



State of Wisconsin
2011 - 2012 LEGISLATURE



LRB-3611/1
MES:jld:rs

2011 SENATE BILL 512

February 24, 2012 – Introduced by Senators HOLPERIN, KING, HANSEN, SCHULTZ and TAYLOR, cosponsored by Representatives TURNER, POPE-ROBERTS, RINGHAND, BIES and KAUFERT. Referred to Committee on Economic Development and Veterans and Military Affairs.

1 **AN ACT to amend** 71.07 (6e) (a) 4. of the statutes; **relating to:** changing the
2 calculation of the veterans and surviving spouses property tax credit as it
3 relates to a claimant’s principal dwelling.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the veterans and surviving spouses property tax credit may be claimed by certain U.S. armed forces veterans and by the unremarried surviving spouses of certain veterans or members of the national guard or reserves (collectively, “veterans”). The credit is refundable. If the amount of the credit for which a claimant is eligible exceeds the claimant’s income tax liability, the excess amount of the credit is paid to the claimant by check.

In general, the credit may be currently claimed in an amount equal to the property taxes paid by the claimant on the veteran’s principal dwelling in the year to which the claim relates. The term “principal dwelling” is defined as any dwelling and the land surrounding it that is reasonably necessary for use of the dwelling as a primary dwelling of the claimant. Consistent with a similar definition that is used in calculating the homestead tax credit, the Department of Revenue interprets the part of the definition of principal dwelling relating to “the land surrounding it that is reasonably necessary for use of the dwelling as a primary dwelling” to be not more than one acre of land.

This bill changes the part of the definition of principal dwelling relating to the land surrounding the dwelling to be not more than three acres of land.

