HOUSE BILL No. 1023

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 6-1.1-12; IC 6-6-5.

Synopsis: Deduction for surviving spouses of WW I veterans. Restores the property tax deduction available to a surviving spouse of a World War I veteran that was limited to property taxes imposed for an assessment date before January 1, 2025, by SEA 1-2025 (P.L. 68-2025).

Effective: January 1, 2025 (retroactive).

Pryor, Snow

December 1, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Ways and Means.



Second Regular Session of the 124th General Assembly (2026)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in this style type, and deletions will appear in this style type.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or *this style type* reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1023

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning taxation.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

SECTION 1. IC 6-1.1-12-16, AS AMENDED BY P.L.68-2025,
SECTION 28, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
JANUARY 1, 2025 (RETROACTIVE)]: Sec. 16. (a) Except as
provided in section 40.5 of this chapter, a surviving spouse may have
the sum of eighteen thousand seven hundred twenty dollars (\$18,720)
deducted from the assessed value of the surviving spouse's tangible
property, or real property, mobile home not assessed as real property,
or manufactured home not assessed as real property that the surviving
spouse is buying under a contract that provides that the surviving
spouse is to pay property taxes on the real property, mobile home, or
manufactured home, if the contract or a memorandum of the contract
is recorded in the county recorder's office, and if:
(1) the decorate management in the military or morel former of

- (1) the deceased spouse served in the military or naval forces of the United States before November 12, 1918;
- (2) the deceased spouse received an honorable discharge; and
- (3) the surviving spouse:
 - (A) owns the real property, mobile home, or manufactured



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1	home; or
2	(B) is buying the real property, mobile home, or manufactured
3	home under contract;
4	on the date the statement required by section 17 of this chapter is
5	filed.
6	(b) A surviving spouse who receives the deduction provided by this
7	section may not receive the deduction provided by section 13 of this
8	chapter. However, the surviving spouse may receive any other
9	deduction which the surviving spouse is entitled to by law.
10	(c) An individual who has sold real property, a mobile home not
11	assessed as real property, or a manufactured home not assessed as real
12	property to another person under a contract that provides that the
13	contract buyer is to pay the property taxes on the real property, mobile
14	home, or manufactured home may not claim the deduction provided
15	under this section against that real property, mobile home, or
16	manufactured home.
17	(d) This section applies only to property taxes imposed for an
18	assessment date before January 1, 2025.
19	(e) This section expires January 1, 2027.
20	SECTION 2. IC 6-1.1-12-17, AS AMENDED BY P.L.68-2025,
21	SECTION 29, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
22	JANUARY 1, 2025 (RETROACTIVE)]: Sec. 17. (a) Except as
23	provided in section 17.8 of this chapter and subject to section 45 of this
24	chapter, a surviving spouse who desires to claim the deduction
25	provided by section 16 of this chapter must file a statement with the
26	auditor of the county in which the surviving spouse resides. To obtain
27	the deduction for a desired calendar year in which property taxes are
28	first due and payable, the statement must be completed, dated, and filed
29	with the county auditor on or before January 15 of the calendar year in
30	which the property taxes are first due and payable. The statement may
31	be filed in person or by mail. If mailed, the mailing must be postmarked
32	on or before the last day for filing. The statement shall contain:
33	(1) a sworn statement that the surviving spouse is entitled to the
34	deduction; and
35	(2) the record number and page where the contract or
36	memorandum of the contract is recorded, if the individual is
37	buying the real property on a contract that provides that the
38	individual is to pay property taxes on the real property.
39	In addition to the statement, the surviving spouse shall submit to the
40	county auditor for the auditor's inspection a letter or certificate from the
41	United States Department of Veterans Affairs establishing the service

of the deceased spouse in the military or naval forces of the United



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States before November 12, 1918.

(b) This section applies only to property taxes imposed for an assessment date before January 1, 2025.

(c) This section expires January 1, 2027.

