

House Bill 726

By: Representatives Childers of the 13th, Smith of the 12th and Reece of the 11th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act providing for a homestead exemption from Floyd County School District
2 ad valorem taxes for educational purposes for certain residents of that school district,
3 approved March 28, 1986 (Ga. L. 1986, p. 5057), as amended, so as to provide for a
4 homestead exemption for persons who are 62 to 64 years of age and whose household
5 income does not exceed \$25,000.00; to provide for a homestead exemption for persons who
6 are 65 years of age or over regardless of income; to specify the terms, conditions, and
7 procedures relative to the exemptions; to provide for a referendum, effective dates, and
8 automatic repeal under certain circumstances; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
9 purposes.

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

11 **SECTION 1.**

12 An Act providing for a homestead exemption from Floyd County School District ad valorem
13 taxes for educational purposes for certain residents of that school district, approved March
14 28, 1986 (Ga. L. 1986, p. 5057), as amended, is amended by striking Sections 2, 2A, and 2B
15 and inserting in their places new Sections 2 and 2A to read as follows:

16 "SECTION 2.

17 (a) Each resident of the Floyd County School District who is at least 62 years of age but
18 less than 65 years of age is granted an exemption on that person's homestead from all
19 Floyd County School District ad valorem taxes for educational purposes in the greater of
20 the following amounts:

- 21 (1) One-half of the full value of that homestead. For purposes of this paragraph, the term
22 'homestead' shall include only the dwelling in which the applicant resides and not more
23 than one acre of the land immediately surrounding such dwelling; or
24 (2) Ten thousand dollars of the assessed value of that homestead.

1 (b) The homestead exemption granted by subsection (a) of this section shall only be
2 granted if that person's income, together with the income of all members of that person's
3 family residing within such homestead, does not exceed \$25,000.00 for the immediately
4 preceding taxable year.

5 (c) The value of the homestead in excess of such exempted amount shall remain subject
6 to taxation.

7 **SECTION 2A.**

8 (a) Each resident of the Floyd County School District who is 65 years of age or older is
9 granted an exemption on that person's homestead from all Floyd County School District
10 ad valorem taxes for educational purposes in the amount of \$40,000.00 of the assessed
11 value of that homestead. For purposes of this subsection, the term 'homestead' shall include
12 only the dwelling in which the applicant resides and not more than one acre of the land
13 immediately surrounding such dwelling.

14 (b) The value of the homestead in excess of such exempted amount shall remain subject
15 to taxation."

16 **SECTION 2.**

17 The exemption granted by this Act shall apply to all taxable years beginning on or after
18 January 1, 2003.

19 **SECTION 3.**

20 Unless prohibited by the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended, the election
21 superintendent of Floyd County shall call and conduct an election as provided in this section
22 for the purpose of submitting this Act to the electors of the Floyd County School District for
23 approval or rejection. The election superintendent shall conduct that election on the date of
24 the state-wide general election in November, 2002, and shall issue the call and conduct that
25 election as provided by general law. The superintendent shall cause the date and purpose of
26 the election to be published once a week for two weeks immediately preceding the date
27 thereof in the official organ of Floyd County. The ballot shall have written or printed thereon
28 the words:

