# **HOUSE BILL No. 1450**

## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 5-14-3.8-3.5; IC 6-1.1; IC 6-3.6; IC 8-22-3-19; IC 14-33-9-1; IC 36-7; IC 36-8-19; IC 36-10-13.

**Synopsis:** Property tax matters. Provides that a political subdivision must upload a copy of a contract to the department of local government finance's (DLGF) computer gateway if the total cost of the contract exceeds \$50,000. Allows the DLGF to use estimated data to compute six year rolling averages for the purpose of determining the annual adjustments of assessed values between reassessments. Provides that a public utility that fails to timely file a statement concerning the property owned or used by the public utility on an assessment date shall remit the penalty to the department of state revenue. Defines the terms "installment loan" and "mortgage" for purposes of the mortgage deduction. Provides that, for purposes of claiming the mortgage deduction, the associated mortgage instrument that is recorded must include the terms of payment or other performance. Restates the conditions for when a taxpayer must reapply for various property tax deductions. Restates the requirement that a taxpayer file a certified statement with the county auditor when the taxpayer ceases to be eligible for the standard deduction for a property. Restates the provisions concerning the prohibition against dividing a controlled project in order to avoid the petition and remonstrance and referendum processes. Provides that both the executive of a political subdivision and a majority of the members of the fiscal body of a political subdivision may independently request technical assistance from the distressed unit appeal board in helping prevent the political subdivision from becoming a distressed political subdivision. Provides that a multiple county property tax assessment board of appeals shall submit to the DLGF, the Indiana board of tax review, and the legislative (Continued next page)

Effective: July 1, 2016 (retroactive); January 1, 2017 (retroactive); July 1, 2017.

# Leonard

January 18, 2017, read first time and referred to Committee on Ways and Means.



### Digest Continued

services agency separate reports for each county participating in the multiple county property tax assessment board of appeals. Authorizes, but does not require, the DLGF to adopt rules to limit the basis of payment for services provided by professionals who work on capital projects to a fee for service agreement. Provides that the DLGF may adopt a rule after June 30, 2016, and before April 1, 2017, that concerns or includes market segmentation and affects assessments for the January 1, 2018, assessment date. Provides that interest on a refund or credit owed to a taxpayer is computed until the date the county auditor determines the amount of the refund or credit. Allows a county auditor, with the approval of the county treasurer, to waive, negotiate, or settle penalties that have accrued on delinquent property taxes. Eliminates the requirement in current law that the DLGF review a loan contract entered into by an airport authority. Provides that a conservancy district is not required to go through the budget review process unless the conservancy district imposes a property tax. Provides that a redevelopment commission's annual report to the unit that created the redevelopment commission must include both a list of parcels of real property and the personal property records for the property in the redevelopment area. Provides that a resolution by a provider unit to withdraw from a fire protection territory is effective on January 1 of the year following the year in which the resolution is adopted. Provides that if the provider unit of a fire protection territory withdraws, the remaining units must unanimously agree on which unit is to become the successor provider unit. Permits a school corporation located in Vanderburgh County to impose a property tax at a rate of up to \$0.005 to provide money to a historical society for restoration and maintenance of Bosse Field. Repeals the requirements that the budget agency publish by May 1 each year an estimate of the total amount of statewide distributions of local income tax revenue for: (1) the following two years, in an odd-numbered year; and (2) the following year, in an even-numbered year.



First Regular Session of the 120th General Assembly (2017)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in this style type, and deletions will appear in this style type.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or *this style type* reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2016 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

# **HOUSE BILL No. 1450**

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning taxation.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

| 1  | SECTION 1. IC 5-14-3.8-3.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.142-2016                    |
|----|---|
| 2  | SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE                     |
| 3  | JULY 1, 2017]: Sec. 3.5. (a) As used in The following definitions       |
| 4  | apply throughout this section:  |
| 5  | (1) "Contract" includes all pages of a contract and any                 |
| 6  | attachments to the contract.  |
| 7  | (2) "Political subdivision" has the meaning set forth in                |
| 8  | IC 5-11-10.5-1.   |
| 9  | (b) A political subdivision shall scan and upload the a digital image   |
| 10 | copy of a contract to the Indiana transparency Internet web site during |
| 11 | each year that the contract amount to be paid by the political          |
| 12 | subdivision for that year exceeds the lesser of:                        |
| 13 | (1) ten percent (10%) of the political subdivision's property tax       |
| 14 | levy for that year; or  |
| 15 | (2) department's computer gateway one (1) time if the total             |
|    |   |



cost of the contract to the political subdivision exceeds fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) during the term of the contract. This subsection applies to all contracts for any subject, purpose, or term, except that a political subdivision is not required to upload a copy of an employment contract between the political subdivision and an employee of the political subdivision. In the case of a collective bargaining agreement, the political subdivision may upload a copy of the collective bargaining agreement and a copy of a blank or sample individual employment contract. A political subdivision shall scan and upload the contract not later than sixty (60) days after the date the contract is executed. If a political subdivision enters into a contract that the political subdivision reasonably expects when entered into will not exceed fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) in cost to the political subdivision but at a later date determines or expects the contract to exceed fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) in cost to the political subdivision, the political subdivision shall upload a copy of the contract within sixty (60) days after the date on which the political subdivision makes the determination or realizes the expectation that the contract will exceed fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) in cost to the political subdivision.

(c) Nothing in this section prohibits the political subdivision from withholding any information in the contract that the political subdivision shall or may withhold from disclosure under IC 5-14-3. A political subdivision may redact or obscure signatures on a contract. The political subdivision is solely responsible for redacting information in the contract.

SECTION 2. IC 6-1.1-4-4.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.180-2016, SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2017 (RETROACTIVE)]: Sec. 4.5. (a) The department of local government finance shall adopt rules establishing a system for annually adjusting the assessed value of real property to account for changes in value in those years since a reassessment under section 4 or 4.2 of this chapter for the property last took effect.

- (b) Subject to subsection (e), the system must be applied to adjust assessed values beginning with the 2006 assessment date and each year thereafter that is not a year in which a reassessment under section 4 or 4.2 of this chapter for the property becomes effective.
- (c) The rules adopted under subsection (a) must include the following characteristics in the system:
  - (1) Promote uniform and equal assessment of real property within



| 1        | and across classifications.  |
|----------|--|
| 2        | (2) Require that assessing officials:  |
| 3        | (A) reevaluate the factors that affect value;  |
| 4        | (B) express the interactions of those factors mathematically;  |
| 5        | (C) use mass appraisal techniques to estimate updated property   |
| 6        | values within statistical measures of accuracy; and  |
| 7        | (D) provide notice to taxpayers of an assessment increase that   |
| 8        | results from the application of annual adjustments.  |
| 9        | (3) Prescribe procedures that permit the application of the  |
| 10       | adjustment percentages in an efficient manner by assessing   |
| 11       | officials.   |
| 12       | (d) The department of local government finance must review and   |
| 13       | certify each annual adjustment determined under this section.  |
| 14       | (e) In making the annual determination of the base rate to satisfy the                                       |
| 15       | requirement for an annual adjustment under subsection (c) for the  |
| 16       | January 1, 2016, assessment date and each assessment date thereafter,  |
| 17       | the department of local government finance shall determine the base  |
| 18       | rate using the methodology reflected in Table 2-18 of Book 1, Chapter  |
| 19       | 2 of the department of local government finance's Real Property  |
| 20       | Assessment Guidelines (as in effect on January 1, 2005), except that   |
| 21       | the department shall adjust the methodology as follows:  |
| 22       | (1) Use a six (6) year rolling average adjusted under subdivision  |
| 23       | (3) instead of a four (4) year rolling average.  |
| 24       | (2) Use the data from the six (6) most recent years preceding the  |
| 25       | year in which the assessment date occurs, for which data is  |
| 26       | available; before one (1) of those six (6) years is eliminated under   |
| 27       | subdivision (3) when determining the rolling average.  |
| 28       | (3) Eliminate in the calculation of the rolling average the year   |
| 29       | among the six (6) years for which the highest market value in use  |
| 30       | of agricultural land is determined.  |
| 31       | (4) After determining a preliminary base rate that would apply for   |
| 32       | the assessment date without applying the adjustment under this   |
| 33       | subdivision, the department of local government finance shall  |
| 34       |  |
| 35       | adjust the preliminary base rate as follows:  (A) If the preliminary base rate for the assessment date would |
| 36       | be at least ten percent (10%) greater than the final base rate   |
| 37       | determined for the preceding assessment date, a capitalization   |
| 38       | rate of eight percent (8%) shall be used to determine the final  |
| 39       |  |
| 39<br>40 | base rate.  (P) If the preliminary base rate for the assessment data would                                   |
| 40       | (B) If the preliminary base rate for the assessment date would   |
|          | be at least ten percent (10%) less than the final base rate  |
| 42       | determined for the preceding assessment date, a capitalization   |



| 1  | rate of six percent (6%) shall be used to determine the fina             |
|----|--|
| 2  | base rate.   |
| 3  | (C) If neither clause (A) nor clause (B) applies, a capitalization       |
| 4  | rate of seven percent (7%) shall be used to determine the fina           |
| 5  | base rate.   |
| 6  | (D) In the case of a market value in use for a year that is used         |
| 7  | in the calculation of the six (6) year rolling average under             |
| 8  | subdivision (1) for purposes of determining the base rate for            |
| 9  | the assessment date:   |
| 10 | (i) that market value in use shall be recalculated by using the          |
| 11 | capitalization rate determined under clauses (A) through (C)             |
| 12 | for the calculation of the base rate for the assessment date             |
| 13 | and  |
| 14 | (ii) the market value in use recalculated under item (i) shall           |
| 15 | be used in the calculation of the six (6) year rolling average           |
| 16 | under subdivision (1).   |
| 17 | (f) For assessment dates after December 31, 2009, an adjustment in       |
| 18 | the assessed value of real property under this section shall be based or |
| 19 | the estimated true tax value of the property on the assessment date tha  |
| 20 | is the basis for taxes payable on that real property.                    |
| 21 | SECTION 3. IC 6-1.1-8-20, AS AMENDED BY P.L.183-2014                     |
| 22 | SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE                      |
| 23 | JULY 1, 2017]: Sec. 20. (a) If a public utility company does not file a  |
| 24 | statement with the department of local government finance on or before   |
| 25 | the date prescribed under section 19 of this chapter, the company shal   |
| 26 | pay a penalty of one hundred dollars (\$100) per day for each day tha    |
| 27 | the statement is late. However, a penalty under this subsection may no   |
| 28 | exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). A public utility company shall    |
| 29 | remit a penalty for which the public utility company is liable under     |
| 30 | this subsection to the department of state revenue.                      |
| 31 | (b) The department of local government finance shall notify the          |
| 32 | attorney general and the department of state revenue if a public         |
| 33 | utility company fails to file a statement on or before the due date. The |
| 34 | attorney general shall then bring an action in the name of this state to |
| 35 | collect the penalty due under this section.                              |
| 36 | (c) The state auditor shall deposit amounts collected under this         |
| 37 | section in the state treasury for credit to the state general fund.      |
| 38 | SECTION 4. IC 6-1.1-12-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.81-2010                      |
| 39 | SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE                      |
| 40 | JULY 1, 2017]: Sec. 1. (a) The following definitions apply               |
| 41 | throughout this section:   |

