Senate Bill 939

Sponsored by Senator DEMBROW (at the request of John Ackerman)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure as introduced.

Allows additional estate tax exclusion. Adjusts for inflation. Allows additional exclusion in lieu of election by predeceased spouse to claim deduction for special marital property. Applies to estates of decedents dying on or after January 1, 2024. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to exclusions from estate tax; creating new provisions; amending ORS 118.010; and prescribing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2023 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 118.

SECTION 2. (1) In addition to any other amounts allowed under this chapter, an exclusion in the amount of $300,000 is allowed against the tax due under this chapter.

(2) The Department of Revenue shall annually adjust the exclusion amount in subsection (1) of this section according to the cost-of-living adjustment for the calendar year. The department shall make this adjustment by multiplying $1 million by the percentage, if any, by which the monthly averaged U.S. City Average Consumer Price Index for the 12 consecutive months ending August 31 of the prior calendar year exceeds the monthly averaged U.S. City Average Consumer Price Index for the 12 consecutive months ending August 31, 2022.

(3) As used in this section, “U.S. City Average Consumer Price Index” means the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (All Items), as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor.

SECTION 3. ORS 118.010 is amended to read:

118.010. (1) As used in this section:

(a) “Nonresident decedent” means an individual who is domiciled outside of Oregon on the date the individual dies.

(b) “Resident decedent” means an individual who is domiciled in Oregon on the date the individual dies.

(2) A tax is imposed upon a transfer of the property of each:

(a) Resident decedent; and

(b) Nonresident decedent whose estate includes any interest in:

(A) Real property located in Oregon; or

(B) Tangible personal property located in Oregon.

(3) The Oregon taxable estate to be used for purposes of computing the tax imposed under this section shall be the federal taxable estate:

(a) Increased by:

NOTE: Matter in boldfaced type in an amended section is new; matter [italic and bracketed] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in boldfaced type.
(A) The deduction for state estate, inheritance, legacy or succession taxes allowable under section 2058 of the Internal Revenue Code; and

(B) If the decedent is a surviving spouse owning the property at death, the value of the following property unless included in the federal taxable estate:

(i) Property for which a deduction for Oregon special marital property under ORS 118.016 was previously allowed; or

(ii) Property for which a separate Oregon election under section 2056 or 2056A of the Internal Revenue Code was previously allowed; and

(b) Reduced by:

(A)(i) The value on the date of the decedent's death of all Oregon special marital property under ORS 118.013; or

(B) The exclusion allowed under section 2 of this 2023 Act; and

[(B)] (C) Any other applicable exclusions or deductions.

(4) The tax imposed under this section shall be calculated by applying the rates in the following table. If the Oregon taxable estate is at least the amount in column 1, but less than the amount in column 2, the tax is the amount in column 3, increased by the excess above the amount in column 1 multiplied by the percentage in column 4:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
<td>$1,500,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,500,000</td>
<td>2,500,000</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>10.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,500,000</td>
<td>3,500,000</td>
<td>152,500</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>8,500,000</td>
<td>9,500,000</td>
<td>872,500</td>
<td>15.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9,500,000</td>
<td>1,022,500</td>
<td>16.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(5) In the case of a resident decedent owning, on the date of the decedent’s death, real property located outside Oregon or tangible personal property located outside Oregon, the tax imposed under this section shall be the amount determined under subsection (4) of this section multiplied by a ratio. The numerator of the ratio shall be the sum of the value of the decedent’s real property located in Oregon, tangible personal property located in Oregon and intangible personal property. The numerator may not include any intangible personal property subject to a tax imposed, as a result of the death of the decedent, by another state or country. The denominator of the ratio shall be the total value of the decedent’s gross estate.

(6) In the case of a nonresident decedent owning, on the date of the decedent’s death, real property located in Oregon or tangible personal property located in Oregon, the tax imposed under this section shall be the amount determined under subsection (4) of this section multiplied by a ratio.
The numerator of the ratio shall be the sum of the value of the decedent’s real property located in Oregon and tangible personal property located in Oregon. The denominator shall be the total value of the decedent’s gross estate.

(7) Payment, in whole or in part, of estate taxes from funds of an estate or trust on any benefit subject to tax under ORS 118.005 to 118.540 is not to be considered a further taxable benefit, when such payment is directed by the decedent’s will or by a trust agreement.

(8)(a) If the federal taxable estate is determined by making an election under section 2031(c), 2032, 2032A, 2056 or 2056A of the Internal Revenue Code or another provision of the Internal Revenue Code, or if a federal estate tax return is not required under the Internal Revenue Code, an executor may make separate elections for state estate tax purposes under that same provision.

(b) An executor may make elections under ORS 118.013 and 118.140 and section 2056 of the Internal Revenue Code for state estate tax purposes.

(c) Elections described in this subsection are irrevocable.

SECTION 4. Section 2 of this 2023 Act and the amendments to ORS 118.010 by section 3 of this 2023 Act apply to estates of decedents who die on or after January 1, 2024.

SECTION 5. This 2023 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2023 regular session of the Eighty-second Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.