1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to ad valorem taxation; amending s.
3	200.001, F.S.; providing definitions for purposes of
4	provisions governing the fixing of millage rates; amending
5	s. 200.065, F.S.; revising the method for computing the
6	rolled-back rate; providing that the rolled-back rate
7	excludes the amount paid or applied as a consequence of an
8	obligation measured by the dedicated increment value;
9	requiring that the property appraiser provide instructions
10	to the taxing authorities for computing the maximum
11	millage rate; revising the method of calculating the
12	maximum millage rate beginning in the 2009-2010 fiscal
13	year; providing an exception for calculating the rolled-
14	back rate for certain counties; recognizing that certain
15	governmental units are municipalities; providing for
16	higher millage rates if adopted by certain required votes
17	of the governing body of the taxing authority or approved
18	by referendum; providing certain exceptions to the
19	limitations on millage rates; providing that a county or
20	municipality is subject to forfeiture of the distribution
21	of the local government half-cent sales tax revenues for
22	12 months if it or its municipal service taxing units or
23	dependent special districts do not comply with provisions
24	limiting maximum millage rates; requiring the tax
25	collector to hold revenues in escrow during the pendency
26	of any procedure to correct a millage rate or any
27	administrative or judicial challenge to such forfeiture;
28	specifying procedures that a county or municipality,
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special district dependent thereto, or municipal service 29 30 taxing unit must follow if it fails to remedy such noncompliance; requiring that the taxing authority repeat 31 its hearing and notice process with respect to preparing a 32 budget and setting millage rates; amending s. 200.068, 33 F.S.; requiring each taxing authority to include 34 35 calculations upon which maximum millage rates are based in 36 the certification of value; amending s. 218.63, F.S.; 37 prohibiting a county or municipality that levies taxes in 38 excess of the maximum aggregate taxes permitted by law from participating in the distribution of local government 39 half-cent sales tax revenues; amending ss. 193.1142, 40 194.037, and 1011.71, F.S., relating to approval of the 41 assessment rolls, disclosure of tax impact, and school 42 district taxes; conforming cross-references; creating s. 43 44 200.185, F.S.; providing definitions; specifying the maximum millage rates that a county, municipal service 45 taxing unit, municipality, dependent district, or 46 47 independent district may levy for the 2007-2008 fiscal year based on per capita growth in ad valorem taxes; 48 providing an exception for calculating the rolled-back 49 rate for certain counties; providing that certain units of 50 government are recognized as municipalities; requiring the 51 Department of Revenue to notify property appraisers and 52 county and municipal governing bodies of tax levies used 53 54 to calculate certain compound annual growth rates; specifying reporting duties of property appraisers and 55 governing bodies; authorizing the Governor to consider 56 Page 2 of 69

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57 reporting failures as grounds constituting malfeasance or 58 neglect of duty; requiring the Department of Revenue to 59 calculate, in consultation with the Revenue Estimating Conference, and publish the annual growth rate in per 60 capita ad valorem taxes for each taxing authority; 61 providing certain exceptions to the limitations on maximum 62 63 millage rates; authorizing the Department of Revenue to 64 adopt emergency rules; authorizing the executive director 65 of the Department of Revenue to extend the time specified in law or rule for a local government to adopt its millage 66 rate and budget for the 2007 calendar year; providing an 67 optional method by which a county or municipality may 68 determine fiscal hardship for purposes of a reduction or 69 waiver of processing fees and may be eligible for a road 70 assistance program; repealing s. 3, ch. 2006-311, Laws of 71 72 Florida, relating to provisions requiring the Department of Revenue to conduct a study of the state's property tax 73 structure and analyze the current homestead exemptions and 74 homestead assessment limitations; amending ss. 193.155 and 75 76 193.1551, F.S.; revising the method of calculating homestead assessments pursuant to amendments to the State 77 Constitution; limiting the continued applicability of 78 certain assessment criteria provided under the State 79 80 Constitution; amending s. 196.031, F.S.; revising the 81 exemption from taxation provided for homesteads; 82 specifying the amount of the exemption based on just value; providing that a owner of property is entitled to 83 an alternative exemption under certain circumstances; 84 Page 3 of 69

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85 deleting certain obsolete provisions; deleting a 86 requirement that each property appraiser compile a list of 87 properties removed from the assessment roll of the school district as a result of exempt value; amending s. 196.002, 88 F.S.; revising certain reporting requirements for the 89 property appraiser in order to conform to changes made by 90 91 the act; amending s. 197.252, F.S., relating to the homestead tax deferral; conforming provisions to changes 92 93 made by the act; creating s. 196.183, F.S.; exempting each tangible personal property tax return from a specified 94 amount of assessed value; limiting a single business 95 operation within a county to one exemption; providing a 96 procedure for waiving the requirement to file an annual 97 tangible personal property tax return if the taxpayer is 98 entitled to the exemption; requiring the Department of 99 100 Revenue to prescribe a form; providing penalties for failure to file a return as required or to claim more 101 exemptions than allowed; providing that the exemption does 102 103 not apply to mobile homes; amending s. 193.017, F.S.; revising provisions providing for the assessment of 104 105 property receiving the low-income housing tax credit; providing for the assessment of structural improvements on 106 land owned by a community land trust and used to provide 107 affordable housing; defining the term "community land 108 trust"; providing for the conveyance of structural 109 110 improvements, subject to certain conditions; specifying the criteria to be used in arriving at just valuation of a 111 structural improvement; creating s. 193.803, F.S.; 112 Page 4 of 69

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113 providing for the assessment of rental property used for 114 workforce housing or affordable housing; authorizing a property owner to appeal a denial of eligibility to the 115 116 value adjustment board; requiring that a property owner 117 file an application for such classification with the property appraiser or file a petition with the value 118 119 adjustment board; providing a fee for filing a petition; 120 providing for reapplication to be made on a short form 121 provided by the Department of Revenue; defining the term 122 "extenuating circumstances" for purposes of granting a 123 classification for January 1, 2008; specifying the types of property that are eligible to be classified as 124 125 workforce rental housing or affordable rental housing; 126 requiring that property be removed from such 127 classification if its use or program eligibility changes; 128 providing the methodologies for assessing workforce rental housing and affordable rental housing; requiring that the 129 property owner annually provide a rent roll and income and 130 131 expense statement to the property appraiser for the preceding year; authorizing the property appraiser to base 132 133 the assessment on the best available information if the property owner fails to provide the rent roll and 134 statement; providing for a tax lien to be filed against 135 136 property that is misclassified as workforce rental housing 137 or affordable rental housing within a specified period; amending ss. 196.1978, 192.0105, 193.052, 193.461, 138 194.011, 195.073, and 195.096, F.S., relating to the 139 affordable housing property exemption, taxpayer rights, 140 Page 5 of 69

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141 the preparation and serving of returns, assessments 142 involving agricultural lands, assessment notices and 143 objections, the classification of property, and the review 144 of assessment rolls; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; creating s. 200.186, F.S.; specifying a 145 formula for counties, municipalities, municipal service 146 147 taxing units, dependent districts, and independent districts to determine a maximum millage rate for the 148 149 2008-2009 fiscal year; providing that a taxing authority in violation of such provision forfeits its local 150 151 government half-cent sales tax revenues; providing certain exceptions to the limitations on millage rates; providing 152 an exception for calculating the rolled-back rate for 153 certain counties; providing that certain units of 154 155 government are recognized as municipalities; providing 156 that certain provisions of the act apply retroactively; amending ss. 196.011 and 196.111, F.S.; providing a 157 procedure by which a person may make an irrevocable 158 159 election to have his or her homestead assessed under s. 160 6(a), Art. VII of the State Constitution rather than under 161 s. 4(c), Art. VII of the State Constitution; requiring the property appraisers to provide notice of such option by 162 mail; amending s. 195.022, F.S.; requiring the Department 163 164 of Revenue to adopt a form by rule; providing for 165 transitional assessments of homestead property; providing 166 for construction of the act in pari materia with laws enacted during the 2007 Regular Session or any 2007 167 special session of the Legislature; providing effective 168 Page 6 of 69

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169 dates, one of which is contingent. 170 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 171 172 173 Section 1. Paragraphs (h), (i), (j), (k), (l), and (m) are 174 added to subsection (8) of section 200.001, Florida Statutes, to 175 read: 200.001 Millages; definitions and general provisions.--176 177 (8) "Dedicated increment value" means the proportion of 178 (h) 179 the cumulative increase in taxable value within a defined geographic area used to determine a tax increment amount to be 180 181 paid to a redevelopment trust fund pursuant to s. 163.387(2)(a) 182 or to be paid or applied pursuant to an ordinance, resolution, 183 or agreement to fund a project or to finance essential 184 infrastructure. Upon creating any obligation for payment to a 185 redevelopment trust fund or otherwise pursuant to an ordinance, 186 resolution, or agreement to fund a project or to finance 187 essential infrastructure based on an increase in assessed value, 188 the taxing authority shall certify to the property appraiser the 189 boundaries of the designated geographic area and the date of the 190 most recent assessment roll used in connection with the taxation 191 of such property prior to creation of the obligation. If the 192 increment amount payment is not based on a specific proportion of the cumulative increase in taxable value within a defined 193 194 geographic area, such value shall be reduced by multiplying by a 195 proportion calculated by dividing the payment in the prior year, 196 if any, by the product of the millage rate in the prior year and

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	-
197	the cumulative increase in taxable value within the defined
198	geographic area in the prior year. For tax years beginning on or
199	after January 1, 2008, information provided to the property
200	appraiser after May 1 of any year may not be used for the
201	current year's certification.
202	(i) "Per capita Florida personal income" means Florida
203	nominal personal income for the four quarters ending the prior
204	September 30, as published by the Bureau of Economic Analysis of
205	the United States Department of Commerce, or its successor,
206	divided by the prior April 1 official estimate of Florida
207	resident population pursuant to s. 186.901, which shall be
208	reported by the Office of Economic and Demographic Research by
209	April 1 of each year.
210	(j) "Total county ad valorem taxes levied" means all
211	property taxes other than voted levies levied by a county, any
212	municipal service taxing units of that county, and any special
213	districts dependent to that county in a fiscal year.
214	(k) "Total municipal ad valorem taxes levied" means all
215	property taxes other than voted levies levied by a municipality
216	and any special districts dependent to that municipality in a
217	fiscal year.
218	(1) "Maximum total county ad valorem taxes levied" means
219	the total taxes levied by a county, municipal service taxing
220	units of that county, and special districts dependent to that
221	county at their individual maximum millages, calculated pursuant
222	to s. 200.065(5)(a) for fiscal years 2009-2010 and thereafter,
223	pursuant to s. 200.185 for fiscal years 2007-2008 and 2008-2009,
224	and pursuant to s. 200.186 for fiscal year 2008-2009 if SJR 4B
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225	or HJR 3B is approved by a vote of the electors.
226	(m) "Maximum total municipal ad valorem taxes levied"
227	means the total taxes levied by a municipality and special
228	districts dependent to that municipality at their individual
229	maximum millages, calculated pursuant to s. 200.065(5)(b) for
230	fiscal years 2009-2010 and thereafter, by s. 200.185 for fiscal
231	years 2007-2008 and 2008-2009, and pursuant to s. 200.186 for
232	fiscal year 2008-2009 if SJR 4B or HJR 3B is approved by a vote
233	of the electors.
234	Section 2. Subsection (1), paragraph (d) of subsection
235	(2), subsection (4), and present subsection (12) of section
236	200.065, Florida Statutes, are amended, present subsections (5)
237	through (14) of that section are redesignated as subsections (6)
238	through (15), respectively, and a new subsection (5) is added to
239	that section, to read:
240	200.065 Method of fixing millage
241	(1) Upon completion of the assessment of all property
242	pursuant to s. 193.023, the property appraiser shall certify to
243	each taxing authority the taxable value within the jurisdiction
244	of the taxing authority. This certification shall include a copy
245	of the statement required to be submitted under s. 195.073(3),
246	as applicable to that taxing authority. The form on which the
247	certification is made shall include instructions to each taxing
248	authority describing the proper method of computing a millage
249	rate which, exclusive of new construction, additions to
250	structures, deletions, increases in the value of improvements
251	that have undergone a substantial rehabilitation which increased
252	the assessed value of such improvements by at least 100 percent,
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253 and property added due to geographic boundary changes, total taxable value of tangible personal property within the 254 255 jurisdiction in excess of 115 percent of the previous year's 256 total taxable value, and any dedicated increment value, will 257 provide the same ad valorem tax revenue for each taxing authority as was levied during the prior year less the amount, 258 259 if any, paid or applied as a consequence of an obligation 260 measured by the dedicated increment value. That millage rate 261 shall be known as the "rolled-back rate." The property appraiser shall also include instructions, as prescribed by the Department 262 263 of Revenue, to each county and municipality, each special 264 district dependent to a county or municipality, each municipal 265 service taxing unit, and each independent special district 266 describing the proper method of computing the millage rates and taxes levied as specified in subsection (5). The Department of 267 268 Revenue shall prescribe the instructions and forms that are 269 necessary to administer this subsection and subsection (5). The 270 information provided pursuant to this subsection shall also be 271 sent to the tax collector by the property appraiser at the time it is sent to each taxing authority. 272

