

House Bill 1563

By: Representative Camp of the 135th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act providing a homestead exemption from Pike County ad valorem taxes for
2 county purposes for certain residents of that county who are 65 years of age or over,
3 approved May 13, 2002 (Ga. L. 2002, p. 5736), so as to increase the amount of the
4 homestead exemption for residents of Pike County who are senior citizens; to provide for
5 increased amounts of homestead exemptions for certain residents who have resided in the
6 county for a certain amount of time; to provide for a referendum; to provide for an effective
7 date and applicability; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
8 purposes.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

10 **SECTION 1.**

11 An Act providing a homestead exemption from Pike County ad valorem taxes for county
12 purposes for certain residents of that county who are 65 years of age or over, approved
13 May 13, 2002 (Ga. L. 2002, p. 5736), is amended by revising subsection (a) of Section 2 as
14 follows:

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39 in the official organ of Pike County. The ballot shall have written or printed thereon the
40 words:

41 "() YES Shall the Act be approved which increases the homestead exemption for
42 senior citizens to \$15,000.00 for all senior citizens, \$20,000.00 for senior
43 () NO citizens who have resided in the county for five to nine years, \$30,000.00
44 for all senior citizens who have resided in the county for ten to 19 years, and
45 \$50,000.00 for all senior citizens who have resided in the county for 20 or
46 more years?"

47 All persons desiring to vote for approval of the Act shall vote "Yes," and all persons desiring
48 to vote for rejection of the Act shall vote "No." If more than one-half of the votes cast on
49 such question are for approval of the Act, Section 1 of this Act shall become of full force and
50 effect on January 1, 2027. If the Act is not so approved or if the election is not conducted
51 as provided in this section, Section 1 of this Act shall not become effective, and this Act shall
52 be automatically repealed on the 365th calendar day following the election date provided for
53 in this section. The expense of such election shall be borne by Pike County. It shall be the
54 election superintendent's duty to certify the result thereof to the Secretary of State. The
55 provisions of this section shall be mandatory upon the election superintendent and are not
56 intended as directory. If the election superintendent fails or refuses to comply with this
57 section, any elector of Pike County may apply for a writ of mandamus to compel the election
58 superintendent to perform his or her duties under this section. If the court finds that the
59 election superintendent has not complied with this section, the court shall fashion appropriate
60 relief requiring the election superintendent to call and conduct such election on the date
61 required by this section or on the next date authorized for special elections provided for in
62 Code Section 21-2-540 of the O.C.G.A.

63 **SECTION 4.**

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

66 **SECTION 5.**

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