

HOUSE BILL No. 2702

AN ACT concerning taxation; relating to income tax, enacting the Kansas taxpayer protection act regulating paid tax return preparers, extending certain return filing and tax payment deadlines; property taxation, rates, truth in taxation and establishing notice and public hearing requirements prior to approval to exceed revenue neutral rate, discontinuing the city and county tax lid, time for payment of real property and personal property taxes, providing for waiver of interest and fees for late property tax payments for a certain period of time, extending the time for listing and publication of delinquent real estate subject to sale, prohibiting valuation increase of real property solely as the result of normal repair, replacement or maintenance, establishment of a payment plan for the payment of delinquent or nondelinquent taxes; amending K.S.A. 79-1110, 79-1460, 79-1801, 79-2024, 79-2302, 79-2303, 79-2925c, 79-3221 and 79-3225 and repealing the existing sections.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

New Section 1. The provisions of sections 1 through 6, and amendments thereto, shall be known and may be cited as the Kansas taxpayer protection act.

New Sec. 2. As used in this act:

(a) (1) "Paid tax return preparer" means any person who prepares or substantially prepares for compensation, or who employs one or more persons who prepare or substantially prepare for compensation, any income tax return or claim for refund, required to be filed pursuant to K.S.A. 79-3201 et seq., and amendments thereto.

(2) "Paid tax return preparer" does not include the following:

(A) An individual licensed as a certified public accountant in this state under K.S.A. 1-302b or 1-322, and amendments thereto;

(B) an individual licensed as a certified public accountant in another licensing jurisdiction and practicing in this state under K.S.A. 1-302b or 1-322, and amendments thereto; or

(C) an individual employed by a firm licensed in this state under K.S.A. 1-308, and amendments thereto, and preparing a return under the supervision of an individual described in subparagraph (A) or (B).

(b) "Secretary" means secretary of the Kansas department of revenue.

New Sec. 3. (a) On and after January 1, 2021, any income tax return or claim for refund prepared or substantially prepared by a paid tax return preparer shall be signed by the paid tax return preparer and shall bear the paid tax return preparer's federal internal revenue service preparer tax identification number. Any paid tax return preparer who fails to sign the income tax return or claim for refund or who fails to provide the preparer's federal internal revenue service preparer tax identification number shall pay a civil penalty of \$50 for each such failure to the Kansas department of revenue, unless it can be shown that the failure was due to reasonable cause and not willful or reckless conduct. The penalty imposed on any paid tax return preparer with respect to returns or claims for refund filed during any calendar year shall not exceed \$25,000 per paid tax return preparer.

(b) The penalty shall be imposed pursuant to this section upon the written order of the secretary or the secretary's designee to the paid tax return preparer who committed the violation. Such order shall state the violation, the penalty to be imposed and the right of the paid tax return preparer to appeal the order. Such order shall be subject to appeal and review in the manner provided by the Kansas administrative procedure act.

(c) Any penalty collected pursuant to this section shall be remitted to the state treasurer in accordance with the provisions of K.S.A. 75-4215, and amendments thereto. Upon receipt of each such remittance, the state treasurer shall deposit the entire amount in the state treasury to the credit of the state general fund.

New Sec. 4. (a) The secretary or the secretary's designee is hereby authorized to enjoin any person from engaging in conduct described in subsection (b) or from further action as a paid tax return preparer under the provisions of the Kansas taxpayer protection act who is found to be in violation of this act. The secretary or the secretary's designee shall be entitled in any proceeding brought for such purpose to have an order restraining such person from engaging in conduct in violation of the

provisions of this act. No bond shall be required for any such restraining order or for any temporary or permanent injunction issued in such proceedings. The secretary may commence suit in a court of competent jurisdiction to enjoin any paid tax return preparer from further engaging in any conduct described in subsection (b) or from further action as a paid tax return preparer in this state. The secretary may request the assistance of the attorney general or the attorney general's duly authorized designee to enforce provisions of this section.