SECTION 3. IC 6-1.1-12-17.8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.230-2025, SECTION 35, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2025 (RETROACTIVE)]: Sec. 17.8. (a) An individual who receives a deduction provided under section 9 (before its expiration), 11 (before its expiration), 13, 14, 16, (before its expiration), 17.4 (before its expiration), or 37 of this chapter in a particular year and who remains eligible for the deduction in the following year is not required to file a statement to apply for the deduction in the following year. However, for purposes of a deduction under section 37 of this chapter, the county auditor may, in the county auditor's discretion, terminate the deduction for assessment dates after January 15, 2012, if the individual does not comply with the requirement in IC 6-1.1-22-8.1(b)(9) (expired January 1, 2015), as determined by the county auditor, before January 1, 2013. Before the county auditor terminates the deduction because the taxpayer claiming the deduction did not comply with the requirement in IC 6-1.1-22-8.1(b)(9) (expired January 1, 2015) before January 1, 2013, the county auditor shall mail notice of the proposed termination of the deduction to:

- (1) the last known address of each person liable for any property taxes or special assessment, as shown on the tax duplicate or special assessment records; or
- (2) the last known address of the most recent owner shown in the transfer book.
- (b) An individual who receives a deduction provided under section 9 (before its expiration), 11 (before its expiration), 13, 14, 16, (before its expiration), or 17.4 (before its expiration) of this chapter in a particular year and who becomes ineligible for the deduction in the following year shall notify the auditor of the county in which the real property, mobile home, or manufactured home for which the individual claims the deduction is located of the individual's ineligibility in the year in which the individual becomes ineligible. An individual who becomes ineligible for a deduction under section 37 of this chapter shall notify the county auditor of the county in which the property is located in conformity with section 37 of this chapter.
- (c) The auditor of each county shall, in a particular year, apply a deduction provided under section 9 (before its expiration), 11 (before its expiration), 13, 14, 16, (before its expiration), 17.4 (before its



- expiration), or 37 of this chapter to each individual who received the deduction in the preceding year unless the auditor determines that the individual is no longer eligible for the deduction.
- (d) An individual who receives a deduction provided under section 9 (before its expiration), 11 (before its expiration), 13, 14, 16, (before its expiration), 17.4 (before its expiration), or 37 of this chapter for property that is jointly held with another owner in a particular year and remains eligible for the deduction in the following year is not required to file a statement to reapply for the deduction following the removal of the joint owner if:
 - (1) the individual is the sole owner of the property following the death of the individual's spouse; or
 - (2) the individual is the sole owner of the property following the death of a joint owner who was not the individual's spouse.

If a county auditor terminates a deduction under section 9 of this chapter (before its expiration), a deduction under section 37 of this chapter, or a credit under IC 6-1.1-20.6-8.5 after June 30, 2017, and before May 1, 2019, because the taxpayer claiming the deduction or credit did not comply with a requirement added to this subsection by P.L.255-2017 to reapply for the deduction or credit, the county auditor shall reinstate the deduction or credit if the taxpayer provides proof that the taxpayer is eligible for the deduction or credit and is not claiming the deduction or credit for any other property.

- (e) A trust entitled to a deduction under section 9 (before its expiration), 11 (before its expiration), 13, 14, 16, (before its expiration), 17.4 (before its expiration), or 37 of this chapter for real property owned by the trust and occupied by an individual in accordance with section 17.9 of this chapter (before its expiration) is not required to file a statement to apply for the deduction, if:
 - (1) the individual who occupies the real property receives a deduction provided under section 9 (before its expiration), 11 (before its expiration), 13, 14, 16, (before its expiration), 17.4 (before its expiration), or 37 of this chapter in a particular year; and
 - (2) the trust remains eligible for the deduction in the following year.

However, for purposes of a deduction under section 37 of this chapter, the individuals that qualify the trust for a deduction must comply with the requirement in IC 6-1.1-22-8.1(b)(9) (expired January 1, 2015) before January 1, 2013.

(f) A cooperative housing corporation (as defined in 26 U.S.C. 216) that is entitled to a deduction under section 37 of this chapter in the



immediately preceding calendar year for a homestead (as defined in section 37 of this chapter) is not required to file a statement to apply for the deduction for the current calendar year if the cooperative housing corporation remains eligible for the deduction for the current calendar year. However, the county auditor may, in the county auditor's discretion, terminate the deduction for assessment dates after January 15, 2012, if the individual does not comply with the requirement in IC 6-1.1-22-8.1(b)(9) (expired January 1, 2015), as determined by the county auditor, before January 1, 2013. Before the county auditor terminates a deduction because the taxpayer claiming the deduction did not comply with the requirement in IC 6-1.1-22-8.1(b)(9) (expired January 1, 2015) before January 1, 2013, the county auditor shall mail notice of the proposed termination of the deduction to:

