a figure which is greater than one one-hundred-dollar increment but less than another one-hundred-dollar increment, the director of revenue shall always round that figure off to the next higher one-hundred-dollar increment when determining the table of credits under this section.

3.**]** If the income on a return is equal to or less than the maximum upper limit for the calendar year for which the return is filed, the property tax credit shall be determined from a table of credits based upon the amount by which the total property tax described in section 135.025 exceeds the percent of income in the following list:

If the income on the return is:	The percent is:
Not over the minimum base	0 percent with credit not to exceed actual property tax or rent equivalent paid up to $750
Over the minimum base but not over the maximum upper limit	1/16 percent accumulative per $300 from 0 percent to 4 percent.

The director of revenue shall prescribe a table based upon the preceding sentences. The property tax shall be in increments of twenty-five dollars and the income in increments of three hundred dollars. The credit shall be the amount rounded to the nearest whole dollar computed on the basis of the property tax and income at the midpoints of each increment. As used in this subsection, the term "accumulative" means an increase by continuous or repeated application of the percent to the income increment at each three hundred dollar level.

[4.**] 3.** Notwithstanding **[**the provision of**]** subsection 4 of section 32.057, RSMo, the department of revenue or any duly authorized employee or agent shall determine whether any taxpayer filing a report or return with the department of revenue who has not applied for the credit allowed pursuant to section 135.020 may qualify for the credit, and shall notify any qualified claimant of **[**his or her**] the claimant's** potential eligibility, where the department determines such potential eligibility exists.

135.097. 1. As used in this section, the following terms mean:

(1) "Disabled", the inability to engage in any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment which can be expected to result in death or which has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than twelve months;

(2) "Homestead", the dwelling in Missouri owned for twenty or more years by the taxpayer and not to exceed five acres of land surrounding it as is reasonably necessary for use of the dwelling as a home. It may consist of part of a multidwelling or multipurpose building and part of the land upon which it is built. "Owned" includes a vendee in possession under a land contract and one or more tenants by the entireties, joint tenants, or tenants in common and includes a taxpayer actually in possession if the taxpayer was the immediate former owner of record, if a lineal descendant is presently the owner of record, and if the taxpayer actually pays all taxes upon the property. It may include a mobile home;

(3) "Income", Missouri adjusted gross income as defined in section 143.121, RSMo, and increased, where necessary, to reflect the following:

(a) Social Security, railroad retirement, and veterans payments and benefits;

(b) The total amount of all other public and private pensions and annuities;

(c) Public relief, public assistance, and unemployment benefits received in cash, other than benefits received under this chapter;

(d) No deduction being allowed for losses not incurred in a trade or business;

(e) Interest on the obligations of the United States, any state, or any of their subdivisions and instrumentalities;

(4) "Property taxes accrued", property taxes paid, exclusive of special assessments, penalties, interest, and charges for service levied on a taxpayer's homestead in any calendar year. Property taxes shall qualify for the tax credit only if actually paid before the date a return is filed. The director of revenue shall require a tax receipt or other proof of property tax payment. If a homestead is owned only partially by a taxpayer, then "property taxes accrued" is that part of property taxes levied on the homestead which was actually paid by the taxpayer. For purposes of this subdivision, property taxes are "levied" when the tax roll is delivered to the director of revenue for collection. If a homestead is an integral part of a larger unit such as a farm, or multipurpose or multidwelling building, property taxes accrued shall be that percentage of the total property taxes accrued as the value of the homestead is of the total value. For purposes of this subdivision "unit" refers to the parcel of property covered by a single tax statement of which the homestead is a part;

(5) "Tax credit", a credit against the tax otherwise due under chapter 143, RSMo, excluding withholding tax imposed by sections 143.191 to 143.265, RSMo;

(6) "Taxpayer", a Missouri resident or the resident's spouse who:

(a) Has been a resident of Missouri for twenty years, and has lived in their homestead for at least twenty years. The residency requirement shall be deemed to have been fulfilled for the purpose of determining the eligibility of a taxpayer or spouse who would have otherwise met the requirements for a tax credit but who dies before the last day of the calendar year;

(b) Has paid more than ten percent of the taxpayer's total household income in real property tax on the taxpayer's homestead; and

(c) Meets any one of the following requirements:

a. Has attained the age of sixty-five on or before the last day of the calendar year;

b. Is a veteran of any branch of the armed forces of the United States or this state who became one hundred percent disabled as a result of such service; or

c. Is disabled, and provides proof of such disability in such form and manner, and at such times, as the director of revenue may require.

