

Second Regular Session
Seventieth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

PREAMENDED

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 16-0453.01 Jason Gelender x4330

HOUSE BILL 16-1175

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Primavera and Nordberg, Ryden, Saine

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Jahn and Neville T., Cooke, Heath

House Committees

Finance
Appropriations

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROPERTY TAX**
102 **EXEMPTIONS FOR QUALIFYING SENIORS AND DISABLED**
103 **VETERANS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN**
104 **APPROPRIATION.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)

Legislative Audit Committee. The Colorado constitution and state statutes exempt 50% of the first \$200,000 of actual value of the owner-occupied primary residence of a qualifying senior or disabled

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

veteran from property taxation. In addition to other limitations on the exemption, no matter how many residences a senior or a disabled veteran owns, the senior or disabled veteran may claim an exemption for only one primary residence and a married couple may claim an exemption for only one primary residence even if they own multiple residences or live apart in separate residences.

During the 2015 legislative interim, the office of the state auditor presented an audit of the senior and disabled veteran property tax exemption program to the legislative audit committee. The audit identified several statutory and administrative process deficiencies that have made it difficult for the state to prevent individual seniors and disabled veterans and married couples from claiming and being allowed multiple exemptions and from claiming and receiving exemptions for residences other than owner-occupied primary residences. The bill implements audit recommendations as follows:

- ! The department of revenue, after receiving from the property tax administrator (administrator) a list of individuals who are claiming the exemption, is required to share with the administrator certain taxpayer information pertaining to the listed individuals, including their names, social security numbers, marital and income tax filing status, and residency status, needed by the administrator to prevent exemption applicants who claim multiple exemptions or exemptions for residential real property that they do not own and occupy as their primary residence from receiving the exemption;
- ! The administrator must work with the state registrar of vital statistics to annually identify individuals who have received exemptions and have died so that the administrator and county assessors can terminate exemptions for which no living individual qualifies;
- ! The scope of the administrator's exemption application review responsibilities is expanded and the timelines and process by which the review is conducted is modified in order to enhance the ability of the administrator to prevent exemptions from being erroneously allowed;
- ! The administrator is required to annually conduct a second review of exemptions allowed in each county for the immediately preceding property tax year, to identify any exemptions that should not have been allowed, and to advise the state treasurer to reduce the amount of reimbursement paid to each county treasurer to account for any disallowed exemptions; and
- ! In addition, if the administrator identifies any exemption improperly allowed for a prior property tax year

commencing on or after January 1, 2016, for which the state treasurer reimbursed a county treasurer or identifies any exemption properly allowed for such a prior property tax year for which the state treasurer did not reimburse a county treasurer, the administrator must advise the state treasurer to adjust the current year reimbursement to the county treasurer to correct the error.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-2-103, **add** (4.5)
3 as follows:

4 **25-2-103. Centralized registration system for all vital statistics**
5 **- appointment of registrar - rules.** (4.5) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER
6 PROVISION OF LAW THAT LIMITS THE SHARING OF VITAL STATISTICS, AFTER
7 RECEIVING THE LIST OF NAMES AND SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS OF
8 INDIVIDUALS WHO RECEIVED PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS AS EITHER
9 QUALIFYING SENIORS OR DISABLED VETERANS FOR THE PRIOR YEAR THAT
10 IS PROVIDED BY THE PROPERTY TAX ADMINISTRATOR PURSUANT TO
11 SECTION 39-3-207, C.R.S., THE STATE REGISTRAR SHALL IDENTIFY ALL
12 INDIVIDUALS ON THE LIST WHO HAVE DIED AND TRANSMIT A LIST OF THE
13 NAMES AND SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS OF SUCH INDIVIDUALS TO THE
14 ADMINISTRATOR.

