

# Fla. Seeks Voter Approval Of Homestead Exemption Increase

By **Jaqueline McCool**

Law360 (June 2, 2026, 5:22 PM EDT) -- Florida would increase the amount of its homestead tax exemption and aim to fully exempt homesteads under a resolution passed by the state Legislature on Tuesday that will have a proposed constitutional amendment go to voters in November.

**H.J.R. 1**, which was passed in the state House of Representatives by a 75-26 vote and in the Senate by a 30-9 vote, will ask voters to approve a constitutional amendment that would create a \$150,000 homestead tax exemption beginning in 2027. The exemption would increase to \$250,000 in 2028 with plans to eventually fully exempt all homesteads.

After 2028, the amount of a homestead's value exempt from tax would be adjusted in accordance with the consumer price index, the resolution said.

Localities would also be given the ability to increase "the amount of assessed valuation exempt from taxation" through a local referendum beginning in 2030, the resolution said.

The proposed amendment would also reduce the limit on nonhomestead property assessment increases. If approved, an assessment of a nonhomestead property could increase only up to 5% from the previous year instead of the current 10%.

The proposed amendment will be put to voters at the next general election Nov. 3.

Republican Gov. Ron DeSantis **had announced May 27** his plan to call a special session of the Legislature beginning Monday to address property taxes. During his announcement, DeSantis said a \$250,000 exemption would eliminate taxes for 60% of homeowners and that eventually, if the exemption were increased to \$500,000, it would eliminate taxes for 92%.

On the question of replacing the funding that would be lost with property tax cuts, DeSantis said he was opposed to new state taxes.

Focusing on homesteads "is a way to show [that] we think that there's too much revenue going from taxpayers to these local governments," he said.

House Democratic Leader Fentrice Driskell, D-Tampa, previously said the property tax discussion was meant to distract from DeSantis' "failed record" on rising property insurance rates and high costs for groceries and gas.

Representatives of Republican and Democratic leadership did not respond to Law360's requests for comment.

--Additional reporting by Sanjay Talwani. Editing by Lief Nielsen.