If the taxpayers are eligible to file a joint federal income tax return and reside at the same address at any time during the taxable year, then the credit shall only be allowed if claimed on a combined Missouri income tax return reporting their combined incomes and property taxes.

2. For all taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2008, a taxpayer shall be allowed a tax credit for property taxes accrued in the taxable year for which an income tax return is filed. The tax credit amount shall be equal to fifty percent of the property taxes accrued. The tax credit shall be applied against the taxpayer's income tax liability after all other credits provided by law have been applied. If the amount of the tax credit issued exceeds the amount of the taxpayer's state tax liability for the tax year for which the credit is claimed, the difference shall be refunded to the taxpayer. No tax credit granted under this section shall be transferred, sold, or assigned.

3. No tax credit shall be issued to any taxpayer who filed a valid claim under sections 135.010 to 135.030, or section 137.106, RSMo, for the same taxable year.

4. The department of revenue may promulgate rules to implement the provisions of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, RSMo, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536, RSMo, and, if applicable, section 536.028, RSMo. This section and chapter 536, RSMo, are

nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536, RSMo, to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2007, shall be invalid and void.

5. Under section 23.253, RSMo, of the Missouri Sunset Act:

(1) The provisions of the new program authorized under this section shall automatically sunset six years after the effective date of this section unless reauthorized by an act of the general assembly; and

(2) If such program is reauthorized, the program authorized under this section shall automatically sunset twelve years after the effective date of the reauthorization of this section; and

(3) This section shall terminate on September first of the calendar year immediately following the calendar year in which the program authorized under this section is sunset.

137.106. 1. This section **[**may**] shall** be known and may be cited as "The Missouri Homestead Preservation Act".

2. As used in this section, the following terms shall mean:

(1) "Department", the department of revenue;

(2) "Director", the director of revenue;

(3) "Disabled", as such term is defined in section 135.010, RSMo;

(4) "Eligible owner", any individual owner of property who is sixty-five years old or older as of January first of the tax year in which the individual is claiming the credit or who is disabled, and who had an income of equal to or less than the maximum upper limit in the year prior to completing an application pursuant to this section; or

(a) In the case of a married couple owning property either jointly or as tenants by the entirety, or where only one spouse owns the property, such couple shall be considered an eligible taxpayer if both spouses have reached the age of sixty-five or if one spouse is disabled, or if one spouse is at least sixty-five years old and the other spouse is at least sixty years old, and the combined income of the couple in the year prior to completing an application pursuant to this section did not exceed the maximum upper limit; or

(b) In the case of joint ownership by unmarried persons or ownership by tenancy in common by two or more unmarried persons, such owners shall be considered an eligible owner if each person with an ownership interest individually satisfies the eligibility requirements for an individual eligible owner under this section and the combined income of all individuals with an interest in the property is equal to or less than the maximum upper limit in the year prior to completing an application under this section. If any individual with an ownership interest in the property fails to satisfy the eligibility requirements of an individual eligible owner or if the combined income of all individuals with interest in the property exceeds the maximum upper limit, then all individuals with an ownership interest in such property shall be deemed ineligible owners regardless of such other individual's ability to individually meet the eligibility requirements; or

(c) In the case of property held in trust, the eligible owner and recipient of the tax credit shall be the trust itself provided the previous owner of the homestead or the previous owner's spouse: is the settlor of the trust with respect to the homestead; currently resides in such homestead; and but for the transfer of such property would have satisfied the age, ownership, and maximum upper limit requirements for income as defined in subdivisions (7) and (8) of this subsection**[**;**] .**

No individual shall be an eligible owner if the individual has not paid **[**their**] such individual's** property tax liability, if any, in full by the payment due date in any of the three prior tax years, except that a late payment of a property tax liability in any prior year shall not disqualify a potential eligible owner if such owner paid in full the tax liability and any and all penalties, additions and interest that arose as a result of such late payment; no individual shall be an eligible owner if such person filed a valid claim for the senior citizens property tax relief credit pursuant to sections 135.010 to 135.035, RSMo;

(5) "Homestead", as such term is defined pursuant to section 135.010, RSMo, except as limited by provisions of this section to the contrary. No property shall be considered a homestead if such property was improved since the most recent annual assessment by more than five percent of the prior year appraised value, except where an eligible owner of the property has made such improvements to accommodate a disabled person;