15 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-3-205, **add** (4)(a)
16 (III) as follows:

17 **39-3-205. Exemption applications - penalty for providing false**
18 **information - confidentiality.** (4)(a) Completed exemption applications
19 shall be kept confidential; except that:

20 (III) THE ADMINISTRATOR MAY SHARE INFORMATION CONTAINED
21 IN AN EXEMPTION APPLICATION, INCLUDING ANY SOCIAL SECURITY
22 NUMBER SET FORTH IN THE APPLICATION, WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF

1 REVENUE TO THE EXTENT NECESSARY TO ENABLE THE ADMINISTRATOR TO
2 VERIFY THAT THE APPLICANT SATISFIES LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR
3 CLAIMING THE EXEMPTION.

4 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-3-206, **amend** (1)
5 (b), (1.5) (b), (2) (a), (2) (a.5), and (2) (a.7) as follows:

6 **39-3-206. Notice to individuals returning incomplete or**
7 **nonqualifying exemption applications - denial of exemption -**
8 **administrative remedies.** (1) (b) If the information provided on or with
9 an application for the exemption allowed to qualifying seniors under
10 section 39-3-203 (1) indicates that the applicant is not entitled to the
11 exemption, or is insufficient to allow the assessor to determine whether
12 or not the applicant is entitled to the exemption, the assessor shall deny
13 the application and mail to the applicant a statement providing the reasons
14 for the denial and informing the applicant of the applicant's right to
15 contest the denial pursuant to subsection (2) of this section. The assessor
16 shall mail the statement no later than ~~August 15~~ AUGUST 1 of the property
17 tax year for which the exemption application was filed.

18 (1.5) (b) If the information provided on or with an application for
19 the exemption allowed to qualifying disabled veterans under section
20 39-3-203 (1.5) that is forwarded by the division to an assessor pursuant
21 to section 39-3-205 (2.5) indicates that the applicant is not entitled to the
22 exemption, or is insufficient to allow the assessor to determine whether
23 or not the applicant is entitled to the exemption, the assessor shall deny
24 the application and mail to the applicant a statement providing the reasons
25 for the denial and informing the applicant of the applicant's right to
26 contest the denial pursuant to subsection (2) of this section. The assessor
27 shall mail the statement no later than ~~August 15~~ AUGUST 1 of the property

1 tax year for which the exemption application was filed.

2 (2)(a) An applicant whose exemption application has been denied
3 pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection (1) or paragraph (b) of subsection
4 (1.5) of this section may contest the denial by requesting a hearing before
5 the county commissioners sitting as the county board of equalization no
6 later than ~~September~~ AUGUST 15 of the property tax year for which the
7 exemption application was filed. The hearing shall be held on or after
8 ~~September~~ AUGUST 1 and no later than ~~October~~ SEPTEMBER 1 of the
9 property tax year for which the exemption application was filed, and the
10 decision of the county board of equalization ~~shall not be~~ IS NOT subject to
11 further administrative appeal by either the applicant or the assessor. An
12 applicant may not contest a determination by the division that the
13 applicant is not a qualifying disabled veteran at a hearing requested
14 pursuant to this paragraph (a).

15 (a.5) An individual who wishes to claim the exemption for
16 qualifying seniors allowed by section 39-3-203 (1), but who has not
17 timely filed an exemption application with the assessor by July 15, may
18 file a late exemption application no later than the ~~September~~ AUGUST 15
19 that immediately follows that deadline. The assessor shall accept any such
20 application but may not accept any late application filed after ~~September~~
21 AUGUST 15. The assessor shall grant an exemption if an accepted late
22 application establishes that the applicant is entitled to the exemption. A
23 decision of an assessor to disallow the filing of a late application after
24 ~~September~~ AUGUST 15 or to grant or deny an exemption to an applicant
25 who has filed a late application after July 15 but no later than ~~September~~
26 AUGUST 15 is final, and an applicant who is denied late filing or an
27 exemption may not contest the denial.