(2) No millage shall be levied until a resolution or
ordinance has been approved by the governing board of the taxing
authority which resolution or ordinance must be approved by the
taxing authority according to the following procedure:

(d) Within 15 days after the meeting adopting the tentative budget, the taxing authority shall advertise in a newspaper of general circulation in the county as provided in subsection (3), its intent to finally adopt a millage rate and Page 10 of 69

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281 budget. A public hearing to finalize the budget and adopt a 282 millage rate shall be held not less than 2 days or more than 5 days after the day that the advertisement is first published. 283 284 During the hearing, the governing body of the taxing authority 285 shall amend the adopted tentative budget as it sees fit, adopt a 286 final budget, and adopt a resolution or ordinance stating the 287 millage rate to be levied. The resolution or ordinance shall 288 state the percent, if any, by which the millage rate to be 289 levied exceeds the rolled-back rate computed pursuant to 290 subsection (1), which shall be characterized as the percentage 291 increase in property taxes adopted by the governing body. The adoption of the budget and the millage-levy resolution or 292 293 ordinance shall be by separate votes. For each taxing authority 294 levying millage, the name of the taxing authority, the rolledback rate, the percentage increase, and the millage rate to be 295 296 levied shall be publicly announced prior to the adoption of the 297 millage-levy resolution or ordinance. In no event may the 298 millage rate adopted pursuant to this paragraph exceed the 299 millage rate tentatively adopted pursuant to paragraph (c). If the rate tentatively adopted pursuant to paragraph (c) exceeds 300 301 the proposed rate provided to the property appraiser pursuant to 302 paragraph (b), or as subsequently adjusted pursuant to 303 subsection (11) (10), each taxpayer within the jurisdiction of the taxing authority shall be sent notice by first-class mail of 304 his or her taxes under the tentatively adopted millage rate and 305 his or her taxes under the previously proposed rate. The notice 306 must be prepared by the property appraiser, at the expense of 307 the taxing authority, and must generally conform to the 308 Page 11 of 69

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309 requirements of s. 200.069. If such additional notice is 310 necessary, its mailing must precede the hearing held pursuant to 311 this paragraph by not less than 10 days and not more than 15 312 days.

313 (4) The resolution or ordinance approved in the manner 314 provided for in this section shall be forwarded to the property 315 appraiser and the tax collector within 3 days after the adoption 316 of such resolution or ordinance. No millage other than that 317 approved by referendum may be levied until the resolution or ordinance to levy required in subsection (2) is approved by the 318 319 governing board of the taxing authority and submitted to the property appraiser and the tax collector. The receipt of the 320 resolution or ordinance by the property appraiser shall be 321 322 considered official notice of the millage rate approved by the taxing authority, and that millage rate shall be the rate 323 324 applied by the property appraiser in extending the rolls 325 pursuant to s. 193.122, subject to the provisions of subsection 326 (6) (5). These submissions shall be made within 101 days of 327 certification of value pursuant to subsection (1).

328 (5) Beginning in the 2009-2010 fiscal year and in each 329 year thereafter:

(a) The maximum millage rate that a county, municipality,
 special district dependent to a county or municipality,
 municipal service taxing unit, or independent special district
 may levy is a rolled-back rate based on the amount of taxes
 which would have been levied in the prior year if the maximum
 millage rate had been applied, adjusted for growth in per capita
 Florida personal income, unless a higher rate is adopted, in

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337	which case the maximum is the adopted rate. The maximum millage
338	rate applicable to a county authorized to levy a county public
339	hospital surtax under s. 212.055 shall exclude the revenues
340	required to be contributed to the county public general hospital
341	for the purposes of making the maximum millage rate calculation,
342	but shall be added back to the maximum millage rate allowed
343	after the roll back has been applied. A higher rate may be
344	adopted only under the following conditions:
345	1. A rate of not more than 110 percent of the rolled-back
346	rate based on the previous year's maximum millage rate, adjusted
347	for growth in per capita Florida personal income, may be adopted
348	if approved by a two-thirds vote of the governing body of the
349	county, municipality, or independent district; or
350	2. A rate in excess of 110 percent may be adopted if
351	approved by a unanimous vote of the governing body of the
352	county, municipality, or independent district or by a three-
353	fourths vote if the governing body has nine or more members or
354	if the rate is approved by a referendum.
355	(b) The millage rate of a county or municipality,
356	municipal service taxing unit of that county, and any special
357	district dependent to that county or municipality may exceed the
358	maximum millage rate calculated pursuant to this subsection if
359	the total county ad valorem taxes levied or total municipal ad
360	valorem taxes levied do not exceed the maximum total county ad
361	valorem taxes levied or maximum total municipal ad valorem taxes
362	levied respectively. Voted millage and taxes levied by a
363	municipality or independent special district that has levied ad
364	valorem taxes for less than 5 years are not subject to this

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365	limitation. Total taxes levied may exceed the maximum calculated
366	pursuant to subsection (6) as a result of an increase in taxable
367	value above that certified in subsection (1) if such increase is
368	less than the percentage amounts contained in subsection (6);
369	however, if such increase in taxable value exceeds the
370	percentage amounts contained in this subsection, millage rates
371	subject to subsection (5), s. 200.185, or s. 200.186 must be
372	reduced so that total taxes levied do not exceed the maximum.
373	
374	Any unit of government operating under a home rule charter
375	adopted pursuant to ss. 10, 11, and 24, Art. VIII of the State
376	Constitution of 1885, as preserved by s. 6(e), Art. VIII of the
377	State Constitution of 1968, which is granted the authority in
378	the State Constitution to exercise all the powers conferred now
379	or hereafter by general law upon municipalities and which
380	exercises such powers in the unincorporated area shall be
381	recognized as a municipality under this subsection.
382	(13) (12) (a) Any taxing authority in violation of this
383	section, other than subsection (5), shall be subject to
384	forfeiture of state funds otherwise available to it for the 12
385	months following a determination of noncompliance by the
386	Department of Revenue appropriate state agency.
387	(b) Within 30 days of the deadline for certification of
388	compliance required by s. 200.068, the department shall notify
389	any taxing authority in violation of this section, other than
390	subsection (5), that it is subject to paragraph (c). Except for
391	revenues from voted levies or levies imposed pursuant to s.
392	1011.60(6), the revenues of any taxing authority in violation of
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this section, other than subsection (5), collected in excess of the rolled-back rate shall be held in escrow until the process required by paragraph (c) is completed and approved by the department. The department shall direct the tax collector to so hold such funds.

398 (c) Any taxing authority so noticed by the department
399 shall repeat the hearing and notice process required by
400 paragraph (2)(d), except that:

401 1. The advertisement shall appear within 15 days of notice402 from the department.

2. The advertisement, in addition to meeting the
requirements of subsection (3), shall contain the following
statement in boldfaced type immediately after the heading:

THE PREVIOUS NOTICE PLACED BY THE ... (name of taxing
authority)... HAS BEEN DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
TO BE IN VIOLATION OF THE LAW, NECESSITATING THIS SECOND NOTICE.

3. The millage newly adopted at this hearing shall not be
forwarded to the tax collector or property appraiser and may not
exceed the rate previously adopted.

4. If the newly adopted millage is less than the amount
previously forwarded pursuant to subsection (4), any moneys
collected in excess of the new levy shall be held in reserve
until the subsequent fiscal year and shall then be utilized to
reduce ad valorem taxes otherwise necessary.

417 (d) If any county or municipality, dependent special
418 district of such county or municipality, or municipal service
419 taxing unit of such county is in violation of subsection (5), s.
420 200.185, or s. 200.186 because total county or municipal ad

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421 valorem taxes exceeded the maximum total county or municipal ad valorem taxes, respectively, that county or municipality shall 422 forfeit the distribution of local government half-cent sales tax 423 424 revenues during the 12 months following a determination of 425 noncompliance by the Department of Revenue as described in s. 426 218.63(3) and this subsection. If the executive director of the 427 Department of Revenue determines that any county or municipality, dependent special district of such county or 428 429 municipality, or municipal service taxing unit of such county is in violation of subsection (5), s. 200.185, or s. 200.186, the 430 431 Department of Revenue and the county or municipality, dependent special district of such county or municipality, or municipal 432 433 service taxing unit of such county shall follow the procedures 434 set forth in this paragraph or paragraph (e). During the 435 pendency of any procedure under paragraph (e) or any 436 administrative or judicial action to challenge any action taken 437 under this subsection, the tax collector shall hold in escrow 438 any revenues collected by the noncomplying county or 439 municipality, dependent special district of such county or 440 municipality, or municipal service taxing unit of such county in 441 excess of the amount allowed by subsection (5), s. 200.185, or 442 s. 200.186, as determined by the executive director. Such 443 revenues shall be held in escrow until the process required by 444 paragraph (e) is completed and approved by the department. The department shall direct the tax collector to so hold such funds. 445 If the county or municipality, dependent special district of 446 such county or municipality, or municipal service taxing unit of 447 such county remedies the noncompliance, any moneys collected in 448

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449	excess of the new levy or in excess of the amount allowed by
450	
	subsection (5), s. 200.185, or s. 200.186 shall be held in
451	reserve until the subsequent fiscal year and shall then be used
452	to reduce ad valorem taxes otherwise necessary. If the county or
453	municipality, dependent special district of such county or
454	municipality, or municipal service taxing unit of such county
455	does not remedy the noncompliance, the provisions of s. 218.63
456	shall apply.
457	(e) The following procedures shall be followed when the
458	executive director notifies any county or municipality,
459	dependent special district of such county or municipality, or
460	municipal service taxing unit of such county that he or she has
461	determined that such taxing authority is in violation of
462	subsection (5), s. 200.185, or s. 200.186:
463	1. Within 30 days after the deadline for certification of
464	compliance required by s. 200.068, the executive director shall
465	notify any such county or municipality, dependent special
466	district of such county or municipality, or municipal service
467	taxing unit of such county of his or her determination regarding
468	subsection (5), s. 200.185, or s. 200.186 and that such taxing
469	authority is subject to subparagraph 2.
470	2. Any taxing authority so noticed by the executive
471	director shall repeat the hearing and notice process required by
472	paragraph (2)(d), except that:
473	a. The advertisement shall appear within 15 days after
474	notice from the executive director.
475	b. The advertisement, in addition to meeting the
476	requirements of subsection (3), must contain the following
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477	statement in boldfaced type immediately after the heading:
478	THE PREVIOUS NOTICE PLACED BY THE (name of taxing
479	authority) HAS BEEN DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
480	TO BE IN VIOLATION OF THE LAW, NECESSITATING THIS SECOND NOTICE.
481	c. The millage newly adopted at such hearing shall not be
482	forwarded to the tax collector or property appraiser and may not
483	exceed the rate previously adopted or the amount allowed by
484	subsection (5), s. 200.185, or s. 200.186. Each taxing authority
485	provided notice pursuant to this paragraph shall recertify
486	compliance with this chapter as provided in s. 200.065 within 15
487	days after the adoption of a millage at such hearing.
488	d. The determination of the executive director shall be
489	superseded if the executive director determines that the county
490	or municipality, dependent special district of such county or
491	municipality, or municipal service taxing unit of such county
492	has remedied the noncompliance. Such noncompliance shall be
493	determined to be remedied if any such taxing authority provided
494	notice by the executive director pursuant to this paragraph
495	adopt a new millage that does not exceed the maximum millage
496	allowed for such taxing authority under paragraph (5)(a), s.
497	200.185(1)-(5), or s. 200.186(1), or if any such county or
498	municipality, dependent special district of such county or
499	municipality, or municipal service taxing unit of such county
500	adopts a lower millage sufficient to reduce the total taxes
501	levied such that total taxes levied do not exceed the maximum as
502	provided in paragraph (5)(b), s. 200.185(8), or s. 200.186(3).
503	e. If any such county or municipality, dependent special
504	district of such county or municipality, or municipal service
1	

