As Reported by the Senate Ways and Means Committee

135th General Assembly Regular Session

2023-2024

S. B. No. 43

Senator Brenner

Cosponsors: Senators Cirino, Romanchuk, Hoagland, Lang, Craig

A BILL

To amend sections 323.151, 323.152, 323.153,	1
4503.064, 4503.065, and 4503.066 of the Revised	2
Code to modify the homestead exemption for the	3
surviving spouse of a disabled veteran.	4

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That sections 323.151, 323.152, 323.153,	5
4503.064, 4503.065, and 4503.066 of the Revised Code be amended	6
to read as follows:	7
Sec. 323.151. As used in sections 323.151 to 323.159 of	8
the Revised Code:	9
(A)(1) "Homestead" means either of the following:	10
(a) A dwelling, including a unit in a multiple-unit	11
dwelling and a manufactured home or mobile home taxed as real	12
property pursuant to division (B) of section 4503.06 of the	13
Revised Code, owned and occupied as a home by an individual	14
whose domicile is in this state and who has not acquired	15
ownership from a person, other than the individual's spouse,	16
related by consanguinity or affinity for the purpose of	17
qualifying for the real property tax reduction provided in	18

section 323.152 of the Revised Code.

(b) A unit in a housing cooperative that is occupied as a home, but not owned, by an individual whose domicile is in this state.

(2) The homestead shall include so much of the land 23 surrounding it, not exceeding one acre, as is reasonably 24 necessary for the use of the dwelling or unit as a home. An 25 owner includes a holder of one of the several estates in fee, a 26 vendee in possession under a purchase agreement or a land 27 contract, a mortgagor, a life tenant, one or more tenants with a 28 right of survivorship, tenants in common, and a settlor of a 29 revocable or irrevocable inter vivos trust holding the title to 30 a homestead occupied by the settlor as of right under the trust. 31 The tax commissioner shall adopt rules for the uniform 32 classification and valuation of real property or portions of 33 real property as homesteads. 34

(B) "Sixty-five years of age or older" means a person who has attained age sixty-four prior to the first day of January of the year of application for reduction in real estate taxes.

(C) "Total income" means modified adjusted gross income,
as that term is defined in section 5747.01 of the Revised Code,
of the owner and the owner's spouse for the year preceding the
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year in which application for a reduction in taxes is made.

(D) "Permanently and totally disabled" means that a person
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other than a disabled veteran has, on the first day of January
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of the year of application for reduction in real estate taxes,
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some impairment in body or mind that makes the person unable to
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work at any substantially remunerative employment that the
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person is reasonably able to perform and that will, with
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reasonable probability, continue for an indefinite period of at 48 least twelve months without any present indication of recovery 49 therefrom or has been certified as permanently and totally 50 disabled by a state or federal agency having the function of so 51 classifying persons. 52

(E) "Housing cooperative" means a housing complex of at 53 least two units that is owned and operated by a nonprofit 54 corporation that issues a share of the corporation's stock to an 55 individual, entitling the individual to live in a unit of the 56 complex, and collects a monthly maintenance fee from the 57 individual to maintain, operate, and pay the taxes of the 58 complex. 59

(F) "Disabled veteran" means a person who is a veteran of 60 the armed forces of the United States, including reserve 61 components thereof, or of the national guard, who has been 62 discharged or released from active duty in the armed forces 63 under honorable conditions, and who has received a total 64 disability rating or a total disability rating for compensation 65 based on individual unemployability for a service-connected 66 disability or combination of service-connected disabilities as 67 prescribed in Title 38, Part 4 of the Code of Federal 68 Regulations, as amended. 69

(G) "Public service officer" means a peace officer, firefighter, first responder, EMT-basic, EMT-I, or paramedic, or an individual holding any equivalent position in another state.

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(H) "Killed in the line of duty" means either of thefollowing:
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(1) Death in the line of duty;

(2) Death from injury sustained in the line of duty, 76

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including heart attack or other fatal injury or illness caused	77
while in the line of duty.	78
(I) "Peace officer" has the same meaning as in section	79
2935.01 of the Revised Code.	80
(J) "Firefighter" means a firefighter, whether paid or	81
volunteer, of a lawfully constituted fire department.	82
(K) "First responder," "EMT-basic," "EMT-I," and	83
"paramedic" have the same meanings as in section 4765.01 of the	84
Revised Code.	85
(L) "Surviving spouse of a disabled veteran" means either	86
of the following:	87
(1) The spouse of a disabled veteran who occupied the	88
homestead when the disabled veteran died and who acquires	89
ownership of the homestead or, in the case of a homestead that	90
is a unit in a housing cooperative, continues to occupy the	91
homestead;	92
(2) The surviving spouse of an individual to which all of	93
the following apply, provided the surviving spouse occupies the	94
homestead when that individual dies and who, following that	95
individual's death, acquires ownership of the homestead or, in	96
the case of a homestead that is a unit in a housing cooperative,	97
continues to occupy the homestead:	98
(a) The individual dies before receiving a total	99
disability rating described in division (F) of this section.	100
(b) The individual otherwise qualifies as a disabled	101
veteran.	102
(c) The individual owns and occupies a homestead or, in	103
the case of a homestead that is a unit in a housing cooperative,	104

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occupies the homestead.

Sec. 323.152. In addition to the reduction in taxes required under section 319.302 of the Revised Code, taxes shall be reduced as provided in divisions (A) and (B) of this section.

(A) (1) (a) Division (A) (1) of this section applies to anyof the following persons:

(i) A person who is permanently and totally disabled; 111

(ii) A person who is sixty-five years of age or older; 112

(iii) A person who is the surviving spouse of a deceased
person who was permanently and totally disabled or sixty-five
years of age or older and who applied and qualified for a
reduction in taxes under this division in the year of death,
provided the surviving spouse is at least fifty-nine but not
sixty-five or more years of age on the date the deceased spouse
dies.