(a.7) An individual who wishes to claim the exemption for qualifying disabled veterans allowed by section 39-3-203 (1.5), but who has not timely filed an exemption application with the division, may request that the division waive the application deadline and allow the individual to file a late exemption application no later than the ~~September~~ AUGUST 1 that immediately follows the original application deadline. The division may accept an application if, in the division's sole discretion, the applicant shows good cause for not timely filing an application. If the division accepts a late application, it shall determine whether the applicant is a qualifying disabled veteran and shall mail notice of its determination to the applicant no later than the ~~September~~ AUGUST 25 that immediately follows the late application deadline. If the division determines that a veteran is a qualifying disabled veteran, it shall mail a copy of the notice of its determination to the assessor for the county in which the property for which the applicant has claimed the exemption is located and shall include with the notice a copy of the applicant's exemption application. The assessor shall grant an exemption if the notice and application forwarded by the division to the assessor establish that the applicant is entitled to the exemption. A decision of the division to allow or disallow the filing of a late application or of an assessor to grant or deny an exemption to an applicant who has filed a late application is final, and an applicant who is denied late filing or an exemption may not contest the denial.

24 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-3-207, **amend** (1)
25 introductory portion, (2), (3) introductory portion, and (4) (a); and **add**
26 (3.5), (3.7), and (4.5) as follows:

27 39-3-207. Reporting of exemptions - reimbursement to local

1 **governmental entities - transfer of unencumbered balances.** (1) No
2 later than October 10, 2002, and no later than each October 10 thereafter
3 THROUGH OCTOBER 10, 2016, AND NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 10, 2017,
4 AND NO LATER THAN EACH SEPTEMBER 10 THEREAFTER, each assessor
5 shall forward to the administrator a report on the exemptions allowed in
6 his or her county for the current property tax year. The report shall
7 include:

8 (2) (a) (I) The administrator shall examine the reports sent by each
9 assessor pursuant to subsection (1) of this section to ensure that no
10 applicant has claimed ~~more than one~~ AN exemption WITHOUT MEETING
11 ALL LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR CLAIMING THE EXEMPTION. No later than
12 November 1, 2002, and no later than each November 1 thereafter, if the
13 administrator determines that an applicant has claimed more than one
14 exemption, the administrator shall provide written notice to the applicant
15 that the applicant has claimed more than one exemption and is therefore
16 not entitled to any exemption. NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 1, 2016, AND
17 NO LATER THAN EACH NOVEMBER 1 THEREAFTER, IF THE ADMINISTRATOR
18 DETERMINES THAT THE APPLICANT AND THE APPLICANT'S SPOUSE HAVE
19 CLAIMED SEPARATE EXEMPTIONS IN VIOLATION OF SECTION 39-3-203 (5),
20 THAT THE APPLICANT HAS CLAIMED AN EXEMPTION FOR RESIDENTIAL REAL
21 PROPERTY THAT THE APPLICANT DOES NOT OWN AND OCCUPY AS THE
22 APPLICANT'S PRIMARY RESIDENCE AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 39-3-203 (1),
23 OR THAT THE APPLICANT IS OTHERWISE INELIGIBLE TO CLAIM AN
24 EXEMPTION, THE ADMINISTRATOR SHALL PROVIDE WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE
25 APPLICANT THAT THE APPLICANT IS INELIGIBLE FOR THE EXEMPTION AND
26 SPECIFY THE REASONS FOR THE DETERMINATION OF INELIGIBILITY. The
27 notice shall also include a statement specifying the deadline and

1 procedures for protesting the denial of the EXEMPTION OR exemptions
2 claimed.

