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State sets property tax relief from gambling at \$613.2 million

By David Mekeel
Reading Eagle

The state Department of Education on Monday released the newest numbers on the amount of property tax relief homestead and farmstead owners will get on their next school property tax bill from gambling money.

This year, a total of \$613.2 million was available statewide for property tax relief, according to the department. The Taxpayer Relief Act uses funds raised through expanded gaming in the state.

The state has estimated as much as \$1 billion will eventually be raised annually.

Residents will see the relief on their bills.

The money is distributed using a formula that takes equity into account, sending the most resources to the communities with the greatest tax burden and least local wealth.

Locally, homestead and farmstead owners in the Reading School District will see the most tax relief at an estimated \$382 per homestead/farmstead. Fleetwood School District is second at \$259 and Daniel Boone is third with \$231.

Homestead and farmstead owners in Gov. Mifflin will see the lowest amount: \$109.

People who filed for a homestead or farmstead exclusion receive the relief.

Residents must submit an application to the county assessment office by March 1. The exclusion is good for three years.

School districts must send an application to all residential property owners who don't have a current exclusion by Dec. 31 each year.

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Show us the money

The state has announced how much property tax relief from gambling qualified homestead and farmstead property owners will get on their next tax bills. Here's what Berks County residents will get.

Antietam

Total reduction: \$458,439
Properties: 2,008
Relief/property: \$228

Boyertown

Total reduction: \$1,790,399
Properties: 11,780
Relief/property: \$152

Brandywine

Total reduction: \$788,609
Properties: 3,520
Relief/property: \$224

Conrad Weiser

Total reduction: \$1,017,372
Properties: 5,071
Relief/property: \$201

Daniel Boone

Total reduction: \$1,194,736
Properties: 5,175
Relief/property: \$231

Exeter

Total reduction: \$1,360,140
Properties: 7,275
Relief/property: \$187

Fleetwood

Total reduction: \$1,122,895
Properties: 4,341
Relief/property: \$259

Gov. Mifflin

Total reduction: \$871,421
Properties: 8,029
Relief/property: \$109

Hamburg

Total reduction: \$828,416
Properties: 4,792
Relief/property: \$173

Kutztown

Total reduction: \$614,292
Properties: 3,446
Relief/property: \$178

Muhlenberg

Total reduction: \$1,199,990
Properties: 6,422
Relief/property: \$187

Oley Valley

Total reduction: \$629,932
Properties: 3,865
Relief/property: \$163

Reading

Total reduction: \$3,670,619
Properties: 9,615
Relief/property: \$382

Schuylkill Valley

Total reduction: \$588,289
Properties: 3,886
Relief/property: \$151

Tulpehocken

Total reduction: \$644,853
Properties: 3,186
Relief/property: \$202

Twin Valley

Total reduction: \$1,031,595
Properties: 5,853
Relief/property: \$176

Wilson

Total reduction: \$1,385,810

Total reduction: \$1,385,818
Properties: 9,585
Relief/property: \$145

Wyomissing

Total reduction: \$485,205
Properties: 2,993
Relief/property: \$162

Source: Pennsylvania Department of
Education