

House Bill 123

By: Representatives Day of the 126<sup>th</sup>, Stephens of the 123<sup>rd</sup>, Keen of the 146<sup>th</sup> and DeLoach of the 127<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 48-5-41 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 property exempted from ad valorem taxation, so as to exempt from taxation up to \$75,000.00  
3 of the assessed value of recreational boats; to provide for a referendum, applicability, and  
4 effective dates; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Code Section 48-5-41 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to property  
8 exempted from ad valorem taxation, is amended by striking "and" at the end of paragraph  
9 (14) of subsection (a) thereof, striking the period and inserting "; and" at the end of  
10 paragraph (15) of said subsection, and adding immediately thereafter the following:

11 "(16) Up to \$75,000.00 of the assessed value of boats whose exclusive use is for  
12 recreational purposes."

13 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 2.**

14 Unless prohibited by the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended, the Secretary of  
15 State shall call and conduct a special election for the approval or disapproval of this Act on  
16 the date of the November, 2004, general election. The Secretary of State shall cause the date  
17 and purpose of the special election to be published in the official organ of each county in the  
18 state once a week for two weeks immediately preceding the date of the referendum. The  
19 ballot shall have written thereon the following:

20 "( ) YES Shall the Act be approved which grants an exemption from ad valorem  
21 ( ) NO taxation of up to \$75,000.00 of the assessed value of recreational boats?"

22 All persons desiring to vote for approval of the Act shall vote "Yes," and those persons  
23 desiring to vote for rejection of the Act shall vote "No." If more than one-half of the votes  
24 cast on such question are for approval of the Act, then Section 1 of this Act shall become  
25 effective on January 1, 2005, and shall apply to all tax years beginning on or after that date;

1 otherwise Section 1 of this Act shall be void and this Act shall stand repealed in its entirety  
2 on January 1, 2005.

3 **SECTION 3.**

4 Except as otherwise provided in Section 2 of this Act, this Act shall become effective upon  
5 its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval.

6 **SECTION 4.**

7 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.