(b) In an action pursuant to subsection (a), the court may enjoin the paid tax return preparer from further engaging in any conduct described in this subsection, if the court finds that injunctive relief is appropriate to prevent the occurrence of such conduct. The court may issue an injunction when the paid tax return preparer has engaged in any of the following conduct:

(1) Prepared any income tax return or claim for refund that includes an understatement of a taxpayer's liability due to an unreasonable position. As used in this subsection, "unreasonable position" means the same as defined by section 6694(a)(2) of the federal internal revenue code;

(2) prepared any income tax return or claim for refund that includes an understatement of a taxpayer's liability due to the paid tax return preparer's willful or reckless conduct. As used in this subsection, "willful or reckless conduct" means the same as defined by section 6694(b)(2) of the federal internal revenue code;

(3) where required, failed to do any of the following:

- (A) Furnish a copy of the income tax return or claim for refund;
- (B) sign the income tax return or claim for refund;
- (C) furnish an identifying number;
- (D) retain a copy of the income tax return or claim for refund; or
- (E) be diligent in determining eligibility for tax benefits;

(4) negotiated a check issued to the taxpayer by the department of revenue without the permission of the taxpayer;

(5) engaged in any conduct subject to any criminal penalty provided for in chapter 79 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto;

(6) misrepresented the paid tax return preparer's eligibility to practice before the department of revenue or otherwise misrepresented the paid tax return preparer's experience or education;

(7) guaranteed the payment of any income tax refund or the allowance of any income tax credit; or

(8) engaged in any other fraudulent or deceptive conduct that substantially interferes with the proper administration of the tax laws of the state of Kansas.

(c) If the court finds that a paid tax return preparer has continually or repeatedly engaged in any conduct described in subsection (b) and that an injunction prohibiting the conduct would not be sufficient to prevent the person's interference with the proper administration of the tax laws of the state of Kansas, the court may enjoin the person from acting as a paid tax return preparer in the state of Kansas. The fact that the person has been enjoined from preparing tax returns or claims for refund for the United States or any other state in the five years preceding the petition for an injunction shall establish a prima facie case for an injunction to be issued pursuant to this section. For purposes of this subsection, "state" means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands or any territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

(d) The secretary or the secretary's designee shall annually report a summary of the secretary's injunction actions on the department of revenue's website.

New Sec. 5. (a) Preparation or substantial preparation of any income tax return or claim for refund filed pursuant to K.S.A. 79-3201 et seq., and amendments thereto, by a paid tax return preparer, whether or not a resident or citizen of this state, thereby submits the preparer to the jurisdiction of the courts of this state as to any cause of action arising from the provisions of this act.

(b) Every action pursuant to this act shall be brought in the district court of Shawnee county.

(c) In lieu of initiating or continuing an action or proceeding, the secretary or the secretary's designee may accept a consent judgment with respect to any act or practice declared to be a violation of this act. A consent judgment shall provide for the discontinuance by the paid tax return preparer entering the same of any act or practice declared to be a violation of this act. Any consent judgment entered into pursuant to this section shall not be deemed to admit the violation, unless it does so by its terms. Before any consent judgment entered into pursuant to this section shall be effective, it shall be approved by the district court and an entry made in the manner required for making an entry of judgment. Once such approval is received, any breach of the conditions of such consent judgment shall be treated as a violation of a court order and shall be subject to all the penalties provided by law.

New Sec. 6. The secretary may adopt rules and regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of the Kansas taxpayer protection act.

Sec. 7. K.S.A. 79-1110 is hereby amended to read as follows: 79-1110. (a) Every national banking association, bank, trust company, and savings and loan association subject to taxation under this act shall make its return and pay the tax imposed to the director of taxation on or before the 15th day of the fourth month following the close of its federal taxable year, in the same manner, except for computing the net income subject to tax, as corporations are required to make their returns and pay their taxes under the Kansas income tax act. Every such national banking association, bank, trust company and savings and loan association shall be subject to other provisions of the Kansas income tax act applicable to other corporations and shall be subject to the penalties imposed on corporations by K.S.A. 79-3222, 79-3228 and 79-3234 insofar as the same can be made applicable.

