FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 1430

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE BOYKIN.

2790H.01I JOSEPH ENGLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal sections 135.010, 135.025, and 135.030, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof three new sections relating to a tax credit for the property tax liabilities of certain vulnerable persons.

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

3

Section A. Sections 135.010, 135.025, and 135.030, RSMo, are repealed and three 2 new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 135.010, 135.025, and 135.030, 3 to read as follows:

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

(1) "Claimant", a person or persons claiming a credit under sections 135.010 to 4 135.030. 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] tax year, then the credit may only be allowed if 6 claimed on a combined Missouri income tax return or a combined claim return reporting their 7 combined incomes and property taxes. A claimant shall not be allowed a property tax credit 8 unless the claimant or spouse has attained the age of sixty-five on or before the last day of the 9 calendar year and the 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 who became 11 12 one hundred percent disabled not as a result of such service but is receiving Department 13 of Veterans Affairs benefits under Aid and Attendance of Housebound status for the 14 nonservice connected disability, 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

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.

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 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 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

57

58

59

60

61 62

63 64

65

66 67

68

69

70

71

72

73

74

75

76

77

78

80

81

83

8485

86

87

88

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 less two thousand dollars, or in the case of a homestead owned and occupied, for the entire year, by the claimant, less four thousand dollars as an exemption for the claimant's spouse residing at the same address[5] for all calendar years ending on or before December 31, 2025, and for all calendar years beginning on or after January 1, 2026, less twenty 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

10

11

12

13

1415

16

17

18

20

2122

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;

- 93 (7) "Rent constituting property taxes accrued", twenty percent of the gross rent paid 94 by a claimant and spouse in the calendar year.
- on each return shall be totaled. This total, up to seven hundred fifty dollars in rent constituting property taxes actually paid or eleven hundred dollars in actual property tax paid, shall be used in determining the property tax credit for all calendar years ending on or before December 31, 2025. For all calendar years beginning on or after January 1, 2026, the total amount of property taxes accrued or rent constituting property taxes accrued that exceeds the claimant's income by four percent or greater, shall be used in determining the amount of the property tax credit, up to one thousand five hundred dollars in rent constituting property taxes actually paid or actual property tax paid.
 - 2. For all calendar years beginning on or after January 1, 2026, in the case of a claimant who is a veteran of any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States or this state who is one hundred percent disabled as established under the requirements of section 135.010, there shall be no limit on the total of rent constituting property taxes actually paid or actual property tax paid, and such disabled veteran may receive a property tax credit for the full amount of such total, including any amount in excess of the one thousand five hundred dollar limit.
 - 3. Beginning January 1, 2027, the maximum property tax credit totals under this section shall be increased annually for inflation based on the percentage increase in inflation as calculated annually for the income tax brackets, as provided under section 143.011. The director of revenue shall prescribe regulations providing for allocations where part of a claimant's homestead is rented to another or used for nondwelling purposes or where a homestead is owned or rented or used as a dwelling for part of a year.

135.030. 1. As used in this section:

(1) The term "maximum upper limit" shall, for each calendar year after December 31, 1997, but before calendar year 2008, be the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars. For all calendar years beginning on or after January 1, 2008, but ending on or before December 31, 2025, the maximum upper limit shall be the sum of twenty-seven thousand five hundred dollars. In the case of a homestead owned and occupied for the entire year by the claimant, for all calendar years ending on or before December 31, 2025, the maximum upper limit shall be the sum of thirty thousand dollars. For all calendar years beginning on or after January 1, 2026, the maximum upper limit shall be the sum of fifty thousand dollars, and in the case of a claimant who is a veteran of any branch of the Armed Forces of the

United States or this state who is one hundred percent disabled as established under the requirements of section 135.010, there shall be no maximum upper limit. Beginning January 1, 2027, the maximum upper limit shall be increased annually for inflation based on the percentage increase in inflation as calculated annually for state income tax brackets, as provided under section 143.011;

- (2) The term "minimum base" shall, for each calendar year after December 31, 1997, but before calendar year 2008, be the sum of thirteen thousand dollars. For all calendar years beginning on or after January 1, 2008, but ending on or before December 31, 2025, the minimum base shall be the sum of fourteen thousand three hundred dollars. For all calendar years beginning on or after January 1, 2026, the minimum base shall be the same as the maximum upper limit.
- 2. (1) 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:

26	If the income on the return is:	The percent is:
27	Not over the minimum base	For all calendar years ending on
28		or before December 31, 2025, 0
29		percent with credit not to exceed
30		\$1,100 in actual property tax or
31		rent equivalent paid up to \$750
32		and for all calendar years
33		beginning on or after January 1,
34		2026, 0 percent with credit not to
35		exceed \$1,500 in excess of 4% of
36		income, in actual property tax or
37		rent equivalent paid, as adjusted
38		under section 135.025, unless
39		otherwise provided under
40		section 135.025.
41		For all calendar years ending on
42		or before December 31, 2025, 1/
43		16 percent accumulative per \$300
44		from 0 percent to 4 percent and
45	Over the minimum base but not	for all calendar years beginning
46	over the maximum upper limit	on or after January 1, 2026, the

47	minimum base and maximum
48	upper limit shall be the same
49	amount.

(2) The director of revenue shall prescribe a table based upon [the preceding sentences] subdivision (1) of this subsection. 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. For all calendar years beginning on or after January 1, 2026, the minimum base and maximum upper limit shall be the same amount and the provisions under this subdivision for reducing the tax credit shall not apply.

3. Notwithstanding subsection 4 of section 32.057, 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 the claimant's potential eligibility, where the department determines such potential eligibility exists.

✓