

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
90TH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 1999**

Introduced by Senators McCotter, Emmons, Peters, A. Smith, Byrum and Cherry

ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 454

AN ACT to amend 1967 PA 281, entitled "An act to meet deficiencies in state funds by providing for the imposition, levy, computation, collection, assessment, and enforcement by lien and otherwise of taxes on or measured by net income; to prescribe the manner and time of making reports and paying the taxes, and the functions of public officers and others as to the taxes; to permit the inspection of the records of taxpayers; to provide for interest and penalties on unpaid taxes; to provide exemptions, credits and refunds of the taxes; to prescribe penalties for the violation of this act; to provide an appropriation; and to repeal certain acts and parts of acts," by amending section 508 (MCL 206.508), as amended by 1990 PA 283.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

Sec. 508. (1) "Gross rent" means the total rent contracted to be paid by the renter or lessee of a homestead pursuant to dealing at arms' length with the landlord of the homestead. If the landlord and tenant have not dealt with each other at arms' length and the department believes that the gross rent charged is excessive, the department may adjust the gross rent to a reasonable amount for the purposes of this chapter.

(2) "Homestead" means a dwelling or unit in a multiple-unit dwelling that is subject to ad valorem taxes, or a service charge in lieu of taxes as provided by section 15a of the state housing development authority act of 1966, 1966 PA 346, MCL 125.1415a, owned and occupied as a home by the owner of the dwelling or unit, or occupied as the dwelling of the renter or lessee, including all unoccupied real property not classified for ad valorem tax purposes as commercial, industrial, residential, or timber-cut over, owned by the owner of the homestead. Beginning in the 1990 tax year, a homestead does not include unoccupied real property that is leased or rented by the owner to another person and that is not adjacent and contiguous to the home of the owner. Additionally, the following apply:

(a) If a homestead is an integral part of a larger unit of assessment such as commercial, industrial, residential, timber-cut over, or a multipurpose or multidwelling building, the tax on the homestead is the same proportion of the total property tax as the proportion of the value of the homestead is to the total value of the assessed property.

(b) If the gross receipts of the agricultural or horticultural operations do not exceed the household income, or if there are no gross receipts, the following apply:

(i) If the claimant has lived on the land 10 years or more, all of the adjacent and contiguous agricultural or horticultural land is considered a homestead and the credit is allowed for all the land.

(ii) If the claimant has lived on the land less than 10 years, not more than 5 acres of adjacent and contiguous agricultural or horticultural land is considered a part of the homestead and the credit is allowed for that part of the land.

(c) A mobile home or trailer coach in a trailer coach park is a homestead and the site rent for space is considered the rent of a homestead. The specific tax levied by section 41 of 1959 PA 243, MCL 125.1041, is considered a property tax.

(3) "Household" means a claimant and spouse.

(4) "Household income" means, except as otherwise provided, all income received by all persons of a household in a tax year while members of a household. For the 1999 tax year and each tax year after the 1999 tax year, household income does not include the amount withdrawn by a member of the household in the tax year from an individual retirement account established by the member of the household pursuant to section 408 of the internal revenue code and subsequently contributed to a Roth individual retirement account pursuant to section 408a of the internal revenue code in the same tax year.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

Carol Morey Viventi

Secretary of the Senate.

Sam E. Randall

Clerk of the House of Representatives.

Approved _____

Governor.