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PUBLIC HEARING

before

SENATE REVENUE, FINANCE AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

on

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3005

(This concurrent resolution proposes an amendment to the Constitution which provides for the authorization by law for municipalities to grant property tax exemptions on the domiciles and principal residences of the surviving spouses of policemen, firemen, and first aid or rescue squad members who are killed in the line of duty.)

Held:
December 16, 1983
Room 346
State House Annex
Trenton, New Jersey

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE PRESENT:

Senator Gerald R. Stockman, Vice Chairman

ALSO PRESENT:

Allan Parry, Analyst
Office of Legislative Services
Aide, Senate Revenue, Finance and
Appropriations Committee

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SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 3005

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JANUARY 31, 1983

By Senators WEISS, CAUFIELD, BORNHEIMER, FORAN,
DUMONT, McMANIMON and HIRKALA

Referred to Committee on Revenue, Finance and Appropriations

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION proposing an amendment to Article
VIII, Section I of the Constitution of the State of New Jersey.

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

1 1. The following proposed amendment to the Constitution of the
2 State of New Jersey is agreed ***[as follows]*** ***to***:

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

3 Amend Article VIII, Section I of the Constitution by adding a
4 paragraph 8 as follows:

5 8. The Legislature may enact a general law under which a
6 municipality may adopt an ordinance granting exemption from
7 property taxation on the dwelling house and the land upon which
8 it is situated which constitutes the domicile and principal residence
9 of the surviving spouse of a policeman, fireman, or first aid or
10 rescue squad member who is employed by or renders service in
11 the municipality, and is killed in the line of duty, subject to the
12 terms and conditions specified in the law.

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

EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill
is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter printed in italics *thus* is new matter.

Matter enclosed in asterisks or stars has been adopted as follows:

*—Senate amendments adopted November 28, 1983.

1 3. This proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be sub-
 2 mitted to the people at said election in the following manner and
 3 form:

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

6 a. In every municipality in which voting machines are not used,
 7 a legend which shall immediately precede the "[questions]" "ques-
 7A tion", as follows:

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

12 b. In every municipality the following question:

	Yes.	<p>PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS ON RESIDENCES OF SURVIVING SPOUSES OF POLICEMEN, FIREMEN, OR FIRST AID OR RESCUE SQUAD MEMBERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY</p> <p>Shall the amendment adding a paragraph 8 to Article VIII, Section I of the Constitution, agreed to by the Legislature, which authorizes the Legislature to enact a general law under which a municipality may grant exemption from property taxation on <i>*the dwelling house and the land upon which it is situated which constitutes the*</i> domicile and principal residence of the surviving spouse of a policeman, fireman, or first aid <i>*or*</i> rescue squad member who is employed by or renders service in the municipality, and is killed in the line of duty, <i>*subject to the terms and conditions specified in the law,*</i> be adopted?</p>
	No.	<p>INTERPRETIVE STATEMENT</p> <p>This amendment to the Constitution provides for the authorization by law for municipalities to grant property tax exemptions*, <i>subject to terms and conditions as may be specified in the law,*</i> on <i>*the dwelling houses and the lands upon which they are situated which constitute*</i> the domiciles and principal residences of the surviving spouses of policemen, firemen, <i>*[and]*</i> <i>*or*</i> first aid or rescue squad members who are killed in the line of duty.</p>

SENATOR GERALD R. STOCKMAN (Vice Chairman): Today is December 16, 1983. This public hearing is being held to satisfy the provisions of Article IX, Paragraph I of the Constitution of the State of New Jersey and Rule 166 of the Senate that require a public hearing be held on any proposed amendment to the State Constitution.

The subject of today's hearing is Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 3005 OCR, a proposal to amend Article VIII, Section I, by adding a new Paragraph 8 of the Constitution of the State of New Jersey. If approved by the Legislature and the electorate, this proposed amendment would permit the Legislature to enact a general law under which a municipality could adopt an ordinance granting property tax exemptions to the surviving spouses of policemen, firemen, first aid or rescue squad members who are killed in the line of duty.

Is there anyone who would like to appear and testify at this hearing? (no response) Ms. Winett, I gather you do not wish to testify.

H E A T H E R W I N E T T (Deputy Assistant Counsel to Governor Kean): I am just here from the Governor's Office to listen.

SENATOR STOCKMAN: All right. You can report back to the Governor that there being no witnesses expressing an intention or a desire to testify at this public hearing, and there being no other need for discussion or debate, I will adjourn the hearing as having complied with the law.

(HEARING CONCLUDED)