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FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVE	F	L	0	R		D	А		Н	0	U	S	Е	0	F	R	Е	Р	R	Е	S	Е	Ν	Т	Α	Т		V	Е	S
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505	taxing unit of such county has not remedied the noncompliance or
506	recertified compliance with this chapter as provided in this
507	paragraph, and the executive director determines that the
508	noncompliance has not been remedied or compliance has not been
509	recertified, the county or municipality shall forfeit the
510	distribution of local government half-cent sales tax revenues
511	during the 12 months following a determination of noncompliance
512	by the Department of Revenue as described in s. 218.63(2) and
513	(3) and this subsection.
514	f. The determination of the executive director is not
515	subject to chapter 120.
516	Section 3. Section 200.068, Florida Statutes, is amended
517	to read:
518	200.068 Certification of compliance with this
519	chapterNot later than 30 days following adoption of an
520	ordinance or resolution establishing a property tax levy, each
521	taxing authority shall certify compliance with the provisions of
522	this chapter to the Department of Revenue. In addition to a
523	statement of compliance, such certification shall include a copy
524	of the ordinance or resolution so adopted; a copy of the
525	certification of value showing rolled-back millage and proposed
526	millage rates, as provided to the property appraiser pursuant to
527	s. 200.065(1) and (2)(b); maximum millage rates calculated
528	pursuant to s. 200.065(5), s. 200.185, or s. 200.186, together
529	with values and calculations upon which the maximum millage
530	rates are based; and a certified copy of the advertisement, as
531	published pursuant to s. 200.065(3). In certifying compliance,
532	the governing body of the county shall also include a certified
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533 copy of the notice required under s. 194.037. However, if the 534 value adjustment board completes its hearings after the deadline 535 for certification under this section, the county shall submit 536 such copy to the department not later than 30 days following 537 completion of such hearings.

538 Section 4. Subsection (3) is added to section 218.63, 539 Florida Statutes, to read:

540

218.63 Participation requirements.--

541 <u>(3) A county or municipality may not participate in the</u> 542 <u>distribution of local government half-cent sales tax revenues</u> 543 <u>during the 12 months following a determination of noncompliance</u> 544 by the Department of Revenue as provided in s. 200.065(13)(e).

545 Section 5. Subsection (5) of section 193.1142, Florida 546 Statutes, is amended to read:

547

193.1142 Approval of assessment rolls.--

548 (5) Whenever an assessment roll submitted to the 549 department is returned to the property appraiser for additional 550 evaluation, a review notice shall be issued for the express 551 purpose of the adjustment provided in <u>s. 200.065(11)</u> s. 552 $\frac{200.065(10)}{10}$.

553 Section 6. Paragraph (f) of subsection (1) of section 554 194.037, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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555
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194.037 Disclosure of tax impact.--

(1) After hearing all petitions, complaints, appeals, and disputes, the clerk shall make public notice of the findings and results of the board in at least a quarter-page size advertisement of a standard size or tabloid size newspaper, and the headline shall be in a type no smaller than 18 point. The Page 20 of 69

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561 advertisement shall not be placed in that portion of the 562 newspaper where legal notices and classified advertisements 563 appear. The advertisement shall be published in a newspaper of 564 general paid circulation in the county. The newspaper selected 565 shall be one of general interest and readership in the 566 community, and not one of limited subject matter, pursuant to 567 chapter 50. The headline shall read: TAX IMPACT OF VALUE 568 ADJUSTMENT BOARD. The public notice shall list the members of 569 the value adjustment board and the taxing authorities to which they are elected. The form shall show, in columnar form, for 570 each of the property classes listed under subsection (2), the 571 572 following information, with appropriate column totals:

In the sixth column, the net shift in taxes to parcels 573 (f) 574 not granted relief by the board. The shift shall be computed as 575 the amount shown in column 5 multiplied by the applicable 576 millage rates adopted by the taxing authorities in hearings held 577 pursuant to s. 200.065(2)(d) or adopted by vote of the electors 578 pursuant to s. 9(b) or s. 12, Art. VII of the State 579 Constitution, but without adjustment as authorized pursuant to 580 s. 200.065(6) s. 200.065(5). If for any taxing authority the 581 hearing has not been completed at the time the notice required 582 herein is prepared, the millage rate used shall be that adopted 583 in the hearing held pursuant to s. 200.065(2)(c).

584 Section 7. Paragraph (i) of subsection (2) of section 585 1011.71, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

586

1011.71 District school tax.--

587 (2) In addition to the maximum millage levy as provided in 588 subsection (1), each school board may levy not more than 2 mills Page 21 of 69

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against the taxable value for school purposes for district schools, including charter schools at the discretion of the school board, to fund:

(i) Payment of the cost of school buses when a school
district contracts with a private entity to provide student
transportation services if the district meets the requirements
of this paragraph.

596 1. The district's contract must require that the private 597 entity purchase, lease-purchase, or lease, and operate and 598 maintain, one or more school buses of a specific type and size 599 that meet the requirements of s. 1006.25.

Each such school bus must be used for the daily
transportation of public school students in the manner required
by the school district.

6033. Annual payment for each such school bus may not exceed60410 percent of the purchase price of the state pool bid.

4. The proposed expenditure of the funds for this purpose must have been included in the district school board's notice of proposed tax for school capital outlay as provided in <u>s.</u> $200.065(10) = \frac{200.065(9)}{5000}$.

609

Violations of these expenditure provisions shall result in an
equal dollar reduction in the Florida Education Finance Program
(FEFP) funds for the violating district in the fiscal year
following the audit citation.

614 Section 8. Section 200.185, Florida Statutes, is created 615 to read:

616 200.185 Maximum millage rates for the 2007-2008 and 2008-

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617	2009 fiscal years
618	(1) As used in this section, the term:
619	(a) "County of special financial concern" means a county
620	considered fiscally constrained pursuant to s. 218.67 and for
621	which 1 mill will raise less than \$100 per capita.
622	(b) "Municipality of special financial concern" means a
623	municipality within a county of special financial concern or a
624	municipality that has been at any time since 2001 in a state of
625	financial emergency pursuant to s. 218.503.
626	(2)(a) The maximum millage rate that a county, a municipal
627	service taxing unit of that county, or a special district
628	dependent to that county may levy by a majority vote of the
629	governing body for the 2007-2008 fiscal year shall be determined
630	as follows:
631	1. For any county of special financial concern for which
632	the compound annual growth rate in total county ad valorem taxes
633	levied, as defined in s. 200.001, per capita from fiscal year
634	2001-2002 to fiscal year 2006-2007 was no more than 5 percent,
635	100 percent of the rolled-back rate, as calculated under s.
636	200.065;
637	2. For any county not included in subparagraph 1. for
638	which the compound annual growth in total county ad valorem
639	taxes levied, as defined in s. 200.001, per capita from fiscal
640	year 2001-2002 to fiscal year 2006-2007 was no more than 7
641	percent, or, notwithstanding subparagraphs 3., 4., and 5., any
642	county that is a county of special financial concern not
643	included in subparagraph 1., 97 percent of the rolled-back rate,
644	as calculated under s. 200.065;
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645	3. For any county for which the compound annual growth in
646	total county ad valorem taxes levied, as defined in s. 200.001,
647	per capita from fiscal year 2001-2002 to fiscal year 2006-2007
648	was greater than 7 percent but no more than 9 percent, 95
649	percent of the rolled-back rate, as calculated under s. 200.065;
650	4. For any county for which the compound annual growth in
651	total county ad valorem taxes levied, as defined in s. 200.001,
652	per capita from fiscal year 2001-2002 to fiscal year 2006-2007
653	was greater than 9 percent but no more than 11 percent, 93
654	percent of the rolled-back rate, as calculated under s. 200.065;
655	or
656	5. For any county for which the compound annual growth in
657	total county ad valorem taxes levied, as defined in s. 200.001,
658	per capita from fiscal year 2001-2002 to fiscal year 2006-2007
659	was greater than 11 percent, 91 percent of the rolled-back rate,
660	as calculated under s. 200.065; or
661	6. For a county authorized to levy a county public
662	hospital surtax under s. 212.055, the maximum millage rate shall
663	exclude the revenues required to be contributed to the county
664	public general hospital for the purposes of making the maximum
665	millage rate calculation, but shall be added back to the maximum
666	millage rate allowed after the applicable percentage of the
667	rolled-back rate as provided in subparagraphs 1. through 5. has
668	been applied.
669	(b) The maximum millage rate that may be levied under
670	paragraph (a) may be increased to:
671	1. The rolled-back rate, as calculated under s. 200.065,
672	if approved by a two-thirds vote of the governing body of the
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673 county or special district dependent thereto; or 674 2. The nonvoted millage rate that was levied in the 2006-675 2007 fiscal year, if approved by a unanimous vote of the governing body of the county or special district dependent 676 677 thereto or by a three-fourths vote if the governing body has 678 nine or more members. 679 (c) Upon approval of a maximum rate as provided in 680 paragraph (b), a higher rate may be levied if approved by a referendum of the voters. 681 The maximum millage rate that a municipality or a 682 (3)(a) 683 special district dependent to a municipality may levy by a 684 majority vote of the governing body for the 2007-2008 fiscal 685 year shall be determined as follows: 686 1. For any municipality of special financial concern or 687 any municipality for which the compound annual growth in total municipal ad valorem taxes levied, as defined in s. 200.001, per 688 689 capita from fiscal year 2001-2002 to fiscal year 2006-2007 was 690 no more than 6 percent, or, for a municipality that first levied 691 ad valorem taxes in the 2002-2003 fiscal year, 100 percent of 692 the rolled-back rate, as calculated under s. 200.065; 693 2. For any municipality for which the compound annual 694 growth in total municipal ad valorem taxes levied, as defined in 695 s. 200.001, per capita from fiscal year 2001-2002 to fiscal year 696 2006-2007 was greater than 6 percent but no more than 7.5 697 percent, 97 percent of the rolled-back rate, as calculated under s. 200.065; 698 3. For any municipality for which the compound annual 699 700 growth in total municipal ad valorem taxes levied, as defined in

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701 s. 200.001, per capita from fiscal year 2001-2002 to fiscal year 702 2006-2007 was greater than 7.5 percent but no more than 10.5 703 percent, 95 percent of the rolled-back rate, as calculated under 704 s. 200.065; 705 4. For any municipality for which the compound annual 706 growth in total municipal ad valorem taxes levied, as defined in 707 s. 200.001, per capita from fiscal year 2001-2002 to fiscal year 708 2006-2007 was greater than 10.5 percent but no more than 12.4 percent, 93 percent of the rolled-back rate, as calculated under 709 710 s. 200.065; or 711 5. For any municipality for which the compound annual 712 growth in total municipal ad valorem taxes levied, as defined in 713 s. 200.001, per capita from fiscal year 2001-2002 to fiscal year 714 2006-2007 was greater than 12.4 percent, 91 percent of the rolled-back rate, as calculated under s. 200.065. 715 716 (b) The maximum millage rate that may be levied under 717 paragraph (a) may be increased to: 718 The rolled-back rate, as calculated under s. 200.065, 1. 719 if approved by a two-thirds vote of the governing body of the 720 municipality or special district dependent thereto; or 721 The nonvoted millage rate that was levied in the 2006-2. 722 2007 fiscal year, if approved by a unanimous vote of the 723 governing body of the municipality or special district dependent 724 thereto or by a three-fourths vote if the governing body has 725 nine or more members. (c) Upon approval of a maximum rate as provided in 726 727 paragraph (b), a higher rate may be levied if approved by a 728 referendum of the voters.

