House Bill 1138 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)
By: Representatives Neal of the 74th, Glanton of the 75th, Burnough of the 77th, Bazemore of the 63rd, Douglas of the 78th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend an Act to provide a homestead exemption from certain City of Morrow ad valorem taxes for city purposes, approved March 30, 1993 (Ga. L. 1993, p. 4446), as amended, so as to increase the amount of a homestead exemption from City of Morrow ad valorem taxes; to provide for compliance with constitutional requirements; to provide for a referendum, effective dates, and automatic repeal; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

An Act to provide a homestead exemption from certain City of Morrow ad valorem taxes for city purposes, approved March 30, 1993 (Ga. L. 1993, p. 4446), as amended, particularly by an Act approved March 27, 1995 (Ga. L. 1995, p. 3909), is amended by revising subsection (b) of Section 1 as follows:

"(b) Each resident of the City of Morrow is granted an exemption on that person’s homestead from all City of Morrow ad valorem taxes for city purposes in the amount of $80,000.00 of the assessed value of that homestead. The value of that property in excess of such exempted amount shall remain subject to taxation."

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SECTION 2.
In accordance with the requirements of Article VII, Section II of the Constitution of the State of Georgia, this Act shall not become law unless it receives the requisite two-thirds' majority vote in both the Senate and the House of Representatives.

SECTION 3.
The election superintendent of the City of Morrow shall call and conduct an election as provided in this section for the purpose of submitting this Act to the electors of the City of Morrow for approval or rejection. The election superintendent shall conduct that election on any permissible special election date under Code Section 21-2-540 of the O.C.G.A., but not later than the November, 2022, general election and shall issue the call and conduct such election as provided by general law. The election superintendent shall cause the date and purpose of the election to be published once a week for two weeks immediately preceding the date thereof in the official organ of the City of Morrow. The ballot shall have written or printed thereon the words:

"( ) YES Shall the Act be approved that provides for an amendment to the $60,000.00 homestead exemption from City of Morrow ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes so as to increase the exemption to $80,000.00?"

All persons desiring to vote for approval of the Act shall vote "Yes," and all persons desiring to vote for rejection of the Act shall vote "No." If more than one-half of the votes cast on such question are for approval of the Act, Section 1 of this Act shall become of full force and effect on January 1, 2023. If the Act is not so approved or if the election is not conducted as provided in this section, Section 1 of this Act shall not become effective, and this Act shall be automatically repealed on the first day of January immediately following that election date. The expense of such election shall be borne by the City of Morrow. It shall be the election superintendent's duty to certify the result thereof to the Secretary of State.
SECTION 4.

Except as otherwise provided in Section 3 of this Act, this Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval.

SECTION 5.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.