- (1) the last known address of each person liable for any property taxes or special assessment, as shown on the tax duplicate or special assessment records; or
- (2) the last known address of the most recent owner shown in the transfer book.
- (g) An individual who:

- (1) was eligible for a homestead credit under IC 6-1.1-20.9 (repealed) for property taxes imposed for the March 1, 2007, or January 15, 2008, assessment date; or
- (2) would have been eligible for a homestead credit under IC 6-1.1-20.9 (repealed) for property taxes imposed for the March 1, 2008, or January 15, 2009, assessment date if IC 6-1.1-20.9 had not been repealed;

is not required to file a statement to apply for a deduction under section 37 of this chapter if the individual remains eligible for the deduction in the current year. An individual who filed for a homestead credit under IC 6-1.1-20.9 (repealed) for an assessment date after March 1, 2007 (if the property is real property), or after January 1, 2008 (if the property is personal property), shall be treated as an individual who has filed for a deduction under section 37 of this chapter. However, the county auditor may, in the county auditor's discretion, terminate the deduction for assessment dates after January 15, 2012, if the individual does not comply with the requirement in IC 6-1.1-22-8.1(b)(9) (expired January 1, 2015), as determined by the county auditor, before January 1, 2013. Before the county auditor terminates the deduction because the taxpayer claiming the deduction did not comply with the requirement in IC 6-1.1-22-8.1(b)(9) (expired January 1, 2015) before January 1, 2013, the county auditor shall mail notice of the proposed termination of the deduction to the last known address of each person liable for any



- property taxes or special assessment, as shown on the tax duplicate or special assessment records, or to the last known address of the most recent owner shown in the transfer book.
- (h) If a county auditor terminates a deduction because the taxpayer claiming the deduction did not comply with the requirement in IC 6-1.1-22-8.1(b)(9) (expired January 1, 2015) before January 1, 2013, the county auditor shall reinstate the deduction if the taxpayer provides proof that the taxpayer is eligible for the deduction and is not claiming the deduction for any other property.
- (i) A taxpayer described in section 37(r) of this chapter is not required to file a statement to apply for the deduction provided by section 37 of this chapter if the property owned by the taxpayer remains eligible for the deduction for that calendar year.
- (j) A surviving spouse who received the deduction provided by section 16 of this chapter for the January 1, 2024, assessment date is not required to file a statement to reapply for the deduction to receive the deduction for the January 1, 2025, assessment date. The county auditor shall apply the deduction provided by section 16 of this chapter for the surviving spouse for the January 1, 2025, assessment date on the surviving spouse's property tax statement for property taxes first due and payable in 2026.

SECTION 4. IC 6-1.1-12-17.9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.230-2025, SECTION 36, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2025 (RETROACTIVE)]: Sec. 17.9. A trust is entitled to a deduction under section 9 (before its expiration), 11 (before its expiration), 13, 14, 16, (before its expiration), or 17.4 (before its expiration) of this chapter for real property owned by the trust and occupied by an individual if the county auditor determines that the individual:

- (1) upon verification in the body of the deed or otherwise, has either:
 - (A) a beneficial interest in the trust; or
 - (B) the right to occupy the real property rent free under the terms of a qualified personal residence trust created by the individual under United States Treasury Regulation 25.2702-5(c)(2); and
- (2) otherwise qualifies for the deduction.

SECTION 5. IC 6-1.1-12-43, AS AMENDED BY P.L.230-2025, SECTION 37, AND AS AMENDED BY P.L.186-2025, SECTION 292, IS CORRECTED AND AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2025 (RETROACTIVE)]: Sec. 43. (a) For purposes of this section:



1	(1) "benefit" refers to a deduction under section 9 (before its
2	expiration), 11 (before its expiration), 13, (before its expiration)
3	14, (before its expiration), 16, (before its expiration), 17.4 (before
4	its expiration), 26 (before its expiration), 29 (before its
5	expiration), 33 (before its expiration), 34 (before its expiration)
6	37, or 37.5 of this chapter;
7	(2) "closing agent" means a person that closes a transaction;
8	(3) "customer" means an individual who obtains a loan in a
9	transaction; and
10	(4) "transaction" means a single family residential:
11	(A) first lien purchase money mortgage transaction; or
12	(B) refinancing transaction.
13	(b) Before closing a transaction after December 31, 2004, a closing
14	agent must provide to the customer the form referred to in subsection
15	(c).
16	(c) Before June 1, 2004, the department of local government finance
17	shall prescribe the form to be provided by closing agents to customers
18	under subsection (b). The department shall make the form available to
19	closing agents, county assessors, county auditors, and county treasurers
20	in hard copy and electronic form. County assessors, county auditors
21	and county treasurers shall make the form available to the genera
22	public. The form must:
23	(1) on one (1) side:
24	(A) list each benefit; and
25	(B) list the eligibility criteria for each benefit;
26	(2) on the other side indicate:
27	(A) each action by and each type of documentation from the
28	customer required to file for each benefit; and
29	(B) sufficient instructions and information to permit a party to
30	terminate a standard deduction under section 37 of this chapter
31	on any property on which the party or the spouse of the party
32	will no longer be eligible for the standard deduction under
33	section 37 of this chapter after the party or the party's spouse
34	begins to reside at the property that is the subject of the
35	closing, including an explanation of the tax consequences and
36	applicable penalties, if a party unlawfully claims a standard
37	deduction under section 37 of this chapter; and
38	(3) be printed in one (1) of two (2) or more colors prescribed by
39	the department of local government finance that distinguish the
40	form from other documents typically used in a closing referred to
41	in subsection (b).
42	(d) A closing agent:



1	(1) may reproduce the form referred to in subsection (c);
2	(2) in reproducing the form, must use a print color prescribed by
3	the department of local government finance; and
4	(3) is not responsible for the content of the form referred to in
5	subsection (c) and shall be held harmless by the department of
6	local government finance from any liability for the content of the
7	form.
8	(e) This subsection applies to a transaction that is closed after
9	December 31, 2009. In addition to providing the customer the form
10	described in subsection (c) before closing the transaction, a closing
11	agent shall do the following as soon as possible after the closing, and
12	within the time prescribed by the department of insurance under
13	IC 27-7-3-15.5:
14	(1) To the extent determinable, input the information described in
15	IC 27-7-3-15.5(c)(2) into the system maintained by the
16	department of insurance under IC 27-7-3-15.5.
17	(2) Submit the form described in IC 27-7-3-15.5(c) to the data
18	base described in IC 27-7-3-15.5(c)(2)(D).
19	(f) A closing agent to which this section applies shall document the
20	closing agent's compliance with this section with respect to each
21	transaction in the form of verification of compliance signed by the
22	customer.
23	(g) Subject to IC 27-7-3-15.5(d), a closing agent is subject to a civil
24	penalty of twenty-five dollars (\$25) for each instance in which the
25	closing agent fails to comply with this section with respect to a
26	customer. The penalty:
27	(1) may be enforced by the state agency that has administrative
28	jurisdiction over the closing agent in the same manner that the
29	agency enforces the payment of fees or other penalties payable to
30	the agency; and
31	(2) shall be paid into:
32	(A) the state general fund, if the closing agent fails to comply
33	with subsection (b); or
34	(B) the home ownership education account established by
35	IC 5-20-1-27, if the closing agent fails to comply with
36	subsection (e) in a transaction that is closed after December
37	31, 2009.
38	(h) A closing agent is not liable for any other damages claimed by
39	a customer because of:
10	(1) the closing agent's mere failure to provide the appropriate
1 1	document to the customer under subsection (b); or
12	(1) with man set to a turned ation that is along of after Decomber 21



1	2009, the closing agent's failure to input the information or
2	submit the form described in subsection (e).
3	(i) The state agency that has administrative jurisdiction over a
4	closing agent shall:
5	(1) examine the closing agent to determine compliance with this
6	section; and
7	(2) impose and collect penalties under subsection (g).
8	SECTION 6. IC 6-1.1-12-46, AS AMENDED BY P.L.230-2025,
9	SECTION 38, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
10	JANUARY 1, 2025 (RETROACTIVE)]: Sec. 46. (a) This section
11	applies to real property for an assessment date in 2011 or a later year
12	if:
13	(1) the real property is not exempt from property taxation for the
14	assessment date;
15	(2) title to the real property is transferred after the assessment date
16	and on or before the December 31 that next succeeds the
17	assessment date;
18	(3) the transferee of the real property applies for an exemption
19	under IC 6-1.1-11 for the next succeeding assessment date; and
20	(4) the county property tax assessment board of appeals
21	determines that the real property is exempt from property taxation
22	for that next succeeding assessment date.
23	(b) For the assessment date referred to in subsection (a)(1), real
24	property is eligible for any deductions for which the transferor under
25	subsection (a)(2) was eligible for that assessment date under the
26	following:
27	(1) IC 6-1.1-12-1 (before its repeal).
28	(2) IC 6-1.1-12-9 (before its expiration).
29	(3) IC 6-1.1-12-11 (before its expiration).
30	(4) IC 6-1.1-12-13.
31	(5) IC 6-1.1-12-14.
32	(6) IC 6-1.1-12-16. (before its expiration).
33	(7) IC 6-1.1-12-17.4 (before its expiration).
34	(8) IC 6-1.1-12-18 (before its expiration).
35	(9) IC 6-1.1-12-22 (before its expiration).
36	(10) IC 6-1.1-12-37.
37	(11) IC 6-1.1-12-37.5.
38	(c) For the payment date applicable to the assessment date referred
39	to in subsection (a)(1), real property is eligible for the credit for
40	excessive residential property taxes under IC 6-1.1-20.6 for which the
41	transferor under subsection (a)(2) would be eligible for that payment
42	date if the transfer had not occurred.



