HB 367 2015

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to sales of tax certificates for unpaid taxes; amending s. 197.432, F.S.; prohibiting a bidder from placing multiple bids during the sale of certain tax certificates by a tax collector; providing penalties; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (6) of section 197.432, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

197.432 Sale of tax certificates for unpaid taxes.-

(6) Each certificate shall be awarded to the person who will pay the taxes, interest, costs, and charges and will demand the lowest rate of interest, not in excess of the maximum rate of interest allowed by this chapter. The tax collector shall accept bids in even increments and in fractional interest rate bids of one-quarter of 1 percent only. An individual bidder or corporate bidder entity shall submit only one bid for each certificate and may not use multiple federal employer identification numbers to submit multiple bids. A bidder who violates this protocol shall be barred from bidding in any county tax certificate sales for 2 consecutive years following identification and verification of the bidding violation. If multiple bidders offer the same lowest rate of interest, the tax collector shall determine the method of selecting the bidder to

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whom the certificate will be awarded. Acceptable methods include the bid received first or use of a random-number generator. If a certificate is not purchased, the certificate shall be struck to the county at the maximum rate of interest allowed by this chapter.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.

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