## COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH OVERSIGHT DIVISION

## **FISCAL NOTE**

<u>L.R. No.</u>: 2645-01 <u>Bill No.</u>: SB 716

Subject: County Government; Cities, Towns and Villages; Elderly; Taxation and Revenue

- Property

<u>Type</u>: Original

Date: December 13, 2001

## **FISCAL SUMMARY**

| ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON STATE FUNDS                        |         |                |                |  |
|--|---------|----------------|----------------|--|
| FUND AFFECTED  | FY 2003 | FY 2004        | FY 2005        |  |
| General Revenue*   | \$0     | (\$43,791,000) | (\$46,004,000) |  |
| Blind Pension  | \$0     | (\$219,000)    | (\$230,000)    |  |
| Total Estimated<br>Net Effect on <u>All</u><br>State Funds | \$0     | (\$44,010,000) | (\$46,234,000) |  |

<sup>\*</sup>Does not include possible increased cost to fully fund Foundation Formula

<sup>\*\*</sup>Subject to appropriation

| ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS                        |         |         |         |  |
|--|---------|---------|---------|--|
| FUND AFFECTED  | FY 2003 | FY 2004 | FY 2005 |  |
|  |         |         |         |  |
| Total Estimated<br>Net Effect on <u>All</u><br>Federal Funds | \$0     | \$0     | \$0     |  |

Numbers within parentheses: ( ) indicate costs or losses.

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| ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS |         |         |         |  |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|--|
| FUND AFFECTED                       | FY 2003 | FY 2004 | FY 2005 |  |
| Political subdivisions **           | \$0     | \$0     | \$0     |  |
| <b>Local Government</b>             | \$0     | \$0     | \$0     |  |

<sup>\*\*</sup>Offsetting costs from reduction of tax revenues, and state reimbursements.

Numbers within parentheses: ( ) indicate costs or losses.

#### **FISCAL ANALYSIS**

#### <u>ASSUMPTION</u>

Officials from the **State Tax Commission** (TAX) assume \$4 billion in property tax revenues is received on an annual basis. Hancock provides that political subdivisions can increase revenues by the CPI. Assuming a 3.5% CPI and a 1.5% increase in levies and 70.3% of residential properties are owner occupied would result in a cost in GR appropriations for fy -03in the approximate amount of \$140 million. Depending on voted levy increases in the future this amount could be higher in subsequent years.

Oversight estimated possible losses as follows.

| Projected Increase for 64+ owner-occupied | \$  | 35,748,000      |      |  |
|---|-----|-----------------|------|--|
| Percent owner occupied                    |     | x .70           |      |  |
| Projected Increase for 64+ Occupied       | \$  | 51,068,000      |      |  |
| Percent elderly                           |     | X               | .269 |  |
| Projected Increase                        | \$  | 189,843,000     |      |  |
| Projected Tax 2001                        | \$1 | ,915,689,000    |      |  |
| Residential Property Tax paid in 2000     |     | \$1,725,846,000 |      |  |

CY 2002:  $$35,748,000 \times 1.035 \times 1.015 = $37,554,000$ 

Proposal would become effective for year beginning January 1, 2003, and **Oversight** assumes reimbursements for political subdivisions' calendar years would be from immediately following state fiscal years.

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### ASSUMPTION (continued)

CY 2003:  $\$37,554,000 \times 1.11 \times 1.035 \times 1.015 = \$43,791,000$ 

CY 2004:  $$43,791,000 \times 1.035 \times 1.015 = $46,004,000$ 

Oversight assumes there would also be losses to the Blind Pension fund of a little more than \( \frac{1}{2} \) of 1% of the losses to political subdivisions.

In response to a similar proposal in the prior session, **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education** officials noted that the proposal would decrease assessed values compared to current law, which would increase the amount needed to fully fund the Foundation Formula. They also noted that 1) "hold harmless" districts would recoup their losses through state payments, 2) state payments required by this proposal are not included in the Formula, thus allowing other districts a "double dip" consisting of reimbursements from the state and increased payments through a fully funded Formula, and 3) the effects of the proposal on the Formula should disappear after three or so years because reducing the guaranteed tax base reduces the inflationary adjustment in the Formula for districts to fund inflationary increases in expenses.

Oversight assumes the Foundation Formula issues, if any, would be addressed through the appropriation process.

Officials from the Office of the State Auditor indicated that the proposal would not affect their agency.

In response to a similar proposal in the prior session, officials from the **Department of Revenue** indicated that the proposal would not affect their agency, administratively.

| FISCAL IMPACT - State Government   | FY 2003           | FY 2004               | FY 2005        |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
|                                    | (10 Mo.)          |                       |                |
| GENERAL REVENUE                    |                   |                       |                |
| Cost - Reimbursements to Political |                   |                       |                |
| Subdivisions*                      | \$0               | (\$43,791,000)        | (\$46,004,000) |
| NET EFFECT ON GENERAL              |                   |                       |                |
| REVENUE FUND*                      | <u><b>\$0</b></u> | <u>(\$43,791,000)</u> | (\$46,004,000) |

<sup>\*</sup>Does not include possible increase in cost to fully fund Foundation Formula.

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| FISCAL IMPACT - State Government  | FY 2003<br>(10 Mo.) | FY 2004            | FY 2005            |  |
|---|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--|
| BLIND PENSION FUND  | (10 Mo.)            |                    |                    |  |
| Loss - Reduced Collections  | \$0                 | (\$219,000)        | (\$230,000)        |  |
|   | \$0                 | (\$219,000)        | (\$230,000)        |  |
| NET EFFECT ON BLIND PENSION   |                     |                    |                    |  |
| FUND  | <u><b>\$0</b></u>   | <u>(\$219,000)</u> | <u>(\$230,000)</u> |  |
|   |                     |                    |                    |  |
| FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government  | FY 2003             | FY 2004            | FY 2005            |  |
|   | (10 Mo.)            |                    |                    |  |
| POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS  |                     |                    |                    |  |
| <u>Income</u> - Reimbursements from State*                              | \$0                 | \$43,791,000       | \$46,004,000       |  |
| <u>Loss</u> - Reduced Property Tax Collections                          | \$0                 | (\$43,791,000)     | (\$46,004,000)     |  |
| NET EFFECT ON POLITICAL   |                     |                    |                    |  |
| SUBDIVISIONS*   | <u><b>\$0</b></u>   | <u><b>\$0</b></u>  | <u><b>\$0</b></u>  |  |
| *Does not include possible increased distributions to school districts. |                     |                    |                    |  |

#### FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

## **DESCRIPTION**

This proposal would exempt residential property persons over sixty-four years of age from increases in their property tax due to either increases in assessed values or increases in tax rates.

The state would reimburse political subdivisions for tax losses.

This proposal would apply to tax years beginning on and after January 1, 2002.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

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# **SOURCES OF INFORMATION**

State Auditor's Office State Tax Commission

**NOT RESPONDING** 

Office of Administration Department of Revenue

Jeanne Jarrett, CPA

Director

December 13, 2001