HLS 20RS-408 ORIGINAL

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 206

20

BY REPRESENTATIVE HILFERTY

TAX EXEMPTIONS/HOMESTEAD: (Constitutional Amendment) Authorizes local governments to increase the amount of the homestead exemption

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION 2 Proposing to add Article VII, Section 20(A)(11) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to provide 3 relative to ad valorem taxation; to authorize a parish governing authority to increase 4 the amount of the homestead exemption with voter approval; to require certain 5 millage adjustments associated with implementation of an increase in the homestead exemption; to provide limitations; to provide for effectiveness; to provide for 6 7 submission of the proposed amendment to the electors; and to provide for related 8 matters. 9 Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members 10 elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of 11 Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to add 12 Article VII, Section 20(A)(11) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows: 13 §20. Homestead Exemption 14 Section 20.(A) Homeowners. 15 16 (11) Notwithstanding any provision of this constitution to the contrary, the 17 governing authority of a parish may increase the homestead exemption if the parish 18 governing authority adopts a resolution or ordinance to increase the exemption and 19 the increase is approved by a majority of the electors in the parish voting thereon at

Page 1 of 3

an election held for that purpose. However, the exemption shall not exceed twenty-

CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words <u>underscored</u> are additions.

1

2	become effective on the first day of the calendar year following the year in which the
3	increase was approved by the electors and is deemed to be an instance of
4	implementation of the provisions of this Subparagraph.
5	(b) The total amount of ad valorem taxes collected by any taxing authority
6	in any year in which the provisions of this Subparagraph are implemented shall not
7	be increased or decreased as a result of such implementation above or below the
8	amount of ad valorem taxes collected in the year preceding the implementation. To
9	accomplish this result, each affected taxing authority shall adjust millages upwards
10	without regard to millage limitations otherwise contained in this constitution. The
11	maximum authorized millages shall be increased in proportion to the amount of the
12	increase in the exemption. Thereafter, such millages shall remain in effect unless
13	changed as permitted by this constitution. In no way shall the provisions of this
14	Subparagraph be interpreted to affect the imposition and collection of revenue from
15	a new millage or the renewal of a millage.
16	* * *
17	Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted
18	to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 3,
19	2020.
20	Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at the election,
21	there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted
22	to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as
23	follows:
24	Do you support an amendment to authorize a parish governing authority to
25	increase the amount of the homestead exemption to an amount not to exceed
26	\$25,000 of the assessed value of the property subject to voter approval and
27	to require taxing authorities to increase millages in proportion to an increase?
28	(Adds Article VII, Section 20(A)(11))

five thousand dollars of the assessed valuation. Any increase in the exemption shall

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 206 Original

2020 Regular Session

Hilferty

Abstract: Authorizes an increase of the amount of the homestead exemption by a parish governing authority with voter approval. Allows for an increase in the exemption amount not to exceed \$25,000 of the assessed value.

Present constitution authorizes the levy of ad valorem taxes on property within La.

<u>Present constitution</u> establishes an exemption from state, parish, and special ad valorem property taxes for the bona fide homestead of the property owner, for the first \$7,500 of assessed valuation.

<u>Proposed constitutional amendment</u> retains <u>present constitution</u> and adds authorization for a parish governing authority to increase the amount of the homestead exemption by resolution or ordinance only if approved by the electors of the parish.

<u>Proposed constitutional amendment</u> prohibits the amount of the exemption from exceeding \$25,000 of the assessed valuation.

<u>Proposed constitutional amendment</u> further requires an increase in the millage proportionate to the increase in the homestead exemption to ensure the same amount of revenue for taxing authorities.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held Nov. 3, 2020.

(Adds Const. Art. VII, §20(A)(11))