86R15198 SMT-D

By:  Springer H.J.R. No. 97

A JOINT RESOLUTION

proposing a constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation by a school district a portion of the appraised value of an individual's residence homestead in an amount equal to the lesser of 50 percent of the appraised value of the residence homestead after all other applicable exemptions for which the individual has qualified the homestead are applied or 150 percent of the median appraised value of all single-family residences in the state and authorizing the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation by one or more political subdivisions of this state inventory held for sale at retail.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1.  Section 1-b, Article VIII, Texas Constitution, is amended by adding Subsection (t) to read as follows:

(t)  In addition to any other exemption authorized or prescribed by this section, the legislature by general law may provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation by a school district of a portion of the appraised value of an individual's residence homestead in an amount equal to the lesser of 50 percent of the appraised value of the residence homestead after all other applicable exemptions for which the individual has qualified the homestead are applied or 150 percent of the median appraised value of all single-family residences in the state. Where ad valorem tax of a school district has previously been pledged for the payment of debt, the taxing officers of the school district may continue to levy and collect the tax against the value of residence homesteads exempted under this subsection until the debt is discharged if the cessation of the levy would impair the obligation of the contract by which the debt was created. The legislature by general law may prescribe procedures for the administration of the exemption authorized under this subsection and may provide additional eligibility requirements for the exemption.

SECTION 2.  Article VIII, Texas Constitution, is amended by adding Section 1-r to read as follows:

Sec. 1-r.  The legislature by general law may exempt from ad valorem taxation by one or more political subdivisions of this state a person's inventory held for sale at retail, as defined by general law.

SECTION 3.  The following temporary provision is added to the Texas Constitution:

TEMPORARY PROVISION.  (a) This temporary provision applies to the constitutional amendment proposed by the 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019, authorizing the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation by a school district a portion of the appraised value of an individual's residence homestead in an amount equal to the lesser of 50 percent of the appraised value of the residence homestead after all other applicable exemptions for which the individual has qualified the homestead are applied or 150 percent of the median appraised value of all single-family residences in the state and authorizing the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation by one or more political subdivisions of this state inventory held for sale at retail.

(b)  Sections 1-b(t) and 1-r, Article VIII, of this constitution, as added by the amendment, take effect January 1, 2020, and apply only to ad valorem taxes imposed for a tax year beginning on or after that date.

(c)  This temporary provision expires January 1, 2021.

SECTION 4.  This proposed constitutional amendment shall be submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 5, 2019. The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the proposition: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation by a school district a portion of the appraised value of an individual's residence homestead in an amount equal to the lesser of 50 percent of the appraised value of the residence homestead after all other applicable exemptions for which the individual has qualified the homestead are applied or 150 percent of the median appraised value of all single-family residences in the state and authorizing the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation by one or more political subdivisions of this state inventory held for sale at retail."