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729	(4) The maximum millage rate that an independent special
730	district may levy by a majority vote of the governing body for
731	the 2007-2008 fiscal year is 97 percent of the rolled-back rate,
732	as calculated under s. 200.065.
733	(a) The maximum millage rate specified in this subsection
734	may be increased to the rolled-back rate if approved by a two-
735	thirds vote of the governing body of the independent special
736	district.
737	(b) The maximum millage rate specified in this subsection
738	may be increased to the nonvoted millage rate that was levied in
739	the 2006-2007 fiscal year, if approved by a unanimous vote of
740	the governing body of the independent special district or by a
741	three-fourths vote if the governing body has nine or more
742	members.
743	(c) Upon approval of a maximum rate in paragraph (b), a
744	higher rate may be levied if approved by a referendum of the
745	voters.
746	(d) For the purpose of calculating maximum millage rates
747	for the 2007-2008 fiscal year under this section, municipal
748	service taxing units and special districts dependent to a county
749	or municipality, the predominant function of which is to provide
750	emergency medical or fire rescue services, shall be considered
751	independent special districts and shall not be included for
752	purposes of calculating the maximum millage rate under
753	subsections (2) and (3).
754	(5) In the 2008-2009 fiscal year, a county, municipal
755	service taxing units of that county, and special districts
756	dependent to that county; a municipality and special districts
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757 dependent to that municipality; and an independent special 758 district may levy a maximum millage determined as follows: 759 The maximum millage rate that may be levied shall be (a) 760 the rolled-back rate calculated pursuant to s. 200.065 and 761 adjusted for growth in per capita Florida personal income, 762 except that ad valorem tax revenue levied in the 2007-2008 763 fiscal year shall be reduced by any tax revenue resulting from a 764 millage rate approved by a super majority vote of the governing 765 board of the taxing authority in excess of the maximum rate that 766 could have been levied by a majority vote as provided in this 767 section. For a county authorized to levy a county public 768 hospital surtax under s. 212.055, the maximum millage rate shall 769 exclude the revenues required to be contributed to the county 770 public general hospital for the purposes of making the maximum 771 millage rate calculation, but shall be added back to the maximum 772 millage rate allowed after the applicable percentage of the 773 rolled-back rate as provided in subparagraphs (2)(a)1. through 774 5. has been applied. 775 A rate of not more than 110 percent of the rate in (b) 776 paragraph (a) may be levied if approved by a two-thirds vote of 777 the governing body. 778 (c) A rate in excess of the millage rate allowed in 779 paragraph (b) may be levied if approved by a unanimous vote of 780 the governing body or by a three-fourths vote if the governing body has nine or more members or if approved by a referendum of 781 782 the voters. Any county or municipality that is in violation of 783 (6) 784 this section shall forfeit the distribution of the local Page 28 of 69

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785 government half-cent sales tax revenues during the 12 months 786 following a determination of noncompliance by the Department of 787 Revenue, subject to the conditions provided in ss. 200.065 and 788 218.63.

789 (7) On or before June 25, 2007, the executive director of 790 the Department of Revenue shall notify each property appraiser 791 and the chair of the governing body of each county and 792 municipality of the amount of the tax levies that will be used 793 to calculate each jurisdiction's compound annual growth rate as 794 determined in this subsection. On or before July 2, 2007, each 795 property appraiser and the chair of each such governing body, or 796 their designee, shall report to the executive director whether 797 the information that was provided is correct and, if incorrect, 798 provide corrected information along with the basis for any 799 correction. The Governor may consider failure to report as 800 required in this subsection as sufficient grounds to constitute 801 malfeasance or neglect of duty by any person required to report under this subsection. On or before July 13, 2007, the executive 802 803 director of the Department of Revenue, after consultation with 804 the Revenue Estimating Conference, shall determine and publish 805 on the Department of Revenue's website the compound annual 806 growth rate in per capita property tax levies for each county and municipality, exclusive of voted levies, calculated from 807 808 fiscal year 2001-2002 through fiscal year 2006-2007, based on 809 the April 1 official population estimates of 2001 and 2006, 810 respectively, for each jurisdiction pursuant to s. 186.901, exclusive of inmate and patient populations. The determination 811 and publication made pursuant to this subsection is not subject 812

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813 to the provisions of chapter 120. 814 (8) The millage rate of a county or municipality, 815 municipal service taxing unit of that county, and any special 816 district dependent to that county or municipality may exceed in 817 any year the maximum millage rate calculated pursuant to this 818 section if the total county ad valorem taxes levied or total 819 municipal ad valorem taxes levied, as defined in s. 200.001, do 820 not exceed the maximum total county ad valorem taxes levied or maximum total municipal ad valorem taxes levied, as defined in 821 822 s. 200.001, respectively. Voted millage, as defined in s. 823 200.001, and taxes levied by a municipality or independent 824 special district that has levied ad valorem taxes for less than 5 years are not subject to the limitation on millage rates 825 826 provided by this section. Total taxes levied may exceed the 827 maximum calculated pursuant to this section as a result of an 828 increase in taxable value above that certified in s. 200.065(1) 829 if such increase is less than the percentage amounts contained 830 in s. 200.065(6); however, if such increase in taxable value 831 exceeds the percentage amounts contained in s. 200.065(6), 832 millage rates subject to this section must be reduced so that 833 total taxes levied do not exceed the maximum. Any unit of 834 government operating under a home rule charter adopted pursuant 835 to ss. 10, 11, and 24, Art. VIII of the State Constitution of 1885, as preserved by s. 6(e), Art. VIII of the State 836 837 Constitution of 1968, which is granted the authority in the 838 State Constitution to exercise all the powers conferred now or 839 hereafter by general law upon municipalities and which exercises 840 such powers in the unincorporated area shall be recognized as a

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841	municipality under this section.
842	Section 9. The executive director of the Department of
843	Revenue is authorized, and all conditions are deemed met, to
844	adopt emergency rules under ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54(4),
845	Florida Statutes, for the purpose of implementing this act.
846	Notwithstanding any other provision of law, such emergency rules
847	shall remain in effect for 18 months after the date of adoption
848	and may be renewed during the pendency of procedures to adopt
849	rules addressing the subject of the emergency rules.
850	Section 10. To the extent that the deadlines and
851	timeframes in current law are inconsistent with implementing the
852	requirements of this act, the executive director of the
853	Department of Revenue may extend the time periods specified by
854	statute or rule for the local government millage and budget
855	adoption process for the 2007 calendar year. The executive
856	director of the Department of Revenue may grant such extensions
857	at his or her own initiation or at the written request of a
858	local government. Such extensions may not exceed 21 calendar
859	days.
860	Section 11. For state fiscal years 2007-2008 and 2008-
861	2009, the millage rate levied in 2006 may, at the option of a
862	county or municipality, be used for purposes of determining
863	fiscal hardship under s. 218.075, Florida Statutes, and
864	eligibility under s. 218.23, Florida Statutes, or s. 339.2816,
865	Florida Statutes.
866	Section 12. Effective August 1, 2007, section 3 of chapter
867	2006-311, Laws of Florida, is repealed.
868	Section 13. Section 193.155, Florida Statutes, is amended
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868	

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897 of s. 4(c), Art. VII of the State Constitution.

898 (3) (2) If the assessed value of the property as calculated under subsection (1) exceeds the just value, the assessed value 899 900 of the property shall be lowered to the just value of the 901 property.

902 (4) (3) Except as provided in this subsection, Property 903 assessed under this section shall be assessed at just value as 904 of January 1 of the year following a change of ownership and is 905 not eligible for assessment under this section. Thereafter, the 906 annual changes in the assessed value of the property are subject 907 to the limitations in subsections (1) and (2). For the purpose 908 of this section, a change in ownership means any sale, foreclosure, or transfer of legal title or beneficial title in 909 910 equity to any person, except as provided in this subsection. 911 There is no change of ownership if:

Subsequent to the change or transfer, the same person 912 (a) 913 is entitled to the homestead exemption as was previously 914 entitled and:

915

1. The transfer of title is to correct an error;

916

2.

The transfer is between legal and equitable title; or

917 3. The change or transfer is by means of an instrument in 918 which the owner is listed as both grantor and grantee of the 919 real property and one or more other individuals are additionally

named as grantee. However, if any individual who is additionally 920 named as a grantee applies for a homestead exemption on the 921 922 property, the application shall be considered a change of 923 ownership;

924

The transfer is between husband and wife, including a (b) Page 33 of 69

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925 transfer to a surviving spouse or a transfer due to a 926 dissolution of marriage;

927 (c) The transfer occurs by operation of law under s.928 732.4015; or

929 (d) Upon the death of the owner, the transfer is between
930 the owner and another who is a permanent resident and is legally
931 or naturally dependent upon the owner.

932 <u>(5) (4)</u> (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), changes, 933 additions, or improvements to homestead property shall be 934 assessed at just value as of the first January 1 after the 935 changes, additions, or improvements are substantially completed.

936 Changes, additions, or improvements that replace all (b) or a portion of homestead property damaged or destroyed by 937 938 misfortune or calamity shall not increase the homestead 939 property's assessed value when the square footage of the 940 homestead property as changed or improved does not exceed 110 941 percent of the square footage of the homestead property before 942 the damage or destruction. Additionally, the homestead 943 property's assessed value shall not increase if the total square footage of the homestead property as changed or improved does 944 945 not exceed 1,500 square feet. Changes, additions, or 946 improvements that do not cause the total to exceed 110 percent 947 of the total square footage of the homestead property before the damage or destruction or that do not cause the total to exceed 948 1,500 total square feet shall be reassessed as provided under 949 subsection (1). The homestead property's assessed value shall be 950 increased by the just value of that portion of the changed or 951 952 improved homestead property which is in excess of 110 percent of Page 34 of 69

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953 the square footage of the homestead property before the damage 954 or destruction or of that portion exceeding 1,500 square feet. 955 Homestead property damaged or destroyed by misfortune or calamity which, after being changed or improved, has a square 956 957 footage of less than 100 percent of the homestead property's 958 total square footage before the damage or destruction shall be 959 assessed pursuant to subsection (6) $\frac{(5)}{(5)}$. This paragraph applies 960 to changes, additions, or improvements commenced within 3 years 961 after the January 1 following the damage or destruction of the homestead. 962

963 (c) Changes, additions, or improvements that replace all 964 or a portion of real property that was damaged or destroyed by 965 misfortune or calamity shall be assessed upon substantial 966 completion as if such damage or destruction had not occurred and 967 in accordance with paragraph (b) if the owner of such property: 968 1. Was permanently residing on such property when the

968 1. Was permanently residing on such property when the969 damage or destruction occurred;

970 2. Was not entitled to receive homestead exemption on such971 property as of January 1 of that year; and

3. Applies for and receives homestead exemption on suchproperty the following year.

(d) Changes, additions, or improvements include improvements made to common areas or other improvements made to property other than to the homestead property by the owner or by an owner association, which improvements directly benefit the homestead property. Such changes, additions, or improvements shall be assessed at just value, and the just value shall be apportioned among the parcels benefiting from the improvement.

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981 <u>(6)</u> (5) When property is destroyed or removed and not 982 replaced, the assessed value of the parcel shall be reduced by 983 the assessed value attributable to the destroyed or removed 984 property.

