

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2586 Session of
2012

INTRODUCED BY GROVE, BENNINGHOFF, AUMENT, BOBACK, EVANKOVICH,
GODSHALL, HAHN, HELM, HESS, MALONEY, O'NEILL, ROCK, SAYLOR,
SCAVELLO, SCHMOTZER AND TALLMAN, AUGUST 23, 2012

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, AUGUST 23, 2012

AN ACT

1 Requiring all local taxing jurisdictions in this Commonwealth to
2 provide homestead property and farmstead property tax
3 exclusions at the maximum amount permitted by the
4 Constitution of Pennsylvania.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Short title.

8 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Homeowner Tax
9 Reduction Act.

10 Section 2. Declaration of intent.

11 The General Assembly, in recognition of the powers contained
12 in section 2(b)(vi) of Article VIII of the Constitution of
13 Pennsylvania, which provides the authorization for issuance of
14 homestead property and farmstead property tax exclusions of up
15 to 50% of the median assessed value of all homestead property
16 within a local taxing jurisdiction, declares as its legislative
17 intent and purpose to implement such power under such
18 constitutional provision by requiring all local taxing

1 jurisdictions in this Commonwealth to issue homestead property
2 and farmstead property tax exclusions at the amount provided for
3 under section 4.

4 Section 3. Definitions.

5 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
6 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
7 context clearly indicates otherwise:

8 "Farmstead property." As defined in 53 Pa.C.S. § 8582
9 (relating to definitions).

10 "Homestead property." As defined in 53 Pa.C.S. § 8401
11 (relating to definitions).

12 "Local government." A county, city, borough, incorporated
13 town, township, school district or any other similar general
14 purpose unit of government created by the General Assembly.

15 "Local taxing jurisdiction." A local government levying a
16 property tax.

17 Section 4. Property tax reduction.

18 (a) General rule.--The amount of homestead property and
19 farmstead property tax exclusions in a local taxing jurisdiction
20 shall be 50% of the median assessed value of all homestead
21 property within a local taxing jurisdiction.

22 (b) Implementation.--The following shall apply:

23 (1) A local government, other than a school district,
24 levying a property tax shall implement the issuance of
25 homestead property and farmstead property tax exclusions at
26 the amount provided under subsection (a) by January 1, 2018.

27 (2) A school district levying a property tax shall
28 implement the issuance of homestead property and farmstead
29 property tax exclusions at the amount provided under
30 subsection (a) by July 1, 2018.

1 Section 5. Effective date.

2 This act shall take effect in 60 days.