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# **Committee on State Affairs**

**Wednesday, February 20, 2008  
2:30 PM – 4:00 PM  
Morris Hall**

## **Committee Action**

**Marco Rubio  
Speaker**

**Andy Gardiner  
Chairman**

# COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT

## Committee on State Affairs

2/20/2008 2:30:00PM

**Location:** Morris Hall (17 HOB)

**Attendance:**

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Excused</i>
Andy Gardiner (Chair)	X		
Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall	X		
Hugh Gibson			X
Ed Hooper	X		
Robert Schenck	X		
Ron Schultz	X		
Kelly Skidmore	X		
Geraldine Thompson	X		
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

Committee meeting was reported out: Wednesday, February 20, 2008 3:33:59PM

# COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT

## Committee on State Affairs

2/20/2008 2:30:00PM

Location: Morris Hall (17 HOB)

HB 129 : Just Valuation of Property

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Favorable With Amendments				
	Yea	Nay	No Vote	Absentee Yea	Absentee Nay
Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall	X				
Hugh Gibson			X		
Ed Hooper	X				
Robert Schenck	X				
Ron Schultz	X				
Kelly Skidmore	X				
Geraldine Thompson	X				
Andy Gardiner (Chair)	X				
<b>Total Yeas: 7</b>		<b>Total Nays: 0</b>			

### Appearances:

Just Valuation of Property

Robert L. Wolfe (Lobbyist) - Proponent  
Deputy Property Appraiser - Broward County  
115 S. Andrews Avenue  
Ft. Lauderdale Florida 33301  
Phone: 954.445.5732

Just Valuation of Property

Carol Saviak, Ex. Director (Lobbyist) - Proponent  
Coalition for Property Rights  
2878 S. Osceola Avenue  
Orlando Florida  
Phone: 407.481.2289

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# COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT

## Committee on State Affairs

2/20/2008 2:30:00PM

Location: Morris Hall (17 HOB)

HB 177 : Proposed Property Tax Notices

Favorable

	Yea	Nay	No Vote	Absentee Yea	Absentee Nay
Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall	X				
Hugh Gibson			X		
Ed Hooper	X				
Robert Schenck	X				
Ron Schultz	X				
Kelly Skidmore	X				
Geraldine Thompson	X				
Andy Gardiner (Chair)	X				
<b>Total Yeas: 7</b>		<b>Total Nays: 0</b>			

Committee meeting was reported out: Wednesday, February 20, 2008 3:33:59PM

# COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT

## Committee on State Affairs

2/20/2008 2:30:00PM

Location: Morris Hall (17 HOB)

HJR 421 : Transfer of Save-Our-Homes Benefits; Additional Homestead Exemption

Favorable With Amendments

	Yea	Nay	No Vote	Absentee Yea	Absentee Nay
Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall	X				
Hugh Gibson			X		
Ed Hooper	X				
Robert Schenck	X				
Ron Schultz	X				
Kelly Skidmore	X				
Geraldine Thompson	X				
Andy Gardiner (Chair)	X				
<b>Total Yeas: 7</b>		<b>Total Nays: 0</b>			

Committee meeting was reported out: Wednesday, February 20, 2008 3:33:59PM

# COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT

## Committee on State Affairs

2/20/2008 2:30:00PM

**Location:** Morris Hall (17 HOB)

### Summary:

#### Committee on State Affairs

*Wednesday February 20, 2008 02:30 pm*

HB 129 Favorable With Amendments

Yeas: 7 Nays: 0

HB 177 Favorable

Yeas: 7 Nays: 0

HJR 421 Favorable With Amendments

Yeas: 7 Nays: 0

Committee meeting was reported out: Wednesday, February 20, 2008 3:33:59PM

HOUSE AMENDMENT FOR COUNCIL/COMMITTEE PURPOSES

Amendment No. #1 (for drafter's use only)

Bill No. **HB 129**

COUNCIL/COMMITTEE ACTION

ADOPTED  (Y/N)  
ADOPTED AS AMENDED  (Y/N)  
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION  (Y/N)  
FAILED TO ADOPT  (Y/N)  
WITHDRAWN  (Y/N)  
OTHER

1 Council/Committee hearing bill: Committee on State Affairs  
2 Representative(s) Lopez-Cantera offered the following:

3

4

**Amendment**

5

Remove line(s) 96 and insert:

6

(1) in arriving at just valuation, property appraisers, upon  
request of the property owner, shall

7

8

HOUSE AMENDMENT FOR COUNCIL/COMMITTEE PURPOSES

Amendment No.#2 (for drafter's use only)