3 (II) An applicant whose claims for exemption are denied by the
4 administrator pursuant to subparagraph (I) of this paragraph (a) may file
5 a written protest with the administrator no later than November 15 of the
6 year in which the EXEMPTION OR exemptions were denied. IF THE GROUND
7 FOR THE DENIAL IS THAT THE APPLICANT, OR THE APPLICANT AND THE
8 APPLICANT'S SPOUSE, CLAIMED MULTIPLE EXEMPTIONS, the sole ground for
9 a protest ~~shall be~~ is that the applicant, OR THE APPLICANT AND THE
10 APPLICANT'S SPOUSE, filed only one claim for an exemption and the
11 protest shall specify property or properties identified by the administrator
12 in the notice denying exemptions for which no exemption was claimed.
13 The administrator shall request that any appropriate assessor check the
14 assessor's records of exemption applications to determine whether the
15 applicant filed a disputed exemption application and shall decide the
16 protest accordingly. IF THE GROUND FOR THE DENIAL IS THAT THE
17 APPLICANT IS NOT AN OWNER-OCCUPIER OF THE RESIDENTIAL REAL
18 PROPERTY FOR WHICH AN EXEMPTION IS CLAIMED, THE SOLE GROUNDS FOR
19 A PROTEST ARE THAT THE APPLICANT ACTUALLY IS AN OWNER-OCCUPIER
20 OR THAT THE APPLICANT QUALIFIES FOR AN EXEMPTION FOR THE PROPERTY
21 UNDER SECTION 39-3-203 (6). If a protest is denied, the administrator shall
22 mail the applicant a written statement of the basis for the denial and a
23 copy of each exemption application filed with an assessor that the
24 applicant claimed had not been filed.

25 (b) No later than December 1, 2002, and no later than each
26 December 1 thereafter, and after examining the reports sent by each
27 assessor, denying claims for exemptions, and deciding protests in

1 accordance with paragraph (a) of this subsection (2), the administrator
2 shall provide written notice to the assessor of each county in which an
3 exemption application has been denied because the applicant filed
4 multiple exemption applications with the identity of the applicant who
5 filed multiple exemption applications and the denial of the exemption. No
6 LATER THAN DECEMBER 1, 2016, AND NO LATER THAN EACH DECEMBER
7 1 THEREAFTER, AND AFTER EXAMINING THE REPORTS SENT BY EACH
8 ASSESSOR, DENYING CLAIMS FOR EXEMPTIONS, AND DECIDING PROTESTS
9 IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH (a) OF THIS SUBSECTION (2), THE
10 ADMINISTRATOR SHALL ALSO PROVIDE WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE ASSESSOR
11 OF EACH COUNTY IN WHICH AN EXEMPTION APPLICATION HAS BEEN DENIED
12 FOR ANY OTHER REASON WITH THE IDENTITY OF THE APPLICANT AND THE
13 DENIAL OF THE EXEMPTION, SPECIFYING THE REASON FOR THE DENIAL.

14 (3) No later than April 1, 2003, and no later than each April 1
15 thereafter THROUGH APRIL 1, 2016, to enable the state treasurer to issue
16 a reimbursement warrant to each treasurer in accordance with subsection
17 (4) of this section, each treasurer shall forward to the state treasurer a
18 report on the exemptions allowed in his or her county for the previous
19 property tax year. NO LATER THAN MARCH 1, 2017, AND NO LATER THAN
20 MARCH 1 OF EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, EACH TREASURER SHALL FORWARD
21 THE REPORT TO THE ADMINISTRATOR, WHO SHALL CROSS-CHECK IT AS
22 SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (3.5) OF THIS SECTION BEFORE CORRECTING IT,
23 IF NECESSARY, AND FORWARDING IT TO THE STATE TREASURER TO ENABLE
24 THE STATE TREASURER TO ISSUE A REIMBURSEMENT WARRANT TO EACH
25 TREASURER IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION. The
26 report shall include:

