

SENATE BILL No. 752

February 4, 2014, Introduced by Senator HILDENBRAND and referred to the Committee on Finance.

A bill to amend 1967 PA 281, entitled
"Income tax act of 1967,"
by amending section 520 (MCL 206.520), as amended by 2011 PA 273.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 520. (1) Subject to the limitations and the definitions
2 in this chapter, a claimant may claim against the tax due under
3 this part for the tax year a credit for the property taxes on the
4 taxpayer's homestead deductible for federal income tax purposes
5 pursuant to section 164 of the internal revenue code, or that would
6 have been deductible if the claimant had not elected the zero
7 bracket amount or if the claimant had been subject to the federal
8 income tax. The property taxes used for the credit computation
9 shall not be greater than the amount levied for 1 tax year. An
10 owner is not eligible for a credit under this section if the

1 taxable value of his or her homestead excluding the portion of a
2 parcel of real property that is unoccupied and classified as
3 agricultural for ad valorem tax purposes in the year for which the
4 credit is claimed is greater than \$135,000.00. As used in this
5 subsection, "taxable value" means that value determined under
6 section 27a of the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206, MCL
7 211.27a.

8 (2) A person who rents or leases a homestead may claim a
9 similar credit computed under this section and section 522 based
10 upon 17% of the gross rent paid for tax years before the 1994 tax
11 year, or 20% of the gross rent paid for tax years after the 1993
12 tax year. A person who rents or leases a homestead subject to a
13 service charge in lieu of ad valorem taxes as provided by section
14 15a of the state housing development authority act of 1966, 1966 PA
15 346, MCL 125.1415a, may claim a similar credit computed under this
16 section and section 522 based upon 10% of the gross rent paid.

17 (3) If the credit claimed under this section and section 522
18 exceeds the tax liability for the tax year or if there is no tax
19 liability for the tax year, the amount of the claim not used as an
20 offset against the tax liability shall, after examination and
21 review, be approved for payment, without interest, to the claimant.
22 In determining the amount of the payment under this subsection,
23 withholdings and other credits shall be used first to offset any
24 tax liabilities.

25 (4) If the homestead is an integral part of a multipurpose or
26 multidwelling building that is federally aided housing or state
27 aided housing, a claimant who is a senior citizen entitled to a

1 payment under subsection (2) may assign the right to that payment
2 to a mortgagor if the mortgagor reduces the rent charged and
3 collected on the claimant's homestead in an amount equal to the tax
4 credit payment provided in this chapter. The assignment of the
5 claim is valid only if the Michigan state housing development
6 authority, by affidavit, verifies that the claimant's rent has been
7 so reduced.

8 (5) Only the renter or lessee shall claim a credit on property
9 that is rented or leased as a homestead.

10 (6) A person who discriminates in the charging or collection
11 of rent on a homestead by increasing the rent charged or collected
12 because the renter or lessee claims and receives a credit or
13 payment under this chapter is guilty of a misdemeanor.

14 Discrimination against a renter who claims and receives the credit
15 under this section and section 522 by a reduction of the rent on
16 the homestead of a person who does not claim and receive the credit
17 is a misdemeanor. If discriminatory rents are charged or collected,
18 each charge or collection of the higher or lower payment is a
19 separate offense. Each acceptance of a payment of rent is a
20 separate offense.

21 (7) A person who received aid to families with dependent
22 children, state family assistance, or state disability assistance
23 pursuant to the social welfare act, 1939 PA 280, MCL 400.1 to
24 400.119b, in the tax year for which the person is filing a return
25 shall have a credit that is authorized and computed under this
26 section and section 522 reduced by an amount equal to the product
27 of the claimant's credit multiplied by the quotient of the sum of

1 the claimant's aid to families with dependent children, state
2 family assistance, and state disability assistance for the tax year
3 divided by the claimant's total household resources. The reduction
4 of credit shall not exceed the sum of the aid to families with
5 dependent children, state family assistance, and state disability
6 assistance for the tax year. For the purposes of this subsection,
7 aid to families with dependent children does not include child
8 support payments that offset or reduce payments made to the
9 claimant.

10 (8) A credit under subsection (1) or (2) shall be reduced by
11 ~~10%~~ 5% for each claimant whose total household resources exceed
12 ~~\$41,000.00~~ \$51,000.00 and by an additional ~~10%~~ 5% for each
13 increment of \$1,000.00 of total household resources in excess of
14 ~~\$41,000.00~~ \$51,000.00.

15 (9) If the credit authorized and calculated under this section
16 and section 522 and adjusted under subsection (7) or (8) does not
17 provide to a senior citizen who rents or leases a homestead that
18 amount attributable to rent that constitutes more than 40% of the
19 total household resources of the senior citizen, the senior citizen
20 may claim a credit based upon the amount of total household
21 resources attributable to rent as provided by this section.

22 (10) A senior citizen whose gross rent paid for the tax year
23 is more than the percentage of total household resources specified
24 in subsection (9) for the respective tax year may claim a credit
25 for the amount of rent paid that constitutes more than the
26 percentage of the total household resources of the senior citizen
27 specified in subsection (9) and that was not provided to the senior

1 citizen by the credit computed pursuant to this section and section
2 522 and adjusted pursuant to subsection (7) or (8).

3 (11) The department may promulgate rules to implement
4 subsections (9) to (15) and may prescribe a table to allow a
5 claimant to determine the credit provided under this section and
6 section 522 in the instruction booklet that accompanies the
7 respective income tax or property tax credit forms used by
8 claimants.

9 (12) A senior citizen may claim the credit under subsections
10 (9) to (15) on the same form as the property tax credit permitted
11 by subsection (2). The department shall adjust the forms
12 accordingly.

13 (13) A senior citizen who moves to a different rented or
14 leased homestead shall determine, for 2 tax years after the move,
15 both his or her qualification to claim a credit under subsections
16 (9) to (15) and the amount of a credit under subsections (9) to
17 (15) on the basis of the annualized final monthly rental payment at
18 his or her previous homestead, if this annualized rental is less
19 than the senior citizen's actual annual rental payments.

20 (14) For a return of less than 12 months, the claim for a
21 credit under subsections (9) to (15) shall be reduced
22 proportionately.

23 (15) The total credit allowed by this section and section 522
24 shall not exceed \$1,200.00 per year.

25 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act is retroactive and
26 effective for tax years that begin on and after January 1, 2013.