(b) Real property taxes on a homestead owned and occupied, 120
or a homestead in a housing cooperative occupied, by a person to 121
whom division (A) (1) of this section applies shall be reduced 122
for each year for which an application for the reduction has 123
been approved. The reduction shall equal one of the following 124
amounts, as applicable to the person: 125

(i) If the person received a reduction under division (A)
(1) of this section for tax year 2006, the greater of the
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reduction for that tax year or the amount computed under
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division (A) (1) (c) of this section;

(ii) If the person received, for any homestead, a
reduction under division (A) (1) of this section for tax year
2013 or under division (A) of section 4503.065 of the Revised
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Code for tax year 2014 or the person is the surviving spouse of 133 such a person and the surviving spouse is at least fifty-nine 134 years of age on the date the deceased spouse dies, the amount 135 computed under division (A)(1)(c) of this section. For purposes 136 of divisions (A)(1)(b)(ii) and (iii) of this section, a person 1.37 receives a reduction under division (A) (1) of this section or 138 under division (A) of section 4503.065 of the Revised Code for 139 tax year 2013 or 2014, respectively, if the person files a late 140 application for that respective tax year that is approved by the 141 county auditor under section 323.153 or 4503.066 of the Revised 142 Code. 143

(iii) If the person is not described in division (A) (1) (b)
(i) or (ii) of this section and the person's total income does
not exceed thirty thousand dollars, as adjusted under division
(A) (1) (d) of this section, the amount computed under division
(A) (1) (c) of this section.

(c) The amount of the reduction under division (A) (1) (c)149of this section equals the product of the following:150

(i) Twenty-five thousand dollars of the true value of theproperty in money;152

(ii) The assessment percentage established by the tax
commissioner under division (B) of section 5715.01 of the
Revised Code, not to exceed thirty-five per cent;
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(iii) The effective tax rate used to calculate the taxes
charged against the property for the current year, where
"effective tax rate" is defined as in section 323.08 of the
Revised Code;

(iv) The quantity equal to one minus the sum of thepercentage reductions in taxes received by the property for the161

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current tax year under section 319.302 of the Revised Code and 162 division (B) of section 323.152 of the Revised Code. 163 (d) Each calendar year, the tax commissioner shall adjust 164 the total income threshold described in division (A) (1) (b) (iii) 165 of this section by completing the following calculations in 166 September of each year: 167 (i) Determine the percentage increase in the gross 168 domestic product deflator determined by the bureau of economic 169 analysis of the United States department of commerce from the 170 first day of January of the preceding calendar year to the last 171 day of December of the preceding calendar year; 172 (ii) Multiply that percentage increase by the total income 173 threshold for the current tax year; 174 (iii) Add the resulting product to the total income 175 threshold for the current tax year; 176 (iv) Round the resulting sum to the nearest multiple of 177 one hundred dollars. 178 The commissioner shall certify the amount resulting from 179 the adjustment to each county auditor not later than the first 180 day of December each year. The certified amount applies to the 181 following tax year for persons described in division (A)(1)(b) 182 (iii) of this section. The commissioner shall not make the 183 184

adjustment in any calendar year in which the amount resulting from the adjustment would be less than the total income threshold for the current tax year.

(2) (2) (a) Real property taxes on a homestead owned and187occupied, or a homestead in a housing cooperative occupied, by a188disabled veteran shall be reduced for each year for which an189application for the reduction has been approved. The reduction190

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shall equal the product obtained by multiplying fifty thousand191dollars of the true value of the property in money by the192amounts described in divisions (A) (1) (c) (ii) to (iv) of this193section. The reduction is in lieu of any reduction under section194323.158 of the Revised Code or division (A) (1), (2) (b), or (3)195of this section. The reduction applies to only one homestead196owned and occupied by a disabled veteran.197

If a homestead qualifies for a reduction in taxes under 198 division (A)(2) of this section for the year in which the 199 disabled veteran dies, and the disabled veteran is survived by a 200 spouse who occupied the homestead when the disabled veteran died 201 and who acquires ownership of the homestead or, in the case of a 202 homestead that is a unit in a housing cooperative, continues to 203 occupy the homestead, the reduction shall continue through the 204 205 year in which the surviving spouse dies or remarries.

(b) Real property taxes on a homestead owned and occupied,206or a homestead in a housing cooperative occupied, by the207surviving spouse of a disabled veteran shall be reduced for each208year an application for exemption is approved. The reduction209shall equal to the amount of the reduction authorized under210division (A)(2)(a) of this section.211

The reduction is in lieu of any reduction under section212323.158 of the Revised Code or division (A) (1), (2) (a), or (3)213of this section. The reduction applies to only one homestead214owned and occupied by the surviving spouse of a disabled215veteran. A homestead qualifies for a reduction in taxes under216division (A) (2) (b) of this section beginning in one of the217following tax years:218

(i) For a surviving spouse described in division (L)(1) of 219 section 323.151 of the Revised Code, the year the disabled 220

veteran dies;

(ii) For a surviving spouse described in division (L) (2)222of section 323.151 of the Revised Code, the first year on the223first day of January of which the total disability rating224described in division (F) of that section has been received for225the deceased spouse.226

In either case, the reduction shall continue through the227tax year in which the surviving spouse dies or remarries.228

(3) Real property taxes on a homestead owned and occupied, 229 or a homestead in a housing cooperative occupied, by the 230 231 surviving spouse of a public service officer killed in the line of duty shall be reduced for each year for which an application 232 for the reduction has been approved. The reduction shall equal 233 the product obtained by multiplying fifty thousand dollars of 234 the true value of the property in money by the amounts described 235 in divisions (A)(1)(c)(ii) to (iv) of this section. The 236 reduction is in lieu of any reduction under section 323.158 of 237 the Revised Code or division (A)(1) or (2) of this section. The 238 reduction applies to only one homestead owned and occupied by 239 such a surviving spouse. A homestead qualifies for a reduction 240 in taxes under division (A)(3) of this section for the tax year 241 in which the public service officer dies through the tax year in 242 which the surviving spouse dies or remarries. 243

(B) To provide a partial exemption, real property taxes on 244 any homestead, and manufactured home taxes on any manufactured 245 or mobile home on which a manufactured home tax is assessed 246 pursuant to division (D) (2) of section 4503.06 of the Revised 247 Code, shall be reduced for each year for which an application 248 for the reduction has been approved. The amount of the reduction 249 shall equal two and one-half per cent of the amount of taxes to 250

be levied by qualifying levies on the homestead or the251manufactured or mobile home after applying section 319.301 of252the Revised Code. For the purposes of this division, "qualifying253levy" has the same meaning as in section 319.302 of the Revised254Code.255

(C) The reductions granted by this section do not apply to special assessments or respread of assessments levied against the homestead, and if there is a transfer of ownership subsequent to the filing of an application for a reduction in taxes, such reductions are not forfeited for such year by virtue of such transfer.