985 (7) (6) Only property that receives a homestead exemption 986 is subject to this section. No portion of property that is 987 assessed solely on the basis of character or use pursuant to s. 193.461 or s. 193.501, or assessed pursuant to s. 193.505, is 988 989 subject to this section. When property is assessed under s. 990 193.461, s. 193.501, or s. 193.505 and contains a residence 991 under the same ownership, the portion of the property consisting 992 of the residence and curtilage must be assessed separately, pursuant to s. 193.011, for the assessment to be subject to the 993 994 limitation in this section.

995 <u>(8)(7)</u> If a person received a homestead exemption limited 996 to that person's proportionate interest in real property, the 997 provisions of this section apply only to that interest.

998 (9)(8) Erroneous assessments of homestead property
999 assessed under this section may be corrected in the following
1000 manner:

(a) If errors are made in arriving at any assessment under
this section due to a material mistake of fact concerning an
essential characteristic of the property, the just value and
assessed value must be recalculated for every such year,
including the year in which the mistake occurred.

(b) If changes, additions, or improvements are not assessed at just value as of the first January 1 after they were substantially completed, the property appraiser shall determine Page 36 of 69

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1009 the just value for such changes, additions, or improvements for 1010 the year they were substantially completed. Assessments for 1011 subsequent years shall be corrected, applying this section if 1012 applicable.

1013 (c) If back taxes are due pursuant to s. 193.092, the 1014 corrections made pursuant to this subsection shall be used to 1015 calculate such back taxes.

(10) (9) If the property appraiser determines that for any 1016 1017 year or years within the prior 10 years a person who was not entitled to the homestead property assessment limitation granted 1018 1019 under this section was granted the homestead property assessment limitation, the property appraiser making such determination 1020 shall record in the public records of the county a notice of tax 1021 lien against any property owned by that person in the county, 1022 1023 and such property must be identified in the notice of tax lien. 1024 Such property that is situated in this state is subject to the unpaid taxes, plus a penalty of 50 percent of the unpaid taxes 1025 for each year and 15 percent interest per annum. However, when a 1026 1027 person entitled to exemption pursuant to s. 196.031 inadvertently receives the limitation pursuant to this section 1028 1029 following a change of ownership, the assessment of such property must be corrected as provided in paragraph (9) (8) (a), and the 1030 person need not pay the unpaid taxes, penalties, or interest. 1031 Section 14. Section 193.1551, Florida Statutes, is amended 1032

1033 to read:

1034 193.1551 Assessment of certain homestead property damaged
1035 in 2004 named storms.--Notwithstanding the provisions of s.
1036 193.155(5)(4), the assessment at just value for changes,

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1037 additions, or improvements to homestead property assessed under 1038 the provisions of s. 4(c), Art. VII of the State Constitution, 1039 pursuant to s. 27, Art. XII of the State Constitution, which was 1040 rendered uninhabitable in one or more of the named storms of 1041 2004 shall be limited to the square footage exceeding 110 percent of the homestead property's total square footage. 1042 1043 Additionally, homes having square footage of 1,350 square feet 1044 or less which were rendered uninhabitable may rebuild up to 1045 1,500 total square feet and the increase in square footage shall 1046 not be considered as a change, an addition, or an improvement 1047 that is subject to assessment at just value. The provisions of this section are limited to homestead properties in which 1048 1049 repairs are completed by January 1, 2008, and apply 1050 retroactively to January 1, 2005.

1051Section 15.Subsections (1), (2), (3), and (4) of section1052196.031, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1053

196.031 Exemption of homesteads.--

Every person who, on January 1, has the legal title or 1054 (1)1055 beneficial title in equity to real property in this state and who resides thereon and in good faith makes the same his or her 1056 1057 permanent residence, or the permanent residence of another or 1058 others legally or naturally dependent upon such person, is 1059 entitled to an exemption from all taxation, except for assessments for special benefits, of 75 percent of the just 1060 1061 value up to \$200,000 and 15 percent of the just value from 1062 \$200,001 up to \$500,000 up to the assessed valuation of \$5,000 on the residence and contiguous real property, as defined in s. 1063 6, Art. VII of the State Constitution. The \$500,000 threshold 1064

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1065 shall be adjusted each year by the percentage change in per 1066 capita Florida personal income, as defined in s. 200.001. The 1067 exemption may not be less than \$50,000; however, for low-income 1068 seniors who meet the eligibility criteria under s. 196.075, the 1069 exemption may not be less than \$100,000. Such title may be held 1070 by the entireties, jointly, or in common with others, and the 1071 exemption may be apportioned among such of the owners as shall reside thereon, as their respective interests shall appear. If 1072 1073 only one of the owners of an estate held by the entireties or 1074 held jointly with the right of survivorship resides on the 1075 property, that owner is allowed an exemption as specified in 1076 this subsection of up to the assessed valuation of \$5,000 on the residence and contiguous real property. However, no such 1077 1078 exemption of more than the amount specified in this subsection \$5,000 is allowed to any one person or on any one dwelling 1079 1080 house, except that an exemption up to the amount specified in this subsection assessed valuation of \$5,000 may be allowed on 1081 1082 each apartment or mobile home occupied by a tenant-stockholder 1083 or member of a cooperative corporation and on each condominium parcel occupied by its owner. Except for owners of an estate 1084 1085 held by the entireties or held jointly with the right of 1086 survivorship, the amount of the exemption may not exceed the 1087 proportionate assessed valuation of all owners who reside on the property. Before such exemption may be granted, the deed or 1088 instrument shall be recorded in the official records of the 1089 county in which the property is located. The property appraiser 1090 may request the applicant to provide additional ownership 1091 documents to establish title. 1092

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1093	(2) For persons whose homestead property is assessed under
1094	s. 4(c), Art. VII of the State Constitution, pursuant to s. 27,
1095	Art. XII of the State Constitution, the exemption provided in
1096	subsection (1) is limited to the exemption to which they would
1097	have been entitled under s. 6(a) through (d), Art. VII of the
1098	State Constitution as it existed on December 31, 2007.

1099 (3) (2) As used in subsection (1), the term "cooperative" corporation" means a corporation, whether for profit or not for 1100 1101 profit, organized for the purpose of owning, maintaining, and 1102 operating an apartment building or apartment buildings or a mobile home park to be occupied by its stockholders or members; 1103 and the term "tenant-stockholder or member" means an individual 1104 who is entitled, solely by reason of his or her ownership of 1105 1106 stock or membership in a cooperative corporation, as evidenced in the official records of the office of the clerk of the 1107 1108 circuit court of the county in which the apartment building is 1109 located, to occupy for dwelling purposes an apartment in a 1110 building owned by such corporation or to occupy for dwelling 1111 purposes a mobile home which is on or a part of a cooperative unit. A corporation leasing land for a term of 98 years or more 1112 1113 for the purpose of maintaining and operating a cooperative 1114 thereon shall be deemed the owner for purposes of this 1115 exemption.

1116 <u>(4)(3)(a)</u> For every person who is entitled to the exemption provided in subsection (1), who is a permanent resident of this state, and who is 65 years of age or older, the exemption is increased to \$10,000 of assessed valuation for taxes levied by governing bodies of counties, municipalities, Page 40 of 69

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1121 and special districts.

	±
1122	(b) For every person who is entitled to the exemption
1123	provided in subsection (1), who has been a permanent resident of
1124	this state for the 5 consecutive years prior to claiming the
1125	exemption under this subsection, and who qualifies for the
1126	exemption granted pursuant to s. 196.202 as a totally and
1127	permanently disabled person, the exemption is increased to
1128	\$9,500 of assessed valuation for taxes levied by governing
1129	bodies of counties, municipalities, and special districts.
1130	(c) No homestead shall be exempted under both paragraphs
1131	(a) and (b). In no event shall the combined exemptions of s.
1132	196.202 and paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) exceed \$10,000.
1133	(d) For every person who is entitled to the exemption
1134	provided in subsection (1) and who is a permanent resident of
1135	this state, the exemption is increased to a total of \$25,000 of
1136	assessed valuation for taxes levied by governing bodies of
1137	school districts.
1138	(e) For every person who is entitled to the exemption
1139	provided in subsection (1) and who is a resident of this state,
1140	the exemption is increased to a total of \$25,000 of assessed
1141	valuation for levies of taxing authorities other than school
1142	districts. The exemption provided in subsection (1) does
1143	However, the increase provided in this paragraph shall not apply
1144	with respect to the assessment roll of a county unless and until
1145	the roll of that county has been approved by the executive
1146	director pursuant to s. 193.1142.
1147	(4) The property appraisers of the various counties shall
1148	each year compile a list of taxable property and its value
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1149	removed from the assessment rolls of each school district as a
1150	result of the excess of exempt value above that amount allowed
1151	for nonschool levies as provided in subsections (1) and (3), as
1152	well as a statement of the loss of tax revenue to each school
1153	district from levies other than the minimum financial effort
1154	required pursuant to s. 1011.60(6), and shall deliver a copy
1155	thereof to the Department of Revenue upon certification of the
1156	assessment roll to the tax collector.
1157	Section 16. Section 196.002, Florida Statutes, is amended
1158	to read:
1159	196.002 Legislative intentFor the purposes of
1160	assessment roll recordkeeping and reporting,÷
1161	(1) The increase in the homestead exemption provided in s.
1162	196.031(3)(d) shall be reported separately for those persons
1163	entitled to exemption under paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) of s.
1164	196.031(3) and for those persons entitled to exemption under s.
1165	196.031(1) but not under said paragraphs; and
1166	(2) the exemptions authorized by each provision of this
1167	chapter shall be reported separately for each category of
1168	exemption in each such provision, both as to total value
1169	exempted and as to the number of exemptions granted.
1170	Section 17. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section
1171	197.252, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
1172	197.252 Homestead tax deferral
1173	(2)
1174	(b) If the applicant is <u>65 years of age or older</u> entitled
1175	to claim the increased exemption by reason of age and residency
1176	as provided in s. 196.031(3)(a), approval of the application
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1177 shall defer that portion of the ad valorem taxes plus non-ad 1178 valorem assessments which exceeds 3 percent of the applicant's 1179 household income for the prior calendar year. If any applicant's 1180 household income for the prior calendar year is less than 1181 \$10,000, or is less than the amount of the household income 1182 designated for the additional homestead exemption pursuant to s. 1183 196.075, and the applicant is 65 years of age or older, approval of the application shall defer the ad valorem taxes plus non-ad 1184 1185 valorem assessments in their entirety.

1186 Section 18. Section 196.183, Florida Statutes, is created 1187 to read:

1188

196.183 Exemption for tangible personal property.--

1189 (1) Each tangible personal property tax return is eligible 1190 for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of up to \$25,000 of 1191 assessed value. A single return must be filed for each site in 1192 the county where the owner of tangible personal property transacts business. Owners of freestanding property placed at 1193 multiple sites, other than sites where the owner transacts 1194 1195 business, must file a single return, including all such property 1196 located in the county. Freestanding property placed at multiple 1197 sites includes vending and amusement machines, LP/propane tanks, utility and cable company property, billboards, leased 1198 equipment, and similar property that is not customarily located 1199 in the offices, stores, or plants of the owner, but is placed 1200 throughout the county. Railroads, private carriers, and other 1201 1202 companies assessed pursuant to s. 193.085 shall be allowed one \$25,000 exemption for each county to which the value of their 1203

1204 property is allocated.