SECTION 8. IC 6-6-5-5.2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.230-2025, SECTION 88, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2025 (RETROACTIVE)]: Sec. 5.2. (a) This section applies to a registration year beginning after December 31, 2013.

- (b) Subject to subsection (d), an individual may claim a credit against the tax imposed by this chapter upon a vehicle owned by the individual if the individual is eligible for the credit under any of the following:
 - (1) The individual meets all the following requirements:
 - (A) The individual served in the military or naval forces of the United States during any of its wars.
 - (B) The individual received an honorable discharge.
 - (C) The individual has a disability with a service connected disability of ten percent (10%) or more.
 - (D) The individual's disability is evidenced by:
 - (i) a pension certificate, an award of compensation, or a disability compensation check issued by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs; or
 - (ii) a certificate of eligibility issued to the individual by the Indiana department of veterans' affairs after the Indiana department of veterans' affairs has determined that the individual's disability qualifies the individual to receive a credit under this section.
 - (E) The individual does not own property to which a property tax deduction may be applied under IC 6-1.1-12-13.
 - (2) The individual meets all the following requirements:



1	(A) The individual served in the military or naval forces of the
2	United States for at least ninety (90) days.
3	(B) The individual received an honorable discharge.
4	(C) The individual either:
5	(i) has a total disability; or
6	(ii) is at least sixty-two (62) years of age and has a disability
7	of at least ten percent (10%).
8	(D) The individual's disability is evidenced by:
9	(i) a pension certificate or an award of compensation issued
0	by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs; or
l 1	(ii) a certificate of eligibility issued to the individual by the
12	Indiana department of veterans' affairs after the Indiana
13	department of veterans' affairs has determined that the
14	individual's disability qualifies the individual to receive a
15	credit under this section.
16	(E) The individual does not own property to which a property
17	tax deduction may be applied under IC 6-1.1-12-14.
8	(3) The individual meets both of the following requirements:
9	(A) The individual is the surviving spouse of any of the
20	following:
21	(i) An individual who would have been eligible for a credit
22	under this section if the individual had been alive in 2013
23 24 25 26	and this section had been in effect in 2013.
24	(ii) An individual who received a credit under this section in
25	the previous calendar year.
	(iii) A World War I veteran.
27	(B) The individual does not own property to which a property
28	tax deduction may be applied under IC 6-1.1-12-13,
29	IC 6-1.1-12-14, or IC 6-1.1-12-16. (before its expiration).
30	(c) The amount of the credit that may be claimed under this section
31	is equal to the lesser of the following:
32	(1) The amount of the excise tax liability for the individual's
33	vehicle as determined under section 3 or 3.5 of this chapter, as
34	applicable.
35	(2) Seventy dollars (\$70).
36	(d) The maximum number of motor vehicles for which an individual
37	may claim a credit under this section is two (2).
38	(e) An individual may not claim a credit under both:
39	(1) this section; and
10	(2) section 5 of this chapter.
11	(f) The credit allowed by this section must be claimed on a form
12	prescribed by the bureau. An individual claiming the credit must attach



- 1 to the form an affidavit from the county auditor stating that the
- 2 claimant does not own property to which a property tax deduction may
- 3 be applied under IC 6-1.1-12-13, IC 6-1.1-12-14, or IC 6-1.1-12-16.
- 4 (before its expiration).
- 5 SECTION 9. An emergency is declared for this act.

