## **HOUSE BILL NO. 4682**

June 25, 2025, Introduced by Reps. Woolford, Kunse, Schuette, Robinson and DeBoyer and referred to Committee on Finance.

A bill to amend 1893 PA 206, entitled "The general property tax act,"

by amending section 7b (MCL 211.7b), as amended by 2023 PA 150.

## THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

- 1 Sec. 7b. (1) Real property used and owned as a homestead by
- 2 either any of the following individuals is exempt from the
- 3 collection of taxes under this act:
- 4 (a) A disabled veteran.
- 5 (b) A surviving spouse of a disabled veteran who, immediately
- 6 before death, was eligible for the exemption under this section. An

- 1 exemption under this subdivision and subdivision (c) continues as
- 2 long as the surviving spouse does not remarry, and the exemption
- 3 applies to any property used and owned as a homestead by the
- 4 surviving spouse, including homestead property acquired after the
- 5 decedent's death.
- 6 (c) The surviving spouse of a veteran or member of the United
- 7 States Armed Forces, including the reserve components, if the
- 8 United States Department of Veterans Affairs has determined that
- 9 the surviving spouse is entitled to dependency and indemnity
- 10 compensation under 38 USC 1310 to 1318 because the decedent's death
- 11 occurred as the result of a service-connected disability.
- 12 (2) To obtain the exemption, an individual described in
- subsection  $\frac{(1)}{(a)}$  or  $\frac{(b)}{(a)}$ , or the individual's legal designee,
- 14 must file an application, in a form and manner prescribed by the
- 15 state tax commission, showing the facts required by this section
- 16 and a description of the real property with the assessing officer
- 17 for the local assessing unit after January 1 and before December 31
- 18 of the calendar year for which the exemption is claimed. The
- 19 application when filed is open to inspection. The taxes subject to
- 20 collection under this act shall must be canceled for any year in
- 21 which an individual described in subsection (1) (a) or (b) (1) who
- 22 is eligible for the exemption under this section has acquired title
- 23 to real property exempt under this section. Upon granting the
- 24 exemption under this section, each local taxing unit shall bear the
- 25 loss of its portion of the taxes upon which the exemption has been
- 26 granted. An exemption granted under this section as to taxes levied
- 27 on or after January 1, 2025 remains in effect, without subsequent
- 28 reapplication, until it is rescinded by the individual who was
- 29 granted the exemption or is denied by the assessor, as provided in

1 section 7c.

- (3) An exemption once granted applies to all property taxes for the current tax year that have been paid by the individual who qualified for the exemption under subsection  $\frac{(1)}{(a)}$  or  $\frac{(b)}{(b)}$  and all property taxes for the current tax year that would have been owed by that individual if the property was not exempt. If the individual who qualified for the exemption under subsection  $\frac{(1)}{(a)}$ or (b) (1) does not use and own the property as a homestead for the entire tax year, the exemption must be prorated under 1 of the following methods:
  - (a) Based on the closing or other purchase documents, if any, executed by or on behalf of the individual who qualified for the exemption under subsection (1)(a) or (b). (1). That individual shall provide a copy of the closing or other purchase documents with the application claiming the exemption. The local treasurer shall use the closing or other purchase documents when calculating the amount of taxes to be exempted. There must be no refund of any property taxes not levied in the current tax year paid pursuant to the closing or other purchase documents to the seller by the individual who qualified for the exemption under subsection (1)(a) or (b).(1).
  - (b) If closing or other purchase documents are not provided for the proration under subdivision (a), based on a proration under which the local treasurer calculates the amount of property taxes levied in the current tax year to be exempted by dividing the total property taxes levied in the year by 365 and then multiplying that number by the number of days the individual will use and own the property as a homestead.
  - (c) Based on a proration that takes into account the effective

- 1 date of any removal of the exemption, which the assessor shall
- 2 designate as the date of the relevant conveyance or disposition.
- 3 Using that date, the local treasurer shall calculate the amount of
- 4 property taxes levied in the current tax year to be exempted by
- 5 dividing the total property taxes levied in the year by 365 and
- 6 then multiplying that number by the number of days the individual,
- 7 while qualified for the exemption, used and owned the property as a
- 8 homestead.
- **9** (4) As used in this section:
- 10 (a) "Disabled veteran" means a veteran who is a resident of
- 11 this state and who meets 1 of the following criteria:
- 12 (i) Has been determined by the United States Department of
- 13 Veterans Affairs to be permanently and totally disabled as a result
- 14 of military service and entitled to veterans' benefits at the 100%
- **15** rate.
- (ii) Has a certificate from the United States Department of
- 17 Veterans Affairs certifying that the veteran is receiving or has
- 18 received pecuniary assistance due to disability for specially
- 19 adapted housing.
- 20 (iii) Has been rated by the United States Department of Veterans
- 21 Affairs as individually unemployable.
- (b) "Own" or "owned" means 1 of the following:
- (i) For an individual described in subsection (1)(a), legal
- 24 title to the property is held solely by that individual or jointly
- 25 by that individual and that individual's spouse.
- 26 (ii) For an individual described in subsection  $\frac{(1)}{(b)}$ , (1) (b)
- 27 or (c), legal title to the property is held solely by that
- 28 individual.
- 29 (c) "Veteran" means an individual who served in the United

- 1 States Armed Forces, including the reserve components, and was
- 2 discharged or released under honorable conditions.