27 (3.5) AFTER RECEIVING REPORTS FROM EACH TREASURER

1 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION, THE ADMINISTRATOR
2 SHALL CROSS-CHECK THE REPORTS TO IDENTIFY ANY EXEMPTION ALLOWED
3 IN A COUNTY THAT MUST BE DENIED DUE TO A FAILURE OF THE INDIVIDUAL
4 ALLOWED THE EXEMPTION TO SATISFY ALL LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR
5 CLAIMING THE EXEMPTION. THE ADMINISTRATOR SHALL REMOVE ANY
6 EXEMPTION THAT MUST BE DENIED FROM THE REPORT IN WHICH IT
7 APPEARS AND SHALL FORWARD ALL REPORTS TO THE STATE TREASURER NO
8 LATER THAN THE APRIL 1 IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE RECEIPT OF THE
9 REPORTS BY THE ADMINISTRATOR. IN ADDITION, IF THE ADMINISTRATOR
10 IDENTIFIES ANY EXEMPTION IMPROPERLY ALLOWED FOR A PRIOR PROPERTY
11 TAX YEAR COMMENCING ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2016, FOR WHICH THE
12 STATE TREASURER REIMBURSED A TREASURER PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION
13 (4) OF THIS SECTION OR IDENTIFIES ANY EXEMPTION PROPERLY ALLOWED
14 FOR SUCH A PRIOR PROPERTY TAX YEAR FOR WHICH THE STATE TREASURER
15 DID NOT REIMBURSE A TREASURER, THE ADMINISTRATOR SHALL ADVISE
16 THE STATE TREASURER TO ADJUST THE CURRENT YEAR REIMBURSEMENT
17 TO THE TREASURER TO CORRECT THE ERROR. NO LATER THAN THAT APRIL
18 1, THE ADMINISTRATOR SHALL ALSO NOTIFY THE TREASURER AND
19 ASSESSOR OF EACH COUNTY OF THE EXEMPTIONS REMOVED FROM THE
20 REPORT FOR THE COUNTY AND ANY RESULTING AND OTHER ADJUSTMENTS
21 TO THE AMOUNT OF CURRENT YEAR REIMBURSEMENT TO BE PAID BY THE
22 STATE TREASURER TO THE TREASURER.

23 (3.7) IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 25-2-103 (4.5), C.R.S., THE
24 ADMINISTRATOR SHALL ANNUALLY PROVIDE TO THE STATE REGISTRAR OF
25 VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND
26 ENVIRONMENT A LIST, BY NAME AND SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER, OF EVERY
27 INDIVIDUAL WHO RECEIVED AN EXEMPTION FOR THE IMMEDIATELY

1 PRECEDING YEAR SO THAT THE REGISTRAR CAN PROVIDE TO THE
2 ADMINISTRATOR A LIST OF ALL SUCH INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE DIED. NO
3 LATER THAN APRIL 1, 2017, AND NO LATER THAN EACH APRIL 1
4 THEREAFTER, THE ADMINISTRATOR SHALL FORWARD TO THE ASSESSOR OF
5 EACH COUNTY, THE NAME AND SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER OF EACH
6 DECEASED INDIVIDUAL WHO RECEIVED AN EXEMPTION FOR THE
7 IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING YEAR FOR RESIDENTIAL REAL PROPERTY
8 LOCATED WITHIN THE COUNTY SO THAT THE ASSESSOR CAN TERMINATE
9 THE EXEMPTION FOR THE PROPERTY.

10 (4) (a) (I) In accordance with section 3.5 of article X of the state
11 constitution, no later than April 15, 2003, and NO LATER THAN each April
12 15 thereafter, the state treasurer shall issue a warrant to each treasurer for
13 the amount needed to fully reimburse all local governmental entities
14 within the treasurer's county for the amount of property tax revenues lost
15 as a result of the application of the exemption to property taxes that
16 accrued during the previous property tax year and are payable during the
17 year in which the state treasurer issues the warrant. The reimbursement
18 shall be paid from the state general fund and shall not be subject to the
19 statutory limitation on state general fund appropriations set forth in
20 section 24-75-201.1, C.R.S.

