98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2013 and 2014

HB5871

by Rep. Sam Yingling

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

35 ILCS 200/15-179 new

30 ILCS 805/8.38 new

Amends the Property Tax Code. Creates a first-time homebuyer homestead exemption. Provides that property that is owned and occupied by a first-time homebuyer is entitled to a reduction in the equalized assessed value of the property in an amount not to exceed \$250,000. Amends the State Mandates Act to require implementation without reimbursement.

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FISCAL NOTE ACT MAY APPLY HOUSING AFFORDABILITY IMPACT NOTE ACT MAY APPLY STATE MANDATES ACT MAY REQUIRE REIMBURSEMENT 1 AN ACT concerning revenue.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, 3 represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The Property Tax Code is amended by adding
Section 15-179 as follows:

(35 ILCS 200/15-179 new) 6 7 Sec. 15-179. First-time homebuyer homestead exemption. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for taxable 8 9 years 2015 and thereafter, homestead property that is occupied 10 during the taxable year by a first-time homebuyer who has an ownership interest in the property is entitled to a reduction 11 12 in the equalized assessed value of the property in an amount not to exceed \$250,000. 13 14 (b) When married persons maintain separate residences, the exemption provided for in this Section may be claimed by only 15 16 one of those persons and for only one residence. 17 (c) Application must be made during the application period in effect for the county of residence. The assessor or chief 18 19 county assessment officer may determine the eligibility of residential property to receive the homestead exemption 20 21 provided by this Section by application, visual inspection, 22 questionnaire, or other reasonable methods. The determination must be made in accordance with guidelines established by the 23

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1 Department. 2 (d) As used in this Section: "First-time homebuyer" means an individual who, prior to 3 January 1 of the taxable year, has not held an ownership 4 interest in residential property. 5 6 "Homestead" or "homestead property" means residential 7 property that as of January 1 of the tax year is occupied by a 8 first-time homebuyer as his or her principal dwelling place. 9 Residential units in an apartment building owned and operated as a cooperative, or as a life care facility, which are 10 11 occupied by persons who hold a legal or equitable interest in 12 the cooperative apartment building or life care facility as 13 owners are included within this definition of homestead 14 property. A homestead includes the dwelling place, appurtenant structures, and so much of the surrounding land constituting 15 16 the parcel on which the dwelling place is situated as is used 17 for residential purposes. If the assessor has established a specific legal description for a portion of property 18 constituting the homestead, then the homestead is limited to 19 20 the property within that description.

21 Section 90. The State Mandates Act is amended by adding 22 Section 8.38 as follows:

23 (30 ILCS 805/8.38 new)

24 <u>Sec. 8.38. Exempt mandate. Notwithstanding Sections 6 and 8</u>

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- 1 of this Act, no reimbursement by the State is required for the
- 2 <u>implementation of any mandate created by this amendatory Act of</u>
- 3 the 98th General Assembly.