(D) The reductions in taxable value referred to in this 262 section shall be applied solely as a factor for the purpose of 263 computing the reduction of taxes under this section and shall 264 not affect the total value of property in any subdivision or 265 taxing district as listed and assessed for taxation on the tax 266 lists and duplicates, or any direct or indirect limitations on 267 indebtedness of a subdivision or taxing district. If after 268 application of sections 5705.31 and 5705.32 of the Revised Code, 269 including the allocation of all levies within the ten-mill 270 limitation to debt charges to the extent therein provided, there 271 would be insufficient funds for payment of debt charges not 272 provided for by levies in excess of the ten-mill limitation, the 273 reduction of taxes provided for in sections 323.151 to 323.159 274 of the Revised Code shall be proportionately adjusted to the 275 extent necessary to provide such funds from levies within the 276 ten-mill limitation. 277

(E) No reduction shall be made on the taxes due on the 278
homestead of any person convicted of violating division (D) or 279
(E) of section 323.153 of the Revised Code for a period of three 280

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years following the conviction.

Sec. 323.153. (A) To obtain a reduction in real property 282 taxes under division (A) or (B) of section 323.152 of the 283 Revised Code or in manufactured home taxes under division (B) of 284 section 323.152 of the Revised Code, the owner shall file an 285 application with the county auditor of the county in which the 286 owner's homestead is located. 287

To obtain a reduction in real property taxes under 288 division (A) of section 323.152 of the Revised Code, the 289 occupant of a homestead in a housing cooperative shall file an 290 application with the nonprofit corporation that owns and 291 operates the housing cooperative, in accordance with this 292 paragraph. Not later than the first day of March each year, the 293 corporation shall obtain applications from the county auditor's 294 office and provide one to each new occupant. Not later than the 295 first day of May, any occupant who may be eligible for a 296 reduction in taxes under division (A) of section 323.152 of the 297 Revised Code shall submit the completed application to the 298 corporation. Not later than the fifteenth day of May, the 299 corporation shall file all completed applications, and the 300 information required by division (B) of section 323.159 of the 301 302 Revised Code, with the county auditor of the county in which the occupants' homesteads are located. Continuing applications shall 303 304 be furnished to an occupant in the manner provided in division (C)(4) of this section. 305

(1) An application for reduction based upon a physical
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disability shall be accompanied by a certificate signed by a
physician, and an application for reduction based upon a mental
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disability shall be accompanied by a certificate signed by a
physician or psychologist licensed to practice in this state,
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attesting to the fact that the applicant is permanently and 311 totally disabled. The certificate shall be in a form that the 312 tax commissioner requires and shall include the definition of 313 permanently and totally disabled as set forth in section 323.151 314 of the Revised Code. An application for reduction based upon a 315 disability certified as permanent and total by a state or 316 federal agency having the function of so classifying persons 317 shall be accompanied by a certificate from that agency. 318

An application by a disabled veteran or the surviving319spouse of a disabled veteran for the reduction under division320(A) (2) (A) (2) (a) or (b) of section 323.152 of the Revised Code321shall be accompanied by a letter or other written confirmation322from the United States department of veterans affairs, or its323predecessor or successor agency, showing that the veteran324qualifies as a disabled veteran.325

An application by the surviving spouse of a public service 326 officer killed in the line of duty for the reduction under 327 division (A)(3) of section 323.152 of the Revised Code shall be 328 accompanied by a letter or other written confirmation from an 329 employee or officer of the board of trustees of a retirement or 330 pension fund in this state or another state or from the chief or 331 other chief executive of the department, agency, or other 332 employer for which the public service officer served when killed 333 in the line of duty affirming that the public service officer 334 was killed in the line of duty. 335

An application for a reduction under division (A) of 336 section 323.152 of the Revised Code constitutes a continuing 337 application for a reduction in taxes for each year in which the 338 dwelling is the applicant's homestead. 339

(2) An application for a reduction in taxes under division 340

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(B) of section 323.152 of the Revised Code shall be filed only 341 if the homestead or manufactured or mobile home was transferred 342 in the preceding year or did not qualify for and receive the 343 reduction in taxes under that division for the preceding tax 344 year. The application for homesteads transferred in the 345 preceding year shall be incorporated into any form used by the 346 347 county auditor to administer the tax law in respect to the conveyance of real property pursuant to section 319.20 of the 348 Revised Code or of used manufactured homes or used mobile homes 349 as defined in section 5739.0210 of the Revised Code. The owner 350 of a manufactured or mobile home who has elected under division 351 (D)(4) of section 4503.06 of the Revised Code to be taxed under 352 division (D)(2) of that section for the ensuing year may file 353 the application at the time of making that election. The 354 application shall contain a statement that failure by the 355 applicant to affirm on the application that the dwelling on the 356 property conveyed is the applicant's homestead prohibits the 357 owner from receiving the reduction in taxes until a proper 358 application is filed within the period prescribed by division 359 (A) (3) of this section. Such an application constitutes a 360 continuing application for a reduction in taxes for each year in 361 which the dwelling is the applicant's homestead. 362

(3) Failure to receive a new application filed under 363 division (A)(1) or (2) or notification under division (C) of 364 this section after an application for reduction has been 365 approved is prima-facie evidence that the original applicant is 366 entitled to the reduction in taxes calculated on the basis of 367 the information contained in the original application. The 368 original application and any subsequent application, including 369 any late application, shall be in the form of a signed statement 370 and shall be filed on or before the thirty-first day of December 371

