By Senator Perry

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to property tax administration; amending s. 196.141, F.S.; authorizing property appraisers to contract for services to examine or audit homestead tax exemptions claimed on assessment rolls; specifying the sole source of, and a limit on, a contractor's compensation; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 196.141, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

196.141 Homestead exemptions; duty of property appraiser; contracted services.—

(1) The property appraiser shall examine each claim for exemption filed with or referred to him or her and shall allow the same, if found to be in accordance with law, by marking the same approved and by making the proper deductions on the tax books.

(2) The property appraiser may contract for services to examine or audit homestead tax exemptions claimed on assessment rolls. A contractor's compensation must consist solely of a portion, not to exceed 33 percent, of the back taxes, penalties, and interest imposed pursuant to this chapter and collected on the assessments resulting from the contractor's examination or audit and the removal of homestead exemptions from previous assessment rolls or tax rolls.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.