(b) *With respect to tax year 2019, the deadline for filing returns shall be extended to July 15, 2020, for returns with original due dates of April 15, 2020, through July 15, 2020. With respect to tax year 2019, no penalty or interest authorized pursuant to K.S.A. 79-3228, and amendments thereto, shall be imposed if such tax liability is paid on or before July 15, 2020.*

Sec. 8. K.S.A. 79-3221 is hereby amended to read as follows: 79-3221. (a) All returns required by this act shall be made as nearly as practical in the same form as the corresponding form of income tax return by the United States. Unless another identifying number has been assigned to an individual by the internal revenue service for purposes of filing such individual's federal income tax return, the social security number issued to an individual, the individual's spouse, and all dependents of such individual for purposes of section 205 (c)(2)(A) of the social security act shall be used as the identifying number and included on the return when filing such return.

(b) All returns shall be filed in the office of the director of taxation on or before the 15th day of the fourth month following the close of the taxable year, except as provided in subsection (c)—~~hereof~~. Tentative returns may be filed before the close of the taxable year and the estimated tax computed on such return, paid, but no interest will be paid on any overpayment of tax liability, computed on such tentative return.

(c) (1) The director of taxation may grant a reasonable extension of time for filing returns in accordance with rules and regulations of the secretary of revenue. Whenever any such extension of time to file is requested by a taxpayer and granted by the director with respect to any tax year commencing after December 31, 1992, no penalty authorized by K.S.A. 79-3228, and amendments thereto, shall be imposed if 90% of the liability is paid on or before the original due date.

(2) *With respect to tax year 2019, the deadline for filing returns shall be extended to July 15, 2020, for returns with original due dates of April 15, 2020, through July 15, 2020. With respect to tax year 2019, no penalty or interest authorized pursuant to K.S.A. 79-3228, and amendments thereto, shall be imposed if such tax liability is paid on or*

before July 15, 2020.

(d) In the case of an individual serving in the armed forces of the United States, or serving in support of such armed forces, in an area designated by the president of the United States by executive order as a "combat zone" as defined under 26 U.S.C. § 112 at any time during the period designated by the president by executive order as the period of combatant activities in such zone for the purposes of such section, or hospitalized as a result of injury received or sickness incurred while serving in such an area during such time, the period of service in such area, plus the period of continuous qualified hospitalization attributable to such injury or sickness, and the next 180 days thereafter, shall be disregarded in determining, under article 32 of chapter 79 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto, in respect to any tax liability, including any interest, penalty, additional amount, or addition to the tax, of such individual:

(1) Whether any of the following acts was performed within the time prescribed therefor: (A) Filing any return of income tax; (B) payment of any income tax or installment thereof; (C) filing a notice of appeal with the director of taxation or the state board of tax appeals for redetermination of a deficiency or for a review of a decision rendered by either the director or the state board of tax appeals; (D) allowance of a credit or refund of any income tax; (E) filing a claim for credit or refund of any income tax; (F) bringing suit upon any such claim for credit or refund; (G) assessment of any income tax; (H) giving or making any notice or demand for the payment of any income tax, or with respect to any liability to the state of Kansas in respect of any income tax; (I) collection, by the director of taxation or the director's agent, by warrant, levy or otherwise, of the amount of any liability in respect to any income tax; (J) bringing suit by the state of Kansas, or any officer on its behalf, in respect to any liability in respect of any income tax; and (K) any other act required or permitted under the Kansas income tax act specified in rules and regulations adopted by the secretary of revenue under this section;

(2) the amount of any credit or refund.

(e) (1) Subsection (d) shall not apply for purposes of determining the amount of interest on any overpayment of tax.

(2) If an individual is entitled to the benefits of subsection (d) with respect to any return and such return is timely filed, determined after the application of ~~subsection (d), subsections (e)(5) and (e)(7) of K.S.A. 79-32,105(d), (e)(5) and (e)(7),~~ and amendments thereto, shall not apply.

(f) The provisions of subsections (d) through (j) shall apply to the spouse of any individual entitled to the benefits of subsection (d). Except in the case of the combat zone designated for purposes of the Vietnam conflict, this subsection shall not cause subsections (d) through (j) to apply for any spouse for any taxable year beginning more than two years after the date designated under 26 U.S.C. § 112, and amendments thereto, as the date of termination of combatant activities in a combat zone.

(g) The period of service in the area referred to in subsection (d) shall include the period during which an individual entitled to benefits under subsection (d) is in a missing status, within the meaning of 26 U.S.C. § 6013(f)(3).