(1) "Installment loan" means a loan under which:



| 1          | (A) a lender advances money for the purchase of:                       |
|------------|--|
| 2          | (i) a mobile home that is not assessed as real property; or            |
| 3          | (ii) a manufactured home that is not assessed as real                  |
| 4          | property; and  |
| 5          | (B) a borrower repays the lender in installments in                    |
| 6          | accordance with the terms of an installment agreement.                 |
| 7          | (2) "Mortgage" means a lien against property that:                     |
| 8          | (A) an owner of the property grants to secure an                       |
| 9          | obligation, such as a debt, according to terms set forth in            |
| 10         | a written instrument, such as a deed or a contract; and                |
| 11         | (B) is extinguished upon payment or performance                        |
| 12         | according to the terms of the written instrument.                      |
| 13         | The term includes a reverse mortgage.                                  |
| 14         | (a) (b) Each year a person who is a resident of this state may receive |
| 15         | a deduction from the assessed value of:                                |
| 16         | (1) mortgaged real property, an installment loan financed mobile       |
| 17         | home that is not assessed as real property, or an installment loan     |
| 18         | financed manufactured home that is not assessed as real property,      |
| 19         | with the mortgage or installment loan instrument recorded with         |
| 20         | the county recorder's office, that the person owns;                    |
| 21         | (2) real property, a mobile home that is not assessed as real          |
| 22         | property, or a manufactured home that is not assessed as real          |
| 23         | property that the person is buying under a contract, with the          |
| 24         | contract or a memorandum of the contract recorded in the county        |
| 25         | recorder's office, which provides that the person is to pay the        |
| 26         | property taxes on the real property, mobile home, or manufactured      |
| 27         | home; or   |
| 28         | (3) real property, a mobile home that is not assessed as real          |
| 29         | property, or a manufactured home that the person owns or is            |
| 30         | buying on a contract described in subdivision (2) on which the         |
| 31         | person has a home equity line of credit that is recorded in the        |
| 32         | county recorder's office.  |
| 33         | (b) (c) Except as provided in section 40.5 of this chapter, the total  |
| 34         | amount of the deduction which the person may receive under this        |
| 35         | section for a particular year is:                                      |
| 36         | (1) the balance of the mortgage or contract indebtedness               |
| 37         | (including a home equity line of credit) on the assessment date of     |
| 38         | that year;   |
| 39         | (2) one-half (1/2) of the assessed value of the real property,         |
| 40         | mobile home, or manufactured home; or                                  |
| 41         | (3) three thousand dollars (\$3,000);                                  |
| 42         | whichever is least.  |
| <b>→</b> ∠ | WINCHEVEL IS IEAST.  |



| (c) (d) A person who has sold real property, a mobile home not           |
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| assessed as real property, or a manufactured home not assessed as real   |
| property to another person under a contract which provides that the      |
| contract buyer is to pay the property taxes on the real property, mobile |
| home, or manufactured home may not claim the deduction provided          |
| under this section with respect to that real property, mobile home, or   |
| manufactured home  |

# (d) (e) The person must:

- (1) own the real property, mobile home, or manufactured home; or
- (2) be buying the real property, mobile home, or manufactured home under contract;

on the date the statement is filed under section 2 of this chapter.

(f) A recorded installment loan agreement or other mortgage instrument for which a person seeks to claim the deduction under this section must include the terms of payment or other performance that the mortgage secures. A deduction under this section that was applied for before July 1, 2017, is not invalidated by this subsection.

SECTION 5. IC 6-1.1-12-17.8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.250-2015, SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2017]: Sec. 17.8. (a) An individual who receives a deduction provided under section 1, 9, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17.4 (before its expiration), or 37 of this chapter in a particular year and who remains eligible for the deduction in the following year is not required to file a statement to apply for the deduction in the following year. However, for purposes of a deduction under section 37 of this chapter, the county auditor may, in the county auditor's discretion, terminate the deduction for assessment dates after January 15, 2012, if the individual does not comply with the requirement in IC 6-1.1-22-8.1(b)(9) (expired January 1, 2015), as determined by the county auditor, before January 1, 2013. Before the county auditor terminates the deduction because the taxpayer claiming the deduction did not comply with the requirement in IC 6-1.1-22-8.1(b)(9) (expired January 1, 2015) before January 1, 2013, the county auditor shall mail notice of the proposed termination of the deduction to:

- (1) the last known address of each person liable for any property taxes or special assessment, as shown on the tax duplicate or special assessment records; or
- (2) the last known address of the most recent owner shown in the transfer book.
- (b) An individual who receives a deduction provided under section



- 1, 9, 11, 13, 14, 16, or 17.4 (before its expiration) of this chapter in a particular year and who becomes ineligible for the deduction in the following year shall notify the auditor of the county in which the real property, mobile home, or manufactured home for which the individual claims the deduction is located of the individual's ineligibility in the year in which the individual becomes ineligible. An individual who becomes ineligible for a deduction under section 37 of this chapter shall notify the county auditor of the county in which the property is located in conformity with section 37 of this chapter.
- (c) The auditor of each county shall, in a particular year, apply a deduction provided under section 1, 9, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17.4 (before its expiration), or 37 of this chapter to each individual who received the deduction in the preceding year unless the auditor determines that the individual is no longer eligible for the deduction.
- (d) An individual who receives a deduction provided under section 1,9,11,13,14,16,17.4 (before its expiration), or 37 of this chapter for property that is jointly held with another owner in a particular year and remains eligible for the deduction in the following year is not required to file a statement to reapply for the deduction following the removal of the joint owner if:
  - (1) the individual is the sole owner of the property following the death of the individual's spouse; **or**
  - (2) the individual is the sole owner of the property following the death of a joint owner who was not the individual's spouse. or
  - (3) the individual is awarded sole ownership of the property in a divorce decree.

However, for purposes of a deduction under section 37 of this chapter, if the removal of the joint owner occurs before the date that a notice described in IC 6-1.1-22-8.1(b)(9) (expired January 1, 2015) is sent, the county auditor may, in the county auditor's discretion, terminate the deduction for assessment dates after January 15, 2012, if the individual does not comply with the requirement in IC 6-1.1-22-8.1(b)(9) (expired January 1, 2015), as determined by the county auditor, before January 1, 2013. Before the county auditor terminates the deduction because the taxpayer claiming the deduction did not comply with the requirement in IC 6-1.1-22-8.1(b)(9) (expired January 1, 2015) before January 1, 2013, the county auditor shall mail notice of the proposed termination of the deduction to the last known address of each person liable for any property taxes or special assessment, as shown on the tax duplicate or special assessment records or the last known address of the most recent owner shown in the transfer book. If an unmarried individual who is receiving a deduction under section 37 of this



chapter for a property subsequently marries, desires to continue claiming the deduction for the property, and remains eligible for the deduction, the individual must reapply for the deduction for the following assessment date. If a married individual who is receiving a deduction under section 37 of this chapter for a property with the individual's spouse subsequently divorces, desires to continue claiming the deduction for the property, and remains eligible for the deduction, the individual must reapply for the deduction for the following assessment date. However, the individual's failure to reapply for the deduction does not make the individual's former spouse ineligible for a deduction under section 37 of this chapter. If a person who is receiving a deduction under section 9 of this chapter for a property subsequently comes to own the property with another person jointly or as a tenant in common, desires to continue claiming the deduction for the property, and remains eligible for the deduction, the person must reapply for the deduction for the following assessment date. If an unmarried individual who is receiving a credit under IC 6-1.1-20.6-8.5 for a property subsequently marries, desires to continue claiming the credit for the property, and remains eligible for the credit, the individual must reapply for the credit for the following assessment date.

- (e) A trust entitled to a deduction under section 9, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17.4 (before its expiration), or 37 of this chapter for real property owned by the trust and occupied by an individual in accordance with section 17.9 of this chapter is not required to file a statement to apply for the deduction, if:
  - (1) the individual who occupies the real property receives a deduction provided under section 9, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17.4 (before its expiration), or 37 of this chapter in a particular year; and
  - (2) the trust remains eligible for the deduction in the following year.

However, for purposes of a deduction under section 37 of this chapter, the individuals that qualify the trust for a deduction must comply with the requirement in IC 6-1.1-22-8.1(b)(9) (expired January 1, 2015) before January 1, 2013.

(f) A cooperative housing corporation (as defined in 26 U.S.C. 216) that is entitled to a deduction under section 37 of this chapter in the immediately preceding calendar year for a homestead (as defined in section 37 of this chapter) is not required to file a statement to apply for the deduction for the current calendar year if the cooperative housing corporation remains eligible for the deduction for the current calendar



year. However, the county auditor may, in the county auditor's discretion, terminate the deduction for assessment dates after January 15, 2012, if the individual does not comply with the requirement in IC 6-1.1-22-8.1(b)(9) (expired January 1, 2015), as determined by the county auditor, before January 1, 2013. Before the county auditor terminates a deduction because the taxpayer claiming the deduction did not comply with the requirement in IC 6-1.1-22-8.1(b)(9) (expired January 1, 2015) before January 1, 2013, the county auditor shall mail notice of the proposed termination of the deduction to:

- (1) the last known address of each person liable for any property taxes or special assessment, as shown on the tax duplicate or special assessment records; or
- (2) the last known address of the most recent owner shown in the transfer book.
- (g) An individual who:

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- (1) was eligible for a homestead credit under IC 6-1.1-20.9 (repealed) for property taxes imposed for the March 1, 2007, or January 15, 2008, assessment date; or
- (2) would have been eligible for a homestead credit under IC 6-1.1-20.9 (repealed) for property taxes imposed for the March 1,2008, or January 15, 2009, assessment date if IC 6-1.1-20.9 had not been repealed;

is not required to file a statement to apply for a deduction under section 37 of this chapter if the individual remains eligible for the deduction in the current year. An individual who filed for a homestead credit under IC 6-1.1-20.9 (repealed) for an assessment date after March 1, 2007 (if the property is real property), or after January 1, 2008 (if the property is personal property), shall be treated as an individual who has filed for a deduction under section 37 of this chapter. However, the county auditor may, in the county auditor's discretion, terminate the deduction for assessment dates after January 15, 2012, if the individual does not comply with the requirement in IC 6-1.1-22-8.1(b)(9) (expired January 1, 2015), as determined by the county auditor, before January 1, 2013. Before the county auditor terminates the deduction because the taxpayer claiming the deduction did not comply with the requirement in IC 6-1.1-22-8.1(b)(9) (expired January 1, 2015) before January 1, 2013, the county auditor shall mail notice of the proposed termination of the deduction to the last known address of each person liable for any property taxes or special assessment, as shown on the tax duplicate or special assessment records, or to the last known address of the most recent owner shown in the transfer book.