Bill No. **HB 129**

COUNCIL/COMMITTEE ACTION

<u>ADOPTED</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (Y/N)
ADOPTED AS AMENDED	<input type="checkbox"/> (Y/N)
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION	<input type="checkbox"/> (Y/N)
FAILED TO ADOPT	<input type="checkbox"/> (Y/N)
WITHDRAWN	<input type="checkbox"/> (Y/N)
OTHER	<input type="checkbox"/>

1 Council/Committee hearing bill: Committee on State Affairs  
2 Representative(s) Lopez-Cantera offered the following:

3  
4 **Amendment (with title amendments)**

5 Remove line(s) 295-333:

6  
7 -----

8 **T I T L E A M E N D M E N T**

9 Remove line(s) 35-38 and insert:

10 under certain circumstances; amending s. 420.507,  
11  
12



COUNCIL/COMMITTEE ACTION

ADOPTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (Y/N)
ADOPTED AS AMENDED	<input type="checkbox"/> (Y/N)
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION	<input type="checkbox"/> (Y/N)
FAILED TO ADOPT	<input type="checkbox"/> (Y/N)
WITHDRAWN	<input type="checkbox"/> (Y/N)
OTHER	<input type="checkbox"/>

1 Council/Committee hearing bill: Committee on State Affairs  
 2 Representative(s) Simmons offered the following:

3  
 4 **Amendment (with directory, schedule, ballot, and title**  
 5 **amendments)**

6 Remove line(s) 17-243 and insert:

7 ARTICLE VII

8 FINANCE AND TAXATION

9 SECTION 6 Homestead exemptions.--

10 (a) (1) Every person who has the legal or equitable title  
 11 to real estate and maintains thereon the permanent residence of  
 12 the owner, or another legally or naturally dependent upon the  
 13 owner, shall be exempt from taxation thereon, except assessments  
 14 for special benefits, up to the assessed valuation of twenty-  
 15 five thousand dollars. And, for all levies other than school  
 16 district levies on the assessed valuation greater than fifty  
 17 thousand dollars and up to seventy-five thousand dollars, upon  
 18 establishment of right thereto in the manner prescribed by law.

19 (2) The real estate may be held by legal or equitable  
 20 title, by the entireties, jointly, in common, as a condominium,  
 21 or indirectly by stock ownership or membership representing the  
 22 owner's or member's proprietary interest in a corporation owning

HOUSE AMENDMENT FOR COUNCIL/COMMITTEE PURPOSES

Amendment No. 1 (for drafter's use only)

23 a fee or a leasehold initially in excess of ninety-eight years.

24 ~~The exemption shall not apply with respect to any assessment~~

25 ~~roll until such roll is first determined to be in compliance~~

26 ~~with the provisions of Section 4 of this Article by a state~~

27 ~~agency designated by general law. This exemption is repealed on~~

28 ~~the effective date of any amendment to Section 4 of this Article~~

29 ~~that provides for the assessment of homestead property at less~~

30 ~~than just value.~~

31 (b) Not more than one exemption shall be allowed any  
32 individual or family unit or with respect to any residential  
33 unit. No exemption shall exceed the value of the real estate  
34 assessable to the owner or, in case of ownership through stock  
35 or membership in a corporation, the value of the proportion  
36 which the interest in the corporation bears to the assessed  
37 value of the property.

38 (c) By general law and subject to conditions specified  
39 therein, each person who is entitled to receive the homestead  
40 exemption provided in subsection (a) is also entitled to an  
41 additional homestead exemption for 2009 in the amount equal to  
42 forty percent (40%) of the just value of the homestead and for  
43 2010 and each year thereafter in an amount equal to forty  
44 percent (40%) of the just value of the homestead. The additional  
45 exemption shall apply only after the first seventy five thousand  
46 dollars up to five hundred thousand dollars of just value of the  
47 homestead property. However, in any year, such person shall  
48 receive only the exemption provided in this subsection or the  
49 application of the cumulative assessment limitation calculated  
50 pursuant to subsection (c) of Section 4, whichever provides the  
51 lower taxable value. The exemption shall not apply with respect  
52 to any assesement roll until such roll is first determined to  
53 be in compliance with the provisions of Section 4 by the state

## Amendment No. 1 (for drafter's use only)

54 agency designated by general law. This exemption is repealed on  
55 the effective date of any future amendment to this constitution  
56 which provides for the assessment of homestead property at less  
57 than just value.