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1205	(2) The requirement that an annual tangible personal
1206	property tax return pursuant to s. 193.052 be filed for
1207	taxpayers owning taxable property the value of which, as listed
1208	on the return, does not exceed the exemption provided in this
1209	section is waived. In order to qualify for this waiver, a
1210	taxpayer must file an initial return on which the exemption is
1211	taken. If, in subsequent years, the taxpayer owns taxable
1212	property the value of which, as listed on the return, exceeds
1213	the exemption, the taxpayer is obligated to file a return. The
1214	taxpayer may again qualify for the waiver only after filing a
1215	return on which the value as listed on the return does not
1216	exceed the exemption. A return filed or required to be filed
1217	shall be considered an application filed or required to be filed
1218	for the exemption under this section.
1219	(3) The exemption provided in this section does not apply
1220	in any year a taxpayer fails to file a return that is not waived
1221	pursuant to subsection (2). Any taxpayer who received a waiver
1222	pursuant to subsection (2) and who owns taxable property the
1223	value of which, as listed on the return, exceeds the exemption
1224	in a subsequent year and who fails to file a return with the
1225	property appraiser is subject to the penalty contained in s.
1226	193.072(1)(a) calculated without the benefit of the exemption
1227	pursuant to this section. Any taxpayer claiming more exemptions
1228	than allowed pursuant to subsection (1) is subject to the taxes
1229	exempted as a result of wrongfully claiming the additional
1230	exemptions plus 15 percent interest per annum and a penalty of
1231	50 percent of the taxes exempted.
1232	(4) The exemption provided in this section does not apply
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1233	to a mobile home that is presumed to be tangible personal
1234	property pursuant to s. 193.075(2).
1235	Section 19. Section 193.017, Florida Statutes, is amended
1236	to read:
1237	(Substantial rewording of section. See
1238	s. 193.017, F.S., for present text.)
1239	193.017 Assessment of structural improvements on land
1240	owned by a community land trust and used to provide affordable
1241	housing
1242	(1) As used in this section, the term "community land
1243	trust" means a nonprofit entity that is qualified as charitable
1244	under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and has as one
1245	of its purposes the acquisition of land to be held in perpetuity
1246	for the primary purpose of providing affordable homeownership.
1247	(2) A community land trust may convey structural
1248	improvements located on specific parcels of such land which are
1249	identified by a legal description contained in and subject to a
1250	ground lease having a term of at least 99 years to natural
1251	persons or families who meet the extremely-low, very-low, low,
1252	and moderate income limits, as specified in s. 420.0004, or the
1253	income limits for workforce housing, as defined in s.
1254	420.5095(3). A community land trust shall retain a preemptive
1255	option to purchase any structural improvements on the land at a
1256	price determined by a formula specified in the ground lease
1257	which is designed to ensure that the structural improvements
1258	remain affordable.
1259	(3) In arriving at just valuation under s. 193.011, a
1260	structural improvement that provides affordable housing on land
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1261 owned by a community land trust and subject to a 99-year or 1262 longer ground lease shall be assessed using the following 1263 criteria: 1264 (a) The amount a willing purchaser would pay a willing 1265 seller shall be limited to the amount determined by the formula 1266 in the ground lease. 1267 (b) If the ground lease and all amendments and supplements 1268 thereto, or a memorandum documenting how such lease and 1269 amendments or supplements restrict the price at which the improvements may be sold, is recorded in the official public 1270 1271 records of the county in which the leased land is located, the 1272 recorded lease and any amendments and supplements, or the 1273 recorded memorandum, shall be deemed a land use regulation 1274 during the term of the lease as amended or supplemented. 1275 Section 20. Section 193.803, Florida Statutes, is created 1276 to read: 1277 193.803 Assessment of eligible rental property used for 1278 workforce and affordable housing; classification. --1279 (1) Upon the property owner's application on a form 1280 prescribed by the Department of Revenue, the property appraiser 1281 shall annually classify for assessment purposes all eligible 1282 property used for workforce rental housing or affordable rental 1283 housing. Eligibility shall be as provided in this section. 1284 (2) A property owner whose eliqible property is denied classification as workforce rental housing or affordable rental 1285 housing by the property appraiser may appeal to the value 1286 adjustment board. The property appraiser shall notify the 1287 1288 property owner in writing of the denial of the workforce rental

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1289	housing or affordable rental housing classification on or before
1290	July 1 of the year for which the application was filed. The
1291	written notification must advise the property owner of his or
1292	her right to appeal the denial of classification to the value
1293	adjustment board and must contain the deadline for filing an
1294	appeal. The property appraiser shall have available at his or
1295	her office a list, by property owner, of all applications for
1296	classification received, and the list must identify whether or
1297	not the classification requested was granted.
1298	(3)(a) Eligible property may not be classified as
1299	workforce rental housing or affordable rental housing unless an
1300	application is filed on or before March 1 of each year. Before
1301	approving a classification, the property appraiser may require
1302	the property owner to furnish such information as may reasonably
1303	be required to establish that the property was actually used as
1304	required by this section. Failure by a property owner to apply
1305	for classification of eligible property as workforce rental
1306	housing or affordable rental housing by March 1 constitutes a 1-
1307	year waiver of the privilege granted under this section for
1308	workforce rental housing assessment or affordable rental housing
1309	assessment. However, a property owner who is qualified to
1310	receive a workforce rental housing classification or an
1311	affordable rental housing classification but who fails to file
1312	an application by March 1, may file an application for the
1313	classification, and may file, under s. 194.011(3), a petition
1314	with the value adjustment board requesting that the
1315	classification be granted. The petition may be filed at any time
1316	during the taxable year on or before the 25th day following the
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1317 mailing of the assessment notice by the property appraiser as 1318 required under s. 194.011(1). Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 194.013, the applicant must pay a nonrefundable fee of \$15 1319 1320 upon filing the petition. Upon review of the petition, if the 1321 person is qualified to receive the classification and 1322 demonstrates particular extenuating circumstances judged by the 1323 property appraiser or the value adjustment board to warrant granting the classification, the property appraiser or the value 1324 1325 adjustment board may grant the classification. An owner of 1326 property classified as workforce rental housing or affordable 1327 rental housing in the previous tax year whose ownership or use 1328 has not changed may reapply on a short form prescribed by the 1329 department. A county may, at the request of the property 1330 appraiser and by a majority vote of its governing body, waive 1331 the requirement that an annual application or statement be made 1332 for the renewal of the classification of property within the 1333 county as workforce rental housing or affordable rental housing 1334 after an initial classification is granted by the property 1335 appraiser. Such waiver may be revoked by a majority vote of the 1336 governing body of the county. Notwithstanding such waiver, an 1337 application must be refiled when any property granted the 1338 classification is sold or otherwise disposed of, when the 1339 ownership changes in any manner, when the applicant ceases to use the property as workforce rental housing or affordable 1340 1341 rental housing, or when the status of the owner changes so as to 1342 change the classified status of the property. 1343 (b) For purposes of granting a workforce rental housing or affordable rental housing classification for January 1, 2008, 1344

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1345	only, the term "extenuating circumstances" as used in paragraph
1346	(a) includes the failure of the property owner to return the
1347	application for classification by March 1, 2008.
1348	(4) The following types of property are eligible to be
1349	classified by a property appraiser as workforce rental housing
1350	or affordable rental housing property, and shall be assessed
1351	based upon their character and use and as further described in
1352	this section:
1353	(a) Property that is funded and rent restricted by the
1354	United States Department of Housing and Urban Development under
1355	s. 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 and that provides
1356	affordable housing for eligible persons as defined by s. 159.603
1357	or the elderly, extremely-low-income persons, or very-low-income
1358	persons as specified in s. 420.0004.
1359	(b) Rental property for multifamily housing, commercial
1360	fishing workers and farmworkers, families, persons who are
1361	homeless, or the elderly which is funded and rent restricted by
1362	the Florida Housing Finance Corporation under s. 420.5087, s.
1363	420.5089, s. 420.509, or s. 420.5095, the State Housing
1364	Initiatives Partnership Program under s. 420.9072, s. 420.9075,
1365	or s. 42 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 26 U.S.C. s. 42;
1366	the HOME Investment Partnership Program under the Cranston-
1367	Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act, 42 U.S.C. ss. 12741 et
1368	seq.; or the Federal Home Loan Bank's Affordable Housing Program
1369	established pursuant to the Financial Institutions Reform,
1370	Recovery and Enforcement Act of 1989, Pub. L. No. 101-73.
1371	(c) Multifamily residential rental property of 10 or more
1372	units which is certified by the local public housing agency as
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1373 having 100 percent of its units used to provide affordable 1374 housing for extremely-low-income persons, very-low-income persons, low-income persons, or moderate-income persons as 1375 1376 specified in s. 420.0004 and which is subject to a land use 1377 agreement or other agreement that is recorded in the official 1378 records of the county in which the property is located and which 1379 recorded agreement restricts the use of the property to affordable housing for a period of at least 20 years. 1380 1381 (5) The property appraiser shall remove from the 1382 classification of workforce rental housing or affordable rental 1383 housing any properties for which the classified use has been 1384 abandoned or discontinued, the property has been diverted to 1385 another use, or the participation in and eligibility for the 1386 programs specified in this section has been terminated. Such 1387 removed property shall be assessed at just value under s. 1388 193.011. 1389 In years in which the proper application for (6) 1390 classification as workforce rental housing or affordable rental 1391 housing has been made and granted, the assessment of such 1392 property shall be based upon its use as workforce rental housing 1393 or affordable rental housing and by applying the following 1394 methodologies, subject to the provisions of subsection (7): 1395 (a) Property used for workforce rental housing or affordable rental housing as described in subsection (4) shall 1396 be assessed under the income approach using the actual net 1397 1398 operating income. Property used for workforce rental housing and 1399 (b) 1400 affordable rental housing which has received low-income housing Page 50 of 69

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1401	tax credits from the Florida Housing Finance Corporation under
1402	s. 420.5099 shall be assessed under the income approach using
1403	the actual net operating income and the following applies:
1404	1. The tax credits granted and the financing generated by
1405	the tax credits may not be considered as income.
1406	2. The actual rental income from rent-restricted units in
1407	such property shall be used by the property appraiser.
1408	3. Any costs paid with the tax credits and costs paid with
1409	the proceeds from additional financing under chapter 420 may not
1410	be included as income.
1411	(7) By April 1 of each year, the property owner must
1412	provide the property appraiser with a return on a form and in a
1413	manner prescribed by the Department of Revenue which includes a
1414	rent roll and an income and expense statement for the preceding
1415	year. After a review of the rent roll and the income and expense
1416	statement, the property appraiser may request additional
1417	information from the property owner as may be reasonably
1418	required to consider the methodologies in subsection (6).
1419	Failure to timely provide the property appraiser with the
1420	requested information, including failure to meet any extension
1421	that may be granted for the submission of information, shall
1422	result in an estimated assessment based on the best available
1423	information instead of an assessment based on the methodologies
1424	provided in subsection (6). Such assessment shall be deemed to
1425	be prima facie correct and may be included on the tax roll, and
1426	taxes may be extended on the tax roll in the same manner as for
1427	all other taxes.
1428	(8) It is the duty of the owner of any property used for
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1429	workforce rental housing or affordable rental housing that has
	<u> </u>
1430	been granted the classification for assessment under this
1431	section who is not required to file an annual application or
1432	statement to notify the property appraiser promptly whenever the
1433	use of the property, or the status or condition of the owner,
1434	changes so as to change the classified status of the property.
1435	If any property owner fails to so notify the property appraiser
1436	and the property appraiser determines that for any year within
1437	the prior 10 years the owner was not entitled to receive such
1438	classification, the owner of the property is subject to the
1439	taxes otherwise due and owing as a result of such failure plus
1440	15 percent interest per annum and a penalty of 50 percent of the
1441	additional taxes owed. It is the duty of the property appraiser
1442	making such determination to record in the public records of the
1443	county in which the rental property is located a notice of tax
1444	lien against any property owned by that person or entity in the
1445	county, and such property must be identified in the notice of
1446	tax lien. Such property is subject to the payment of all taxes
1447	and penalties. Such lien, when filed, attaches to any property
1448	identified in the notice of tax lien owned by the person or
1449	entity that illegally or improperly received the classification.
1450	If such person or entity no longer owns property in that county
1451	but owns property in another county or counties in the state,
1452	the property appraiser shall record in such other county or
1453	counties a notice of tax lien identifying the property owned by
1454	such person or entity in such county or counties which becomes a
1455	lien against the identified property.
1456	Section 21. Section 196.1978, Florida Statutes, is amended
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1457 to read:

196.1978 Affordable housing property exemption. -- Property 1458 used to provide affordable housing serving eligible persons as 1459 1460 defined by s. 159.603(7) and natural persons or families meeting 1461 the extremely-low, very-low, low, or moderate persons meeting 1462 income limits specified in s. 420.0004 s. 420.0004(8), (10), 1463 (11), and (15), which property is owned entirely by a nonprofit entity that which is a corporation not for profit which is 1464 qualified as charitable under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal 1465 1466 Revenue Code and which complies with Rev. Proc. 96-32, 1996-1 C.B. 717 or a limited partnership, the sole general partner of 1467 which is a corporation not for profit which is qualified as 1468 charitable under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and 1469 which complies with Rev. Proc. 96-32, 1996-1 C.B. 717, shall be 1470 1471 considered property owned by an exempt entity and used for a 1472 charitable purpose, and those portions of the affordable housing property which provide housing to natural persons or families 1473 1474 that meet the extremely-low, very-low, low, or moderate income 1475 limits specified individuals with incomes as defined in s. 420.0004 s. 420.0004(10) and (15) shall be exempt from ad 1476 1477 valorem taxation to the extent authorized in s. 196.196. All property identified in this section shall comply with the 1478 1479 criteria for determination of exempt status to be applied by property appraisers on an annual basis as defined in s. 196.195. 1480 The Legislature intends that any property owned by a limited 1481 liability company or a limited partnership that which is 1482 disregarded as an entity for federal income tax purposes 1483 pursuant to Treasury Regulation 301.7701-3(b)(1)(ii) shall be 1484 Page 53 of 69

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1485 treated as owned by its sole member <u>or sole general partner</u>. <u>The</u> 1486 <u>exemption provided in this section also extends to land that is</u> 1487 <u>owned by an exempt entity and that is subject to a 99-year or</u> 1488 <u>longer ground lease for the purpose of providing affordable</u> 1489 homeownership.

