<u>SSB 6178</u> - H AMD 949

By Representative Priest

SCOPE AND OBJECT 11/29/2007

On page 5, after line 13, insert the following:

"Sec. 12. RCW 84.38.030 and 2006 c 62 s 3 are each amended to read as follows:

A claimant may defer payment of special assessments and/or real property taxes on up to eighty percent of the amount of the claimant's equity value in the claimant's residence if the following conditions are met:

- (1) The claimant must meet all requirements for an exemption for the residence under RCW 84.36.381, other than the age and income limits under RCW 84.36.381.
- (2) The claimant must be sixty years of age or older on December 31st of the year in which the deferral claim is filed, or must have been, at the time of filing, retired from regular gainful employment by reason of physical disability: PROVIDED, That any surviving spouse of a person who was receiving a deferral at the time of the person's death shall qualify if the surviving spouse is fifty-seven years of age or older and otherwise meets the requirements of this section.
- (3) The claimant must have a combined disposable income, as defined in RCW 84.36.383, of ((forty)) <u>fifty-seven</u> thousand dollars or less.
- (4) The claimant must have owned, at the time of filing, the residence on which the special assessment and/or real property taxes have been imposed. For purposes of this subsection, a residence owned by a marital community or owned by cotenants shall be deemed to be owned by each spouse or cotenant. A claimant who has only a share ownership in cooperative housing, a life estate, a lease for life, or a revocable trust does not satisfy the ownership requirement.

- 1 (5) The claimant must have and keep in force fire and casualty
 2 insurance in sufficient amount to protect the interest of the state
 3 in the claimant's equity value: PROVIDED, That if the claimant
 4 fails to keep fire and casualty insurance in force to the extent of
 5 the state's interest in the claimant's equity value, the amount
 6 deferred shall not exceed one hundred percent of the claimant's
 7 equity value in the land or lot only.
 - (6) In the case of special assessment deferral, the claimant must have opted for payment of such special assessments on the installment method if such method was available."

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Correct the title and renumber the remaining sections consecutively

EFFECT: Increases the income threshold from \$40,000 to \$57,000 for the current tax deferral program for senior citizens and persons retired by reason of disability.