

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to property tax exemptions; amending  
 3           s. 196.202, F.S.; increasing the property tax  
 4           exemption for residents who are widows, widowers,  
 5           blind, or totally and permanently disabled; providing  
 6           applicability; providing an effective date.

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 8   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 10           Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 196.202, Florida  
 11           Statutes, is amended to read:

12           196.202 Property of widows, widowers, blind persons, and  
 13           persons totally and permanently disabled.—

14           (1) Property to the value of \$5,000 ~~\$500~~ of every widow,  
 15           widower, blind person, or totally and permanently disabled  
 16           person who is a bona fide resident of this state is exempt from  
 17           taxation. As used in this section, the term "totally and  
 18           permanently disabled person" means a person who is currently  
 19           certified by a physician licensed in this state, by the United  
 20           States Department of Veterans Affairs or its predecessor, or by  
 21           the Social Security Administration to be totally and permanently  
 22           disabled.

23           Section 2. The amendment made by this act to s.  
 24           196.202(1), Florida Statutes, applies to tax years beginning on  
 25           or after January 1, 2019.

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26 |       Section 3.   This act shall take effect upon becoming a law. |