

Senate Bill 325

By: Senator Reed of the 35th

AS PASSED

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act to provide a homestead exemption from City of Atlanta ad valorem taxes
2 for municipal purposes, approved April 19, 2000 (Ga. L. 2000, p. 4462), so as to increase the
3 amount of such exemption; to provide for a referendum, effective dates, and automatic
4 repeal; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 An Act to provide a homestead exemption from City of Atlanta ad valorem taxes for
8 municipal purposes, approved April 19, 2000 (Ga. L. 2000, p. 4462), is amended by revising
9 subsection (a) of Section 2 as follows:

10 "(a) Each resident of the City of Atlanta who is a senior citizen and whose net income does
11 not exceed \$40,000.00 is granted an exemption on that person's homestead from all City
12 of Atlanta ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes in the amount of \$40,000.00 of the
13 assessed value of that homestead. The value of that property in excess of such exempted
14 amount shall remain subject to taxation."

15 **SECTION 2.**

16 Said Act is further amended by revising Section 5 as follows:

17 "SECTION 5.

18 The exemption granted by this Act shall apply to all taxable years beginning on or after
19 January 1, 2009."

20 **SECTION 3.**

21 Unless prohibited by the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended, the election
22 superintendent of the City of Atlanta shall call and conduct an election as provided in this
23 section for the purpose of submitting this Act to the electors of the City of Atlanta for
24 approval or rejection. The election superintendent shall conduct that election on the Tuesday

1 next after the first Monday in November, 2008, and shall issue the call and conduct that
 2 election as provided by general law. The superintendent shall cause the date and purpose of
 3 the election to be published once a week for two weeks immediately preceding the date
 4 thereof in the official organ of Fulton County. The ballot shall have written or printed
 5 thereon the words:

6 "() YES Shall the Act be approved which provides a new increased homestead
 7 exemption from City of Atlanta ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes in
 8 the amount of \$40,000.00 of the assessed value of the homestead for
 9 () NO residents of that city who are 65 years of age or over whose income does not
 10 exceed \$40,000.00?"

11 All persons desiring to vote for approval of the Act shall vote "Yes," and those persons
 12 desiring to vote for rejection of the Act shall vote "No." If more than one-half of the votes
 13 cast on such question are for approval of the Act, Sections 1 through 3 shall become of full
 14 force and effect on January 1, 2009. If the Act is not so approved or if the election is not
 15 conducted as provided in this section, Sections 1 through 3 of this Act shall not become
 16 effective and this Act shall be automatically repealed on the first day of January immediately
 17 following that election date. The expense of such election shall be borne by the City of
 18 Atlanta. It shall be the election superintendent's duty to certify the result thereof to the
 19 Secretary of State.

20 **SECTION 4.**

21 Except as otherwise provided in Section 3 of this Act, this Act shall become effective upon
 22 its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval.

23 **SECTION 5.**

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