(h) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (d), any action or proceeding authorized by K.S.A. 79-3229, and amendments thereto, as well as any other action or proceeding authorized by law in connection therewith, may be taken, begun or prosecuted. In any other case in which the secretary determines that collection of the amount of any assessment would be jeopardized by delay, the provisions of subsection (d) shall not operate to stay collection of such amount by levy or otherwise as authorized by law. There shall be excluded from any amount assessed or collected pursuant to this subsection the amount of interest, penalty, additional amount, and addition to the tax, if any, in respect of the period disregarded under subsection (d). In any case to which this ~~subsections~~ *subsection* relates, if the secretary is required to give any notice to or make any demand upon any person,

such requirement shall be deemed to be satisfied if the notice or demand is prepared and signed, in any case in which the address of such person last known to the secretary is in an area for which United States post offices under instructions of the postmaster general are not, by reason of the combatant activities, accepting mail for delivery at the time the notice or demand is signed. In such case the notice or demand shall be deemed to have been given or made upon the date it is signed.

(2) The assessment or collection of any tax under the provisions of article 32 of chapter 79 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto, or any action or proceeding by or on behalf of the state in connection therewith, may be made, taken, begun or prosecuted in accordance with law, without regard to the provisions of subsection (d), unless prior to such assessment, collection, action or proceeding it is ascertained that the person concerned is entitled to the benefits of subsection (d).

(i) (1) Any individual who performed Desert Shield services, and the spouse of such individual, shall be entitled to the benefits of subsections (d) through (j) in the same manner as if such services were services referred to in subsection (d).

(2) For purposes of this subsection, the term "Desert Shield services" means any services in the armed forces of the United States or in support of such armed forces if:

(A) Such services are performed in the area designated by the president as the "Persian Gulf Desert Shield area"; and

(B) such services are performed during the period beginning on August 2, 1990, and ending on the date on which any portion of the area referred to in subsection (i)(2)(A) is designated by the president as a combat zone pursuant to 26 U.S.C. § 112.

(j) For purposes of subsection (d), the term "qualified hospitalization" means:

(1) Any hospitalization outside the United States; and

(2) any hospitalization inside the United States, except that not more than five years of hospitalization may be taken into account under this subsection. This subsection shall not apply for purposes of applying subsections (d) through (j) with respect to the spouse of an individual entitled to the benefits of subsection (d).

Sec. 9. K.S.A. 79-3225 is hereby amended to read as follows: 79-3225. (a) All taxes imposed under the provisions of the "Kansas income tax act" shall be paid on the 15th day of the fourth month following the close of the taxable year, *except with respect to tax year 2019, such taxes shall be paid on or before July 15, 2020, if the return was due on or before July 15, 2020.* When the tax as shown to be due on a return is less than \$5, such tax shall be canceled and no payment need be remitted by the taxpayer.

(b) The director of taxation may extend the time for payment of the tax, or any installment thereof, for a reasonable period of time not to exceed six months from the date fixed for payment thereof. Such extension may exceed six months in the case of a taxpayer who is abroad. Interest shall be charged at the rate prescribed by K.S.A. 79-2968(a) and amendments thereto for the period of such extension.

New Sec. 10. (a) On or before June 15 each year, the county clerk shall calculate the revenue neutral rate for each taxing subdivision and include such revenue neutral rate on the notice of the estimated assessed valuation provided to each taxing subdivision for budget purposes. The director of accounts and reports shall modify the prescribed budget information form to show the revenue neutral rate.

(b) No tax rate in excess of the revenue neutral rate shall be levied by the governing body of any taxing subdivision unless a resolution or ordinance has been approved by the governing body according to the following procedure:

(1) The governing body shall publish notice of its proposed intent to exceed the revenue neutral rate on the website of the governing body, if the governing body maintains a website, at least 10 days in advance of the public hearing. The notice shall include, but not be limited to, its proposed tax rate, its revenue neutral rate and the date, time and location of the public hearing.

