SENATE, No. 3465

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 12, 2023

Sponsored by:

Senator ANTHONY M. BUCCO District 25 (Morris and Somerset) Senator JOSEPH P. CRYAN District 20 (Union)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Diegnan and Oroho

SYNOPSIS

Indexes amount of veterans' income tax exemption for inflation.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/15/2023)

AN ACT concerning the veterans' income tax exemption and 1 2 amending N.J.S.54A:3-1.

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BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

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- 1. N.J.S.54A:3-1 is amended to read as follows:
- 8 54A:3-1. Personal exemptions and deductions. Each taxpayer 9 shall be allowed personal exemptions and deductions against his 10 gross income as follows:
 - (a) Taxpayer. Each taxpayer shall be allowed a personal exemption of \$1,000.00 which may be taken as a deduction from his New Jersey gross income.
- 14 (b) Additional exemptions. In addition to the personal exemptions allowed in (a), the following additional personal exemptions shall be allowed as a deduction from gross income:
- 17 1. For the taxpayer's spouse, or domestic partner as defined in 18 section 3 of P.L.2003, c.246 (C.26:8A-3), who does not file 19 separately - \$1,000.00.
- 20 2. For each dependent who qualifies as a dependent of the taxpayer during the taxable year for federal income tax purposes -22 \$1,500.00.
- 23 3. Taxpayer 65 years of age or over at the close of the taxable 24 year - \$1,000.00.
- 25 4. Taxpayer's spouse 65 years of age or over at the close of the 26 taxable year - \$1,000.00.
 - 5. Blind or disabled taxpayer \$1,000.00.
- 28 6. Blind or disabled spouse - \$1,000.00.
- 29 Taxpayer who is a veteran honorably discharged or released
- under honorable circumstances from active duty in the Armed 30 31 Forces of the United States, a reserve component thereof, or the
- 32 National Guard of New Jersey in a federal active duty status, as
- 33 those terms are used in N.J.S.38A:1-1 -\$6,000; provided,
- 34 however, that in tax year 2023 and thereafter, the amount of the

exemption provided pursuant to this paragraph shall be adjusted

- 36 annually in direct proportion to the percentage change in the
- 37 Chained Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U)
- 38 or the 12-month period ending August 31 of the immediately
- 39 preceding tax year. If there is no increase in that index, the amount
- 40 of the exemption shall remain unchanged for the applicable tax
- 41 year.
- 42 (c) Special Rule. The personal exemptions allowed under this
- 43 section shall be limited to that percentage which the total number of
- 44 months within a taxpayer's taxable year under this act bears to 12.
- 45 For this purpose 15 days or more shall constitute a month.

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

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- (d) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1993, c.178).
 - (e) Nonresidents. For taxable years to which a certification pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1993, c.320 (C.54A:2-1.2) applies, a nonresident taxpayer shall be allowed the same deduction for personal exemptions as a resident taxpayer. However, if (1) the nonresident taxpayer's gross income which is subject to tax under this act is exceeded by (2) the gross income which the nonresident taxpayer would be required to report under this act if the taxpayer were a resident by more than \$100.00, the taxpayer's deduction for personal exemptions shall be limited by the percentage which (1) is to (2).

12 (cf: P.L.2019, c.146, s.1)

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill would index the amount of the veterans' gross income tax exemption, which is currently \$6,000, for inflation.

The bill would require that, beginning in tax year 2023, the amount of the exemption would be adjusted annually based on the percentage change in the Chained Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) for the 12-month period ending August 31 of the previous tax year. The C-CPI-U is the index currently used by the federal government to adjust federal income tax brackets for inflation. If there is no increase in that index, the amount of the exemption would remain unchanged for the applicable tax year.