
DIGEST

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Willard-Lewis

SB No. 255

Proposed law grants a credit against individual income tax for tax years beginning during 2012 and 2013 for "qualified elderly persons" for the purchase and installation of certain energy efficient Energy Star rated home appliances, HVAC equipment and doors and windows (hereinafter "qualifying residential energy-efficient property").

Proposed law provides that the credit shall be equal to 50% of the total aggregate cost of up to \$25,000 for qualifying residential energy-efficient property purchased and installed in the Louisiana residence of a "qualified elderly person". The credit is capped at \$12,500 per tax year and any unused credit may be carried forward for up to five years.

Proposed law defines "qualified elderly person" as an individual 65 years of age or older who is a resident of Louisiana if such individual's adjusted gross income would make him eligible for the "special assessment level" for the homestead exemption. The eligibility threshold for 2011 is \$65,891.43.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 47:6030.1)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Revenue and Fiscal Affairs to the original bill.

1. Changes the proposed law to specify the types of "residential energy efficient appliances, equipment, systems, or constructions" which are eligible for the credit as set forth in the Digest above and deletes the definition that defines such property as those costing in excess of an aggregate total of two hundred dollars, the construction or installation of which will result in material savings in energy used for heating and cooling a Louisiana residence owned or rented and occupied by a qualified elderly person, all as determined by the DNR to be forth in regulations adopted pursuant to the APA.
2. Authorizes the credit for 2 calendar years.

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill.

1. Specifically names the type of appliances, equipment, systems, or construction materials which are eligible for the credit as set forth in proposed law.
2. Changes the requirement of the qualifying residential energy efficient property *from* must meet or exceed the Energy Star program requirements *to* must have earned the Energy Star label.
3. Technical corrections.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Ways and Means to the reengrossed bill.

1. Removes the refundability aspect of the tax credit.
2. Authorizes carry forward of unused tax credits for up to five years.