(2) On or before July 15, the governing body shall notify the county clerk of its proposed intent to exceed the revenue neutral rate and provide the date, time and location of the public hearing and its proposed tax rate. The county clerk shall notify each taxpayer with property in the taxing subdivision, by mail directed to the taxpayer's last known address, of the proposed intent to exceed the revenue neutral rate at least 10 days in advance of the public hearing. Alternatively, the county clerk may transmit the notice to the taxpayer by electronic means at least 10 days in advance of the public hearing, if such taxpayer and county clerk have consented in writing to service by electronic means. Costs associated with the notice shall be borne by the taxing subdivision with payment due to the county clerk by December 31. The county clerk shall consolidate the required information for all taxing subdivisions relevant to the taxpayer's property on one notice. The notice shall include, but not be limited to:

- (A) The revenue neutral rate;
- (B) the proposed property tax revenue needed to fund the proposed budget;
- (C) the proposed tax rate based upon the proposed budget and the current year's total assessed valuation;
- (D) the tax rate and property tax of the taxing subdivision on the taxpayer's property from the previous year's tax statement;
- (E) the proposed percent change in the tax rate between the previous year's tax rate and the proposed tax rate for the current year;
- (F) the appraised value and assessed value of the taxpayer's property for the current year;
- (G) the estimates of the tax for the current tax year on the taxpayer's property based on the revenue neutral rate and the proposed tax rate; and
- (H) the date, time and location of the public hearing.

(3) The public hearing to consider exceeding the revenue neutral rate shall be held on or before September 10. The governing body shall provide interested taxpayers desiring to be heard an opportunity to present oral testimony within reasonable time limits and without unreasonable restriction on the number of individuals allowed to make public comment. The public hearing may be conducted in conjunction with the proposed budget hearing pursuant to K.S.A. 79-2929, and amendments thereto, if the governing body otherwise complies with all requirements of this section.

(4) A majority vote of the governing body, by the adoption of a resolution or ordinance to approve exceeding the revenue neutral rate, shall be required prior to adoption of a proposed budget that will result in a tax rate in excess of the revenue neutral rate. Such vote of the governing body shall be conducted at the public hearing after the governing body has heard from interested taxpayers.

(c) Any governing body subject to the provisions of this section that does not comply with subsection (b) shall refund to taxpayers any property taxes over-collected based on the amount of the levy that was in excess of the revenue neutral rate. The provisions of this subsection shall not be construed as prohibiting any other remedies available under the law.

(d) The provisions of this section shall not apply to school districts organized and operating under the laws of this state.

(e) If the governing body of a taxing subdivision must conduct a public hearing to approve exceeding the revenue neutral rate under this section, the governing body of the taxing subdivision shall certify, on or before September 20, to the proper county clerk the amount of ad valorem tax to be levied.

(f) As used in this section:

(1) "Taxing subdivision" means any political subdivision of the state that levies an ad valorem tax on property.

(2) "Revenue neutral rate" means the tax rate for the current tax year that would generate the same property tax revenue as levied the previous tax year using the current tax year's total assessed valuation. To calculate the revenue neutral rate, the county clerk shall divide the property tax revenue for such taxing subdivision levied for the previous

tax year by the total of all taxable assessed valuation in such taxing subdivision for the current tax year, and then multiply the quotient by 1,000 to express the rate in mills. The revenue neutral rate shall be expressed to the third decimal place.

(g) The provisions of this section shall take effect and be in force from and after January 1, 2021.

New Sec. 11. (a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, no interest shall accrue on any unpaid property tax for tax year 2019 pursuant to K.S.A. 79-2004 and 79-2004a, and amendments thereto, from May 10, 2020, through August 10, 2020, nor shall the unpaid tax for tax year 2019 be considered delinquent during this period.

(b) With respect to any unpaid property tax for tax year 2019 due pursuant to K.S.A. 79-2004 and 79-2004a, and amendments thereto, the county shall waive any fees, expenses and costs relating to delinquent property tax collection procedures that the county charged to the taxpayer prior to August 11, 2020.

(c) The county may refund, credit or retain any interest, fees, expenses or costs collected prior to the effective date of this act if the total amount collected is equal to or less than \$25 for each delinquent property.