(h) If a county auditor terminates a deduction because the taxpayer



| 1   | claiming the deduction did not comply with the requirement in             |
|-----|---|
| 2   | IC 6-1.1-22-8.1(b)(9) (expired January 1, 2015) before January 1, 2013,   |
| 3   | the county auditor shall reinstate the deduction if the taxpayer provides |
| 4   | proof that the taxpayer is eligible for the deduction and is not claiming |
| 5   | the deduction for any other property.                                     |
| 6   | (i) A taxpayer described in section 37(k) of this chapter is not          |
| 7   | required to file a statement to apply for the deduction provided by       |
| 8   | section 37 of this chapter for a calendar year beginning after December   |
| 9   | 31, 2008, if the property owned by the taxpayer remains eligible for the  |
| 0   | deduction for that calendar year. However, the county auditor may         |
| 1   | terminate the deduction for assessment dates after January 15, 2012, if   |
| 2   | the individual residing on the property owned by the taxpayer does not    |
| 3   | comply with the requirement in IC 6-1.1-22-8.1(b)(9) (expired January     |
| 4   | 1, 2015), as determined by the county auditor, before January 1, 2013.    |
| 5   | Before the county auditor terminates a deduction because the              |
| 6   | individual residing on the property did not comply with the               |
| 7   | requirement in IC 6-1.1-22-8.1(b)(9) (expired January 1, 2015) before     |
| 8   | January 1, 2013, the county auditor shall mail notice of the proposed     |
| 9   | termination of the deduction to:  |
| 0.0 | (1) the last known address of each person liable for any property         |
| 21  | taxes or special assessment, as shown on the tax duplicate or             |
| .2  | special assessment records; or  |
| 22  | (2) the last known address of the most recent owner shown in the          |
| 4   | transfer book.  |
| 25  | SECTION 6. IC 6-1.1-12-37, AS AMENDED BY THE                              |
| 26  | TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL OF THE 2017 GENERAL                            |
| 27  | ASSEMBLY, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE                        |
| 28  | JULY 1,2017]: Sec. 37. (a) The following definitions apply throughout     |
| 9   | this section:   |
| 0   | (1) "Dwelling" means any of the following:                                |
| 1   | (A) Residential real property improvements that an individual             |
| 2   | uses as the individual's residence, including a house or garage.          |
| 3   | (B) A mobile home that is not assessed as real property that an           |
| 4   | individual uses as the individual's residence.                            |
| 5   | (C) A manufactured home that is not assessed as real property             |
| 6   | that an individual uses as the individual's residence.                    |
| 7   | (2) "Homestead" means an individual's principal place of                  |
| 8   | residence:  |
| 9   | (A) that is located in Indiana;   |
| 0   | (B) that:   |

(i) the individual owns;



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(ii) the individual is buying under a contract; recorded in the

| 1  | county recorder's office, that provides that the individual is         |
|----|--|
| 2  | to pay the property taxes on the residence, and that obligates         |
| 3  | the owner to convey title to the individual upon completion            |
| 4  | of all of the individual's contract obligations;                       |
| 5  | (iii) the individual is entitled to occupy as a                        |
| 6  | tenant-stockholder (as defined in 26 U.S.C. 216) of a                  |
| 7  | cooperative housing corporation (as defined in 26 U.S.C.               |
| 8  | 216); or   |
| 9  | (iv) is a residence described in section 17.9 of this chapter          |
| 10 | that is owned by a trust if the individual is an individual            |
| 11 | described in section 17.9 of this chapter; and                         |
| 12 | (C) that consists of a dwelling and the real estate, not               |
| 13 | exceeding one (1) acre, that immediately surrounds that                |
| 14 | dwelling.  |
| 15 | Except as provided in subsection (k), the term does not include        |
| 16 | property owned by a corporation, partnership, limited liability        |
| 17 | company, or other entity not described in this subdivision.            |
| 18 | (b) Each year a homestead is eligible for a standard deduction from    |
| 19 | the assessed value of the homestead for an assessment date. Except as  |
| 20 | provided in subsection (p), the deduction provided by this section     |
| 21 | applies to property taxes first due and payable for an assessment date |
| 22 | only if an individual has an interest in the homestead described in    |
| 23 | subsection (a)(2)(B) on:   |
| 24 | (1) the assessment date; or  |
| 25 | (2) any date in the same year after an assessment date that a          |
| 26 | statement is filed under subsection (e) or section 44 of this          |
| 27 | chapter, if the property consists of real property.                    |
| 28 | If more than one (1) individual or entity qualifies property as a      |
| 29 | homestead under subsection (a)(2)(B) for an assessment date, only one  |
| 30 | (1) standard deduction from the assessed value of the homestead may    |
| 31 | be applied for the assessment date. Subject to subsection (c), the     |
| 32 | auditor of the county shall record and make the deduction for the      |
| 33 | individual or entity qualifying for the deduction.                     |
| 34 | (c) Except as provided in section 40.5 of this chapter, the total      |
| 35 | amount of the deduction that a person may receive under this section   |
| 36 | for a particular year is the lesser of:                                |
| 37 | (1) sixty percent (60%) of the assessed value of the real property,    |
| 38 | mobile home not assessed as real property, or manufactured home        |
| 39 | not assessed as real property; or                                      |
| 40 | (2) forty-five thousand dollars (\$45,000).                            |
| 41 | (d) A person who has sold real property, a mobile home not assessed    |
| 42 | as real property, or a manufactured home not assessed as real property |



| 1  | to another person under a contract that provides that the contract buyer  |
|----|---|
| 2  | is to pay the property taxes on the real property, mobile home, or        |
| 3  | manufactured home may not claim the deduction provided under this         |
| 4  | section with respect to that real property, mobile home, or               |
| 5  | manufactured home.  |
| 6  | (e) Except as provided in sections 17.8 and 44 of this chapter and        |
| 7  | subject to section 45 of this chapter, an individual who desires to claim |
| 8  | the deduction provided by this section must file a certified statement,   |
| 9  | in duplicate, on forms prescribed by the department of local              |
| 10 | government finance, with the auditor of the county in which the           |
| 11 | homestead is located. The statement must include:                         |
| 12 | (1) the parcel number or key number of the property and the name          |
| 13 | of the city, town, or township in which the property is located;          |
| 14 | (2) the name of any other location in which the applicant or the          |
| 15 | applicant's spouse owns, is buying, or has a beneficial interest in       |
| 16 | residential real property;  |
| 17 | (3) the names of:   |
| 18 | (A) the applicant and the applicant's spouse (if any):                    |
| 19 | (i) as the names appear in the records of the United States               |
| 20 | Social Security Administration for the purposes of the                    |
| 21 | issuance of a Social Security card and Social Security                    |
| 22 | number; or  |
| 23 | (ii) that they use as their legal names when they sign their              |
| 24 | names on legal documents;   |
| 25 | if the applicant is an individual; or                                     |
| 26 | (B) each individual who qualifies property as a homestead                 |
| 27 | under subsection (a)(2)(B) and the individual's spouse (if any):          |
| 28 | (i) as the names appear in the records of the United States               |
| 29 | Social Security Administration for the purposes of the                    |
| 30 | issuance of a Social Security card and Social Security                    |
| 31 | number; or  |
| 32 | (ii) that they use as their legal names when they sign their              |
| 33 | names on legal documents;   |
| 34 | if the applicant is not an individual; and                                |
| 35 | (4) either:   |
| 36 | (A) the last five (5) digits of the applicant's Social Security           |
| 37 | number and the last five (5) digits of the Social Security                |
| 38 | number of the applicant's spouse (if any); or                             |
| 39 | (B) if the applicant or the applicant's spouse (if any) does not          |
| 40 | have a Social Security number, any of the following for that              |
| 41 | individual:   |
| 42 | (i) The last five (5) digits of the individual's driver's license         |
| 44 | (1) The last five (3) digits of the individual's driver's ficense         |



| 1  | number.  |
|----|--|
| 2  | (ii) The last five (5) digits of the individual's state  |
| 3  | identification card number.  |
| 4  | (iii) The last five (5) digits of a preparer tax   |
| 5  | identification number that is obtained by the individual   |
| 6  | through the Internal Revenue Service of the United   |
| 7  | States.  |
| 8  | (iii) (iv) If the individual does not have a driver's license, or                                |
| 9  | a state identification card, or an Internal Revenue Service                                      |
| 10 | preparer tax identification number, the last five (5) digits                                     |
| 11 | of a control number that is on a document issued to the  |
| 12 | individual by the federal United States government. and  |
| 13 | determined by the department of local government finance   |
| 14 | to be acceptable.  |
| 15 | If a form or statement provided to the county auditor under this section,                        |
| 16 | IC 6-1.1-22-8.1, or IC 6-1.1-22.5-12 includes the telephone number or                            |
| 17 | part or all of the Social Security number of a party or other number                             |
| 18 | described in subdivision (4)(B) of a party, the telephone number and                             |
| 19 | the Social Security number or other number described in subdivision                              |
| 20 | (4)(B) included are confidential. The statement may be filed in person                           |
| 21 | or by mail. If the statement is mailed, the mailing must be postmarked                           |
| 22 | on or before the last day for filing. The statement applies for that first                       |
| 23 | year and any succeeding year for which the deduction is allowed. With                            |
| 24 | respect to real property, the statement must be completed and dated in                           |
| 25 | the calendar year for which the person desires to obtain the deduction                           |
| 26 | and filed with the county auditor on or before January 5 of the                                  |
| 27 | immediately succeeding calendar year. With respect to a mobile home                              |
| 28 | that is not assessed as real property, the person must file the statement                        |
| 29 | during the twelve (12) months before March 31 of the year for which                              |
| 30 | the person desires to obtain the deduction.  |
| 31 | (f) Except as provided in subsection (n), if an individual a person                              |
| 32 | who is receiving, <b>or seeks to receive</b> , the deduction provided by this                    |
| 33 | section or who otherwise qualifies property for a deduction under this                           |
| 34 | section: in the person's name:   |
| 35 | (1) changes the use of the individual's property so that part or all                             |
| 36 | of the property no longer qualifies for the deduction under this                                 |
| 37 | section; or  |
| 38 | (2) is <del>no longer</del> <b>not</b> eligible for a deduction under this section <del>on</del> |
| 39 | another parcel of property because the person is already   |
| 40 | receiving:   |
| 41 | (A) the individual would otherwise receive the benefit of more                                   |
|    | . ,  |



than one (1) a deduction under this chapter; section in the

| 1 | person's name as an individual or a spouse; or      |
|---|---|
| 2 | (B) the individual maintains the individual's prine |
| 3 | residence with another individual who receives      |

(B) the individual maintains the individual's principal place of residence with another individual who receives a deduction under this section; a deduction under the law of another state that is equivalent to the deduction provided by this section;

the individual person must file a certified statement with the auditor of the county, notifying the auditor of the change of use, person's ineligibility, not more than sixty (60) days after the date of that the change in eligibility. An individual A person who fails to file the statement required by this subsection is may, under IC 6-1.1-36-17, be liable for any additional taxes that would have been due on the property if the individual person had filed the statement as required by this subsection plus a civil penalty equal to ten percent (10%) of the additional taxes due. The civil penalty imposed under this subsection is in addition to any interest and penalties for a delinquent payment that might otherwise be due. One percent (1%) of the total civil penalty collected under this subsection shall be transferred by the county to the department of local government finance for use by the department in establishing and maintaining the homestead property data base under subsection (i) and, to the extent there is money remaining, for any other purposes of the department. This amount becomes part of the property tax liability for purposes of this article.

- (g) The department of local government finance *shall* may adopt rules or guidelines concerning the application for a deduction under this section.
- (h) This subsection does not apply to property in the first year for which a deduction is claimed under this section if the sole reason that a deduction is claimed on other property is that the individual or married couple maintained a principal residence at the other property on the *March 1* assessment date in the same year in which an application for a deduction is filed under this section or, if the application is for a homestead that is assessed as personal property, on the *March 1* assessment date in the immediately preceding year and the individual or married couple is moving the individual's or married couple's principal residence to the property that is the subject of the application. Except as provided in subsection (n), the county auditor may not grant an individual or a married couple a deduction under this section if:
  - (1) the individual or married couple, for the same year, claims the deduction on two (2) or more different applications for the deduction; and