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of the year for which the reduction is sought. The original 372 application and any subsequent application for a reduction in 373 manufactured home taxes shall be filed in the year preceding the 374 year for which the reduction is sought. The statement shall be 375 on a form, devised and supplied by the tax commissioner, which 376 shall require no more information than is necessary to establish 377 the applicant's eligibility for the reduction in taxes and the 378 amount of the reduction, and, except for homesteads that are 379 units in a housing cooperative, shall include an affirmation by 380 the applicant that ownership of the homestead was not acquired 381 from a person, other than the applicant's spouse, related to the 382 owner by consanguinity or affinity for the purpose of qualifying 383 for the real property or manufactured home tax reduction 384 provided for in division (A) or (B) of section 323.152 of the 385 Revised Code. The form shall contain a statement that conviction 386 of willfully falsifying information to obtain a reduction in 387 taxes or failing to comply with division (C) of this section 388 results in the revocation of the right to the reduction for a 389 period of three years. In the case of an application for a 390 reduction in taxes for persons described in division (A)(1)(b) 391 (iii) of section 323.152 of the Revised Code, the form shall 392 contain a statement that signing the application constitutes a 393 delegation of authority by the applicant to the tax commissioner 394 or the county auditor, individually or in consultation with each 395 other, to examine any tax or financial records relating to the 396 income of the applicant as stated on the application for the 397 purpose of determining eligibility for the exemption or a 398 possible violation of division (D) or (E) of this section. 399

(B) A late application for a tax reduction for the year400preceding the year in which an original application is filed, or401for a reduction in manufactured home taxes for the year in which402

an original application is filed, may be filed with the original403application. If the county auditor determines the information404contained in the late application is correct, the auditor shall405determine the amount of the reduction in taxes to which the406applicant would have been entitled for the preceding tax year407had the applicant's application been timely filed and approved408in that year.409

The amount of such reduction shall be treated by the 410 auditor as an overpayment of taxes by the applicant and shall be 411 refunded in the manner prescribed in section 5715.22 of the 412 413 Revised Code for making refunds of overpayments. The county auditor shall certify the total amount of the reductions in 414 taxes made in the current year under this division to the tax 415 commissioner, who shall treat the full amount thereof as a 416 reduction in taxes for the preceding tax year and shall make 417 reimbursement to the county therefor in the manner prescribed by 418 section 323.156 of the Revised Code, from money appropriated for 419 420 that purpose.

(C) (1) If, in any year after an application has been filed under division (A) (1) or (2) of this section, the owner does not qualify for a reduction in taxes on the homestead or on the manufactured or mobile home set forth on such application, the owner shall notify the county auditor that the owner is not qualified for a reduction in taxes.

(2) If, in any year after an application has been filed
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under division (A) (1) of this section, the occupant of a
homestead in a housing cooperative does not qualify for a
reduction in taxes on the homestead, the occupant shall notify
the county auditor that the occupant is not qualified for a
reduction in taxes or file a new application under division (A)
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(1) of this section.

(3) If the county auditor or county treasurer discovers	434
that an owner of property or occupant of a homestead in a	435
housing cooperative not entitled to the reduction in taxes under	436
division (A) or (B) of section 323.152 of the Revised Code	437
failed to notify the county auditor as required by division (C)	438
(1) or (2) of this section, a charge shall be imposed against	439
the property in the amount by which taxes were reduced under	440
that division for each tax year the county auditor ascertains	441
that the property was not entitled to the reduction and was	442
owned by the current owner or, in the case of a homestead in a	443
housing cooperative, occupied by the current occupant. Interest	444
shall accrue in the manner prescribed by division (B) of section	445
323.121 or division (G)(2) of section 4503.06 of the Revised	446
Code on the amount by which taxes were reduced for each such tax	447
year as if the reduction became delinquent taxes at the close of	448
the last day the second installment of taxes for that tax year	449
could be paid without penalty. The county auditor shall notify	450
the owner or occupant, by ordinary mail, of the charge, of the	451
owner's or occupant's right to appeal the charge, and of the	452
manner in which the owner or occupant may appeal. The owner or	453
occupant may appeal the imposition of the charge and interest by	454
filing an appeal with the county board of revision not later	455
than the last day prescribed for payment of real and public	456
utility property taxes under section 323.12 of the Revised Code	457
following receipt of the notice and occurring at least ninety	458
days after receipt of the notice. The appeal shall be treated in	459
the same manner as a complaint relating to the valuation or	460
assessment of real property under Chapter 5715. of the Revised	461
Code. The charge and any interest shall be collected as other	462
delinquent taxes.	463

(4) Each year during January, the county auditor shall 464 furnish by ordinary mail a continuing application to each person 465 receiving a reduction under division (A) of section 323.152 of 466 the Revised Code. The continuing application shall be used to 467 report changes in total income, ownership, occupancy, 468 disability, and other information earlier furnished the auditor 469 470 relative to the reduction in taxes on the property. The continuing application shall be returned to the auditor not 471 later than the thirty-first day of December; provided, that if 472 such changes do not affect the status of the homestead exemption 473 or the amount of the reduction to which the owner is entitled 474 under division (A) of section 323.152 of the Revised Code or to 475 which the occupant is entitled under section 323.159 of the 476 Revised Code, the application does not need to be returned. 477

(5) Each year during February, the county auditor, except 478 as otherwise provided in this paragraph, shall furnish by 479 ordinary mail an original application to the owner, as of the 480 first day of January of that year, of a homestead or a 481 manufactured or mobile home that transferred during the 482 preceding calendar year and that qualified for and received a 483 reduction in taxes under division (B) of section 323.152 of the 484 Revised Code for the preceding tax year. In order to receive the 485 reduction under that division, the owner shall file the 486 application with the county auditor not later than the thirty-487 first day of December. If the application is not timely filed, 488 the auditor shall not grant a reduction in taxes for the 489 homestead for the current year, and shall notify the owner that 490 the reduction in taxes has not been granted, in the same manner 491 prescribed under section 323.154 of the Revised Code for 492 notification of denial of an application. Failure of an owner to 493 receive an application does not excuse the failure of the owner 494

to file an original application. The county auditor is not 495 required to furnish an application under this paragraph for any 496 homestead for which application has previously been made on a 497 form incorporated into any form used by the county auditor to 498 administer the tax law in respect to the conveyance of real 499 property or of used manufactured homes or used mobile homes, and 500 an owner who previously has applied on such a form is not 501 required to return an application furnished under this 502 503 paragraph.

