

# SENATE BILL No. 1605

November 6, 2008, Introduced by Senator SWITALSKI and referred to the Committee on Finance.

A bill to amend 1893 PA 206, entitled  
"The general property tax act,"  
(MCL 211.1 to 211.155) by adding section 700.

## THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1        SEC. 700. (1) FOR TAXES LEVIED AFTER DECEMBER 31, 2008 THROUGH  
2        DECEMBER 31, 2018, EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (2),  
3        PROPERTY THAT IS A VEGETATIVE FILTER STRIP IS EXEMPT FROM THE  
4        COLLECTION OF TAXES UNDER THIS ACT.

5        (2) AN EXEMPTION UNDER THIS SECTION IS NOT AVAILABLE FOR  
6        PROPERTY ENROLLED IN A FEDERAL ACREAGE SET-ASIDE PROGRAM OR A  
7        FEDERAL CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM.

8        (3) A PERSON MAY SUBMIT A CLAIM FOR EXEMPTION UNDER THIS  
9        SECTION ON A FORM PRESCRIBED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY IN  
10       CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND THE DEPARTMENT

1 OF NATURAL RESOURCES.

2 (4) A JOINT REPORT BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND THE  
3 DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES CONCERNING THE EFFECT AND IMPACT OF  
4 THE EXEMPTION OF VEGETATIVE FILTER STRIPS UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL  
5 BE SUBMITTED TO THE LEGISLATURE WITHIN 1 YEAR AFTER THE EFFECTIVE  
6 DATE OF THIS ACT.

7 (5) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, "VEGETATIVE FILTER STRIP" MEANS A  
8 STRIP OR AREA OF VEGETATION LOCATED BETWEEN A FARM FIELD AND AN  
9 AREA TO BE PROTECTED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, SURFACE WATER,  
10 A STREAM, A RIVER, OR A SINKHOLE, THAT IS INTENDED TO REMOVE  
11 SEDIMENT, ORGANIC MATTER, AND OTHER POLLUTANTS FROM RUNOFF AND  
12 WASTEWATER AND THAT CONTAINS VEGETATION THAT MEETS ALL OF THE  
13 FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

14 (A) HAS A DENSE TOP GROWTH.

15 (B) FORMS A UNIFORM GROUND COVER.

16 (C) HAS A HEAVY FIBROUS ROOT SYSTEM.

17 (D) TOLERATES PESTICIDES USED IN THE FARM FIELD.