Section 22. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) and paragraphs
(b) and (c) of subsection (2) of section 192.0105, Florida
Statutes, are amended to read:

1493 192.0105 Taxpayer rights.--There is created a Florida 1494 Taxpayer's Bill of Rights for property taxes and assessments to 1495 guarantee that the rights, privacy, and property of the taxpayers of this state are adequately safequarded and protected 1496 during tax levy, assessment, collection, and enforcement 1497 1498 processes administered under the revenue laws of this state. The Taxpayer's Bill of Rights compiles, in one document, brief but 1499 1500 comprehensive statements that summarize the rights and 1501 obligations of the property appraisers, tax collectors, clerks 1502 of the court, local governing boards, the Department of Revenue, 1503 and taxpayers. Additional rights afforded to payors of taxes and assessments imposed under the revenue laws of this state are 1504 1505 provided in s. 213.015. The rights afforded taxpayers to assure 1506 that their privacy and property are safeguarded and protected 1507 during tax levy, assessment, and collection are available only 1508 insofar as they are implemented in other parts of the Florida Statutes or rules of the Department of Revenue. The rights so 1509 1510 quaranteed to state taxpayers in the Florida Statutes and the 1511 departmental rules include:

1512

(1) THE RIGHT TO KNOW.--

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(a) The right to be mailed notice of proposed property taxes and proposed or adopted non-ad valorem assessments (see ss. 194.011(1), 200.065(2)(b) and (d) and <u>(14)(a)</u> (13)(a), and 200.069). The notice must also inform the taxpayer that the final tax bill may contain additional non-ad valorem assessments (see s. 200.069(10)).

1519

(2) THE RIGHT TO DUE PROCESS.--

The right to petition the value adjustment board over 1520 (b) objections to assessments, denial of exemption, denial of 1521 agricultural classification, denial of historic classification, 1522 1523 denial of high-water recharge classification, denial of 1524 workforce rental housing or affordable rental housing classification, disapproval of tax deferral, and any penalties 1525 1526 on deferred taxes imposed for incorrect information willfully 1527 filed. Payment of estimated taxes does not preclude the right of 1528 the taxpayer to challenge his or her assessment (see ss. 194.011(3), 196.011(6) and (9)(a), 196.151, 196.193(1)(c) and 1529 1530 (5), 193.461(2), 193.503(7), 193.625(2), 193.803(2), 197.253(2), 1531 197.301(2), and 197.2301(11)).

(c) The right to file a petition for exemption, or agricultural classification, or workforce rental housing or <u>affordable rental housing classification</u> with the value adjustment board when an application deadline is missed, upon demonstration of particular extenuating circumstances for filing late (see ss. 193.461(3)(a), 193.803(3)(a), and 196.011(1), (7), (8), and (9)(c)).

1539 Section 23. Subsection (2) of section 193.052, Florida 1540 Statutes, is amended to read:

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1 - 4 1	102 052 Decremention and counting of watering
1541	193.052 Preparation and serving of returns
1542	(2) No return shall be required for real property the
1543	ownership of which is reflected in instruments recorded in the
1544	public records of the county in which the property is located,
1545	unless otherwise required in this title. In order for land to
1546	be considered for agricultural classification under s. 193.461 <u>,</u>
1547	$_{ m OT}$ high-water recharge classification under s. 193.625, ${ m or}$
1548	workforce rental housing or affordable rental housing
1549	classification under s. 193.803, an application for
1550	classification must be filed on or before March 1 of each year
1551	with the property appraiser of the county in which the land is
1552	located, except as provided in s. 193.461(3)(a). The application
1553	must state that the lands on January 1 of that year were used
1554	primarily for bona fide commercial agricultural or high-water
1555	recharge purposes or for workforce rental housing or affordable
1556	rental housing classified under s. 193.803.
1557	Section 24. Paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of section
1558	193.461, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
1559	193.461 Agricultural lands; classification and assessment;
1560	mandated eradication or quarantine program
1561	(3)
1562	(d) When property receiving an agricultural classification
1563	contains a residence under the same ownership, the portion of
1564	the property consisting of the residence and curtilage must be
1565	assessed separately, pursuant to s. 193.011, to qualify for the
1566	assessment limitation set forth in s. 193.155 <u>or to qualify for</u>
1567	the homestead exemption under s. 196.031(1). The remaining
1568	property may be classified under the provisions of paragraphs
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1569 (a) and (b).

1570 Section 25. Paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of section1571 194.011, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1572

194.011 Assessment notice; objections to assessments.--

(3) A petition to the value adjustment board must be in
substantially the form prescribed by the department.
Notwithstanding s. 195.022, a county officer may not refuse to
accept a form provided by the department for this purpose if the
taxpayer chooses to use it. A petition to the value adjustment
board shall describe the property by parcel number and shall be
filed as follows:

1580 The petition may be filed, as to valuation issues, at (d) any time during the taxable year on or before the 25th day 1581 following the mailing of notice by the property appraiser as 1582 provided in subsection (1). With respect to an issue involving 1583 1584 the denial of an exemption, an agricultural or high-water recharge classification application, an application for 1585 1586 classification as historic property used for commercial or 1587 certain nonprofit purposes, an application for classification as workforce rental housing or affordable rental housing, or a 1588 1589 deferral, the petition must be filed at any time during the 1590 taxable year on or before the 30th day following the mailing of the notice by the property appraiser under s. 193.461, s. 1591 193.503, s. 193.625, s. 193.803, or s. 196.193 or notice by the 1592 tax collector under s. 197.253. 1593 Section 26. Subsection (1) of section 195.073, Florida 1594 1595 Statutes, is amended to read: 1596 195.073 Classification of property.--All items required by

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1597 law to be on the assessment rolls must receive a classification 1598 based upon the use of the property. The department shall 1599 promulgate uniform definitions for all classifications. The 1600 department may designate other subclassifications of property. 1601 No assessment roll may be approved by the department which does 1602 not show proper classifications.

1603 (1) Real property must be classified according to the 1604 assessment basis of the land into the following classes:

1605 (a) Residential, subclassified into categories, one
1606 category for homestead property and one for nonhomestead
1607 property:

- 1608 1. Single family.
- 1609 2. Mobile homes.
- 1610 3. Multifamily.
- 1611 4. Condominiums.
- 1612 5. Cooperatives.
- 1613 6. Retirement homes.
- 1614 (b) Commercial and industrial.
- 1615 (c) Agricultural.
- 1616 (d) Nonagricultural acreage.
- 1617 (e) High-water recharge.

1618 (f) Historic property used for commercial or certain 1619 nonprofit purposes.

- 1620 (g) Exempt, wholly or partially.
- 1621 (h) Centrally assessed.
- 1622 (i) Leasehold interests.
- 1623 (j) Time-share property.
- 1624 (k) Workforce rental housing and affordable rental housing

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1625 property.

(l)(k) Other.

1627 Section 27. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section1628 195.096, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1629

1626

195.096 Review of assessment rolls.--

1630 (3) (a) Upon completion of review pursuant to paragraph 1631 (2) (f), the department shall publish the results of reviews conducted under this section. The results must include all 1632 1633 statistical and analytical measures computed under this section 1634 for the real property assessment roll as a whole, the personal 1635 property assessment roll as a whole, and independently for the following real property classes whenever the classes constituted 1636 5 percent or more of the total assessed value of real property 1637 in a county on the previous tax roll: 1638

1639 1. Residential property that consists of one primary 1640 living unit, including, but not limited to, single-family 1641 residences, condominiums, cooperatives, and mobile homes.

1642 2. Residential property that consists of two or more1643 primary living units.

1644 3. Agricultural, high-water recharge, historic property
1645 used for commercial or certain nonprofit purposes, <u>workforce</u>
1646 <u>rental housing and affordable rental housing property</u>, and other
1647 use-valued property.

1648 4

1649

1650

4. Vacant lots.

9 5. Nonagricultural acreage and other undeveloped parcels.

6. Improved commercial and industrial property.

1651 7. Taxable institutional or governmental, utility, locally 1652 assessed railroad, oil, gas and mineral land, subsurface rights, Page 59 of 69

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1653	and other real property.
1654	
1655	When one of the above classes constituted less than 5 percent of
1656	the total assessed value of all real property in a county on the
1657	previous assessment roll, the department may combine it with one
1658	or more other classes of real property for purposes of
1659	assessment ratio studies or use the weighted average of the
1660	other classes for purposes of calculating the level of
1661	assessment for all real property in a county. The department
1662	shall also publish such results for any subclassifications of
1663	the classes or assessment rolls it may have chosen to study.
1664	Section 28. Section 200.186, Florida Statutes, is created
1665	to read:
1666	200.186 Maximum millage rates for the 2008-2009 fiscal
1667	year
1668	(1) In the 2008-2009 fiscal year, a county, municipal
1669	service taxing units of that county, and special districts
1670	dependent to that county; a municipality and special districts
1671	dependent to that municipality; and an independent special
1672	district may levy a maximum millage that is determined as
1673	follows:
1674	(a) The maximum millage rate shall be the rolled-back rate
1675	calculated pursuant to s. 200.065 and adjusted for growth in per
1676	capita Florida personal income, except that:
1677	1. Ad valorem tax revenue levied in the 2007-2008 fiscal
1678	year, as used in the calculation of the rolled-back rate, shall
1679	be reduced by any tax revenue resulting from a millage rate
1680	approved by a super majority vote of the governing board of the
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1681 taxing authority in excess of the maximum rate that could have 1682 been levied by a majority vote as provided in s. 200.185; and 1683 The taxable value within the jurisdiction of each 2. 1684 taxing authority, as used in the calculation of the rolled-back 1685 rate, shall be increased by the amount necessary to offset any 1686 reduction in taxable value occurring as a result of the 1687 amendments to the State Constitution contained in SJR 4B or HJR 3B revising the homestead tax exemption and providing an 1688 1689 exemption from ad valorem taxation for tangible personal 1690 property. The maximum millage rate applicable to a county 1691 authorized to levy a county public hospital surtax under s. 1692 212.055 shall exclude the revenues required to be contributed to 1693 the county public general hospital for the purposes of making 1694 the maximum millage rate calculation, but shall be added back to 1695 the maximum millage rate allowed after the roll back has been 1696 applied. a. A rate of not more than 110 percent of the rolled-back 1697 1698 rate based on the previous year's maximum millage rate, adjusted 1699 for growth in per capita Florida personal income, may be adopted 1700 if approved by a two-thirds vote of the governing body of the 1701 county, municipality, or independent district; or 1702 b. A rate in excess of 110 percent may be adopted if 1703 approved by a unanimous vote of the governing body of the county, municipality, or independent district or if the rate is 1704 1705 approved by a referendum. 1706 (b) If approved by a two-thirds vote of the governing 1707 body, a rate may be levied in excess of the rate calculated 1708 pursuant to paragraph (a) if the excess is not more than 67 Page 61 of 69

