



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 598

February Session, 2004

* SB00598FIN 032904 *

**AN ACT CONCERNING A PROPERTY TAX HOMESTEAD
EXEMPTION, A DIFFERENTIAL PROPERTY TAX ON VACANT LAND
AND THE PROPERTY TAX CAP AND SURCHARGE PROGRAM.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage and applicable to assessment*
2 *years commencing on or after October 1, 2003*) Any municipality may, by
3 vote of its legislative body, adopt a property tax ordinance under
4 which a portion, not to exceed fifty per cent, of the assessed value, up
5 to the amount of one hundred fifty thousand dollars, of any single
6 parcel of owner-occupied residential real property containing not more
7 than three dwelling units shall be exempt from the property tax,
8 provided such property is the permanent place of abode of such
9 owner.

10 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage and applicable to assessment years*
11 *commencing on or after October 1, 2003*) Any municipality may, by vote
12 of its legislative body, adopt a property tax ordinance that provides for
13 a surcharge on the property tax imposed on any parcel of real property
14 that consists of vacant land, without buildings or structures, except
15 that such surcharge shall not apply to open space land, forest land,
16 farm land or parks. Such surcharge may not exceed an amount equal
17 to two times the amount of such tax.

18 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2004, and applicable to assessment years*

19 *commencing on or after October 1, 2004*) Any municipality, if certified by
20 the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management under criteria
21 established by the secretary, may, by vote of its legislative body,
22 provide for a property tax cap and surcharge program consistent with
23 the provisions of section 12-62d of the general statutes and,
24 notwithstanding said section 12-62d, such program may allow any
25 such surcharge to be levied for all of the first assessment year for
26 which it will be effective.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>from passage and applicable to assessment years commencing on or after October 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 2	<i>from passage and applicable to assessment years commencing on or after October 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2004, and applicable to assessment years commencing on or after October 1, 2004</i>

FIN *Joint Favorable Subst.*