21 (II) AS USED IN THIS PARAGRAPH (a), WITH RESPECT TO
22 EXEMPTIONS ALLOWED FOR PROPERTY TAX YEARS COMMENCING ON OR
23 AFTER JANUARY 1, 2016, "PROPERTY TAX REVENUES LOST AS A RESULT OF
24 THE APPLICATION OF THE EXEMPTION" INCLUDES ONLY THOSE REVENUES
25 LOST AS A RESULT OF EXEMPTIONS PROPERLY ALLOWED IN ACCORDANCE
26 WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS PART 2 AND DOES NOT INCLUDE ANY
27 REVENUES LOST AS A RESULT OF AN EXEMPTION BEING ERRONEOUSLY

1 ALLOWED.

2 (4.5) IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (3.5) OF THIS SECTION,
3 FOR ANY PROPERTY TAX YEAR COMMENCING ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1,
4 2016, THE STATE TREASURER SHALL NOT REIMBURSE A TREASURER FOR
5 PROPERTY TAX REVENUES LOST AS A RESULT OF AN EXEMPTION
6 ERRONEOUSLY ALLOWED IN THE TREASURER'S COUNTY. IF, PURSUANT TO
7 SUBSECTION (3.5) OF THIS SECTION, THE ADMINISTRATOR ADVISES THE
8 STATE TREASURER THAT THE STATE TREASURER HAS PROVIDED EITHER
9 TOO MUCH OR TOO LITTLE REIMBURSEMENT TO A TREASURER FOR
10 EXEMPTIONS ALLOWED IN THE TREASURER'S COUNTY FOR ANY PRIOR
11 PROPERTY TAX YEAR COMMENCING ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2016, THE
12 STATE TREASURER SHALL ADJUST THE REIMBURSEMENT FOR THE CURRENT
13 PROPERTY TAX YEAR AS DIRECTED BY THE ADMINISTRATOR IN ORDER TO
14 CORRECT THE ERROR.

15 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-8-104, **amend** (2)
16 (b) as follows:

17 **39-8-104. Notice of meeting.** (2) (b) Prior to ~~September 1, 2002~~
18 AUGUST 1, 2017, and prior to each ~~September~~ AUGUST 1 thereafter, the
19 county clerk and recorder shall give notice in at least one issue of a
20 newspaper published in his or her county of any date or dates between
21 ~~September~~ AUGUST 1 and ~~October~~ SEPTEMBER 1 on which the county
22 commissioners, sitting as the county board of equalization, shall hear
23 contests of property tax exemption denials as required by section
24 39-3-206 (2).

25 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-21-113, **add** (24)
26 as follows:

27 **39-21-113. Reports and returns - rule.** (24) NOTWITHSTANDING

1 ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS SECTION, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, AFTER
2 RECEIVING FROM THE PROPERTY TAX ADMINISTRATOR A LIST OF
3 INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE CLAIMING THE PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR
4 QUALIFYING SENIORS AND DISABLED VETERANS ALLOWED UNDER PART 2
5 OF ARTICLE 3 OF THIS TITLE, SHALL PROVIDE TO THE PROPERTY TAX
6 ADMINISTRATOR INFORMATION PERTAINING TO THE LISTED INDIVIDUALS,
7 INCLUDING THEIR NAMES, SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS, MARITAL AND
8 INCOME TAX FILING STATUS, AND RESIDENCY STATUS, NEEDED BY THE
9 ADMINISTRATOR TO VERIFY THAT THE EXEMPTION IS ALLOWED ONLY TO
10 APPLICANTS WHO SATISFY LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR CLAIMING IT. THE
11 ADMINISTRATOR AND THE ADMINISTRATOR'S AGENTS, CLERKS, AND
12 EMPLOYEES SHALL KEEP ALL INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM THE
13 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CONFIDENTIAL, AND ANY INDIVIDUAL WHO FAILS TO
14 DO SO IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND SUBJECT TO PUNISHMENT AS
15 SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (6) OF THIS SECTION.

16 **SECTION 7. Appropriation.** For the 2016-17 state fiscal year,
17 \$29,270 is appropriated to the department of local affairs for use by the
18 division of property taxation. This appropriation is from the general fund
19 and is based on an assumption that the division will require an additional
20 0.5 FTE. The division may use this appropriation to implement this act.

21 **SECTION 8. Effective date.** This act takes effect upon passage;
22 except that sections 3 and 5 of this act take effect January 1, 2017.

23 **SECTION 9. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
24 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
25 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.