

LAID ON DESKS 4/16/12
Government Services & Administration
Amended and Relaid on Desks 8/13/12

RESOLUTION NO. 2012116

RE: LOCAL LAW NO. OF 2012 A LOCAL LAW OF THE
COUNTY OF DUTCHESS PROVIDING AN
EXEMPTION FROM TAXATION BY THE COUNTY
TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND LIMITED
INCOMES

Legislators KELSEY, MAC AVERY, TYNER, FORMAN, PERKINS and INCORONATO offer the following and move its adoption:

RESOLVED, that this Legislature of the County of Dutchess adopt Local Law No. of 2012, which has been submitted this day for consideration by said Legislature.

STATE OF NEW YORK
ss:
COUNTY OF DUTCHESS

This is to certify that I, the undersigned Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Dutchess have compared the foregoing resolution with the original resolution now on file in the office of said clerk, and which was adopted by said Legislature on the 10th day of September 2012, and that the same is a true and correct transcript of said original resolution and of the whole thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of said Legislature this 10th day of September 2012.

CAROLYN MORRIS, CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE

LOCAL LAW NO. OF 2012

RE: A LOCAL LAW OF THE COUNTY OF DUTCHESS PROVIDING
AN EXEMPTION FROM TAXATION BY THE COUNTY TO
PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND LIMITED INCOMES

BE IT ENACTED by the County Legislature of the County of Dutchess as follows:

SECTION 1. PURPOSE.

This Local Law is enacted pursuant to the provisions of Section 459-c of the Real Property Tax Law of the State of New York to grant a partial exemption from County taxation to certain resident property owners of the County of Dutchess (the "County") with disabilities who have limited incomes.

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this Local Law:

A. "Sibling" shall mean a brother or a sister, whether related through half blood, whole blood or adoption.

B. A "person with a disability" is one who has a physical or mental impairment, not due to current use of alcohol or illegal drugs, which substantially limits such person's ability to engage in one or more major life activities, such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning and working, and who (i) is certified to receive Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits under the Federal Social Security Act, or (ii) is certified to receive Railroad Retirement Disability benefits under the Federal Railroad Retirement Act, or (iii) has received a certificate from the State Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped stating that such person is legally blind, or (iv) is certified to receive a United States Postal Service disability pension or (v) is certified to receive a United States Department of Veterans Affairs disabled person pursuant to 38 U.S.C. §1521.

An award letter from the Social Security Administration or the Railroad Retirement Board or a certificate from the State Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped or an award letter from the United States Postal Service, or an award letter from United States Department of Veterans Affairs shall be submitted as proof of disability.

C. "Income tax year" shall mean the 12-month period for which the owner or owners filed a federal personal income tax return, or if no such return is filed, the calendar year.

SECTION 3. EXEMPTION.

A. Real property situate within the bounds of Dutchess County, New York, owned by husband, wife or both, or by siblings at least one of whom has a disability, or real property owned by one or more persons, some of whom qualify under Real Property Tax Law § 459-c and the others of whom qualify under Real property Tax Law § 467, and whose income, as hereafter defined, is limited by reason of such disability, shall be exempt from taxation for real estate taxes to be levied by the County for the year 2014 and thereafter by the percentage of exemption

hereinafter specified for the annual income ranges listed below to the extent of 50 percent of the assessed valuation thereof. Such exemption shall be based upon and be computed after all other partial exemptions allowed by law have been subtracted from the total amount assessed:

<u>Annual Income Ranges</u>	<u>Exemption Percentage</u>
(1) \$24,000 or less	50%
(2) More than \$24,000 but less than \$25,000	45%
(3) \$25,000 or more but less than \$26,000	40%
(4) \$26,000 or more but less than \$27,000	35%
(5) \$27,000 or more but less than \$27,900	30%
(6) \$27,900 or more but less than \$28,800	25%
(7) \$28,800 or more but less than \$29,700	20%
(8) \$29,700 or more but less than \$30,600	15%
(9) \$30,600 or more but less than \$31,500	10%
(10) \$31,500 or more but less than \$32,400	5%

B. No exemption shall be granted:

1. If the income of the owner or the combined income of the owners of the property for the income tax year immediately preceding the date of making application for exemption exceeds the sum of \$32,400. Where title is vested in either the husband or the wife, their combined income may not exceed such sum, except where the husband or wife, or ex-husband or ex-wife, is absent from the property due to divorce, legal separation or abandonment, then only the income of the spouse or ex-spouse residing on the property shall be considered and may not exceed such sum. Such income shall include social security and retirement benefits, interest, dividends, total gain from the sale or exchange of a capital asset, which may be offset by a loss from the sale or exchange of a capital asset in the same income tax year, net rental income, salary or earnings, and net income from self-employment, but shall not include a return of capital, gifts or inheritances or monies earned through employment in the federal foster grandparent program. In computing net rental income and net income from self-employment, no depreciation deduction shall be allowed for the exhaustion, wear and tear of real or personal property held for the production of income;

2. Unless the property is used exclusively for residential purposes, provided, however, that in the event that any portion of such property is not so used exclusively for residential purposes but is used for other purposes, such portion shall be subject to taxation and the remaining portion only shall be entitled to the exemption provided by this section;

3. Unless the real property is the legal residence of and is occupied in whole or in part by the disabled person, except where the disabled person is absent from the residence while receiving health-related care as an inpatient of a residential health care facility, as defined in section 2801 of the Public Health Law, and provided that any income accruing to that person shall be considered income for the purposes of this section only to the extent that it exceeds the amount paid by such person or spouse, or sibling of such person for care in the facility.

C. No parcel may receive an exemption for the same municipal tax purpose pursuant

to both this Local Law and "A Local Law of the County of Dutchess granting a Partial Exemption from Taxation to Certain Persons with Limited Income Sixty-five Years of Age or Older, as amended," pursuant to Real Property Tax Law § 467.

D. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the provisions of this Local Law shall apply to real property held in trust solely for the benefit of a person or persons who would otherwise be eligible for a real property tax exemption, pursuant to this Local Law, were such person or persons the owner or owners of such real property.

SECTION 4. APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION.

A. Application for such exemption must be made annually by the owner or all of the owners of the property on forms to be by the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance, Office of Real Property Tax Services. Such applications shall furnish the information, and the forms are to be executed in the manner required or prescribed in such forms and shall be filed in the applicable assessor's office on or before taxable status date, provided, however, proof of a permanent disability need be submitted only in the year exemption pursuant to this section is first sought or the disability is first determined to be permanent.

B. At least sixty (60) days prior to the appropriate taxable status date the assessor shall mail to each person who was granted exemption pursuant to this section on the latest completed assessment roll an application form and a notice that such application must be filed on or before the taxable status date and be approved in order for the exemption to be granted. Failure to mail any such application form or notices or the failure of such person to receive any of the same shall not prevent the levy, collection and enforcement of the payment of the taxes on property owned by such person.

SECTION 5. SEPARABILITY.

Should any section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Local Law be declared unconstitutional or unjust for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Local Law shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Local Law shall take effect upon filing in the Secretary of State's Office and shall apply to assessment rolls prepared on the basis of taxable status dates occurring on or after March 1, 2013.