(D) No person shall knowingly make a false statement for
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 the purpose of obtaining a reduction in the person's real
 property or manufactured home taxes under section 323.152 of the
 Revised Code.

(E) No person shall knowingly fail to notify the county auditor of changes required by division (C) of this section that have the effect of maintaining or securing a reduction in taxes under section 323.152 of the Revised Code.

(F) No person shall knowingly make a false statement or
certification attesting to any person's physical or mental
condition for purposes of qualifying such person for tax relief
pursuant to sections 323.151 to 323.159 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 4503.064. As used in sections 4503.064 to 4503.069 of 516 the Revised Code: 517

(A) "Sixty-five years of age or older" means a person who
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will be age sixty-five or older in the calendar year following
the year of application for reduction in the assessable value of
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the person's manufactured or mobile home.
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(B) "Permanently and totally disabled" means that a person522other than a disabled veteran has, on the first day of January523

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of the year of application, including late application, for 524 reduction in the assessable value of a manufactured or mobile 525 home, some impairment in body or mind that makes the person 526 unable to work at any substantially remunerative employment 527 which the person is reasonably able to perform and which will, 528 with reasonable probability, continue for an indefinite period 529 530 of at least twelve months without any present indication of recovery therefrom or has been certified as permanently and 531 532 totally disabled by a state or federal agency having the function of so classifying persons. 533

(C) "Homestead exemption" means the reduction in taxes allowed under division (A) of section 323.152 of the Revised Code for the year in which an application is filed under section 4503.066 of the Revised Code.

(D) "Manufactured home" has the meaning given in division
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(C) (4) of section 3781.06 of the Revised Code, and includes a
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structure consisting of two manufactured homes that were
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purchased either together or separately and are combined to form
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a single dwelling, but does not include a manufactured home that
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is taxed as real property pursuant to division (B) of section
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4503.06 of the Revised Code.

(E) "Mobile home" has the meaning given in division (0) of 545
section 4501.01 of the Revised Code and includes a structure 546
consisting of two mobile homes that were purchased together or 547
separately and combined to form a single dwelling, but does not 548
include a mobile home that is taxed as real property pursuant to 549
division (B) of section 4503.06 of the Revised Code. 550

(F) "Late application" means an application filed with anoriginal application under division (A) (3) of section 4503.066of the Revised Code.553

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(G) "Total income," "disabled veteran," "public service 554 officer," and "killed in the line of duty" have the same 555 meanings as in section 323.151 of the Revised Code. 556 (H) "Surviving spouse of a disabled veteran" means either 557 of the following: 558 (1) The spouse of a disabled veteran who occupied the 559 manufactured or mobile home when the disabled veteran died and 560 who acquires ownership of the manufactured or mobile home; 561 (2) The surviving spouse of an individual to which all of 562 the following apply, provided the surviving spouse occupies the 563 manufactured or mobile home when that individual dies and who, 564 following that individual's death, acquires ownership of the 565 manufactured or mobile home: 566 (a) The individual dies before receiving a total 567 disability rating described in division (F) of section 323.151 568 of the Revised Code. 569 (b) The individual otherwise gualifies as a disabled 570 571 <u>veteran.</u> (c) The individual owns and occupies a manufactured or 572 mobile home. 573 Sec. 4503.065. (A)(1) Division (A) of this section applies 574 to any of the following persons: 575 (a) An individual who is permanently and totally disabled; 576 (b) An individual who is sixty-five years of age or older; 577 (c) An individual who is the surviving spouse of a 578 deceased person who was permanently and totally disabled or 579 sixty-five years of age or older and who applied and qualified 580

for a reduction in assessable value under this section in the581year of death, provided the surviving spouse is at least fifty-582nine but not sixty-five or more years of age on the date the583deceased spouse dies.584

(2) The manufactured home tax on a manufactured or mobile 585 home that is paid pursuant to division (C) of section 4503.06 of 586 the Revised Code and that is owned and occupied as a home by an 587 individual whose domicile is in this state and to whom this 588 section applies, shall be reduced for any tax year for which an 589 application for such reduction has been approved, provided the 590 individual did not acquire ownership from a person, other than 591 the individual's spouse, related by consanguinity or affinity 592 for the purpose of qualifying for the reduction. An owner 593 includes a settlor of a revocable or irrevocable inter vivos 594 trust holding the title to a manufactured or mobile home 595 occupied by the settlor as of right under the trust. 596

(a) For manufactured and mobile homes for which the tax
imposed by section 4503.06 of the Revised Code is computed under
division (D) (2) of that section, the reduction shall equal one
of the following amounts, as applicable to the person:

(i) If the person received a reduction under this section
for tax year 2007, the greater of the reduction for that tax
year or the amount computed under division (A) (2) (b) of this
section;

(ii) If the person received, for any homestead, a
ceduction under division (A) of this section for tax year 2014
or under division (A) (1) of section 323.152 of the Revised Code
for tax year 2013 or the person is the surviving spouse of such
a person and the surviving spouse is at least fifty-nine years
of age on the date the deceased spouse dies, the amount computed

under division (A)(2)(b) of this section. For purposes of 611 divisions (A)(2)(a)(ii) and (iii) of this section, a person 612 receives a reduction under division (A) of this section or 613 division (A)(1) of section 323.152 of the Revised Code for tax 614 year 2014 or 2013, respectively, if the person files a late 615 application for that respective tax year that is approved by the 616 county auditor under section 4503.066 or 323.153 of the Revised 617 Code. 618

(iii) If the person is not described in division (A) (2) (a)
(i) or (ii) of this section and the person's total income does
not exceed thirty thousand dollars, as adjusted under division
(A) (2) (e) of this section, the amount computed under division
(A) (2) (b) of this section.

