

601-05470B-08

Proposed Committee Substitute by the Committee on General Government Appropriations

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the Department of Revenue; amending s. 195.002, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Revenue to incur reasonable expenses for the salaries and benefits of employees whose duties are directly associated with developing and conducting schools to upgrade assessment and collection skills; amending s. 195.022, F.S.; requiring the department to pay for aerial photographs and nonproperty ownership maps provided to the property appraisers of certain counties; providing an exception; authorizing the department to charge fees for procuring photographs and maps and deposit the proceeds into the Certification Program Trust Fund; amending s. 195.087, F.S.; authorizing property appraisers to pay the costs of aerial photographs and nonproperty ownership maps which are not paid by the department; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 195.002, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

195.002 Supervision by Department of Revenue. --

In furtherance of its duty to conduct schools to upgrade assessment skills and collection skills, the department may establish by rule committees on admissions and certification. Additionally, the department may incur reasonable expenses for



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hiring instructors, travel, office operations, certificates of completion, badges or awards, and food service incidental to conducting such schools; for the salaries and benefits of department employees whose duties are directly associated with developing and conducting such schools; and for administering any certification program under s. 145.10 or s. 145.11. The department may charge a tuition fee and an examination fee to any person who attends such a school and may charge a fee to certify or recertify any person under such a program. The department shall deposit such fees into the Certification Program Trust Fund which is created in the State Treasury. There shall be separate school accounts and program accounts in the trust fund for property appraisers and for tax collectors. The department shall use money in the fund to pay such expenses.

Section 2. Section 195.022, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

195.022 Forms to be prescribed by Department of Revenue. -- The Department of Revenue shall prescribe all forms to be used by property appraisers, tax collectors, clerks of the circuit court, and value adjustment boards in administering and collecting ad valorem taxes. The department shall prescribe a form for each purpose. For counties that have with a population of 100,000 or fewer, the Department of Revenue shall furnish the forms. For counties that have with a population greater than 100,000, the county officer shall reproduce forms for distribution at the expense of his or her office. A county officer may use a form other than the form prescribed by the department upon obtaining written permission from the executive director of the department; however, a no county officer may not shall use a form the substantive content of which is at variance



PROPOSED COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

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with the form prescribed by the department for the same or a similar purpose. If the executive director finds good cause to grant such permission he or she may do so. The county officer may continue to use such approved form until the law that which specifies the form is amended or repealed or until the officer receives written disapproval from the executive director. Otherwise, all such officers and their employees shall use the forms, and follow the instructions applicable to the forms, which are prescribed by the department. The department, upon request of any property appraiser or, in any event, at least once every 3 years, shall prescribe and furnish such aerial photographs and nonproperty ownership maps to the property appraisers as are necessary to ensure that all real property within the state is properly listed on the roll. Aerial photographs and nonproperty ownership maps shall be procured and provided in the manner and form prescribed by the department. The costs of all photographs and maps furnished to counties that have a population of 25,000 or fewer shall be paid by the department as provided by law. For counties that have a population greater than 25,000, the department shall furnish such items at the expense of the property appraiser. The department may incur reasonable expenses for procuring aerial photographs and nonproperty ownership maps and may charge a fee to the respective property appraiser equal to the costs incurred. The department shall deposit such fees into the Certification Program Trust Fund, created pursuant to s. 195.002. There shall be a separate account in the trust fund for activities relating to the aid and assistance of providing aerial photographs and nonproperty ownership maps to property appraisers. The department shall use moneys in the trust fund to pay such expenses. All forms and maps furnished by the department



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shall be paid for by the department as provided by law. All forms and maps and instructions relating to their use shall be substantially uniform throughout the state. An officer may employ supplemental forms and maps, at the expense of his or her office, which he or she deems expedient for the purpose of administering and collecting ad valorem taxes. The forms required in ss. 193.461(3)(a) and 196.011(1) for renewal purposes shall require sufficient information for the property appraiser to evaluate the changes in use since the prior year. If the property appraiser determines, in the case of a taxpayer, that he or she has insufficient current information upon which to approve the exemption, or if the information on the renewal form is inadequate for him or her to evaluate the taxable status of the property, he or she may require the resubmission of an original application.

Section 3. Subsection (4) of section 195.087, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

195.087 Property appraisers and tax collectors to submit budgets to Department of Revenue. --

The property appraisers and tax collectors of this state are hereby authorized to pay any fee established by the department for attendance by an employee at a school established and conducted by the department pursuant to s. 195.002. Further, the travel and per diem expenses of such employee may be paid as set forth in s. 112.061. The property appraisers are authorized to pay a fee established by the department for the costs of aerial photographs and nonproperty ownership maps that are provided by the department, but are not paid by the department pursuant to s. 195.022.

Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.