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1709	percent of the difference between the rolled-back rate
1710	calculated pursuant to s. 200.065, and the rate calculated in
1711	paragraph (a).
1712	(c) A rate may be levied in excess of the millage rate
1713	allowed in paragraph (b) if the rate is approved by a unanimous
1714	vote of the governing body or by a three-fourths vote if the
1715	governing body has nine or more members or if approved by a
1716	referendum of the voters.
1717	(2) Any county or municipality that is in violation of
1718	this section shall forfeit the distribution of the local
1719	government half-cent sales tax revenues during the 12 months
1720	following a determination of noncompliance by the Department of
1721	Revenue, subject to the conditions provided in ss. 200.065 and
1722	218.63.
1723	(3) The millage rate of a county or municipality,
1724	municipal service taxing unit of that county, and any special
1725	district dependent to that county or municipality may exceed in
1726	any year the maximum millage rate calculated pursuant to this
1727	section if the total county ad valorem taxes levied or total
1728	municipal ad valorem taxes levied, as defined in s. 200.001, do
1729	not exceed the maximum total county ad valorem taxes levied or
1730	maximum total municipal ad valorem taxes levied, as defined in
1731	s. 200.001, respectively. Total taxes levied may exceed the
1732	maximum calculated pursuant to this section as a result of an
1733	increase in taxable value above that certified in s. 200.065(1)
1734	if such increase is less than the percentage amounts contained
1735	in s. 200.065(6); however, if such increase in taxable value
1736	exceeds the percentage amounts contained in s. 200.065(6),

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1737 millage rates subject to this section must be reduced so that 1738 total taxes levied do not exceed the maximum. Any unit of 1739 government operating under a home rule charter adopted pursuant 1740 to ss. 10, 11, and 24, Art. VIII of the State Constitution of 1741 1885, as preserved by s. 6(e), Art. VIII of the State Constitution of 1968, which is granted the authority in the 1742 1743 State Constitution to exercise all the powers conferred now or hereafter by general law upon municipalities and which exercises 1744 1745 such powers in the unincorporated area shall be recognized as a 1746 municipality under this section. 1747 If the amendments to the State Constitution contained (4) 1748 in SJR 4B or HJR 3B revising the homestead tax exemption and 1749 providing an exemption from ad valorem taxation for tangible 1750 personal property, are approved by a vote of the electors, this 1751 section shall supersede the provisions of s. 200.185(5). 1752 Section 29. Subsection (6) and paragraph (a) of subsection 1753 (9) of section 196.011, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 1754 196.011 Annual application required for exemption .--1755 (6) (a) Once an original application for tax exemption has been granted, in each succeeding year on or before February 1, 1756 1757 the property appraiser shall mail a renewal application to the applicant, and the property appraiser shall accept from each 1758 1759 such applicant a renewal application on a form to be prescribed by the Department of Revenue. Such renewal application shall be 1760 accepted as evidence of exemption by the property appraiser 1761 unless he or she denies the application. Upon denial, the 1762 property appraiser shall serve, on or before July 1 of each 1763 1764 year, a notice setting forth the grounds for denial on the Page 63 of 69

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1765 applicant by first-class mail. Any applicant objecting to such 1766 denial may file a petition as provided for in s. 194.011(3).

1767 Any person who is entitled to a homestead assessment (b) 1768 limitation in the prior year under s. 4(c), Art. VII of the 1769 State Constitution shall have the option to file an application for exemption under s. 6(a), Art. VII of the State Constitution 1770 1771 no later than March 1 of each year. The application shall advise 1772 the applicant of his or her option to make an irrevocable 1773 election to no longer have his or her homestead assessed under 1774 s. 4(c), Art. VII of the State Constitution. After the 1775 irrevocable election, the person's homestead shall be assessed 1776 under s. 6(a), Art. VII of the State Constitution.

1777 A county may, at the request of the property (9)(a) 1778 appraiser and by a majority vote of its governing body, waive 1779 the requirement that an annual application or statement be made 1780 for exemption of property within the county after an initial 1781 application is made and the exemption granted. The waiver under 1782 this subsection of the annual application or statement 1783 requirement applies to all exemptions under this chapter except the exemption under s. 196.1995. Notwithstanding such waiver, 1784 1785 refiling of an application or statement shall be required when 1786 any property granted an exemption is sold or otherwise disposed 1787 of, when the ownership changes in any manner, when the applicant 1788 for homestead exemption ceases to use the property as his or her 1789 homestead, or when the status of the owner changes so as to 1790 change the exempt status of the property, or when an irrevocable election is made to no longer have the homestead assessment 1791 1792 limitation under s. 4(c), Art. VII of the State Constitution and

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1793 the homestead receives the exemption under s. 6(a), Art. VII of 1794 the State Constitution. In its deliberations on whether to waive 1795 the annual application or statement requirement, the governing body shall consider the possibility of fraudulent exemption 1796 1797 claims which may occur due to the waiver of the annual application requirement. It is the duty of the owner of any 1798 1799 property granted an exemption who is not required to file an annual application or statement to notify the property appraiser 1800 1801 promptly whenever the use of the property or the status or 1802 condition of the owner changes so as to change the exempt status 1803 of the property. If any property owner fails to so notify the property appraiser and the property appraiser determines that 1804 for any year within the prior 10 years the owner was not 1805 1806 entitled to receive such exemption, the owner of the property is subject to the taxes exempted as a result of such failure plus 1807 1808 15 percent interest per annum and a penalty of 50 percent of the taxes exempted. Except for homestead exemptions controlled by s. 1809 1810 196.161, it is the duty of the property appraiser making such 1811 determination to record in the public records of the county a notice of tax lien against any property owned by that person or 1812 1813 entity in the county, and such property must be identified in 1814 the notice of tax lien. Such property is subject to the payment of all taxes and penalties. Such lien when filed shall attach to 1815 any property, identified in the notice of tax lien, owned by the 1816 person who illegally or improperly received the exemption. 1817 Should such person no longer own property in that county, but 1818 own property in some other county or counties in the state, it 1819 shall be the duty of the property appraiser to record a notice 1820 Page 65 of 69

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1821 of tax lien in such other county or counties, identifying the 1822 property owned by such person or entity in such county or 1823 counties, and it shall become a lien against such property in 1824 such county or counties.

1825 Section 30. Subsection (3) is added to section 196.111, 1826 Florida Statutes, to read:

1827 196.111 Property appraisers may notify persons entitled to 1828 homestead exemption; publication of notice; costs.--

1829 (3) The notice mailed to any person whose property heretofore was entitled to a homestead assessment limitation in 1830 1831 the prior year pursuant to s. 4(c), Art. VII of the State 1832 Constitution shall also include the option to file an 1833 application to make an irrevocable election to no longer have 1834 his or her homestead assessed pursuant to s. 4(c), Art. VII of 1835 the State Constitution and to apply for homestead exemption 1836 pursuant to s. 6(a), Art. VII of the State Constitution, 1837 consistent with the requirements of s. 196.011(6)(b).

1838 Section 31. Section 195.022, Florida Statutes, is amended 1839 to read:

Forms to be prescribed by Department of Revenue. --1840 195.022 1841 The Department of Revenue shall prescribe all forms to be used by property appraisers, tax collectors, clerks of the circuit 1842 court, and value adjustment boards in administering and 1843 1844 collecting ad valorem taxes. The department shall prescribe a 1845 form for each purpose. For counties with a population of 100,000 1846 or fewer, the Department of Revenue shall furnish the forms. For 1847 counties with a population greater than 100,000, the county officer shall reproduce forms for distribution at the expense of 1848 Page 66 of 69

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1849 his or her office. A county officer may use a form other than 1850 the form prescribed by the department upon obtaining written permission from the executive director of the department; 1851 1852 however, no county officer shall use a form the substantive 1853 content of which is at variance with the form prescribed by the department for the same or a similar purpose. If the executive 1854 1855 director finds good cause to grant such permission he or she may do so. The county officer may continue to use such approved form 1856 1857 until the law which specifies the form is amended or repealed or 1858 until the officer receives written disapproval from the 1859 executive director. Otherwise, all such officers and their 1860 employees shall use the forms, and follow the instructions 1861 applicable to the forms, which are prescribed by the department. 1862 The department, upon request of any property appraiser or, in 1863 any event, at least once every 3 years, shall prescribe and 1864 furnish such aerial photographs and nonproperty ownership maps to the property appraisers as are necessary to ensure that all 1865 real property within the state is properly listed on the roll. 1866 1867 All forms and maps furnished by the department shall be paid for by the department as provided by law. All forms and maps and 1868 1869 instructions relating to their use shall be substantially 1870 uniform throughout the state. An officer may employ supplemental forms and maps, at the expense of his or her office, which he or 1871 she deems expedient for the purpose of administering and 1872 1873 collecting ad valorem taxes. The forms required in ss. 1874 193.461(3)(a) and 196.011(1) for renewal purposes shall require sufficient information for the property appraiser to evaluate 1875 the changes in use since the prior year. The form required in s. 1876 Page 67 of 69

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1877	193.155(2) for election to retain benefits under s. 27, Art. XII
1878	of the State Constitution shall be adopted by the department. If
1879	the property appraiser determines, in the case of a taxpayer,
1880	that he or she has insufficient current information upon which
1881	to approve the exemption, or if the information on the renewal
1882	form is inadequate for him or her to evaluate the taxable status
1883	of the property, he or she may require the resubmission of an
1884	original application.
1885	Section 32. Transitional assessment of homestead property;
1886	effective date
1887	(1) Each person entitled to a homestead exemption under
1888	Section 6 of Article VII of the State Constitution shall
1889	continue to have his or her current homestead assessed under
1890	Section 4(c) of Article VII of the State Constitution until the
1891	person makes an irrevocable election to no longer have his or
1892	her homestead assessed under Section 4(c) of Article VII of the
1893	State Constitution. After the irrevocable election is made, the
1894	homestead may not be assessed under Section 4(c) of Article VII
1895	of the State Constitution.
1896	(2) The exemption provided in Section 6(a) of Article VII
1897	of the State Constitution to each person entitled to have the
1898	person's homestead assessed under Section 4(c) of Article VII of
1899	the State Constitution pursuant to subsection (1) shall be
1900	limited to the exemption the person would have been entitled to
1901	under Section 6(a)-(d) of Article VII of the State Constitution
1902	as it existed on the day before the effective date of this
1903	section.
1904	Section 33. If any law that is amended by this act was
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1905 also amended by a law enacted during the 2007 Regular Session or 1906 any 2007 special session of the Legislature, such laws shall be 1907 construed as if they had been enacted during the same session of 1908 the Legislature, and full effect should be given to each if that 1909 is possible.

1910 Section 34. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this 1911 act, this act and section 33 of this act shall take effect upon becoming a law, sections 13 through 32 of this act shall take 1912 1913 effect only upon the effective date of amendments to the State Constitution contained in Senate Joint Resolution 4B or House 1914 1915 Joint Resolution 3B revising the homestead tax exemption and 1916 providing an exemption from ad valorem taxation for tangible personal property and property used for workforce and affordable 1917 1918 rental housing, and sections 13 through 32 of this act shall apply retroactively to the 2008 tax roll if the amendments to 1919 the State Constitution contained in Senate Joint Resolution 4B 1920 1921 or House Joint Resolution 3B are approved in a special election 1922 held on January 29, 2008, or shall apply to the 2009 tax roll if the amendments to the State Constitution contained in Senate 1923 Joint Resolution 4B or House Joint Resolution 3B are approved in 1924 1925 the general election held in November of 2008.

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