Sec. 12. K.S.A. 79-1460 is hereby amended to read as follows: 79-1460. (a) The county appraiser shall notify each taxpayer in the county annually on or before March 1 for real property and May 1 for personal property, by mail directed to the taxpayer's last known address, of the classification and appraised valuation of the taxpayer's property, except that, the valuation for all real property shall not be increased unless the record of the latest physical inspection was reviewed by the county or district appraiser, and documentation exists to support such increase in valuation in compliance with the directives and specifications of the director of property valuation, and such record and documentation is available to the affected taxpayer. *The valuation for all real property also shall not be increased solely as the result of normal repair, replacement or maintenance of existing structures, equipment or improvements on the property. For purposes of this section, "normal repair, replacement or maintenance" does not include new construction as defined in this section.* For the next two taxable years following the taxable year that the valuation for commercial real property has been reduced due to a final determination made pursuant to the valuation appeals process, the county appraiser shall review the computer-assisted mass-appraisal of the property and if the valuation in either of those two years exceeds the value of the previous year by more than 5%, excluding new construction, change in use or change in classification, the county appraiser shall either: (1) Adjust the valuation of the property based on the information provided in the previous appeal; or (2) order an independent fee simple appraisal of the property to be performed by a Kansas certified real property appraiser. As used in this section, "new construction" means the construction of any new structure or improvements or the remodeling or renovation of any existing structures or improvements on real property. When the valuation for real property has been reduced due to a final determination made pursuant to the valuation appeals process for the prior year, and the county appraiser has already certified the appraisal rolls for the current year to the county clerk pursuant to K.S.A. 79-1466, and amendments thereto, the county appraiser may amend the appraisal rolls and certify the changes to the county clerk to implement the provisions of this subsection and reduce the valuation of the real property to the prior year's final determination, except that such changes shall not be made after October 31 of the current year. For the purposes of this section and in the case of real property, the term "taxpayer" shall be deemed to be the person in ownership of the property as indicated on the records of the office of register of deeds or county clerk and, in the case where the real property or improvement thereon is the subject of a lease agreement, such term shall also be deemed to include the lessee of such property if the lease agreement has been recorded or filed in the office of the register of deeds. Such

notice shall specify separately both the previous and current appraised and assessed values for each property class identified on the parcel. Such notice shall also contain the uniform parcel identification number prescribed by the director of property valuation. Such notice shall also contain a statement of the taxpayer's right to appeal, the procedure to be followed in making such appeal and the availability without charge of the guide devised pursuant to subsection (b). Such notice may, and if the board of county commissioners so require, shall provide the parcel identification number, address and the sale date and amount of any or all sales utilized in the determination of appraised value of residential real property. In any year in which no change in appraised valuation of any real property from its appraised valuation in the next preceding year is determined, an alternative form of notification which has been approved by the director of property valuation may be utilized by a county. Failure to timely mail or receive such notice shall in no way invalidate the classification or appraised valuation as changed. The secretary of revenue shall adopt rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this section.

(b) For all taxable years commencing after December 31, 1999, there shall be provided to each taxpayer, upon request, a guide to the property tax appeals process. The director of the division of property valuation shall devise and publish such guide, and shall provide sufficient copies thereof to all county appraisers. Such guide shall include but not be limited to: (1) A restatement of the law which pertains to the process and practice of property appraisal methodology, including the contents of K.S.A. 79-503a and 79-1460, and amendments thereto; (2) the procedures of the appeals process, including the order and burden of proof of each party and time frames required by law; and (3) such other information deemed necessary to educate and enable a taxpayer to properly and competently pursue an appraisal appeal.

Sec. 13. K.S.A. 79-1801 is hereby amended to read as follows: 79-1801. (a) Except as provided by subsection (b), each year the governing body of any city, the trustees of any township, the board of education of any school district and the governing bodies of all other taxing subdivisions shall certify, on or before August 25, to the proper county clerk the amount of ad valorem tax to be levied. Thereupon, the county clerk shall place the tax upon the tax roll of the county, in the manner prescribed by law, and the tax shall be collected by the county treasurer. The county treasurer shall distribute the proceeds of the taxes levied by each taxing subdivision in the manner provided by K.S.A. 12-1678a, and amendments thereto.