- (2) the applications claim the deduction for different property.(i) The department of local government finance shall provide secure access to county auditors to a homestead property data base that
  - includes access to the homestead owner's name and the numbers required from the homestead owner under subsection (e)(4) for the sole purpose of verifying whether an owner is wrongly claiming a deduction under this chapter or a credit under IC 6-1.1-20.4, IC 6-1.1-20.6, *or* or IC 6-3.6-5 (after December 31, 2016).
  - (j) A county auditor may require an individual to provide evidence proving that the individual's residence is the individual's principal place of residence as claimed in the certified statement filed under subsection (e). The county auditor may limit the evidence that an individual is required to submit to a state income tax return, a valid driver's license, or a valid voter registration card showing that the residence for which the deduction is claimed is the individual's principal place of residence. The department of local government finance shall work with county auditors to develop procedures to determine whether a property owner that is claiming a standard deduction or homestead credit is not eligible for the standard deduction or homestead credit because the property owner's principal place of residence is outside Indiana.
  - (k) As used in this section, "homestead" includes property that satisfies each of the following requirements:
    - (1) The property is located in Indiana and consists of a dwelling and the real estate, not exceeding one (1) acre, that immediately surrounds that dwelling.
    - (2) The property is the principal place of residence of an individual.
    - (3) The property is owned by an entity that is not described in subsection (a)(2)(B).
    - (4) The individual residing on the property is a shareholder, partner, or member of the entity that owns the property.
    - (5) The property was eligible for the standard deduction under this section on March 1, 2009.
  - (l) If a county auditor terminates a deduction for property described in subsection (k) with respect to property taxes that are:
    - (1) imposed for an assessment date in 2009; and
    - (2) first due and payable in 2010;
  - on the grounds that the property is not owned by an entity described in subsection (a)(2)(B), the county auditor shall reinstate the deduction if the taxpayer provides proof that the property is eligible for the deduction in accordance with subsection (k) and that the individual residing on the property is not claiming the deduction for any other



| 1        | property.   |
|----------|---|
| 2        | (m) For assessment dates after 2009, the term "homestead" includes:         |
| 3        | (1) a deck or patio;  |
| 4        | (2) a gazebo; or  |
| 5        | (3) another residential yard structure, as defined in rules <i>that may</i> |
| 6        | be adopted by the department of local government finance (other             |
| 7        | than a swimming pool);  |
| 8        |   |
| 9        | that is assessed as real property and attached to the dwelling.             |
| 10       | (n) A county auditor shall grant an individual a deduction under this       |
| 11       | section regardless of whether the individual and the individual's spouse    |
| 12       | claim a deduction on two (2) different applications and each                |
| 13       | application claims a deduction for different property if the property       |
|          | owned by the individual's spouse is located outside Indiana and the         |
| 14       | individual files an affidavit with the county auditor containing the        |
| 15<br>16 | following information:  |
|          | (1) The names of the county and state in which the individual's             |
| 17       | spouse claims a deduction substantially similar to the deduction            |
| 18       | allowed by this section.  |
| 19       | (2) A statement made under penalty of perjury that the following            |
| 20       | are true:   |
| 21       | (A) That the individual and the individual's spouse maintain                |
| 22       | separate principal places of residence.                                     |
| 23       | (B) That neither the individual nor the individual's spouse has             |
| 24       | an ownership interest in the other's principal place of                     |
| 25       | residence.  |
| 26       | (C) That neither the individual nor the individual's spouse has,            |
| 27       | for that same year, claimed a standard or substantially similar             |
| 28       | deduction for any property other than the property maintained               |
| 29       | as a principal place of residence by the respective individuals.            |
| 30       | A county auditor may require an individual or an individual's spouse to     |
| 31       | provide evidence of the accuracy of the information contained in an         |
| 32       | affidavit submitted under this subsection. The evidence required of the     |
| 33       | individual or the individual's spouse may include state income tax          |
| 34       | returns, excise tax payment information, property tax payment               |
| 35       | information, driver license information, and voter registration             |
| 36       | information.  |
| 37       | (o) If:   |
| 38       | (1) a property owner files a statement under subsection (e) to              |
| 39       | claim the deduction provided by this section for a particular               |
| 40       | property; and   |
| 41       | (2) the county auditor receiving the filed statement determines             |



2017

that the property owner's property is not eligible for the deduction;

| 1  | the county auditor shall inform the property owner of the county         |
|----|--|
| 2  | auditor's determination in writing. If a property owner's property is no |
| 3  | eligible for the deduction because the county auditor has determined     |
| 4  | that the property is not the property owner's principal place of         |
| 5  | residence, the property owner may appeal the county auditor's            |
| 6  | determination to the county property tax assessment board of appeals     |
| 7  | as provided in IC 6-1.1-15. The county auditor shall inform the          |
| 8  | property owner of the owner's right to appeal to the county property tax |
| 9  | assessment board of appeals when the county auditor informs the          |
| 10 | property owner of the county auditor's determination under this          |
| 11 | subsection.  |
| 12 | (p) An individual is entitled to the deduction under this section for    |
| 13 | a homestead for a particular assessment date if:                         |
| 14 | (1) either:  |
| 15 | (A) the individual's interest in the homestead as described in           |
| 16 | subsection (a)(2)(B) is conveyed to the individual after the             |
| 17 | assessment date, but within the calendar year in which the               |
| 18 | assessment date occurs; or   |
| 19 | (B) the individual contracts to purchase the homestead after             |
| 20 | the assessment date, but within the calendar year in which the           |
| 21 | assessment date occurs;  |
| 22 | (2) on the assessment date:  |
| 23 | (A) the property on which the homestead is currently located             |
| 24 | was vacant land; or  |
| 25 | (B) the construction of the dwelling that constitutes the                |
| 26 | homestead was not completed; and   |
| 27 | (3) either:  |
| 28 | (A) the individual files the certified statement required by             |
| 29 | subsection (e); on or before December 31 of the calendar year            |
| 30 | in which the assessment date occurs to claim the deduction               |
| 31 | <del>under this section;</del> or  |
| 32 | (B) a sales disclosure form that meets the requirements of               |
| 33 | section 44 of this chapter is submitted to the county assessor           |
| 34 | on or before December 31 of the calendar year for the                    |
| 35 | individual's purchase of the homestead. <i>and</i>                       |
| 36 | (4) the individual files with the county auditor on or before            |
| 37 | December 31 of the calendar year in which the assessment date            |
| 38 | occurs a statement that:   |
| 39 | (A) lists any other property for which the individual would              |
| 40 | otherwise receive a deduction under this section for the                 |
| 41 | <del>assessment date; and</del>  |



2017

(B) cancels the deduction described in clause (A) for that

| <del>propertv</del> |
|---------------------|
|                     |
|                     |
|                     |

An individual who satisfies the requirements of subdivisions (1) through (4) (3) is entitled to the deduction under this section for the homestead for the assessment date, even if on the assessment date the property on which the homestead is currently located was vacant land or the construction of the dwelling that constitutes the homestead was not completed. The county auditor shall apply the deduction for the assessment date and for the assessment date in any later year in which the homestead remains eligible for the deduction. A homestead that qualifies for the deduction under this section as provided in this subsection is considered a homestead for purposes of section 37.5 of this chapter and IC 6-1.1-20.6. The county auditor shall cancel the deduction under this section for any property that is located in the county and is listed on the statement filed by the individual under subdivision (4). If the property listed on the statement filed under subdivision (4) is located in another county, the county auditor who receives the statement shall forward the statement to the county auditor of that other county, and the county auditor of that other county shall cancel the deduction under this section for that property.

- (q) This subsection applies to an application for the deduction provided by this section that is filed for an assessment date occurring after December 31, 2013. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, an individual buying a mobile home that is not assessed as real property or a manufactured home that is not assessed as real property under a contract providing that the individual is to pay the property taxes on the mobile home or manufactured home is not entitled to the deduction provided by this section unless the parties to the contract comply with IC 9-17-6-17.
  - (r) This subsection:
    - (1) applies to an application for the deduction provided by this section that is filed for an assessment date occurring after December 31, 2013; and
- (2) does not apply to an individual described in subsection (q). The owner of a mobile home that is not assessed as real property or a manufactured home that is not assessed as real property must attach a copy of the owner's title to the mobile home or manufactured home to the application for the deduction provided by this section.
- (s) For assessment dates after 2013, the term "homestead" includes property that is owned by an individual who:
  - (1) is serving on active duty in any branch of the armed forces of the United States;
  - (2) was ordered to transfer to a location outside Indiana; and



(3) was otherwise eligible, without regard to this subsection, for the deduction under this section for the property for the assessment date immediately preceding the transfer date specified in the order described in subdivision (2).

For property to qualify under this subsection for the deduction provided by this section, the individual described in subdivisions (1) through (3) must submit to the county auditor a copy of the individual's transfer orders or other information sufficient to show that the individual was ordered to transfer to a location outside Indiana. The property continues to qualify for the deduction provided by this section until the individual ceases to be on active duty, the property is sold, or the individual's ownership interest is otherwise terminated, whichever occurs first. Notwithstanding subsection (a)(2), the property remains a homestead regardless of whether the property continues to be the individual's principal place of residence after the individual transfers to a location outside Indiana. The property continues to qualify as a homestead under this subsection if the property is leased while the individual is away from Indiana and is serving on active duty, if the individual has lived at the property at any time during the past ten (10) years. However, Otherwise, the property ceases to qualify as a homestead under this subsection if the property is leased while the individual is away from Indiana. Property that qualifies as a homestead under this subsection shall also be construed as a homestead for purposes of section 37.5 of this chapter.

SECTION 7. IC 6-1.1-12-45, AS AMENDED BY P.L.183-2014, SECTION 16, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2017]: Sec. 45. (a) Subject to subsections (b) and (c), a deduction under this chapter applies for an assessment date and for the property taxes due and payable based on the assessment for that assessment date, regardless of whether with respect to the real property or mobile home or manufactured home not assessed as real property:

- (1) the title is conveyed one (1) or more times; or
- (2) one (1) or more contracts to purchase are entered into; after that assessment date and on or before the next succeeding assessment date.
  - (b) Subsection (a) applies regardless of whether:
    - (1) one (1) or more grantees of title under subsection (a)(1); or
- (2) one (1) or more contract purchasers under subsection (a)(2); file a statement under this chapter to claim the deduction.
- (c) A deduction applies under subsection (a) for only one (1) year. The requirements of this chapter for filing a statement to apply for a deduction under this chapter apply to subsequent years. **A person who**



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fails to apply for a deduction or credit under this article by the deadlines prescribed by this article may not apply for the deduction or credit retroactively.

#### (d) If:

- (1) a statement is filed under this chapter on or before January 5 of a calendar year to claim a deduction under this chapter with respect to real property; and
- (2) the eligibility criteria for the deduction are met; the deduction applies for the assessment date in the preceding calendar year and for the property taxes due and payable based on the assessment for that assessment date.

## (e) If:

- (1) a statement is filed under this chapter in a twelve (12) month filing period designated under this chapter to claim a deduction under this chapter with respect to a mobile home or a manufactured home not assessed as real property; and
- (2) the eligibility criteria for the deduction are met; the deduction applies for the assessment date in that twelve (12) month period and for the property taxes due and payable based on the assessment for that assessment date.
- (f) If a person who is receiving a deduction under section 1 of this chapter subsequently refinances the property, desires to continue claiming the deduction, and remains eligible for the deduction, the person must reapply for the deduction for the following assessment date.
- (g) A person who is required to record a contract with a county recorder in order to qualify for a deduction under this article must record the contract before, or concurrently with, the filing of the corresponding deduction application.
- (h) Before a county auditor terminates a deduction under this article, the county auditor shall give to the person claiming the deduction written notice that states the county auditor's intention to terminate the deduction and the county auditor's reason for terminating the deduction. The county auditor may send the notice to the taxpayer claiming the deduction by first class mail or by electronic mail. A notice issued under this subsection is not appealable under IC 6-1.1-15. However, after a deduction is terminated by a county auditor, the taxpayer may appeal the county auditor's action under IC 6-1.1-15.

