By the Committee on Fiscal Resource and Senators Sullivan and Casas

314-2192-00

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                        A bill to be entitled
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           An act relating to tax assessments; creating s.
           193.016, F.S.; providing for the assessment of
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           tangible personal property after adjustments by
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           the value adjustment board; amending s.
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           194.013, F.S.; deleting provision for refund;
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           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. Section 193.016, Florida Statutes, is
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    created to read:
           193.016 Property appraiser's assessment; effect of
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    determinations by value adjustment board .-- If the property
    appraiser's assessment of the same items of tangible personal
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    property in the previous year was adjusted by the value
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    adjustment board and the decision of the board to reduce the
    assessment was not successfully appealed by the property
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    appraiser, the property appraiser shall consider the reduced
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    values determined by the value adjustment board in assessing
    those items of tangible personal property. If the property
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    appraiser adjusts upward the reduced values previously
    determined by the value adjustment board, the property
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    appraiser shall assert additional basic and underlying facts
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    not properly considered by the value adjustment board as the
    basis for the increased valuation notwithstanding the prior
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    adjustment by the board.
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           Section 2. Subsections (4) and (5) of s. 194.013,
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    Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
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           194.013 Filing fees for petitions; disposition;
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(4) Should the petitioner prevail at the value adjustment board hearing or in a conference with the property appraiser, resulting in a reduced assessment or increased exemption, the filing fee shall be refunded to the taxpayer no later than 45 days after certification of the tax roll under s. 193.122(1). The refund shall be made by the clerk of the value adjustment board without any further authority from the Department of Revenue under s. 197.182. (4) (4) (5) All filing fees collected by the clerk shall be allocated and utilized to defray, to the extent possible, the costs incurred in connection with the administration and operation of the value adjustment board. Section 3. This act shall take effect January 1, 2001. STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SB 290 This committee substitute removes the requirement that the This committee substitute removes the requirement that the property appraiser use the value adjustment board's method of determining value for certain items of tangible personal property, and instead requires the property appraiser to consider the VAB's previous determinations and give his or her reasons for not adopting the VAB's previously determined value. It also deletes the provision in current law that refunds the filing fees paid by taxpayers who successfully petition the VAB to reduce their assessment.