(6) "Homestead exemption limit", a percentage increase, rounded to the nearest hundredth of a percent, which shall be equal to the percentage increase to tax liability, not including improvements, of a homestead from one tax year to the next that exceeds a certain percentage set pursuant to subsection **[**10**] 7** of this section. **[**For applications filed in 2005 or 2006, the homestead exemption limit shall be based on the increase to tax liability from 2004 to 2005. For applications filed between April 1, 2005, and September 30, 2006, an eligible owner, who otherwise satisfied the requirements of this section, shall not apply for the homestead exemption credit more than once during such period.**]** For applications filed **[**after 2006**] in 2007**, the homestead exemption limit shall be based on the increase to tax liability from two years prior to application to the year immediately prior to application**. For applications filed after 2007, the homestead exemption limit shall be based on the increase to tax liability from the base year to the year prior to the application year. For purposes of this**

subdivision, "base year" means the year prior to the first year in which the eligible owner's application was approved, or 2006, whichever is later;

(7) "Income", federal adjusted gross income, and in the case of ownership of the homestead by trust, the income of the settlor applicant shall be imputed to the income of the trust for purposes of determining eligibility with regards to the maximum upper limit;

(8) "Maximum upper limit", in the calendar year 2005, the income sum of seventy thousand dollars; in each successive calendar year this amount shall be raised by the incremental increase in the general price level, as defined pursuant to article X, section 17 of the Missouri Constitution.

3. Pursuant to article X, section 6(a) of the Constitution of Missouri, if in the prior tax year, the property tax liability on any parcel of subclass (1) real property increased by more than the homestead exemption limit, without regard for any prior credit received due to the provisions of this section, then any eligible owner of the property shall receive a homestead exemption credit to be applied in the current tax year property tax liability to offset the prior year increase to tax liability that exceeds the homestead exemption limit, except as eligibility for the credit is limited by the provisions of this section. The amount of the credit shall be listed separately on each taxpayer's tax bill for the current tax year, or on a document enclosed with the taxpayer's bill. The homestead exemption credit shall not affect the process of setting the tax rate as required pursuant to article X, section 22 of the Constitution of Missouri and section 137.073 in any prior, current, or subsequent tax year.

4. **[**If application is made in 2005, any potential eligible owner may apply for the homestead exemption credit by completing an application through their local assessor's office. Applications may be completed between April first and September thirtieth of any tax year in order for the taxpayer to be eligible for the homestead exemption credit in the tax year next following the calendar year in which the homestead exemption credit application was completed. The application shall be on forms provided to the assessor's office by the department. Forms also shall be made available on the department's Internet site and at all permanent branch offices and all full-time, temporary, or fee offices maintained by the department of revenue. The applicant shall attest under penalty of perjury:

(1) To the applicant's age;

(2) That the applicant's prior year income was less than the maximum upper limit;

(3) To the address of the homestead property; and

(4) That any improvements made to the homestead, not made to accommodate a disabled person, did not total more than five percent of the prior year appraised value. The applicant shall also include with the application copies of receipts indicating payment of property tax by the applicant for the homestead property for the two prior tax years.

5. If application is made in 2005, the assessor, upon request for an application, shall:

(1) Certify the parcel number and owner of record as of January first of the homestead, including verification of the acreage classified as residential on the assessor's property record card;

(2) Obtain appropriate prior tax year levy codes for each homestead from the county clerks for inclusion on the form;

(3) Record on the application the assessed valuation of the homestead for the current tax year, and any new construction or improvements for the current tax year; and

(4) Sign the application, certifying the accuracy of the assessor's entries.

6. If application is made after 2005,**]** Any potential eligible owner may apply for the homestead exemption credit by completing an application. Applications may be completed between April first and October fifteenth of any tax year in order for the taxpayer to be eligible for the homestead exemption credit in the tax year next following the calendar year in which the homestead exemption credit application was completed. The application shall be on forms provided by the department. Forms also shall be made available on the department's Internet site and at all permanent branch offices and all full-time, temporary, or fee offices maintained by the department of revenue. The applicant shall attest under penalty of perjury:

(1) To the applicant's age;

(2) That the applicant's prior year income was less than the maximum upper limit;

(3) To the address of the homestead property;

(4) That any improvements made to the homestead, not made to accommodate a disabled person, did not total more than five percent of the prior year appraised value**[**; and

(5)**] .**

The applicant shall also include with the application copies of receipts indicating payment of property tax by the applicant for the homestead property for the three prior tax years.