SECTION 8. IC 6-1.1-20-3.1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.138-2016, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2017]: Sec. 3.1. (a) This section applies only to the following:



| 1  | (1) A controlled project (as defined in section 1.1 of this chapter        |
|----|--|
| 2  | as in effect June 30, 2008) for which the proper officers of a             |
| 3  | political subdivision make a preliminary determination in the              |
| 4  | manner described in subsection (b) before July 1, 2008.                    |
| 5  | (2) An elementary school building, middle school building, high            |
| 6  | school building, or other school building for academic instruction         |
| 7  | that:  |
| 8  | (A) is a controlled project;   |
| 9  | (B) will be used for any combination of kindergarten through               |
| 10 | grade 12; and  |
| 11 | (C) will not cost more than ten million dollars (\$10,000,000).            |
| 12 | (3) Any other controlled project that:                                     |
| 13 | (A) is not a controlled project described in subdivision (1) or            |
| 14 | (2); and   |
| 15 | (B) will not cost the political subdivision more than the lesser           |
| 16 | of the following:  |
| 17 | (i) Twelve million dollars (\$12,000,000).                                 |
| 18 | (ii) An amount equal to one percent (1%) of the total gross                |
| 19 | assessed value of property within the political subdivision                |
| 20 | on the last assessment date, if that amount is at least one                |
| 21 | million dollars (\$1,000,000).   |
| 22 | (b) A political subdivision may not impose property taxes to pay           |
| 23 | debt service on bonds or lease rentals on a lease for a controlled project |
| 24 | without completing the following procedures:                               |
| 25 | (1) The proper officers of a political subdivision shall:                  |
| 26 | (A) publish notice in accordance with IC 5-3-1; and                        |
| 27 | (B) send notice by first class mail to the circuit court clerk and         |
| 28 | to any organization that delivers to the officers, before January          |
| 29 | 1 of that year, an annual written request for such notices;                |
| 30 | of any meeting to consider adoption of a resolution or an                  |
| 31 | ordinance making a preliminary determination to issue bonds or             |
| 32 | enter into a lease and shall conduct a public hearing on a                 |
| 33 | preliminary determination before adoption of the resolution or             |
| 34 | ordinance.   |
| 35 | (2) When the proper officers of a political subdivision make a             |
| 36 | preliminary determination to issue bonds or enter into a lease for         |
| 37 | a controlled project, the officers shall give notice of the                |
| 38 | preliminary determination by:  |
| 39 | (A) publication in accordance with IC 5-3-1; and                           |
| 40 | (B) first class mail to the circuit court clerk and to the                 |
| 41 | organizations described in subdivision (1)(B).                             |
| 42 | (3) A notice under subdivision (2) of the preliminary                      |



| 1  | determination of the political subdivision to issue bonds or enter  |
|----|---|
| 2  | into a lease for a controlled project must include the following    |
| 3  | information:  |
| 4  | (A) The maximum term of the bonds or lease.                         |
| 5  | (B) The maximum principal amount of the bonds or the                |
| 6  | maximum lease rental for the lease.                                 |
| 7  | (C) The estimated interest rates that will be paid and the total    |
| 8  | interest costs associated with the bonds or lease.                  |
| 9  | (D) The purpose of the bonds or lease.                              |
| 10 | (E) A statement that any owners of property within the              |
| 11 | political subdivision or registered voters residing within the      |
| 12 | political subdivision who want to initiate a petition and           |
| 13 | remonstrance process against the proposed debt service or           |
| 14 | lease payments must file a petition that complies with              |
| 15 | subdivisions (4) and (5) not later than thirty (30) days after      |
| 16 | publication in accordance with IC 5-3-1.                            |
| 17 | (F) With respect to bonds issued or a lease entered into to         |
| 18 | open:   |
| 19 | (i) a new school facility; or                                       |
| 20 | (ii) an existing facility that has not been used for at least       |
| 21 | three (3) years and that is being reopened to provide               |
| 22 | additional classroom space;   |
| 23 | the estimated costs the school corporation expects to incur         |
| 24 | annually to operate the facility.                                   |
| 25 | (G) A statement of whether the school corporation expects to        |
| 26 | appeal for a new facility adjustment (as defined in                 |
| 27 | IC 20-45-1-16 (repealed) before January 1, 2009) for an             |
| 28 | increased maximum permissible tuition support levy to pay the       |
| 29 | estimated costs described in clause (F).                            |
| 30 | (H) The political subdivision's current debt service levy and       |
| 31 | rate and the estimated increase to the political subdivision's      |
| 32 | debt service levy and rate that will result if the political        |
| 33 | subdivision issues the bonds or enters into the lease.              |
| 34 | (4) After notice is given, a petition requesting the application of |
| 35 | a petition and remonstrance process may be filed by the lesser of:  |
| 36 | (A) five hundred (500) persons who are either owners of             |
| 37 | property within the political subdivision or registered voters      |
| 38 | residing within the political subdivision; or                       |
| 39 | (B) five percent (5%) of the registered voters residing within      |
| 40 | the political subdivision.  |
| 41 | (5) The state board of accounts shall design and, upon request by   |
| 42 | the county voter registration office, deliver to the county voter   |



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| registration office or the county voter registration office's designated printer the petition forms to be used solely in the petition process described in this section. The county voter registration office shall issue to an owner or owners of property within the political subdivision or a registered voter residing within the political subdivision the number of petition forms |
| requested by the owner or owners or the registered voter. Each  |
| form must be accompanied by instructions detailing the  |
| requirements that:  |
| (A) the carrier and signers must be owners of property or registered voters;  |
| (B) the carrier must be a signatory on at least one (1) petition;   |
| (C) after the signatures have been collected, the carrier must  |
| swear or affirm before a notary public that the carrier witnessed each signature; and   |
| (D) govern the closing date for the petition period.  |

- Persons requesting forms may be required to identify themselves as owners of property or registered voters and may be allowed to pick up additional copies to distribute to other owners of property or registered voters. Each person signing a petition must indicate whether the person is signing the petition as a registered voter within the political subdivision or is signing the petition as the owner of property within the political subdivision. A person who signs a petition as a registered voter must indicate the address at which the person is registered to vote. A person who signs a petition as an owner of property must indicate the address of the property owned by the person in the political subdivision.
- (6) Each petition must be verified under oath by at least one (1) qualified petitioner in a manner prescribed by the state board of accounts before the petition is filed with the county voter registration office under subdivision (7).
- (7) Each petition must be filed with the county voter registration office not more than thirty (30) days after publication under subdivision (2) of the notice of the preliminary determination.
- (8) The county voter registration office shall determine whether each person who signed the petition is a registered voter. The county voter registration office shall, not more than fifteen (15) business days after receiving a petition, forward a copy of the petition to the county auditor. Not more than ten (10) business days after receiving the copy of the petition, the county auditor shall provide to the county voter registration office a statement verifying:



| (A) whether a person who signed the petition as a registered     |
|--|
| voter but is not a registered voter, as determined by the county |
| voter registration office, is the owner of property in the       |
| political subdivision; and                                       |

- (B) whether a person who signed the petition as an owner of property within the political subdivision does in fact own property within the political subdivision.
- (9) The county voter registration office shall, not more than ten (10) business days after receiving the statement from the county auditor under subdivision (8), make the final determination of the number of petitioners that are registered voters in the political subdivision and, based on the statement provided by the county auditor, the number of petitioners that own property within the political subdivision. Whenever the name of an individual who signs a petition form as a registered voter contains a minor variation from the name of the registered voter as set forth in the records of the county voter registration office, the signature is presumed to be valid, and there is a presumption that the individual is entitled to sign the petition under this section. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, in determining whether an individual is a registered voter, the county voter registration office shall apply the requirements and procedures used under IC 3 to determine whether a person is a registered voter for purposes of voting in an election governed by IC 3. However, an individual is not required to comply with the provisions concerning providing proof of identification to be considered a registered voter for purposes of this chapter. A person is entitled to sign a petition only one (1) time in a particular petition and remonstrance process under this chapter, regardless of whether the person owns more than one (1) parcel of real property, mobile home assessed as personal property, or manufactured home assessed as personal property, or a combination of those types of property within the subdivision and regardless of whether the person is both a registered voter in the political subdivision and the owner of property within the political subdivision. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, if a petition is presented to the county voter registration office within forty-five (45) days before an election, the county voter registration office may defer acting on the petition, and the time requirements under this section for action by the county voter registration office do not begin to run until five (5) days after the date of the election.
- (10) The county voter registration office must file a certificate and



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- (A) the township trustee, if the political subdivision is a township, who shall present the petition or petitions to the township board; or
- (B) the body that has the authority to authorize the issuance of the bonds or the execution of a lease, if the political subdivision is not a township;

within thirty-five (35) business days of the filing of the petition requesting a petition and remonstrance process. The certificate must state the number of petitioners that are owners of property within the political subdivision and the number of petitioners who are registered voters residing within the political subdivision.

If a sufficient petition requesting a petition and remonstrance process is not filed by owners of property or registered voters as set forth in this section, the political subdivision may issue bonds or enter into a lease by following the provisions of law relating to the bonds to be issued or lease to be entered into.

(c) This subsection applies only to a political subdivision that, after April 30, 2011, adopts an ordinance or a resolution making a preliminary determination to issue bonds or enter into a lease subject to this section and section 3.2 of this chapter. A political subdivision may not artificially divide a capital controlled project into multiple capital projects in order to avoid the requirements of this section and section 3.2 of this chapter. A person that owns property within a political subdivision or a person that is a registered voter residing within a political subdivision may file a petition with the department of local government finance objecting that the political subdivision has artificially divided a capital controlled project into multiple capital projects in order to avoid the requirements of this section and section 3.2 of this chapter. The petition must be filed not more than ten (10) days after the political subdivision makes publishes the political subdivision's preliminary determination to issue the bonds or enter into the lease leases for the a capital project that the person believes is the result of a division of a controlled project that is prohibited by this subsection. If the department of local government finance receives a petition under this subsection, the department shall not later than thirty (30) days after receiving the petition make a final determination on the issue of whether the eapital projects were artificially political subdivision divided a controlled project in order to avoid the requirements of this section and section 3.2 of this chapter. If the department of local government finance determines that a political subdivision divided a controlled project in order to



avoid the requirements of this section and section 3.2 of this chapter and the political subdivision continues to desire to proceed with the project, the political subdivision shall fulfill the requirements of this section and section 3.2 of this chapter, if applicable, regardless of the cost of the project in dispute.

SECTION 9. IC 6-1.1-20-3.6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.149-2016, SECTION 25, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2017]: Sec. 3.6. (a) Except as provided in sections 3.7 and 3.8 of this chapter, this section applies only to a controlled project described in section 3.5(a) of this chapter.

- (b) If a sufficient petition requesting the application of the local public question process has been filed as set forth in section 3.5 of this chapter, a political subdivision may not impose property taxes to pay debt service on bonds or lease rentals on a lease for a controlled project unless the political subdivision's proposed debt service or lease rental is approved in an election on a local public question held under this section.
- (c) Except as provided in subsection (k), the following question shall be submitted to the eligible voters at the election conducted under this section:

| "Shall         | (ınsert t       | the name of the politication | al subdivision)   |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| issue bonds of | or enter into a | a lease to finance           | (insert           |
| a brief descri | ption of the    | controlled project), whi     | ch is estimated   |
| to cost not mo | ore than        | (insert the total cos        | t of the project) |
| and is estima  | ted to increas  | se the property tax rate f   | for debt service  |
| by             | (insert ir      | ncrease in tax rate as det   | ermined by the    |
| department of  | f local gover   | nment finance)?".            |                   |

The public question must appear on the ballot in the form approved by the county election board. If the political subdivision proposing to issue bonds or enter into a lease is located in more than one (1) county, the county election board of each county shall jointly approve the form of the public question that will appear on the ballot in each county. The form approved by the county election board may differ from the language certified to the county election board by the county auditor. If the county election board approves the language of a public question under this subsection, the county election board shall submit the language to the department of local government finance for review.

(d) The department of local government finance shall review the language of the public question to evaluate whether the description of the controlled project is accurate and is not biased against either a vote in favor of the controlled project or a vote against the controlled project. The department of local government finance may either



approve the ballot language as submitted or recommend that the ballot language be modified as necessary to ensure that the description of the controlled project is accurate and is not biased. The department of local government finance shall certify its approval or recommendations to the county auditor and the county election board not more than ten (10) days after the language of the public question is submitted to the department for review. If the department of local government finance recommends a modification to the ballot language, the county election board shall, after reviewing the recommendations of the department of local government finance, submit modified ballot language to the department for the department's approval or recommendation of any additional modifications. The public question may not be certified by the county auditor under subsection (e) unless the department of local government finance has first certified the department's final approval of the ballot language for the public question.

