

## House Resolution 9

By: Representative Setzler of the 35<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to provide for a complete and permanent  
 2 exemption from ad valorem taxes and fees for any and all purposes for property if the  
 3 taxpayer pays an amount equal to 20 times the amount of ad valorem taxes and fees due and  
 4 payable for the current-year assessed value of such property; to provide for definitions; to  
 5 specify the terms and conditions of the exemption and procedures relating thereto; to provide  
 6 for a short title; to provide for the submission of this amendment for ratification or rejection;  
 7 and for other purposes.

8 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 This resolution shall be known and may be cited as the "Freedom of Ownership  
 11 Amendment."

12 **SECTION 2.**

13 Article VII, Section II of the Constitution is amended by adding a new Paragraph to read as  
 14 follows:

15 "Paragraph VI. *Exemptions for prepaid ad valorem taxes.* (a) For purposes of this  
 16 Paragraph, the term:

17 (1) 'Ad valorem taxes' means any and all ad valorem taxes for any purposes, including,  
 18 but not limited to, taxes to pay interest on and to retire bonded indebtedness.

19 (2) 'Taxpayer' means a person or entity subject to ad valorem taxes for property owned  
 20 by the person or entity.

21 (b) Any property shall be granted a complete and permanent exemption from ad valorem  
 22 taxes and fees if the taxpayer pays an amount equal to 20 times the amount of ad valorem  
 23 taxes and fees due and payable for the current-year assessed value of that property. The  
 24 exemption provided under this subparagraph shall apply to the property and any  
 25 improvements thereto existing on the date such exemption is granted. Any additions or  
 26 improvements thereto which are added subsequent to the granting of the exemption shall

27 not qualify for or receive such exemption unless the taxpayer pays an amount equal to 20  
28 times the amount of ad valorem taxes and fees due and payable for the current-year  
29 assessed value of such additions or improvements. Such exemption shall attach to and run  
30 with such property, and such property shall not be subject thereafter to any future ad  
31 valorem taxes or fees regardless of any future transfer of such property."

32 **SECTION 3.**

33 The above proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be published and submitted as  
34 provided in Article X, Section I, Paragraph II of the Constitution. The ballot submitting the  
35 above proposed amendment shall have written or printed thereon the following:

36 "( ) YES Shall the Constitution of Georgia be amended so as to provide a complete  
37 ( ) NO and permanent exemption from ad valorem taxes and fees for any and all  
38 purposes for property if the taxpayer pays an amount equal to 20 times the  
39 amount of ad valorem taxes and fees due and payable for the current-year  
40 assessed value of such property?"

41 All persons desiring to vote in favor of ratifying the proposed amendment shall vote "Yes."  
42 All persons desiring to vote against ratifying the proposed amendment shall vote "No." If  
43 such amendment shall be ratified as provided in said Paragraph of the Constitution, it shall  
44 become a part of the Constitution of this state.