(b) The amount of the reduction under division (A)(2)(b) 624 of this section equals the product of the following: 625

(i) Twenty-five thousand dollars of the true value of the property in money;

(ii) The assessment percentage established by the tax
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commissioner under division (B) of section 5715.01 of the
Revised Code, not to exceed thirty-five per cent;
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(iii) The effective tax rate used to calculate the taxes
charged against the property for the current year, where
"effective tax rate" is defined as in section 323.08 of the
Revised Code;

(iv) The quantity equal to one minus the sum of the
percentage reductions in taxes received by the property for the
current tax year under section 319.302 of the Revised Code and
division (B) of section 323.152 of the Revised Code.

(c) For manufactured and mobile homes for which the tax 639

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imposed by section 4503.06 of the Revised Code is computed under 640
division (D)(1) of that section, the reduction shall equal one 641
of the following amounts, as applicable to the person: 642

(i) If the person received a reduction under this section
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for tax year 2007, the greater of the reduction for that tax
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year or the amount computed under division (A) (2) (d) of this
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section;

647 (ii) If the person received, for any homestead, a reduction under division (A) of this section for tax year 2014 648 or under division (A)(1) of section 323.152 of the Revised Code 649 for tax year 2013 or the person is the surviving spouse of such 650 a person and the surviving spouse is at least fifty-nine years 651 of age on the date the deceased spouse dies, the amount computed 652 under division (A)(2)(d) of this section. For purposes of 653 divisions (A)(2)(c)(ii) and (iii) of this section, a person 654 receives a reduction under division (A) of this section or under 655 division (A)(1) of section 323.152 of the Revised Code for tax 656 year 2014 or 2013, respectively, if the person files a late 657 application for a refund of overpayments for that respective tax 658 659 year that is approved by the county auditor under section 4503.066 of the Revised Code. 660

(iii) If the person is not described in division (A) (2) (c)
(i) or (ii) of this section and the person's total income does
not exceed thirty thousand dollars, as adjusted under division
(A) (2) (e) of this section, the amount computed under division
(A) (2) (d) of this section.

(d) The amount of the reduction under division (A)(2)(d) 666 of this section equals the product of the following: 667

(i) Twenty-five thousand dollars of the cost to the owner, 668

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or the market value at the time of purchase, whichever is 669 greater, as those terms are used in division (D)(1) of section 670 4503.06 of the Revised Code; 671

(ii) The percentage from the appropriate schedule indivision (D) (1) (b) of section 4503.06 of the Revised Code;673

(iii) The assessment percentage of forty per cent used indivision (D) (1) (b) of section 4503.06 of the Revised Code;675

(iv) The tax rate of the taxing district in which the home has its situs.

(i) Determine the percentage increase in the gross
domestic product deflator determined by the bureau of economic
analysis of the United States department of commerce from the
first day of January of the preceding calendar year to the last
day of December of the preceding calendar year;

(ii) Multiply that percentage increase by the total income threshold for the ensuing tax year;

(iii) Add the resulting product to the total income689threshold for the ensuing tax year;690

(iv) Round the resulting sum to the nearest multiple of691one hundred dollars.

The commissioner shall certify the amount resulting from693the adjustment to each county auditor not later than the first694day of December each year. The certified amount applies to the695second ensuing tax year. The commissioner shall not make the696

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adjustment in any calendar year in which the amount resulting 697 from the adjustment would be less than the total income 698 threshold for the ensuing tax year. 699

(B) (B) (1) The manufactured home tax levied pursuant to 700 division (C) of section 4503.06 of the Revised Code on a 701 manufactured or mobile home that is owned and occupied by a 702 disabled veteran shall be reduced for any tax year for which an 703 application for such reduction has been approved, provided the 704 disabled veteran did not acquire ownership from a person, other 705 706 than the disabled veteran's spouse, related by consanguinity or affinity for the purpose of qualifying for the reduction. An 707 owner includes an owner within the meaning of division (A)(2) of 708 this section. 709

(1)—(a) For manufactured and mobile homes for which the tax imposed by section 4503.06 of the Revised Code is computed under division (D)(2) of that section, the reduction shall equal the product obtained by multiplying fifty thousand dollars of the true value of the property in money by the amounts described in divisions (A)(2)(b)(ii) to (iv) of this section.

(2) (b) For manufactured and mobile homes for which the 716 tax imposed by section 4503.06 of the Revised Code is computed 717 under division (D)(1) of that section, the reduction shall equal 718 the product obtained by multiplying fifty thousand dollars of 719 the cost to the owner, or the market value at the time of 720 purchase, whichever is greater, as those terms are used in 721 division (D)(1) of section 4503.06 of the Revised Code, by the 722 amounts described in divisions (A) (2) (d) (ii) to (iv) of this 723 section. 724

The reduction is in lieu of any reduction under section7254503.0610 of the Revised Code or division (A), (B)(2), or (C) of726

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this section. The reduction applies to only one manufactured or	727
mobile home owned and occupied by a disabled veteran.	728
If a manufactured or mobile home qualifies for a reduction-	729
in taxes under this division for the year in which the disabled	730
veteran dies, and the disabled veteran is survived by a spouse-	731
who occupied the home when the disabled veteran died and who	732
acquires ownership of the home, the reduction shall continue	733
through the year in which the surviving spouse dies or	734
remarries.	735
(2) The manufactured home tax levied pursuant to division	736
(C) of section 4503.06 of the Revised Code on a manufactured or	737
mobile home that is owned and occupied by the surviving spouse	738
of a disabled veteran shall be reduced for each tax year for	739
which an application for such reduction has been approved. The	740
reduction shall equal the amount of the reduction authorized	741
under division (B)(1)(a) or (b) of this section, as applicable.	742
An owner includes an owner within the meaning of division (A)(2)	743
of this section.	744
The reduction is in lieu of any reduction under section	745
4503.0610 of the Revised Code or division (A), (B)(1), or (C) of	746
this section. The reduction applies to only one manufactured or	747
mobile home owned and occupied by the surviving spouse of a	748
disabled veteran. A manufactured or mobile home qualifies for a	749
reduction in taxes under division (B)(2) of this section	750
beginning in one of the following tax years:	751
(a) For a surviving spouse described in division (H)(1) of	752
section 4503.064 of the Revised Code, the year the disabled	753
veteran dies;	754
(b) For a surviving spouse described in division (H)(2) of	755

