ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 89

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:
Assemblyman P. CHRISTOPHER TULLY
District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)
Assemblyman RONALD S. DANCER
District 12 (Burlington, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean)

Co-Sponsored by:
Assemblyman Scharfenberger

SYNOPSIS

Proposes constitutional amendment requiring Legislature to enact statute authorizing $200 property tax credit for primary residence of volunteer firefighter or first aid squad member.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/20/2020)

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION proposing to amend Article VIII, Section I of the Constitution of the State of New Jersey by adding a new paragraph 8.

BE IT RESOLVED *by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey (the Senate concurring):*

1. The following proposed amendment to the Constitution of the State of New Jersey is agreed to:

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Amend Article VIII, Section I by adding a new paragraph 8 to read as follows:

8. The Legislature shall adopt a statute entitling a resident of this State, who has been for the entire tax year an active member of a volunteer fire company or volunteer first aid or rescue squad or association, or an active, volunteer member of a part-paid fire department, incorporated pursuant to the laws of this State and serving one or more counties or municipalities in this State, to a property tax credit of $200 against a tax bill for taxes on residential real property owned by and serving as the primary residence of that person. Any statute so enacted shall require that the State annually reimburse municipalities for the total amount of property tax credits provided pursuant to this paragraph.

2. When this proposed amendment to the Constitution is finally agreed to pursuant to Article IX, paragraph 1 of the Constitution, it shall be submitted to the people at the next general election occurring more than three months after the final agreement and shall be published at least once in at least one newspaper of each county designated by the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the General Assembly and the Secretary of State, not less than three months prior to the general election.

3. This proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be submitted to the people at that election in the following manner and form:

There shall be printed on each official ballot to be used at the general election, the following:

a. In every municipality in which voting machines are not used, a legend which shall immediately precede the question as follows:

If you favor the proposition printed below make a cross (X), plus (+), or check (✔) in the square opposite the word "Yes." If you are opposed thereto make a cross (X), plus (+) or check (✔) in the square opposite the word "No."

b. In every municipality the following question:

	YES	CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO PROVIDE PROPERTY TAX CREDITS FOR HOMES OF C ERTAIN FIREFIGHTERS AND FIRST AID OR RESCUE SQUAD MEMBERS Do you approve amending the Constitution to provide a $200 property tax credit for the homes of certain firefighters and first aid or rescue squad members?
	NO	INTERPRETIVE STATEMENT This amendment would require a $200 property tax credit for the home of a volunteer firefighter, or volunteer first aid or rescue squad member. The cost of the credits would not be paid by municipal taxpayers. The State would reimburse municipalities for the cost of the tax credits.

STATEMENT

This proposed constitutional amendment would require the Legislature to enact a statute entitling State residents, who have been for the entire tax year active members of a volunteer fire company or volunteer first aid or rescue squad or association, or active, volunteer members of a part-paid fire department, incorporated pursuant to State law and serving one or more counties or municipalities, to a credit of $200 against the property tax bill on their owner-occupied primary residence.

Any statute enacted pursuant to this proposed amendment would require the State to annually reimburse municipalities for the total amount of property tax credits provided pursuant to this amendment.