

LEGISLATIVE BILL 683

Approved by the Governor April 18, 2016

Introduced by Craighead, 6.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to revenue and taxation; to amend section 77-3506, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2014, and section 77-3509, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2015; to change provisions relating to homestead exemptions for certain surviving spouses as prescribed; to provide an operative date; and to repeal the original sections.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Section 77-3506, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2014, is amended to read:

77-3506 (1) All homesteads in this state shall be assessed for taxation the same as other property, except that there shall be exempt from taxation, on any homestead described in subsection (2) of this section, one hundred percent of the exempt amount.

(2) The exemption described in subsection (1) of this section shall apply to homesteads of:

(a) A veteran who was discharged or otherwise separated with a characterization of honorable or general (under honorable conditions), who is drawing compensation from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs because of one hundred percent service-connected disability, and who is not eligible for total exemption under sections 77-3526 to 77-3528, an or the unremarried surviving spouse widow or widower of such a veteran, or a surviving spouse of such a veteran who remarries after attaining the age of fifty-seven years described in this subdivision;

(b) An unremarried surviving spouse widow or widower of any veteran, including a veteran other than a veteran described in section 80-401.01, who was discharged or otherwise separated with a characterization of honorable or general (under honorable conditions) and who died because of a service-connected disability or a surviving spouse of such a veteran who remarries after attaining the age of fifty-seven years; and

(c) An unremarried surviving spouse widow or widower of a serviceman or servicewoman, including a veteran other than a veteran described in section 80-401.01, whose death while on active duty was service-connected or a surviving spouse of such a serviceman or servicewoman who remarries after attaining the age of fifty-seven years.

(3) Application for exemption under this section shall include certification of the status set forth in subsection (2) of this section from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

Sec. 2. Section 77-3509, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2015, is amended to read:

77-3509 (1)(a) All homesteads in this state shall be assessed for taxation the same as other property, except that there shall be exempt from taxation, on any homestead described in subdivision (b) of this subsection, a percentage of the exempt amount as limited by section 77-3506.03.

(b) The exemption described in subdivision (a) of this subsection shall apply to homesteads of an unremarried surviving spouse widow or widower of a serviceman or servicewoman who died while on active duty during the periods described in section 80-401.01 or a surviving spouse of such a serviceman or servicewoman who remarries after attaining the age of fifty-seven years.

(c) The exemption described in subdivision (a) of this subsection shall be based on the household income of a claimant pursuant to subsections (2) through (4) of this section. Application for exemption under this section shall include certification of the status set forth in this section from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

(2) For 2014, for a married or closely related claimant as described in subsection (1) of this section, the percentage of the exempt amount for which the claimant shall be eligible shall be the percentage in Column B which corresponds with the claimant's household income in Column A in the table found in this subsection.

Column A	Column B
Household Income	Percentage
In Dollars	Of Relief
0 through 34,700	100
34,701 through 36,400	90
36,401 through 38,100	80
38,101 through 39,800	70

39,801 through 41,500	60
41,501 through 43,200	50
43,201 through 44,900	40
44,901 through 46,600	30
46,601 through 48,300	20
48,301 through 50,000	10
50,001 and over	0

(3) For 2014, for a single claimant as described in subsection (1) of this section, the percentage of the exempt amount for which the claimant shall be eligible shall be the percentage in Column B which corresponds with the claimant's household income in Column A in the table found in this subsection.

Column A	Column B
Household Income	Percentage
In Dollars	Of Relief
0 through 30,300	100
30,301 through 31,700	90
31,701 through 33,100	80
33,101 through 34,500	70
34,501 through 35,900	60
35,901 through 37,300	50
37,301 through 38,700	40
38,701 through 40,100	30
40,101 through 41,500	20
41,501 through 42,900	10
42,901 and over	0

(4) For exemption applications filed in calendar year 2015 and each year thereafter, the income eligibility amounts in subsections (2) and (3) of this section shall be adjusted for inflation by the method provided in section 151 of the Internal Revenue Code. The income eligibility amounts shall be adjusted for cumulative inflation since 2014. If any amount is not a multiple of one hundred dollars, the amount shall be rounded to the next lower multiple of one hundred dollars.

Sec. 3. This act becomes operative on January 1, 2017.

Sec. 4. Original section 77-3506, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2014, and section 77-3509, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2015, are repealed.