

AN ACT

To amend an Act providing a homestead exemption from certain City of Decatur ad valorem taxes, approved April 19, 2000 (Ga. L. 2000, p. 4285), so as modify the amount of a homestead exemption from City of Decatur ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes except for ad valorem taxes levied to pay interest on and to retire municipal bonded indebtedness in the amount of \$25,000.00 of the assessed value of the homestead for residents of that city; to provide for a referendum, effective dates, and automatic repeal; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

An Act providing a homestead exemption from certain City of Decatur ad valorem taxes, approved April 19, 2000 (Ga. L. 2000, p. 4285), is amended by revising subsection (b) as follows:

"(b) Each resident of the City of Decatur is granted an exemption on that person's homestead from all City of Decatur ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes except for ad valorem taxes to pay interest on and to retire municipal bonded indebtedness in the amount of \$25,000.00 of the assessed value of that homestead. The value of that property in excess of such exempted amount shall remain subject to taxation."

SECTION 2.

The municipal election superintendent of the City of Decatur shall call and conduct an election as provided in this section for the purpose of submitting this Act to the electors of the City of Decatur for approval or rejection. The municipal election superintendent shall conduct that election in conjunction with the November, 2016, general election and shall issue the call and conduct that election as provided by general law. The municipal election superintendent shall cause the date and purpose of the election to be published once a week for two weeks immediately preceding the date thereof in the official organ of DeKalb County. The ballot shall have written or printed thereon the words:

"() YES Shall the Act be approved which provides a homestead exemption from City of Decatur ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes in the amount of
() NO \$25,000.00 of the assessed value of the homestead for residents of the City of Decatur?"

All persons desiring to vote for approval of the Act shall vote "Yes," and all persons desiring to vote for rejection of the Act shall vote "No." If more than one-half of the votes cast on such question are for approval of the Act, Section 1 of this Act shall become of full force and effect on January 1, 2017. If the Act is not so approved or if the election is not conducted as provided in this section, Section 1 of this Act shall not become effective and this Act shall be automatically repealed on the first day of January immediately following that election date. The expense of such election shall be borne by the City of Decatur. It shall be the municipal election superintendent's duty to certify the result thereof to the Secretary of State.

SECTION 3.

Except as otherwise provided in Section 2 of this Act, this Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval.

SECTION 4.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.