(b) *Prior to January 1, 2021*, if the governing body of a city or county must conduct an election for an increase in property tax to fund any appropriation or budget under K.S.A. 2019 Supp. 25-433a, and amendments thereto, the governing body of the city or county shall certify, on or before October 1, to the proper county clerk the amount of ad valorem tax to be levied. *On and after January 1, 2021, if the governing body of a taxing subdivision must conduct a public hearing to approve exceeding the revenue neutral rate under section 10, and amendments thereto, the governing body of the taxing subdivision shall certify, on or before September 20, to the proper county clerk the amount of ad valorem tax to be levied.*

Sec. 14. K.S.A. 79-2302 is hereby amended to read as follows: 79-2302. (a) *Except as provided in subsection (b)*, between July 1 and July 10 of each year, the county treasurer shall prepare a list of all real estate subject to sale, describing the real estate in the same manner as described of record in the office of the county clerk or the register of deeds of the county in which the real estate is located. The county treasurer also shall prepare an accompanying notice stating that the county treasurer will sell the real estate described in the list to the county for the amount of the delinquent taxes and legal charges due on the real estate and that the sale will be on or after the first Tuesday of September following publication of the notice under K.S.A. 79-2303, and amendments thereto. The list shall show the names of the owners of the real estate, as shown of record in the office of the county clerk or

the register of deeds of the county in which the real estate is located, the description and address, if available, of each tract or parcel of land and the total of the amount of unpaid taxes upon each tract or parcel. If any county treasurer at any time discovers that any tract or lot of real estate has not been put on the list of delinquent taxes and not sold for any preceding year, the treasurer shall be required to place the omitted tract or lot on the list of delinquent taxes for the current year, and sell the tract or lot as directed by this act in other cases.

(b) For tax year 2019, between August 11, 2020, and August 21, 2020, the county treasurer shall prepare such list of all real estate subject to sale that lists all real estate for which the 2019 taxes have not been paid in full on or before August 10, 2020.

Sec. 15. K.S.A. 79-2303 is hereby amended to read as follows: 79-2303. (a) The county treasurer shall cause the notice and list prepared under K.S.A. 79-2302, and amendments thereto, to be published in the official county newspaper or in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in accordance with the provisions of K.S.A. 64-101, and amendments thereto. *Except as provided in subsection (b)*, the notice and list shall be submitted to the newspaper on or before August 1 of each year and shall be published once each week for three consecutive weeks immediately prior to the week when the day of sale will occur. The county treasurer also shall cause a copy of the list and notice to be posted in some conspicuous place in the county treasurer's office. The cost of publication of the notice and list shall be paid from the general fund of the county, and a \$15 fee for each tract or lot shall be added to the tax due for the tract or lot as part of the costs of collection. The fee shall be collected in the manner provided for the collection of the unpaid taxes.

(b) With respect to tax year 2019, the notice and list shall be submitted to the newspaper on or before September 1, 2020, and shall be published once each week for three consecutive weeks immediately prior to the week when the day of sale will occur. The county treasurer shall advertise and sell such real estate on or before the fourth Monday of October 2020, and such advertisement and sale shall conform in all respects to the provisions of this act and shall be as binding and valid as if such sale had been made on the first Tuesday of September.

Sec. 16. K.S.A. 79-2925c is hereby amended to read as follows: 79-2925c. (a) (1) On and after January 1, 2017, and prior to January 1, 2021, the governing body of any city or county shall not approve any appropriation or budget which provides for funding by property tax revenues in an amount exceeding that of the next preceding year as adjusted to reflect the average changes in the consumer price index for all urban consumers as published by the United States department of labor for the preceding five calendar years, which shall not be less than zero, unless the city or county approves the appropriation or budget with the adoption of a resolution and such resolution has been submitted to and approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the city or county voting at an election called and held thereon, except as otherwise provided.

(2) The election shall be called and held in the manner provided by K.S.A. 10-120, and amendments thereto, and may be:

(A) Held at the next regularly scheduled election to be held in August or November;

(B) may be a mail ballot election, conducted in accordance with K.S.A. 25-431 et seq., and amendments thereto; or

(C) may be a special election called by the city or county. Nothing in this subsection shall prevent any city or county from holding more than one election in any year. The city or county requesting the election shall be responsible for paying all costs associated with conducting the election.