[7.**] 5.** Each applicant shall send the application to the department by **[**September thirtieth**] October fifteenth** of each year for the taxpayer to be eligible for the homestead exemption credit in the tax year next following the calendar year in which the application was completed.

[8. If application is made in 2005, upon receipt of the applications, the department shall calculate the tax liability, adjusted to exclude new construction or improvements verify compliance with the maximum income limit, verify the age of the applicants, and make adjustments to these numbers as necessary on the applications. The department also shall disallow any application where the applicant has also filed a valid application for the senior citizens property tax credit, pursuant to sections 135.010 to 135.035, RSMo. Once adjusted tax liability, age, and income are verified, the director shall determine eligibility for the credit, and provide a list of all verified eligible owners to the county collectors or county clerks in counties with a township form of government by December fifteenth of each year. By January fifteenth, the county collectors or county clerks in counties with a township form of government shall provide a list to the department of any verified eligible owners who failed to pay the property tax due for the tax year that ended immediately prior. Such eligible owners shall be disqualified from receiving the credit in the current tax year.

9. If application is made after 2005,**]** **6.** Upon receipt of the applications, the department shall calculate the tax liability, verify compliance with the maximum income limit, verify the age of the applicants, and make adjustments to these numbers as necessary on the applications. The department also shall disallow any application where the applicant also has filed a valid application for the senior citizens property tax credit under sections 135.010 to 135.035, RSMo. Once adjusted tax liability, age, and income are verified, the director shall determine eligibility for the credit and provide a list of all verified eligible owners to the county assessors or county clerks in counties with a township form of government by December fifteenth of each year. By January fifteenth, the county assessors shall provide a list to the department of any verified eligible owners who made improvements not for accommodation of a disability to the homestead and the dollar amount of the assessed value of such improvements. If the dollar amount of the assessed value of such improvements totaled more than five percent of the prior year appraised value, such eligible owners shall be disqualified from receiving the credit in the current tax year.

[10.**]** **7.** The director shall calculate the level of appropriation necessary **[**to**]** **and** set the homestead exemption limit at five percent when based on a year of general reassessment or at two and one-half percent when based on a year without general reassessment for the homesteads of all verified eligible owners, and provide such calculation to the speaker of the house of representatives, the president pro tempore of the senate, and the director of the office of budget and planning in the office of administration by January thirty-first of each year.

[11. For applications made in 2005, the general assembly shall make an appropriation for the funding of the homestead exemption credit that is signed by the governor, then the director shall, by July thirty-first of such year, set the homestead exemption limit. The limit shall be a single, statewide percentage increase to tax liability, rounded to the nearest hundredth of a percent, which, if applied to all homesteads of verified eligible owners who applied for the homestead exemption credit in the immediately prior tax year, would cause all but one-quarter of one percent of the amount of the appropriation, minus any withholding by the governor, to be distributed during that fiscal year. The remaining one-quarter of one percent shall be distributed to the county assessment funds of each county on a proportional basis, based on the number of eligible owners in each county; such one-quarter percent distribution shall be delineated in any such appropriation as a separate line item in the total appropriation.**]**

8. If no appropriation is made by the general assembly during any tax year or no funds are actually distributed pursuant to any appropriation therefor, then no homestead preservation credit shall apply in such year.

[12. After setting the homestead exemption limit for applications made in 2005, the director shall apply the limit to the homestead of each verified eligible owner and calculate the credit to be associated with each verified eligible owner's homestead, if any. The director shall send a list of those eligible owners who are to receive the homestead exemption credit, including the amount of each credit, the certified parcel number of the homestead, and the address of the homestead property, to the county collectors or county clerks in counties with a township form of government by August thirty-first. Pursuant to such calculation, the director shall instruct the state treasurer as to how to distribute the appropriation and assessment fund allocation to the county collector's funds of each county or the treasurer ex officio collector's fund in counties with a township form of government where recipients of the homestead exemption credit are located, so as to exactly offset each homestead exemption credit being issued, plus the one-quarter of one percent distribution for the county assessment funds. As a result of the appropriation, in no case shall a political subdivision receive more money than it would have received absent the provisions of this section plus the one-quarter of one percent distribution for the county assessment funds. Funds, at the direction of the county collector or the treasurer ex officio collector in counties with a township form of government, shall be deposited in the county collector's fund of a county or the treasurer ex officio collector's fund or may be sent by mail to the collector of a county, or the treasurer ex officio collector in counties with a township form of government, not later than October first in any year a homestead exemption credit is appropriated as a result of this section and shall be distributed as moneys in such funds are commonly distributed from other property tax revenues by the collector of the county or the treasurer ex officio collector of the county in counties with a township form of government, so as to exactly offset each homestead exemption credit being issued. In counties with a township form of government, the county clerk shall provide the treasurer ex officio collector a summary of the homestead exemption credit for each township for the purpose of distributing the total homestead exemption credit to each township collector in a particular county.