- (e) The county auditor shall certify the finally approved public question under IC 3-10-9-3 to the county election board of each county in which the political subdivision is located. The certification must occur not later than noon:
  - (1) seventy-four (74) days before a primary election if the public question is to be placed on the primary or municipal primary election ballot; or
  - (2) August 1 if the public question is to be placed on the general or municipal election ballot.

Subject to the certification requirements and deadlines under this subsection and except as provided in subsection (k), the public question shall be placed on the ballot at the next primary election, general election, or municipal election in which all voters of the political subdivision are entitled to vote. However, if a primary election, general election, or municipal election will not be held during the first year in which the public question is eligible to be placed on the ballot under this section and if the political subdivision requests the public question to be placed on the ballot at a special election, the public question shall be placed on the ballot at a special election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in May or November of the year. The certification must occur not later than noon seventy-four (74) days before a special election to be held in May (if the special election is to be held in May) or noon on August 1 (if the special election is to be held in November). The fiscal body of the political subdivision that requests the special election shall pay the costs of holding the special election. The county election board shall give notice under IC 5-3-1 of a special election conducted under this



- subsection. A special election conducted under this subsection is under the direction of the county election board. The county election board shall take all steps necessary to carry out the special election.
- (f) The circuit court clerk shall certify the results of the public question to the following:
  - (1) The county auditor of each county in which the political subdivision is located.
  - (2) The department of local government finance.
- (g) Subject to the requirements of IC 6-1.1-18.5-8, the political subdivision may issue the proposed bonds or enter into the proposed lease rental if a majority of the eligible voters voting on the public question vote in favor of the public question.
- (h) If a majority of the eligible voters voting on the public question vote in opposition to the public question, both of the following apply:
  - (1) The political subdivision may not issue the proposed bonds or enter into the proposed lease rental.
  - (2) Another public question under this section on the same or a substantially similar project may not be submitted to the voters earlier than three hundred fifty (350) days after the date of the election.
- (i) IC 3, to the extent not inconsistent with this section, applies to an election held under this section.
- (j) A political subdivision may not artificially divide a capital controlled project into multiple capital projects in order to avoid the requirements of this section and section 3.5 of this chapter. A person that owns property within a political subdivision or a person that is a registered voter residing within a political subdivision may file a petition with the department of local government finance objecting that the political subdivision has artificially divided a capital controlled project into multiple two (2) or more capital projects in order to avoid the requirements of this section and section 3.5 of this chapter. The petition must be filed not more than ten (10) days after the political subdivision makes publishes the political subdivision's preliminary determination under section 3.5 of this chapter or a determination under section 5 of this chapter to issue the bonds or enter into the lease leases for the a capital project that the person believes is the result of a division of a controlled project that is prohibited by this subsection. If the department of local government finance receives a petition under this subsection, the department shall not later than thirty (30) days after receiving the petition make a final determination on the issue of whether the capital projects were artificially political subdivision divided a controlled project in order to avoid the



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requirements of this section and section 3.5 of this chapter. If the department of local government finance determines that a political subdivision divided a controlled project in order to avoid the requirements of this section and section 3.5 of this chapter and the political subdivision continues to desire to proceed with the project, the political subdivision shall fulfill the requirements of this section and section 3.5 of this chapter, if applicable, regardless of the cost of the capital project in dispute.

(k) This subsection applies to a political subdivision for which a petition requesting a public question has been submitted under section 3.5 of this chapter. The legislative body (as defined in IC 36-1-2-9) of the political subdivision may adopt a resolution to withdraw a controlled project from consideration in a public question. If the legislative body provides a certified copy of the resolution to the county auditor and the county election board not later than sixty-three (63) days before the election at which the public question would be on the ballot, the public question on the controlled project shall not be placed on the ballot and the public question on the controlled project shall not be held, regardless of whether the county auditor has certified the public question to the county election board. If the withdrawal of a public question under this subsection requires the county election board to reprint ballots, the political subdivision withdrawing the public question shall pay the costs of reprinting the ballots. If a political subdivision withdraws a public question under this subsection that would have been held at a special election and the county election board has printed the ballots before the legislative body of the political subdivision provides a certified copy of the withdrawal resolution to the county auditor and the county election board, the political subdivision withdrawing the public question shall pay the costs incurred by the county in printing the ballots. If a public question on a controlled project is withdrawn under this subsection, a public question under this section on the same controlled project or a substantially similar controlled project may not be submitted to the voters earlier than three hundred fifty (350) days after the date the resolution withdrawing the public question is adopted.

- (l) If a public question regarding a controlled project is placed on the ballot to be voted on at an election under this section, the political subdivision shall submit to the department of local government finance, at least thirty (30) days before the election, the following information regarding the proposed controlled project for posting on the department's Internet web site:
  - (1) The cost per square foot of any buildings being constructed as



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| 1  | part of the controlled project.  |
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| 2  | (2) The effect that approval of the controlled project would have        |
| 3  | on the political subdivision's property tax rate.                        |
| 4  | (3) The maximum term of the bonds or lease.                              |
| 5  | (4) The maximum principal amount of the bonds or the maximum             |
| 6  | lease rental for the lease.  |
| 7  | (5) The estimated interest rates that will be paid and the total         |
| 8  | interest costs associated with the bonds or lease.                       |
| 9  | (6) The purpose of the bonds or lease.                                   |
| 10 | (7) In the case of a controlled project proposed by a school             |
| 11 | corporation:   |
| 12 | (A) the current and proposed square footage of school building           |
| 13 | space per student;   |
| 14 | (B) enrollment patterns within the school corporation; and               |
| 15 | (C) the age and condition of the current school facilities.              |
| 16 | SECTION 10. IC 6-1.1-20.3-15, AS ADDED BY P.L.84-2014,                   |
| 17 | SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE                      |
| 18 | JULY 1, 2017]: Sec. 15. (a) After June 30, 2015, The executive of a      |
| 19 | political subdivision or a majority of the members of the fiscal body    |
| 20 | of a political subdivision may request technical assistance from the     |
| 21 | board in helping prevent the political subdivision from becoming a       |
| 22 | distressed political subdivision. The board, by using the health fiscal  |
| 23 | indicators developed under IC 5-14-3.7-16 or IC 5-14-3.8-8, shall        |
| 24 | determine whether to provide assistance to the political subdivision.    |
| 25 | (b) The board may do any of the following for a political subdivision    |
| 26 | that receives assistance under subsection (a):                           |
| 27 | (1) Provide information and technical assistance with respect to         |
| 28 | the data management, accounting, or other aspects of the fiscal          |
| 29 | management of the political subdivision.                                 |
| 30 | (2) Assist the political subdivision in obtaining assistance from        |
| 31 | state agencies and other resources.                                      |
| 32 | SECTION 11. IC 6-1.1-28-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.149-2016,                  |
| 33 | SECTION 27, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE                     |
| 34 | JULY 1, 2017]: Sec. 12. (a) This section applies beginning January 1,    |
| 35 | 2016.  |
| 36 | (b) Each county property tax assessment board of appeals (referred       |
| 37 | to as the "county PTABOA" in this section) shall submit annually a       |
| 38 | report of the notices for review filed with the county PTABOA under      |
| 39 | IC 6-1.1-15-1(c) and IC 6-1.1-15-1(d) in the preceding year to the       |
| 40 | department of local government finance, the Indiana board of tax         |
| 41 | review, and the legislative services agency before April 1 of each year. |
| 42 | A report submitted to the legislative services agency must be in an      |



| 1                    | electronic format under IC 5-14-6.                                     |
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| 2                    | (c) The report required by subsection (b) must include the following   |
| 3                    | information:   |
| 4                    | (1) The total number of notices for review filed with the county       |
| 5                    | PTABOA.  |
| 6                    | (2) The notices for review, either filed or pending during the year,   |
| 7                    | that were resolved during the year by a preliminary informal           |
| 8                    | meeting under IC 6-1.1-15-1(h)(2) and IC 6-1.1-15-1(j).                |
| 9                    | (3) The notices for review, either filed or pending during the year,   |
| 10                   | in which a hearing was conducted during the year by the county         |
| 11                   | PTABOA under IC 6-1.1-15-1(k).   |
| 12                   | (4) The number of written decisions issued during the year by the      |
| 13                   | county PTABOA under IC 6-1.1-15-1(n).                                  |
| 14                   | (5) The number of notices for review pending with the county           |
| 15                   | PTABOA on December 31 of the reporting year.                           |
| 16                   | (6) The number of reviews resolved through a preliminary               |
| 17                   | informal meeting under IC 6-1.1-15-1(h)(2) and IC 6-1.1-15-1(j)        |
| 18                   | that were:   |
| 19                   | (A) resolved in favor of the taxpayer;                                 |
| 20                   | (B) resolved in favor of the assessor; or                              |
| 21<br>22<br>23<br>24 | (C) resolved in some other manner.                                     |
| 22                   | (7) The number of reviews resolved through a written decision          |
| 23                   | issued during the year by the county PTABOA under                      |
| 24                   | IC 6-1.1-15-1(n) that were:  |
| 25<br>26             | (A) resolved in favor of the taxpayer;                                 |
| 26                   | (B) resolved in favor of the assessor; or                              |
| 27                   | (C) resolved in some other manner.                                     |
| 28                   | The report may not include any confidential information.               |
| 29                   | (d) A multiple county PTABOA shall submit a separate report            |
| 30                   | under this section for each county participating in the multiple       |
| 31                   | county PTABOA. A report filed under this subsection for a county       |
| 32                   | participating in a multiple county PTABOA must provide                 |
| 33                   | information on the notices for review that originated within the       |
| 34                   | county.  |
| 35                   | SECTION 12. IC 6-1.1-30-14.5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS                     |
| 36                   | FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2017]: Sec. 14.5. The department            |
| 37                   | of local government finance shall may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to   |
| 38                   | limit the basis of payment for services provided by all professionals, |
| 39                   | including but not limited to attorneys, architects, and construction   |
| 40                   | managers, who work on capital projects, to a fee for service agreement |
| 41                   | and may not adopt a rule authorizing the basis of payment for the      |
| 42                   | services to be a percentage of the cost of the capital project.        |



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| 1  | SECTION 13. IC 6-1.1-31-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.112-2012,                  |
| 2  | SECTION 44, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE                    |
| 3  | JULY 1, 2016 (RETROACTIVE)]: Sec. 9. (a) Except as provided in          |
| 4  | subsection (b) or (c), the department of local government finance may   |
| 5  | not adopt rules for the appraisal of real property:                     |
| 6  | (1) in a general reassessment under IC 6-1.1-4-4; or                    |
| 7  | (2) in a reassessment under a county's reassessment plan prepared       |
| 8  | under IC 6-1.1-4-4.2;   |
| 9  | after July 1 of the year before the year in which the reassessment is   |
| 10 | scheduled to begin.   |
| 11 | (b) If rules described in subsection (a) are timely adopted under       |
| 12 | subsection (a) and are then disapproved by the attorney general for any |
| 13 | reason under IC 4-22-2-32, the department of local government finance   |
| 14 | may modify the rules to cure the defect that resulted in disapproval by |

(c) The department of local government finance may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 after June 30, 2016, and before April 1, 2017, that:

may modify the rules to cure the defect that resulted in disapproval by

the attorney general, and may then take all actions necessary under

IC 4-22-2 to readopt and to obtain approval of the rules. This process

may be repeated as necessary until the rules are approved.