58 ~~(d)~~(e) By general law and subject to conditions specified  
59 therein, the Legislature may provide to renters, who are  
60 permanent residents, ad valorem tax relief on all ad valorem tax  
61 levies. Such ad valorem tax relief shall be in the form and  
62 amount established by general law.

63 ~~(e)~~(d) The legislature may, by general law, allow counties  
64 or municipalities, for the purpose of their respective tax  
65 levies and subject to the provisions of general law, to grant an  
66 additional homestead tax exemption not exceeding fifty thousand  
67 dollars to any person who has the legal or equitable title to  
68 real estate and maintains thereon the permanent residence of the  
69 owner and who has attained age sixty-five and whose household  
70 income, as defined by general law, does not exceed twenty  
71 thousand dollars. The general law must allow counties and  
72 municipalities to grant this additional exemption, within the  
73 limits prescribed in this subsection, by ordinance adopted in  
74 the manner prescribed by general law, and must provide for the  
75 periodic adjustment of the income limitation prescribed in this  
76 subsection for changes in the cost of living.

77 ~~(f)~~(e) Each veteran who is age 65 or older who is  
78 partially or totally permanently disabled shall receive a  
79 discount from the amount of the ad valorem tax otherwise owed on  
80 homestead property the veteran owns and resides in if the  
81 disability was combat related, the veteran was a resident of  
82 this state at the time of entering the military service of the  
83 United States, and the veteran was honorably discharged upon  
84 separation from military service. The discount shall be in a

HOUSE AMENDMENT FOR COUNCIL/COMMITTEE PURPOSES

Amendment No. 1 (for drafter's use only)

85 percentage equal to the percentage of the veteran's permanent,  
86 service-connected disability as determined by the United States  
87 Department of Veterans Affairs. To qualify for the discount  
88 granted by this subsection, an applicant must submit to the  
89 county property appraiser, by March 1, proof of residency at the  
90 time of entering military service, an official letter from the  
91 United States Department of Veterans Affairs stating the  
92 percentage of the veteran's service-connected disability and  
93 such evidence that reasonably identifies the disability as  
94 combat related, and a copy of the veteran's honorable discharge.  
95 If the property appraiser denies the request for a discount, the  
96 appraiser must notify the applicant in writing of the reasons  
97 for the denial, and the veteran may reapply. The Legislature  
98 may, by general law, waive the annual application requirement in  
99 subsequent years. This subsection shall take effect December 7,  
100 2006, is self-executing, and does not require implementing  
101 legislation.

102 -----

**D I R E C T O R Y   A M E N D M E N T**

103  
104 Remove line(s) 12-16 and insert:

105 That the following amendment to Section 6 of Article VII  
106 and the creation of Section 28 of Article XII of the State  
107 Constitution are agreed to and shall be submitted to the  
108 electors of this state for approval or rejection at the next  
109 general election:

110  
111 -----

**S C H E D U L E   A M E N D M E N T**

112  
113 Remove line(s) 244-257 and insert:

114 ARTICLE XII  
115 SCHEDULE

Amendment No. 1 (for drafter's use only)

116        SECTION 28. Property tax exemptions and ad valorem tax  
117        limitations.--The amendment to Section 6 of Article VII,  
118        providing an additional homestead exemption equal to the greater  
119        of forty percent of the homestead's just valuation from seventy-  
120        five thousand dollars up to five hundred thousand dollars or the  
121        accumulated benefit from the limitation on annual increases in  
122        assessments of homestead property and this section, if submitted  
123        to the electors of this state for approval or rejection at the  
124        next general election, shall take effect January 1 of the year  
125        following such general election.

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**B A L L O T A M E N D M E N T**

Remove line(s) 260-294 and insert:

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

ARTICLE VII, SECTION 6

ARTICLE XII, SECTION 28

133        IN HOMESTEAD PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS; ADDITIONAL HOMESTEAD  
134        EXEMPTION.--Proposing amendments to the State Constitution to  
135        provide for an additional homestead exemption equal to the  
136        greater of 40 percent of the just value of the homestead  
137        property from \$75,000 up to \$500,000 or the accumulated benefit  
138        provided under Save Our Homes.

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**T I T L E A M E N D M E N T**

Remove line(s) 1-8 and insert:

House Joint Resolution

144        A joint resolution proposing an amendment to Section 6 of  
145        Article VII and the creation of Section 28 of Article XII  
146        of the State Constitution to provide for an additional

HOUSE AMENDMENT FOR COUNCIL/COMMITTEE PURPOSES

Amendment No. 1 (for drafter's use only)

147 homestead exemption, and to provide an effective date if  
148 such amendments are adopted.

149