

Fiscal: No Fiscal Impact
Revenue: Has minimal revenue impact

Action Date: 02/19/15
Action: Do Pass And Be Placed On The Consent Calendar.
Meeting Dates: 02/09, 02/19

House
Yeas: 9 - Barnhart, Bentz, Davis, Johnson, Whitsett, Read, Smith Warner, Vega Pederson, Lininger

Prepared By: Kyle Easton, Economist

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Clarifies that refund made for correction in property taxes owed resulting from appeal is made to individual who filed the appeal. Aligns time limitation for property tax refunds with time limitation for roll corrections (five years). Authorizes refund due to proration of taxes for destroyed or damaged property and clarifies refund is made to applicant of the proration. Extends certain property tax rules currently applicable to manufactured structures to floating homes. Increases threshold for cancelling delinquent property taxes from five to ten dollars, aligning with current threshold for refunds.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Floating homes and differences in assessment practices as compared to manufactured structures.
- Clarity of getting refund to the right person.

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

House Bill 2485 is a housekeeping bill relating to tax collection. The changes in the bill are described by category below.

Changes refund statutes so refunds are directed to individual that paid the tax, which may not be the current owner of the property as refunds are currently directed.

Bill directs property tax refunds resulting from destroyed or damaged property proration to be refunded to the person who requested the proration. Bill applies existing minimum refund law provision to refunds resulting from destroyed or damaged property proration. Amounts less than \$10 are not required to be refunded.

Bill aligns timing of refunds with tax change time period of five years. Under current law, certain corrections to tax records can be made on accounts for five years, however timing of refund may not allow for refund to be issued going back the full five years. This can lead to instances where a refund is determined to be due, but the refund cannot be processed because the timelines are not the same.

Bill allows tax collector to provide mortgagee of a floating home a copy of property tax statement require to be mailed to taxpayer. Treats refunds of property taxes relating to floating homes the same as manufactured structures.

Bill gives county governing body ability to cancel delinquent real and personal property taxes \$10 or less. This aligns minimum to collect amount, currently \$5, with \$10 minimum to refund amount.