- (1) concern or include market segmentation under section 6 of this chapter; and
- (2) affect assessments for the January 1, 2018, assessment

SECTION 14. IC 6-1.1-37-11, AS AMENDED BY P.L.288-2013, SECTION 25, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2017]: Sec. 11. (a) If a taxpayer is entitled to a property tax refund or credit because an assessment is decreased, the taxpaver shall also be paid, or credited with, interest on the excess taxes that the taxpayer paid at the rate established for excess tax payments by the commissioner of the department of state revenue under IC 6-8.1-10-1. However, in the case of an assessment that is decreased by the Indiana board or the Indiana tax court, the taxpayer is not entitled to the greater of five hundred dollars (\$500) or twenty percent (20%) of the interest to which the taxpayer would otherwise be entitled on the excess taxes unless the taxpayer affirms, under penalty of perjury, that substantive evidence supporting the taxpayer's position had been:

- (1) presented by the taxpayer to the assessor before; or
- (2) introduced by the taxpayer at;

the hearing held by the county property tax assessment board of appeals. An appraisal may not be required by the county property tax assessment board of appeals or the assessor in a proceeding before the county property tax assessment board of appeals or in a preliminary



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| informal meeting under | IC 6-1.1-15-1(h)(2) |
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- (b) For purposes of this section and except as provided in subsection (c), the interest shall be computed:
  - (1) from the date on which the taxes were paid or due, whichever is later, to the date **on which the county auditor determines the amount** of the refund or credit; and
  - (2) using the rate in effect under IC 6-8.1-10-1 for each particular year covered by the refund or credit.

If a taxpayer is sent a provisional tax statement and is later sent a final or reconciling tax statement, interest shall be computed after the date on which the taxes were paid or first due under the provisional tax statement, whichever is later, through the date of the refund or credit.

(c) This subsection applies if a taxpayer who is entitled to a refund or credit does not make a written request for the refund or credit to the county auditor within forty-five (45) days after the final determination of the county property tax assessment board of appeals, the state board of tax commissioners, the department of local government finance, the Indiana board, or the tax court that entitles the taxpayer to the refund or credit. In the case of a taxpayer described in this subsection, the interest shall be computed from the date on which the taxes were paid or due to the date that is forty-five (45) days after the final determination of the county property tax assessment board of appeals, the state board of tax commissioners, the department of local government finance, the Indiana board of tax review, or the Indiana tax court. In any event, a property tax refund or credit must be issued not later than ninety (90) days after the request is received.

SECTION 15. IC 6-1.1-37-15 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2017]: **Sec. 15. (a)** The auditor of a county may, with the approval of the county treasurer, waive, negotiate, or settle penalties that have accrued on delinquent property taxes imposed in the county.

- (b) A negotiated agreement or a settlement agreement under this section must be an agreement in writing among the county auditor, the county treasurer, and the taxpayer or the taxpayer's authorized representative. After concluding the agreement, the county auditor shall provide a copy of the agreement to the taxpayer or the taxpayer's authorized representative.
- (c) A county auditor who waives, negotiates, or settles penalties under this section shall document the action in the manner prescribed by the department.
  - (d) A county auditor shall provide all documentation related to



| 1  | a waiver, negotiation, or settlement of penalties under this section     |
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| 2  | to the state board of accounts upon request.                             |
| 3  | SECTION 16. IC 6-3.6-5-6, AS ADDED BY P.L.243-2015,                      |
| 4  | SECTION 10, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE                     |
| 5  | JULY 1, 2017]: Sec. 6. (a) This section applies to all counties.         |
| 6  | (b) The adopting body may impose a tax rate under this chapter that      |
| 7  | does not exceed one and twenty-five hundredths percent (1.25%) on the    |
| 8  | adjusted gross income of local taxpayers in the county served by the     |
| 9  | adopting body.   |
| 10 | (c) Revenues from a tax under this section may be used only for the      |
| 11 | purpose of funding a property tax credit applied on a percentage basis   |
| 12 | to reduce the property tax liability of taxpayers with tangible property |
| 13 | located in the county as authorized under this section. Property taxes   |
| 14 | imposed due to a referendum in which a majority of the voters in the     |
| 15 | taxing unit imposing the property taxes approved the property taxes are  |
| 16 | not eligible for a credit under this section.                            |
| 17 | (d) The adopting body shall specify by ordinance how the revenue         |
| 18 | from the tax shall be applied to provide property tax credits in         |
| 19 | subsequent years. The ordinance must be adopted before July 1 and        |
| 20 | first applies in the following year and then thereafter until it is      |
| 21 | rescinded or modified. The property tax credits may be allocated         |
| 22 | among any combination of the following categories:                       |
| 23 | (1) For homesteads eligible for a credit under IC 6-1.1-20.6-7.5         |
| 24 | that limits the taxpayer's property tax liability for the property to    |
| 25 | one percent (1%).  |
| 26 | (2) For residential property, long term care property, agricultural      |
| 27 | land, and other tangible property (if any) eligible for a credit         |
| 28 | under IC 6-1.1-20.6-7.5 that limits the taxpayer's property tax          |
| 29 | liability for the property to two percent (2%).                          |
| 30 | (3) For the following types of property as a single category:            |
| 31 | (A) Residential property, as defined in 6-1.1-20.6-4.                    |
| 32 | (B) Real property, a mobile home, and industrialized housing             |
| 33 | that would qualify as a homestead if the taxpayer had filed for          |
| 34 | a homestead credit under IC 6-1.1-20.9 (repealed) or the                 |
| 35 | standard deduction under IC 6-1.1-12-37.                                 |
| 36 | (C) Real property consisting of units that are regularly used to         |
| 37 | rent or otherwise furnish residential accommodations for                 |
| 38 | periods of at least thirty (30) days, regardless of whether the          |
| 39 | tangible property is subject to assessment under rules of the            |
| 40 | department of local government finance that apply to:                    |
| 41 | (i) residential property; or   |
| 42 | (ii) commercial property.  |



- 1 (4) For nonresidential real property, personal property, and other 2 tangible property (if any) eligible for a credit under 3 IC 6-1.1-20.6-7.5 that limits the taxpayer's property tax liability 4 for the property to three percent (3%). However, IC 6-3.6-11-2 5 applies in Jasper County. 6 (e) Within a category described in subsection (d) for which an 7 ordinance grants property tax credits, the property tax credit rate must 8 be a uniform percentage for all qualifying taxpayers with property in 9 10
  - that category in the county. The credit percentage may be, but does not have to be, uniform for all categories of property listed in subsection (d). The total of all tax credits granted under this section for a year may not exceed the amount of revenue raised by the tax imposed under this section. If the amount available in a year for property tax credits under this section is less than the amount necessary to provide all the property tax credits authorized by the adopting body, the county auditor shall reduce the property tax credits granted to eliminate the excess. The county auditor shall reduce credits within the categories described in subsection (d)(1) through (d)(4) as follows:
    - (1) First, against property taxes imposed on property described in subsection (d)(4).
    - (2) Second, if an excess remains after applying the reduction as described in subdivision (1), against property taxes imposed on property described in subsection (d)(3).
    - (3) Third, if an excess remains after applying the reduction as described in subdivisions (1) and (2), against property taxes imposed on property described in subsection (d)(2).
    - (4) Fourth, if an excess remains after applying the reduction as described in subdivisions (1) through (3), against property taxes imposed on property described in subsection (d)(1).
  - (f) The total of all tax credits granted under this section for a year may not exceed the amount authorized by the adopting body. If the amount available in a year for property tax credits under this section is greater than the amount necessary to provide all the property tax credits authorized by the adopting body, the county auditor shall retain and apply the excess as necessary to provide the property tax credits authorized by the adopting body for the following year. The adopting body may adopt an ordinance that directs to which categories described in subsection (d) the excess is to be uniformly applied.
  - (g) The county auditor shall allocate the amount of revenue applied as tax credits under this section to the taxing units that imposed the eligible property taxes against which the credits are applied.
    - (h) If the adopting body adopts an ordinance to reduce or



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eliminate the property tax relief credits that are in effect in the county under this chapter, the county auditor shall give notice of the adoption of the ordinance in accordance with IC 5-3-1 not later than thirty (30) days after the date on which ordinance is adopted.

SECTION 17. IC 6-3.6-9-2 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2017 (RETROACTIVE)]. Sec. 2. The budget agency shall before May 1 of every odd-numbered year publish an estimate of the statewide total amount of certified distributions to be made under this article during the following two (2) calendar years.

SECTION 18. IC 6-3.6-9-3 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2017 (RETROACTIVE)]. Sec. 3. The budget agency shall before May 1 of every even-numbered year publish an estimate of the statewide total amount of certified distributions to be made under this article during the following calendar year.

SECTION 19. IC 8-22-3-19, AS AMENDED BY P.L.230-2013, SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2017]: Sec. 19. (a) Temporary loans may be made by the board in anticipation of the collection of taxes of the authority actually levied and in course of collection for the fiscal year in which the loans are made. The loans must be authorized by ordinance and evidenced by warrants in the form provided by the authorizing ordinance. The warrants must state the total amount of the issue, the denomination of the warrant, the time and place payable, the rate of interest, the funds in anticipation of which they are issued and out of which they are payable, and a reference to the ordinance authorizing them and the date of its adoption. The ordinance authorizing temporary loans must appropriate and pledge a sufficient amount of the current revenue in anticipation of which they are issued and out of which they are payable. The warrants evidencing the temporary loans must be executed, sold, and delivered as are bonds of the authority.

- (b) The board may negotiate terms and borrow money from any source under a loan contract, subject to the following requirements:
  - (1) The loan contract must be approved by resolution of the board.
  - (2) The loan contract must provide for the repayment of the loan in not more than forty (40) years.
  - (3) This subdivision applies only to loan contracts entered into under this subsection before July 1, 2013. The loan contract must state that the indebtedness:
    - (A) is that of the authority;
    - (B) is payable solely from revenues of the authority that are derived from either airport operations or from revenue bonds; and



| 1   | (C) may not be paid by a tax levied on property located within            |
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| 2   | the district.   |
| 3   | (4) This subdivision applies only to loan contracts entered into          |
| 4   | under this subsection after June 30, 2013. The loan contract must         |
| 5   | state that the indebtedness:  |
| 6   | (A) is that of the authority;   |
| 7   | (B) is payable solely from:   |
| 8   | (i) a cumulative building fund established under section 25               |
| 9   | of this chapter;  |
| 10  | (ii) revenues of the authority that are derived from either               |
| l 1 | airport operations or from revenue bonds; or                              |
| 12  | (iii) both items (i) and (ii); and  |
| 13  | (C) may not be paid by a general operating fund tax levied on             |
| 14  | property located within the district.                                     |
| 15  | (5) The loan contract must be submitted to the department of local        |
| 16  | government finance, which may approve, disapprove, or reduce              |
| 17  | the amount of the proposed loan contract. The department of local         |
| 18  | government finance must make a decision on the loan contract              |
| 19  | within thirty (30) days after it is submitted for review. The action      |
| 20  | taken by the department of local government finance on the                |
| 21  | proposed loan contract is final.  |
| 22  | (c) Any loan contract issued under this chapter is issued for             |
| 23  | essential public and governmental purposes. A loan contract, the          |
| 24  | interest on it, the proceeds received by a holder from the sale of a loan |
| 25  | contract to the extent of the holder's cost of acquisition, proceeds      |
| 26  | received upon redemption before maturity, proceeds received at            |
| 27  | maturity, and the receipt of the interest and proceeds are exempt from    |
| 28  | taxation as provided in IC 6-8-5.   |
| 29  | (d) After the board of an authority enters into a loan contract, the      |
| 30  | board may use funds received from state or federal grants to satisfy the  |
| 31  | repayment of part or all of the loan contract.                            |
| 32  | SECTION 20. IC 14-33-9-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.182-2009(ss),                 |
| 33  | SECTION 301, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS                                |
| 34  | [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2017]: Sec. 1. (a) Except as provided in               |
| 35  | IC 6-1.1-17-20, the budget of a district:                                 |
| 36  | (1) must be prepared and submitted:                                       |
| 37  | (A) at the same time;   |
| 38  | (B) in the same manner; and   |
| 39  | (C) with notice;  |
| 10  | as is required by statute for the preparation of budgets by               |
| 11  | municipalities; and   |
| 12  | (2) if the district impasses a property tay or special banefits           |



