

CITY OF DOVER ORDINANCE #2010-06

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DOVER, IN COUNCIL MET:

That Chapter 102 - Taxation, Article VI - Exemptions; Board of Assessment Appeals, Section 102-183 - Tax Exemptions for Senior Citizens, Subsection (b) - Qualifications, Subsection (3) - Exclusions from Income, be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 102-183. Tax exemption for senior citizens.

(a) *Authority.* This section is adopted to implement 22 Del. C. § 1001 et seq., granting exemptions from municipal taxation on real property for persons 65 years of age or over. Compliance must be made with such chapter 10 and this section in order to qualify for such exemption.

(b) *Qualifications.* The exemption shall be for real property owners 60 years of age or over. If qualified, their real property shall be exempt from municipal taxation to the extent of the first \$50,000.00 of assessed valuation. This exemption shall be subject to the following:

(1) *Owner resides alone.* If the income of a property owner who resides alone exceeds the sum of \$15,851.00 (2008) for the income tax year immediately preceding the date of making an application for the exemption, then the exemption shall not be granted. The maximum income limit stated in the preceding sentence shall increase each year by the same percentage as the cost of living adjustment granted to recipients of Social Security retirement benefits.

(2) *Spouses reside together.* If the income of a property owner and spouse who reside together exceeds the sum of \$22,192.00 (2008) for the income tax year immediately preceding the date of making an application for the exemption, then the exemption shall not be granted. The maximum income limit stated in the preceding sentence shall increase each year by the same percentage as the cost of living adjustment granted to recipients of Social Security retirement benefits.

(3) *Exclusion from income.* In computing income of the property owner in order to determine entitlement for the deduction, Social Security benefits; railroad pensions and federal civil service retirement (not to exceed the sum of \$35,190 (2010) - 150 % of the Social Security maximum benefit. The civil service retirement income exclusion shall be based each year on the maximum Social Security benefit at 150%), shall not be considered as income.

ADOPTED: MARCH 22, 2010

S:\ORDINANCES\2010\Adopted Ordinances\Ordinance 2010-06 Senior Citizen Exemption Cap ADOPTED 03-22-2010.wpd

SYNOPSIS

This amendment would place a cap on the excluded amount allowed for Civil Service Pension

Actions History

March 22, 2010 - Final Reading Scheduled at Council

March 8, 2010 - First Reading - Council

February 8, 2010 - Legislative, Finance, and Administration Committee