

Sixty-seventh  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1325**

Introduced by

Representatives Satrom, Becker, Cory, Kiefert, K. Koppelman

Senator Conley

A BILL ~~for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 57-02 of the North Dakota~~  
~~Century Code, relating to an optional residential property tax freeze for owners who are age~~  
~~sixty-five or older; and to provide an effective date.~~ for an Act to provide for a legislative  
management study of the adequacy of property tax relief for retired individuals.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

**SECTION 1.** ~~A new section to chapter 57-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is created~~  
~~and enacted as follows:~~

~~—Optional property valuation freeze for primary residence of owner who is age sixty-~~  
~~five or older.~~

~~1. An individual age sixty-five or older may file an irrevocable claim that freezes the true~~  
~~and full valuation most recently assessed against the primary residence owned and~~  
~~occupied by the individual. A property valuation freeze claimed under this section~~  
~~remains in effect until the first full taxable year after the claimant no longer owns and~~  
~~occupies the residence. A property tax freeze claimed under this section by one of the~~  
~~co-owners of the property is valid for the entire residence, regardless of the age of the~~  
~~other co-owners.~~

~~2. For purposes of this section:~~

~~a. "Income" means income for the most recent complete taxable year from all~~  
~~sources, including the income of any dependent of the applicant and including~~  
~~any county, state, or federal public assistance benefits, social security, or other~~  
~~retirement benefits, but excluding any federal rent subsidy, any amount excluded~~  
~~from income by federal or state law with the exception of income from social~~  
~~security benefits, and medical expenses paid during the year by the applicant or~~

1                   ~~the applicant's dependent which are not compensated by insurance or other~~  
2                   ~~means.~~

3                   ~~b. "Primary residence" means a dwelling in this state owned and occupied by the~~  
4                   ~~applicant as that applicant's primary residence as of the assessment date of the~~  
5                   ~~taxable year and which is not exempt from property taxes as a farm residence.~~

6                   ~~3. All forms necessary to effectuate this section must be prescribed, designed, and made~~  
7                   ~~available by the tax commissioner. The county directors of tax equalization shall make~~  
8                   ~~these forms available upon request.~~

9                   ~~**SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Act is effective for taxable years beginning after~~  
10                  ~~December 31, 2020.~~

11                  **SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - ADEQUACY OF PROPERTY TAX**  
12                  **RELIEF FOR RETIRED INDIVIDUALS.** During the 2021-22 interim, the legislative management  
13                  shall consider studying the impact of property tax policies on retired individuals. The study must  
14                  include a review of the various approaches to providing property tax relief to retired individuals,  
15                  including a review of whether the relief provided by the homestead property tax credit under  
16                  section 57-02-08.1 is adequate and the feasibility of including local contribution requirements for  
17                  a portion of the credit. The legislative management shall report its findings and  
18                  recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to  
19                  the sixty-eighth legislative assembly.