

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 115

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE GRIFFITH.

4527H.011

JOSEPH ENGLER, Chief Clerk

JOINT RESOLUTION

Submitting to the qualified voters of Missouri an amendment repealing Section 6 of Article X of the Constitution of Missouri, and adopting one new section in lieu thereof relating to property tax exemptions.

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring therein:

That at the next general election to be held in the state of Missouri, on Tuesday next following the first Monday in November, 2026, or at a special election to be called by the governor for that purpose, there is hereby submitted to the qualified voters of this state, for adoption or rejection, the following amendment to Article X of the Constitution of the state of Missouri:

Section A. Section 6, Article X, Constitution of Missouri, is repealed and one new section adopted in lieu thereof, to be known as Section 6, to read as follows:

Section 6. 1. **(1) As used in this subsection, the following terms mean:**

(a) "Disabled Veteran", an individual who:

a. Is a resident of this state;

b. Has been separated under honorable conditions from active service in:

(i) Any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States;

(ii) Any reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States;

(iii) The National Guard of a state as defined under 32 U.S.C. Section 101, as amended; or

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.

9 (iv) Any defense force of a state as described in 32 U.S.C. Section 109, as
10 amended; and

11 c. Has been certified by the United States department of Veterans Affairs or its
12 successor agency to be in receipt of disability compensation at the one hundred percent
13 rate as a result of a service-connected disability claim allowed by the United States
14 Department of Veterans Affairs, with such disability being permanent and sustained
15 through military accident or action or resulting from disease contracted while in such
16 active service;

17 (b) "Homestead", the real property located within the state of Missouri that is
18 actually owned and occupied by a disabled veteran or surviving spouse as his or her
19 primary residence, not to exceed two and one-half acres of land surrounding it as is
20 reasonably necessary for use of the dwelling as a home but less any portion of such
21 property that is used for commercial purposes. If the property, or a portion of the
22 property, is rented out to another person for more than six months of any one-year
23 period it is presumed to be used for commercial purposes. A disabled veteran or
24 surviving spouse shall not claim more than one primary residence;

25 (c) "Surviving spouse", the living spouse of a deceased disabled veteran.

26 (2) All property, real and personal, of the state, counties and other political
27 subdivisions, and nonprofit cemeteries, ~~and~~ all real property used as a homestead as defined
28 by law of any citizen of this state who is a former prisoner of war~~;~~ as defined by law~~, and~~
29 ~~who has a total service-connected disability~~, and all real property used as a homestead of
30 any disabled veteran who has a total service-connected disability or of any surviving
31 spouse of such disabled veteran, as such terms are defined under subdivision (1) of this
32 subsection and subject to the provisions of subdivision (3) of this subsection, shall be
33 exempt from taxation; all personal property held as industrial inventories, including raw
34 materials, work in progress and finished work on hand, by manufacturers and refiners, and all
35 personal property held as goods, wares, merchandise, stock in trade or inventory for resale by
36 distributors, wholesalers, or retail merchants or establishments shall be exempt from taxation;
37 and all property, real and personal, not held for private or corporate profit and used
38 exclusively for religious worship, for schools and colleges, for purposes purely charitable, for
39 agricultural and horticultural societies, or for veterans' organizations may be exempted from
40 taxation by general law. In addition to the above, household goods, furniture, wearing apparel
41 and articles of personal use and adornment owned and used by a person in his home or
42 dwelling place may be exempt from taxation by general law but any such law may provide for
43 approximate restitution to the respective political subdivisions of revenues lost by reason of
44 the exemption. All laws exempting from taxation property other than the property
45 enumerated in this article, shall be void. The provisions of this section exempting certain

46 personal property of manufacturers, refiners, distributors, wholesalers, and retail merchants
47 and establishments from taxation shall become effective, unless otherwise provided by law, in
48 each county on January 1 of the year in which that county completes its first general
49 reassessment as defined by law.

50 **(3) If the disabled veteran dies, the surviving spouse shall continue to receive the**
51 **exemption authorized under this subsection, provided that the surviving spouse uses,**
52 **occupies, and maintains the real property for which the disabled veteran was granted**
53 **the original exemption as his or her homestead and such property is not sold. If the**
54 **surviving spouse sells the homestead or relocates so that the real property is no longer**
55 **used as a homestead by the surviving spouse, the exemption shall expire.**

56 2. All revenues lost because of the exemption of certain personal property of
57 manufacturers, refiners, distributors, wholesalers, and retail merchants and establishments
58 shall be replaced to each taxing authority within a county from a countywide tax hereby
59 imposed on all property in subclass 3 of class 1 in each county. For the year in which the
60 exemption becomes effective, the county clerk shall calculate the total revenue lost by all
61 taxing authorities in the county and extend upon all property in subclass 3 of class 1 within
62 the county, a tax at the rate necessary to produce that amount. The rate of tax levied in each
63 county according to this subsection shall not be increased above the rate first imposed and
64 will stand levied at that rate unless later reduced according to the provisions of subsection 3.
65 The county collector shall disburse the proceeds according to the revenue lost by each taxing
66 authority because of the exemption of such property in that county. Restitution of the
67 revenues lost by any taxing district contained in more than one county shall be from the
68 several counties according to the revenue lost because of the exemption of property in each
69 county. Each year after the first year the replacement tax is imposed, the amount distributed
70 to each taxing authority in a county shall be increased or decreased by an amount equal to the
71 amount resulting from the change in that district's total assessed value of property in subclass
72 3 of class 1 at the countywide replacement tax rate. In order to implement the provisions of
73 this subsection, the limits set in section 11(b) of this article may be exceeded, without voter
74 approval, if necessary to allow each county listed in section 11(b) to comply with this
75 subsection.

76 3. Any increase in the tax rate imposed pursuant to subsection 2 of this section shall
77 be decreased if such decrease is approved by a majority of the voters of the county voting on
78 such decrease. A decrease in the increased tax rate imposed under subsection 2 of this section
79 may be submitted to the voters of a county by the governing body thereof upon its own order,
80 ordinance, or resolution and shall be submitted upon the petition of at least eight percent of
81 the qualified voters who voted in the immediately preceding gubernatorial election.

82 4. As used in this section, the terms "revenues lost" and "lost revenues" shall mean
83 that revenue which each taxing authority received from the imposition of a tangible personal
84 property tax on all personal property held as industrial inventories, including raw materials,
85 work in progress and finished work on hand, by manufacturers and refiners, and all personal
86 property held as goods, wares, merchandise, stock in trade or inventory for resale by
87 distributors, wholesalers, or retail merchants or establishments in the last full tax year
88 immediately preceding the effective date of the exemption from taxation granted for such
89 property under subsection 1 of this section, and which was no longer received after such
90 exemption became effective.

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