(b) A resolution by the governing body of a city or county otherwise required by the provisions of this section shall not be required to be approved by an election required by subsection (a) under the following circumstances:

(1) Increased property tax revenues that, in the current year, are produced and attributable to the taxation of:

(A) The construction of any new structures or improvements or the remodeling or renovation of any existing structures or improvements on real property, which shall not include any ordinary maintenance or repair of any existing structures or improvements on the property;

(B) increased personal property valuation;

(C) real property located within added jurisdictional territory;

(D) real property which has changed in use;

(E) expiration of any abatement of property from property tax; or

(F) expiration of a tax increment financing district, rural housing incentive district, neighborhood revitalization area or any other similar property tax rebate or redirection program.

(2) Increased property tax revenues that will be spent on:

(A) Bond, temporary notes, no fund warrants, state infrastructure loans and interest payments not exceeding the amount of ad valorem property taxes levied in support of such payments, and payments made to a public building commission and lease payments but only to the extent such payments were obligations that existed prior to July 1, 2016;

(B) payment of special assessments not exceeding the amount of ad valorem property taxes levied in support of such payments;

(C) court judgments or settlements of legal actions against the city or county and legal costs directly related to such judgments or settlements;

(D) expenditures of city or county funds that are specifically mandated by federal or state law with such mandates becoming effective on or after July 1, 2015, and loss of funds from federal sources after January 1, 2017, where the city or county is contractually obligated to provide a service;

(E) expenses relating to a federal, state or local disaster or federal, state or local emergency, including, but not limited to, a financial emergency, declared by a federal or state official. The board of county commissioners may request the governor to declare such disaster or emergency; or

(F) increased costs above the consumer price index for law enforcement, fire protection or emergency medical services.

(3) Any increased property tax revenues generated for law enforcement, fire protection or emergency medical services shall be expended exclusively for these purposes but shall not be used for the construction or remodeling of buildings.

(4) The property tax revenues levied by the city or county have declined:

(A) In one or more of the next preceding three calendar years and the increase in the amount of funding for the budget or appropriation from revenue produced from property taxes does not exceed the average amount of funding from such revenue of the next preceding three calendar years, adjusted to reflect changes in the consumer price index for all urban consumers as published by the United States department of labor for the preceding calendar year; or

(B) the increase in the amount of ad valorem tax to be levied is less than the change in the consumer price index plus the loss of assessed property valuation that has occurred as the result of legislative action, judicial action or a ruling by the board of tax appeals.

(5) Whenever a city or county is required by law to levy taxes for the financing of the budget of any political or governmental subdivision of this state that is not authorized by law to levy taxes on its own behalf, and the governing body of such city or county is not authorized or empowered to modify or reduce the amount of taxes levied therefore, the tax levies of the political or governmental subdivision shall not be included in or considered in computing the aggregate limitation upon the property tax levies of the city or county.

(6) Any tax levy increase as a result of another taxing entity being dissolved and all powers, responsibilities, duties and liabilities of the taxing entity have been transferred to a city located in the county in which the taxing entity is located, or to the county in which the taxing entity is located, to carry on the function and responsibilities of the

dissolved taxing entity, so long as the levy increase does not exceed the levy of the dissolved taxing entity.

Sec. 17. K.S.A. 79-2024 is hereby amended to read as follows: 79-2024. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the county treasurer of every county may accept partial payment ~~of or~~ *establish a payment plan for delinquent or nondelinquent* real property tax or personal property tax in accordance with payment guidelines established therefor by the county treasurer. Nothing in this section shall be construed to modify any consequences of untimely payment.

Sec. 18. K.S.A. 79-1110, 79-1460, 79-1801, 79-2024, 79-2302, 79-2303, 79-2925c, 79-3221 and 79-3225 are hereby repealed.

Sec. 19. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the Kansas register.

I hereby certify that the above BILL originated in the HOUSE, and was adopted by that body

HOUSE adopted
Conference Committee Report _____

Speaker of the House.

Chief Clerk of the House.

Passed the SENATE
as amended _____

SENATE adopted
Conference Committee Report _____

President of the Senate.

Secretary of the Senate.

APPROVED _____

Governor.