section 4503.064 of the Revised Code, the first year on the	756
first day of January of which the total disability rating	757
described in division (F) of section 323.151 of the Revised Code	758
has been received for the deceased spouse.	759
In either case, the reduction shall continue through the	760
tax year in which the surviving spouse dies or remarries.	761
(C) The manufactured home tax levied pursuant to division	762
(C) of section 4503.06 of the Revised Code on a manufactured or	763
mobile home that is owned and occupied by the surviving spouse	764
of a public service officer killed in the line of duty shall be	765
reduced for any tax year for which an application for such	766
reduction has been approved, provided the surviving spouse did	767
not acquire ownership from a person, other than the surviving	768
spouse's deceased public service officer spouse, related by	769
consanguinity or affinity for the purpose of qualifying for the	770
reduction. An owner includes an owner within the meaning of	771
division (A)(2) of this section.	772
(1) For manufactured and mobile homes for which the tax	773
imposed by section 4503.06 of the Revised Code is computed under	774
division (D)(2) of that section, the reduction shall equal the	775
division (b) (2) of that section, the reduction shall equal the	11

product obtained by multiplying fifty thousand dollars of the 776 true value of the property in money by the amounts described in 777 divisions (A)(2)(b)(ii) to (iv) of this section. 778

(2) For manufactured and mobile homes for which the tax 779 imposed by section 4503.06 of the Revised Code is computed under 780 division (D)(1) of that section, the reduction shall equal the 781 product obtained by multiplying fifty thousand dollars of the 782 cost to the owner, or the market value at the time of purchase, 783 whichever is greater, as those terms are used in division (D)(1) 784 of section 4503.06 of the Revised Code, by the amounts described 785

in divisions (A)(2)(d)(ii) to (iv) of this section.

The reduction is in lieu of any reduction under section 787 4503.0610 of the Revised Code or division (A) or (B) of this 788 section. The reduction applies to only one manufactured or 789 mobile home owned and occupied by such a surviving spouse. A 790 manufactured or mobile home qualifies for a reduction in taxes 791 under this division for the tax year in which the public service 792 793 officer dies through the tax year in which the surviving spouse dies or remarries. 794

795 (D) If the owner or the spouse of the owner of a manufactured or mobile home is eligible for a homestead 796 exemption on the land upon which the home is located, the 797 reduction to which the owner or spouse is entitled under this 798 section shall not exceed the difference between the reduction to 799 800 which the owner or spouse is entitled under division (A), (B), or (C) of this section and the amount of the reduction under the 801 homestead exemption. 802

(E) No reduction shall be made with respect to the home of
any person convicted of violating division (C) or (D) of section
4503.066 of the Revised Code for a period of three years
following the conviction.

Sec. 4503.066. (A) (1) To obtain a tax reduction under 807 section 4503.065 of the Revised Code, the owner of the home 808 shall file an application with the county auditor of the county 809 in which the home is located. An application for reduction in 810 taxes based upon a physical disability shall be accompanied by a 811 certificate signed by a physician, and an application for 812 813 reduction in taxes based upon a mental disability shall be accompanied by a certificate signed by a physician or 814 psychologist licensed to practice in this state. The certificate 815

shall attest to the fact that the applicant is permanently and 816 totally disabled, shall be in a form that the department of 817 taxation requires, and shall include the definition of totally 818 and permanently disabled as set forth in section 4503.064 of the 819 Revised Code. An application for reduction in taxes based upon a 820 disability certified as permanent and total by a state or 821 federal agency having the function of so classifying persons 822 shall be accompanied by a certificate from that agency. 823

An application by a disabled veteran or the surviving824spouse of a disabled veteranfor the reduction under division825(B) (1) or (2) of section 4503.065 of the Revised Code shall826be accompanied by a letter or other written confirmation from827the United States department of veterans affairs, or its828predecessor or successor agency, showing that the veteran829qualifies as a disabled veteran.830

An application by the surviving spouse of a public service 831 officer killed in the line of duty for the reduction under 832 division (C) of section 4503.065 of the Revised Code shall be 833 accompanied by a letter or other written confirmation from an 834 officer or employee of the board of trustees of a retirement or 835 pension fund in this state or another state or from the chief or 836 other chief executive of the department, agency, or other 837 employer for which the public service officer served when killed 838 in the line of duty affirming that the public service officer 839 was killed in the line of duty. 840

(2) Each application shall constitute a continuing
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application for a reduction in taxes for each year in which the
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manufactured or mobile home is occupied by the applicant.
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Failure to receive a new application or notification under
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division (B) of this section after an application for reduction

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has been approved is prima-facie evidence that the original 846 applicant is entitled to the reduction calculated on the basis 847 of the information contained in the original application. The 848 original application and any subsequent application shall be in 849 the form of a signed statement and shall be filed on or before 850 the thirty-first day of December of the year preceding the year 851 for which the reduction is sought. The statement shall be on a 852 form, devised and supplied by the tax commissioner, that shall 853 require no more information than is necessary to establish the 854 applicant's eligibility for the reduction in taxes and the 855 amount of the reduction to which the applicant is entitled. The 856 form shall contain a statement that signing such application 857 constitutes a delegation of authority by the applicant to the 858 tax commissioner or the county auditor, individually or in 859 consultation with each other, to examine any tax or financial 860 records that relate to the income of the applicant as stated on 861 the application for the purpose of determining eligibility 862 under, or possible violation of, division (C) or (D) of this 863 section. The form also shall contain a statement that conviction 864 of willfully falsifying information to obtain a reduction in 865 taxes or failing to comply with division (B) of this section 866 shall result in the revocation of the right to the reduction for 867 a period of three years. 868

