

(3) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF ASSESSMENTS AND TAXATION.

(4) "DWELLING" MEANS THE DWELLING UNIT OF A RENTER WHICH IS USED AS THE PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE OF THAT RENTER. A DWELLING MAY NOT BE DEEMED A PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE WHICH IS NOT ACTUALLY OCCUPIED OR EXPECTED TO BE ACTUALLY OCCUPIED BY THE RENTER FOR AT LEAST 6 CALENDAR MONTHS OF THE CALENDAR YEAR FOR WHICH THE TAX CREDIT IS SOUGHT.

(5) "GROSS INCOME" MEANS TOTAL INCOME FROM ALL SOURCES FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE TAXABLE YEAR, WHETHER OR NOT INCLUDED IN THE DEFINITIONS OF GROSS INCOME FOR FEDERAL OR STATE TAX PURPOSES, AND INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, BENEFITS UNDER THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT OR RAILROAD RETIREMENT ACT AS THESE ACTS MAY BE AMENDED FROM TIME TO TIME, THE AGGREGATE OF GIFTS IN EXCESS OF \$300, ALIMONY, SUPPORT MONEY, NONTAXABLE STRIKE BENEFITS, PUBLIC ASSISTANCE RECEIVED IN CASH GRANTS, PENSIONS, ANNUITIES, UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS, AND WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION BENEFITS. THE TERM INCLUDES THE NET INCOME RECEIVED FROM BUSINESS, RENTAL, OR OTHER ENDEAVORS. A LOSS FROM BUSINESS, RENTAL, OR OTHER ENDEAVORS MAY NOT BE USED IN THE DETERMINATION OF GROSS INCOME.

(6) "NET WORTH" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS IN SECTION 12F-1 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(7) "OCCUPANCY RENT" MEANS THE RENT PAID FOR THE RIGHT TO OCCUPY THE DWELLING. IN INSTANCES WHERE UTILITIES AND FURNISHINGS ARE INCLUDED IN THE PAYMENT, OCCUPANCY RENT IS THE RENT PAYMENT REDUCED BY THE REASONABLE VALUE OF UTILITIES AND FURNISHINGS.

(8) "RENTER" MEANS EVERY PERSON WHO IS 60 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER OR WHO IS DISABLED AS DEFINED IN SECTION 12F-1 OF THIS ARTICLE AND WHO, DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR FOR WHICH THE CREDIT IS TO BE ALLOWED, ACTUALLY RESIDES IN A DWELLING IN WHICH HE THEN HAD A LEASEHOLD INTEREST. LEASEHOLD INTEREST INCLUDES ANY JOINT TENANCY, TENANCY IN COMMON, TENANCY BY THE ENTIRETIES, OR THROUGH MEMBERSHIP IN A COOPERATIVE WHICH IS LEASING THE PREMISES.

(B) FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR, 1979 AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THERE IS CREATED A PROGRAM OF PROPERTY TAX RELIEF FOR PERSONS RESIDING IN A DWELLING.

(C) A RENTER MAY RECEIVE, UPON APPLICATION TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF ASSESSMENTS AND TAXATION, PROPERTY TAX RELIEF FROM RENT PAID WHICH CONSISTS OF PAYMENT OF A PORTION OF THE ASSUMED REAL PROPERTY TAX INCLUDED IN THE OCCUPANCY RENT PAID BY THE RENTER. THE PAYMENT SHALL NOT EXCEED \$450 AND SHALL BE EQUAL TO THE AMOUNT OF ASSUMED REAL PROPERTY TAX INCLUDED IN OCCUPANCY RENT WHICH IS IN EXCESS OF A PERCENTAGE OF THE GROSS INCOME, OR COMBINED INCOME, OF THE RENTER. THE PERCENTAGE SHALL NOT EXCEED 1.5 PERCENT OF THE