13.**] 9.** If, in any given year after 2005, the general assembly shall make an appropriation for the funding of the homestead exemption credit that is signed by the governor, then the director shall**[**, by July thirty-first of such year, set the homestead exemption limit. The limit shall be a single, statewide percentage increase to tax liability, rounded to the nearest hundredth of a percent, which, if applied to all homesteads of verified eligible owners who applied for the homestead exemption credit in the immediately prior tax year, would cause all of the amount of the appropriation, minus any withholding by the governor, to be distributed during that fiscal year**]** **determine the apportionment percentage by equally apportioning the appropriation among all eligible applicants on a percentage basis**. If no appropriation is made by the general assembly during any tax year or no funds are actually distributed pursuant to any appropriation therefor, then no homestead preservation credit shall apply in such year.

[14.**]** **10.** After **[**setting the homestead exemption limit for applications made after 2005, the director shall apply the limit to the homestead of each verified eligible owner and**]** **determining the apportionment percentage, the director shall** calculate the credit to be associated with each verified eligible owner's homestead, if any. The director shall send a list of those eligible owners who are to receive the homestead exemption credit, including the amount of each credit, the certified parcel number of the homestead, and the address of the homestead property, to the county collectors or county clerks in counties with a township form of government by August thirty-first. Pursuant to such calculation, the director shall instruct the state treasurer as to how to distribute the appropriation to the county collector's fund of each county where recipients of the homestead exemption credit are located, so as to exactly offset each homestead exemption credit being issued. As a result of the appropriation, in no case shall a political subdivision receive more money than it would have received absent the provisions of this section. Funds, at the direction of the collector of the county or treasurer ex officio collector in counties with a township form of government, shall be deposited in the county collector's fund of a county or may be sent by mail to the collector of a county, or treasurer ex officio collector in counties with a township form of government, not later than October first in any year a homestead exemption credit is appropriated as a result of this section and shall be distributed as moneys in such funds are commonly distributed from other property tax revenues by the collector of the county or the treasurer ex officio collector of the county in counties with a township form of government, so as to exactly offset each homestead exemption credit being issued.

[15.**]** **11.** The department shall promulgate rules for implementation of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, RSMo, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536, RSMo, and, if applicable, section 536.028, RSMo. This section and chapter 536, RSMo, are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536, RSMo, to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2004, shall be invalid and void. Any rule promulgated by the department shall in no way impact, affect, interrupt, or interfere with the performance of the required statutory duties of any county elected official, more particularly including the county collector when performing such duties as deemed necessary for the distribution of any homestead appropriation and the distribution of all other real and personal property taxes.

[16.**] 12.** In the event that an eligible owner dies or transfers ownership of the property after the homestead exemption limit has been set in any given year, but prior to **[**January first**] December thirty-first** of the year in which the credit would otherwise be applied, the credit shall be void and any corresponding moneys**[**, pursuant to subsection 12 of this section,**]** shall lapse to the state to be credited to the general revenue fund. In the event the collector of the county or the treasurer ex officio collector of the county in counties with a township form of government determines prior to issuing the credit that the individual is not an eligible owner because the individual did not pay the prior three years' property tax liability in full, the credit shall be void and any corresponding moneys**[**, under subsection 11 of this section,**]** shall lapse to the state to be credited to the general revenue fund.

[17. This section shall apply to all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2005. This subsection shall become effective June 28, 2004.

18.**] 13.** In accordance with the provisions of sections 23.250 to 23.298, RSMo, and unless otherwise authorized pursuant to section 23.253, RSMo:

(1) Any new program authorized under the provisions of this section shall automatically sunset six years after the effective date of this section; and

(2) This section shall terminate on September first of the year following the year in which any new program authorized under this section is sunset, and the revisor of statutes shall designate such sections and this section in a revision bill for repeal.

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