(3) A late application for a reduction in taxes for the 869 year preceding the year for which an original application is 870 filed may be filed with an original application. If the auditor 871 determines that the information contained in the late 872 application is correct, the auditor shall determine both the 873 amount of the reduction in taxes to which the applicant would 874 have been entitled for the current tax year had the application 875 been timely filed and approved in the preceding year, and the 876

amount the taxes levied under section 4503.06 of the Revised 877 Code for the current year would have been reduced as a result of 878 the reduction. When an applicant is permanently and totally 879 disabled on the first day of January of the year in which the 880 applicant files a late application, the auditor, in making the 881 determination of the amounts of the reduction in taxes under 882 division (A)(3) of this section, is not required to determine 883 that the applicant was permanently and totally disabled on the 884 first day of January of the preceding year. 885

The amount of the reduction in taxes pursuant to a late 886 application shall be treated as an overpayment of taxes by the 887 applicant. The auditor shall credit the amount of the 888 889 overpayment against the amount of the taxes or penalties then due from the applicant, and, at the next succeeding settlement, 890 the amount of the credit shall be deducted from the amount of 891 any taxes or penalties distributable to the county or any taxing 892 unit in the county that has received the benefit of the taxes or 893 penalties previously overpaid, in proportion to the benefits 894 previously received. If, after the credit has been made, there 895 remains a balance of the overpayment, or if there are no taxes 896 or penalties due from the applicant, the auditor shall refund 897 that balance to the applicant by a warrant drawn on the county 898 treasurer in favor of the applicant. The treasurer shall pay the 899 warrant from the general fund of the county. If there is 900 insufficient money in the general fund to make the payment, the 901 treasurer shall pay the warrant out of any undivided 902 manufactured or mobile home taxes subsequently received by the 903 treasurer for distribution to the county or taxing district in 904 the county that received the benefit of the overpaid taxes, in 905 proportion to the benefits previously received, and the amount 906 paid from the undivided funds shall be deducted from the money 907

otherwise distributable to the county or taxing district in the 908 county at the next or any succeeding distribution. At the next 909 or any succeeding distribution after making the refund, the 910 treasurer shall reimburse the general fund for any payment made 911 from that fund by deducting the amount of that payment from the 912 money distributable to the county or other taxing unit in the 913 county that has received the benefit of the taxes, in proportion 914 to the benefits previously received. On the second Monday in 915 September of each year, the county auditor shall certify the 916 total amount of the reductions in taxes made in the current year 917 under division (A) (3) of this section to the tax commissioner 918 who shall treat that amount as a reduction in taxes for the 919 current tax year and shall make reimbursement to the county of 920 that amount in the manner prescribed in section 4503.068 of the 921 922

(B)(1) If in any year for which an application for reduction in taxes has been approved the owner no longer qualifies for the reduction, the owner shall notify the county auditor that the owner is not qualified for a reduction in taxes.

Revised Code, from moneys appropriated for that purpose.

(2) If the county auditor or county treasurer discovers 928 that an owner not entitled to the reduction in manufactured home 929 taxes under section 4503.065 of the Revised Code failed to 930 notify the county auditor as required by division (B)(1) of this 931 section, a charge shall be imposed against the manufactured or 932 mobile home in the amount by which taxes were reduced under that 933 section for each tax year the county auditor ascertains that the 934 manufactured or mobile home was not entitled to the reduction 935 and was owned by the current owner. Interest shall accrue in the 936 manner prescribed by division (G)(2) of section 4503.06 of the 937 Revised Code on the amount by which taxes were reduced for each 938

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such tax year as if the reduction became delinquent taxes at the 939 close of the last day the second installment of taxes for that 940 tax year could be paid without penalty. The county auditor shall 941 notify the owner, by ordinary mail, of the charge, of the 942 owner's right to appeal the charge, and of the manner in which 943 the owner may appeal. The owner may appeal the imposition of the 944 charge and interest by filing an appeal with the county board of 945 revision not later than the last day prescribed for payment of 946 manufactured home taxes under section 4503.06 of the Revised 947 Code following receipt of the notice and occurring at least 948 ninety days after receipt of the notice. The appeal shall be 949 treated in the same manner as a complaint relating to the 950 valuation or assessment of manufactured or mobile homes under 951 section 5715.19 of the Revised Code. The charge and any interest 952 shall be collected as other delinquent taxes. 953

(3) During January of each year, the county auditor shall 954 furnish each person whose application for reduction has been 955 approved, by ordinary mail, a form on which to report any 956 changes in total income, ownership, occupancy, disability, and 957 other information earlier furnished the auditor relative to the 958 959 application. The form shall be completed and returned to the auditor not later than the thirty-first day of December if the 960 changes would affect the person's eligibility for the reduction. 961

(C) No person shall knowingly make a false statement for
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the purpose of obtaining a reduction in taxes under section
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4503.065 of the Revised Code.
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(D) No person shall knowingly fail to notify the county
 auditor of any change required by division (B) of this section
 that has the effect of maintaining or securing a reduction in
 taxes under section 4503.065 of the Revised Code.

(E) No person shall knowingly make a false statement or
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certification attesting to any person's physical or mental
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condition for purposes of qualifying such person for tax relief
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pursuant to sections 4503.064 to 4503.069 of the Revised Code.
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(F) Whoever violates division (C), (D), or (E) of this973section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.974

 Section 2. That existing sections 323.151, 323.152,
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 323.153, 4503.064, 4503.065, and 4503.066 of the Revised Code
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 are hereby repealed.
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Section 3. The amendment by this act of sections 323.151, 978 323.152, and 323.153 of the Revised Code applies to tax years 979 ending on or after the effective date of this section. The 980 amendment by this act of sections 4503.064, 4503.065, and 981 4503.066 of the Revised Code applies to tax years beginning on 982 or after the effective date of this section. 983

Section 4. Section 323.151 of the Revised Code is 984 presented in this act as a composite of the section as amended 985 by both H.B. 17 and H.B. 166 of the 133rd General Assembly. The 986 General Assembly, applying the principle stated in division (B) 987 of section 1.52 of the Revised Code that amendments are to be 988 harmonized if reasonably capable of simultaneous operation, 989 finds that the composite is the resulting version of the section 990 in effect prior to the effective date of the section as 991 presented in this act. 992

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