HLS 17RS-609 REENGROSSED

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 337

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BY REPRESENTATIVES STOKES, SIMON, AND STAGNI

TAX CREDITS: Provides for an individual income tax credit for improvements made to the residences of individuals with certain disabilities

AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 47:297(P)(1), (2), (3)(introductory paragraph), and (5), relative 3 to individual income tax credits; to authorize an individual income tax credit for 4 certain residential improvements made by persons with certain disabilities; to 5 provide for a program cap; to provide for effectiveness; and to provide for related 6 matters. 7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana: 8 Section 1. R.S. 47:297(P)(1), (2), (3)(introductory paragraph), and (5) are hereby 9 amended and reenacted to read as follows: 10 §297. Reduction to tax due 11 12 P.(1) There shall be allowed a credit against the individual income tax 13 liability of a taxpayer for the inclusion of accessible and barrier-free design elements 14 in either the construction of a new one- or two-family dwelling or the renovation of 15 an existing dwelling. For purposes of this Subsection, "taxpayer" shall mean an 16 individual who owns a newly constructed one- or two-family dwelling, or the 17 existing dwelling that is renovated, and who qualifies for and claims a homestead 18 exemption on a dwelling which meets all of the design elements necessary for

## Page 1 of 4

claiming the tax credit authorized by the provisions of this Subsection.

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

(2) The amount of the credit shall be seven hundred twenty five thousand dollars, or seventy-two percent of the total tax liability of the taxpayer, whichever is less or the cost of the construction or renovation, whichever is less. The credit shall be taken in the taxable year in which the construction of the dwelling is completed. Only one tax credit may be granted per dwelling. If the amount of the credit authorized by this Paragraph exceeds the amount of tax liability for the tax year, the amount of unused credit may be carried forward as a credit against subsequent Louisiana individual income tax liability for a period not to exceed five years.

(3) A <u>newly constructed</u> dwelling which that meets all of the following requirements, or a renovated dwelling that meets any of the following requirements, shall be deemed to include accessible and barrier-free design elements for purposes of the tax credit:

\* \* \*

beginning on or after January 1, 2012. The total amount of tax credit granted by the department in any calendar year shall not exceed five hundred thousand dollars. Claims for tax credits shall be allowed on a first-come, first-served basis. Any taxpayer whose claim exceeds the amount of tax credit that the department is authorized to grant in a calendar year may claim the credit against the individual income tax liability on an original tax return filed in the next calendar year and his claim shall have priority over other claims filed after the date and time of his original claim. If the department does not grant the entire five hundred thousand dollars of tax credits in any calendar year, the amount of residual unused tax credits shall carry forward to subsequent calendar years and may be granted in any year without regard to the five hundred thousand dollar per year limitation.

Section 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 8 of Act No. 125 of the 2015 Regular Session as amended by Act No. 29 of the 2016 First Extraordinary Session of the

- 1 Legislature, R.S. 47:297(P)(2) as enacted by Section 5 of Act No. 125 of the 2015 Regular
- 2 Session shall not become effective.
- 3 Section 3. The provisions of this Act shall be applicable for all taxable periods
- 4 beginning on and after January 1, 2018.
- 5 Section 4. This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2018.

## **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 337 Reengrossed

2017 Regular Session

Stokes

**Abstract:** Expands the individual income tax credit for the inclusion of accessible and barrier-free design elements in the construction of certain dwellings and provides for a program cap.

<u>Present law</u> authorizes a credit against individual income tax for the owner of a newly constructed one- or two-family dwelling that includes certain accessible and barrier-free design elements. Eligibility is limited to individuals who own such a dwelling, claim the homestead exemption thereon, and the dwelling meets all of the design elements necessary for claiming the tax credit.

<u>Present law</u> further requires that the tax credit be taken in the taxable year in which the construction is completed. The credit is limited to the lesser of \$720 or 72% of the taxpayer's total tax liability. Only one tax credit may be granted per dwelling.

<u>Proposed law</u> adds existing dwellings that are renovated to include accessible and barrier-free design elements as a dwelling for which a taxpayer may be eligible to receive the credit.

<u>Proposed law</u> changes the amount of the credit <u>from</u> the lesser of \$720 or 72% of the taxpayer's total tax liability <u>to</u> the lesser of \$5,000 or the cost of the construction. Further authorizes excess, unused credit to be carried forward and applied to subsequent tax liability for five years.

<u>Present law</u> requires the dwelling to meet certain standards to be eligible for the tax credit.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires the renovation of an existing dwelling to meet any of the standards enumerated in <u>present law</u> to be eligible for the tax credit.

<u>Proposed law</u> establishes a program cap not to exceed \$500,000 in credits granted by the Dept. of Revenue each calendar year and provides for the claim of credits on a first-come, first-served basis. A taxpayer whose claim is disallowed due to the cap may claim the credit in the next calendar year and have priority over other claims. Allows any amount not granted to roll over to subsequent years.

Effective Jan. 1, 2018.

(Amends R.S. 47:297(P)(1), (2), (3)(intro. para.), and (5))

Page 3 of 4

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REENGROSSED HB NO. 337

## Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by <u>House Committee on Ways and Means</u> to the <u>original</u> bill:

1. Add provisions that the claims of credits are on a first-come, first-served basis and allows taxpayer whose claims is disallowed due to the cap to claim the credit in the next calendar year and have priority over other claims.

## The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

- 1. Delete the requirement that a dwelling meet all accessibility standards required by federal law to be eligible for the credit.
- 2. Clarify that a new dwelling is required to meet all of the requirements in <u>present</u> <u>law</u> and that a renovated dwelling is required to meet any requirement in <u>present</u> <u>law</u>.
- 3. Change the amount of the credit <u>from</u> \$5,000 <u>to</u> \$5,000 or the cost of the construction or renovation, whichever is less.
- 4. Make technical changes.