| 1  | tax, is subject to the same review by:                                     |
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| 2  | (A) the county board of tax adjustment; and                                |
| 3  | (B) the department of local government finance;                            |
| 4  | as is required by statute for the budgets of municipalities.               |
| 5  | (b) If a district is established in more than one (1) county:              |
| 6  | (1) except as provided in subsection (c), the budget shall be              |
| 7  | certified to the auditor of the county in which is located the court       |
| 8  | that had exclusive jurisdiction over the establishment of the              |
| 9  | district; and  |
| 10 | (2) notice must be published in each county having land in the             |
| 11 | district. Any taxpayer in the district is entitled to be heard before      |
| 12 | the county board of tax adjustment and, after December 31, 2008,           |
| 13 | the fiscal body of each county having jurisdiction.                        |
| 14 | (c) If one (1) of the counties in a district contains either a first or    |
| 15 | second class city located in whole or in part in the district, the budget: |
| 16 | (1) shall be certified to the auditor of that county; and                  |
| 17 | (2) is subject to review at the county level only by the county            |
| 18 | board of tax adjustment and, after December 31, 2008, the fiscal           |
| 19 | body of that county.   |
| 20 | SECTION 21. IC 36-7-14-13, AS AMENDED BY P.L.204-2016,                     |
| 21 | SECTION 33, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE                       |
| 22 | JULY 1, 2017]: Sec. 13. (a) Not later than April 15 of each year, the      |
| 23 | redevelopment commissioners or their designees shall file with the         |
| 24 | unit's executive and fiscal body a report setting out their activities     |
| 25 | during the preceding calendar year.  |
| 26 | (b) The report of the commissioners of a municipal redevelopment           |
| 27 | commission must show the names of the then qualified and acting            |
| 28 | commissioners, the names of the officers of that body, the number of       |
| 29 | regular employees and their fixed salaries or compensation, the amount     |
| 30 | of the expenditures made during the preceding year and their general       |
| 31 | purpose, an accounting of the tax increment revenues expended by any       |
| 32 | entity receiving the tax increment revenues as a grant or loan from the    |
| 33 | commission, the amount of funds on hand at the close of the calendar       |
| 34 | year, and other information necessary to disclose the activities of the    |
| 35 | commissioners and the results obtained.                                    |
| 36 | (c) The report of the commissioners of a county redevelopment              |
| 37 | commission must show all the information required by subsection (b),       |
| 38 | plus the names of any commissioners appointed to or removed from           |
| 39 | office during the preceding calendar year.                                 |
| 40 | (d) A copy of each report filed under this section must be submitted       |
| 41 | to the department of local government finance in an electronic format.     |
| 42 | (e) The report required under subsection (a) must also include the         |



| 1  | following information set forth for each tax increment financing district |
|----|---|
| 2  | regarding the previous year:  |
| 3  | (1) Revenues received.  |
| 4  | (2) Expenses paid.  |
| 5  | (3) Fund balances.  |
| 6  | (4) The amount and maturity date for all outstanding obligations.         |
| 7  | (5) The amount paid on outstanding obligations.                           |
| 8  | (6) A list of all the parcels and personal property records               |
| 9  | included in each tax increment financing district allocation area         |
| 10 | and the base assessed value and incremental assessed value for            |
| 11 | each parcel and personal property record in the list.                     |
| 12 | (7) To the extent that the following information has not previously       |
| 13 | been provided to the department of local government finance:              |
| 14 | (A) The year in which the tax increment financing district was            |
| 15 | established.  |
| 16 | (B) The section of the Indiana Code under which the tax                   |
| 17 | increment financing district was established.                             |
| 18 | (C) Whether the tax increment financing district is part of an            |
| 19 | area needing redevelopment, an economic development area,                 |
| 20 | a redevelopment project area, or an urban renewal project                 |
| 21 | area.   |
| 22 | (D) If applicable, the year in which the boundaries of the tax            |
| 23 | increment financing district were changed and a description of            |
| 24 | those changes.  |
| 25 | (E) The date on which the tax increment financing district will           |
| 26 | expire.   |
| 27 | (F) A copy of each resolution adopted by the redevelopment                |
| 28 | commission that establishes or alters the tax increment                   |
| 29 | financing district.   |
| 30 | (f) A redevelopment commission and a department of                        |
| 31 | redevelopment are subject to the same laws, rules, and ordinances of      |
| 32 | a general nature that apply to all other commissions or departments of    |
| 33 | the unit.   |
| 34 | SECTION 22. IC 36-7-15.1-36.3, AS AMENDED BY                              |
| 35 | P.L.204-2016, SECTION 35, IS AMENDED TO READ AS                           |
| 36 | FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2017]: Sec. 36.3. (a) Not later than           |
| 37 | April 15 of each year, the commission or its designee shall file with the |
| 38 | mayor and the fiscal body a report setting out the commission's           |
| 39 | activities during the preceding calendar year.                            |
| 40 | (b) The report required by subsection (a) must show the names of          |
| 41 | the then qualified and acting commissioners, the names of the officers    |

of that body, the number of regular employees and their fixed salaries



42

| 1  | or compensation, the amount of the expenditures made during the           |
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| 2  | preceding year and their general purpose, an accounting of the tax        |
| 3  | increment revenues expended by any entity receiving the tax increment     |
| 4  | revenues as a grant or loan from the commission, the amount of funds      |
| 5  | on hand at the close of the calendar year, and other information          |
| 6  | necessary to disclose the activities of the commission and the results    |
| 7  | obtained.   |
| 8  | (c) A copy of each report filed under this section must be submitted      |
| 9  | to the department of local government finance in an electronic format.    |
| 10 | (d) The report required under subsection (a) must also include the        |
| 11 | following information set forth for each tax increment financing district |
| 12 | regarding the previous year:  |
| 13 | (1) Revenues received.  |
| 14 | (2) Expenses paid.  |
| 15 | (3) Fund balances.  |
| 16 | (4) The amount and maturity date for all outstanding obligations.         |
| 17 | (5) The amount paid on outstanding obligations.                           |
| 18 | (6) A list of all the parcels and personal property records               |
| 19 | included in each tax increment financing district allocation area         |
| 20 | and the base assessed value and incremental assessed value for            |
| 21 | each parcel and personal property record in the list.                     |
| 22 | (7) To the extent that the following information has not previously       |
| 23 | been provided to the department of local government finance:              |
| 24 | (A) The year in which the tax increment financing district was            |
| 25 | established.  |
| 26 | (B) The section of the Indiana Code under which the tax                   |
| 27 | increment financing district was established.                             |
| 28 | (C) Whether the tax increment financing district is part of an            |
| 29 | area needing redevelopment, an economic development area,                 |
| 30 | a redevelopment project area, or an urban renewal project                 |
| 31 | area.   |
| 32 | (D) If applicable, the year in which the boundaries of the tax            |
| 33 | increment financing district were changed and a description of            |
| 34 | those changes.  |
| 35 | (E) The date on which the tax increment financing district will           |
| 36 | expire.   |
| 37 | (F) A copy of each resolution adopted by the redevelopment                |
| 38 | commission that establishes or alters the tax increment                   |
| 39 | financing district.   |
| 40 | SECTION 23. IC 36-8-19-6.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.182-2009(ss),                 |
| 41 | SECTION 441, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS                                |
|    |   |

[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2017]: Sec. 6.5. (a) The legislative bodies of all



42

participating units in a territory may agree to change the provider unit of the territory from one (1) participating unit to another participating unit. To change the provider unit, the legislative body of each participating unit must adopt an ordinance (if the unit is a county or municipality) or a resolution (if the unit is a township) that agrees to and specifies the new provider unit. The provider unit may not be changed unless all participating units agree on the participating unit that will become the new provider unit. However, if the provider unit has adopted an ordinance or resolution under section 13 of this chapter after January 1 and before April 1 of a year to withdraw from the territory, all of the participating units other than the provider unit must agree on the participating unit that will become the new provider unit. The participating units may not change the provider unit more than one (1) time in any year.

- (b) The following apply to an ordinance or a resolution adopted under this section to change the provider unit of the territory:
  - (1) The ordinance or resolution must be adopted after January 1 but before April July 1 of a year.
  - (2) The ordinance or resolution takes effect January 1 of the year following the year in which the ordinance or resolution is adopted.

SECTION 24. IC 36-8-19-13, AS AMENDED BY P.L.203-2016, SECTION 26, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2017]: Sec. 13. (a) If a unit elects to withdraw from a fire protection territory established under this chapter, the unit must after January 1 but before April 1, adopt an ordinance (if the unit is a county or municipality) or a resolution (if the unit is a township) providing for the withdrawal. An ordinance or resolution adopted under this section takes effect:

- (1) July 1 of the year that the ordinance or resolution is adopted, if the unit is not the provider unit; or
- (2) January 1 of the year immediately following the year in which the ordinance or resolution is adopted, if the unit is the provider unit.
- (b) If an ordinance or a resolution is adopted under subsection (a), for purposes of determining a unit's maximum permissible ad valorem property tax levy for the year following the year in which the ordinance or resolution is adopted, the unit receives a percentage of the territory's maximum permissible ad valorem property tax levy equal to the percentage of the assessed valuation that the unit contributed to the territory in the year in which the ordinance or resolution is adopted. The department of local government finance shall adjust the territory's



| maximum permissible ad valorem property tax levy to account for the       |
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| unit's withdrawal. After the effective date of an ordinance or resolution |
| adopted under subsection (a), the unit may no longer impose a tax rate    |
| for an equipment replacement fund under section 8.5 of this chapter.      |
| The unit remains liable for the unit's share of any debt incurred under   |
| section 8.5 of this chapter.  |
| (c) If a tarritory is dissolved subsection (b) applies to the             |

(c) If a territory is dissolved, subsection (b) applies to the determination of the maximum permissible ad valorem property tax levy of each unit that formerly participated in the territory.

SECTION 25. IC 36-10-13-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.119-2012, SECTION 243, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2017]: Sec. 4. (a) This section does not apply to a school corporation in a county having a population of:

- (1) more than two hundred fifty thousand (250,000) but less than two hundred seventy thousand (270,000); **or**
- (2) more than one hundred seventy-five thousand (175,000) but less than one hundred eighty-five thousand (185,000).
- (b) The governing body of a school corporation may annually appropriate, from the school corporation's general fund, a sum of not more than five-tenths of one cent (\$0.005) on each one hundred dollars (\$100) of assessed valuation in the school corporation to be paid to a historical society, subject to section 6 of this chapter.

SECTION 26. IC 36-10-13-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.119-2012, SECTION 244, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2017]: Sec. 5. (a) This section applies only to a school corporation in a county having a population of:

- (1) more than two hundred fifty thousand (250,000) but less than two hundred seventy thousand (270,000); **or**
- (2) more than one hundred seventy-five thousand (175,000) but less than one hundred eighty-five thousand (185,000).
- (b) To provide funding for a historical society under this section, the governing body of a school corporation may impose a tax of not more than five-tenths of one cent (\$0.005) on each one hundred dollars (\$100) of assessed valuation in the school corporation.
- (c) The school corporation shall deposit the proceeds of the tax in a fund to be known as the historical society fund. The historical society fund is separate and distinct from the school corporation's general fund and may be used only to provide funds for a historical society under this section.
- (d) Subject to section 6 of this chapter, the governing body of the school corporation may annually appropriate the money in the fund to be paid in semiannual installments to a historical society having



| 1 | facilities in the county.                                  |
|---|--|
| 2 | SECTION 27. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2017] (a) IC 6-1.1-12-1, as |
| 3 | amended by this act, applies for all assessment dates.     |
| 4 | (b) This SECTION expires July 1, 2018.                     |
| 5 | SECTION 28. An amargancy is declared for this act          |

