

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to tax collectors; amending s. 145.11,
 3 F.S.; revising tax collector base salaries; amending
 4 s. 409.1664, F.S.; defining the term "tax collector
 5 employee"; providing that tax collector employees are
 6 eligible to receive certain adoption benefits;
 7 specifying monetary benefit amounts to be paid under
 8 specified conditions; requiring such employees to
 9 apply to the Department of Children and Families to
 10 obtain the benefit; authorizing the department to
 11 adopt specified rules; creating s. 445.09, F.S.;
 12 authorizing county tax collectors to budget for and
 13 pay hiring and retention bonuses to employees under
 14 specified conditions; amending s. 1003.48, F.S.;
 15 authorizing a district school board to contract with a
 16 county tax collector to authorize a tax collector
 17 employee to administer road tests on school grounds at
 18 one or more secondary schools within the district;
 19 providing an effective date.

20
 21 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 23 Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 145.11, Florida
 24 Statutes, is amended to read:
 25 145.11 Tax collector.—

26 (1) Each tax collector shall receive as salary the amount
 27 indicated, based on the population of his or her county. In
 28 addition, a compensation shall be made for population increments
 29 over the minimum for each population group, which shall be
 30 determined by multiplying the population in excess of the
 31 minimum for the group times the group rate.

Pop. Group	County Pop. Range		Base Salary	Group Rate
	Minimum	Maximum		
I	-0-	49,999	\$21,250 <u>\$26,250</u>	\$0.07875
II	50,000	99,999	24,400 <u>29,400</u>	0.06300
III	100,000	199,999	27,550 <u>32,550</u>	0.02625
IV	200,000	399,999	30,175 <u>35,175</u>	0.01575
V	400,000	999,999	<u>38,325</u>	0.00525

~~33,325~~

39

VI

41,475

1,000,000

~~36,475~~

0.00400

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41 Section 2. Paragraph (f) of subsection (1) of section
 42 409.1664, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph (g),
 43 subsections (2), (3), (4), and (6) are amended, and a new
 44 paragraph (f) is added to subsection (1) of that section, to
 45 read:

46 409.1664 Adoption benefits for qualifying adoptive
 47 employees of state agencies, veterans, servicemembers, ~~and~~ law
 48 enforcement officers, and tax collector employees.-

49 (1) As used in this section, the term:

50 (f) "Tax collector employee" means an employee or a deputy
 51 tax collector, provided in s. 197.103, of an office of a county
 52 tax collector.

53 (2) A qualifying adoptive employee, veteran, ~~or~~
 54 servicemember, or tax collector employee who adopts a child
 55 within the child welfare system who is difficult to place as
 56 described in s. 409.166(2)(d)2. is eligible to receive a lump-
 57 sum monetary benefit in the amount of \$10,000 per such child,
 58 subject to applicable taxes. A law enforcement officer who
 59 adopts a child within the child welfare system who is difficult
 60 to place as described in s. 409.166(2)(d)2. is eligible to

61 receive a lump-sum monetary benefit in the amount of \$25,000 per
62 such child, subject to applicable taxes. A qualifying adoptive
63 employee, veteran, ~~or~~ servicemember, or tax collector employee
64 who adopts a child within the child welfare system who is not
65 difficult to place as described in s. 409.166(2)(d)2. is
66 eligible to receive a lump-sum monetary benefit in the amount of
67 \$5,000 per such child, subject to applicable taxes. A law
68 enforcement officer who adopts a child within the child welfare
69 system who is not difficult to place as described in s.
70 409.166(2)(d)2. is eligible to receive a lump-sum monetary
71 benefit in the amount of \$10,000 per each such child, subject to
72 applicable taxes. A qualifying adoptive employee of a charter
73 school or the Florida Virtual School may retroactively apply for
74 the monetary benefit provided in this subsection if such
75 employee was employed by a charter school or the Florida Virtual
76 School when he or she adopted a child within the child welfare
77 system pursuant to chapter 63 on or after July 1, 2015. A
78 veteran, ~~or~~ servicemember, or tax collector employee may apply
79 for the monetary benefit provided in this subsection if he or
80 she is domiciled in this state and adopts a child within the
81 child welfare system pursuant to chapter 63 on or after July 1,
82 2020. A law enforcement officer may apply for the monetary
83 benefit provided in this subsection if he or she is domiciled in
84 this state and adopts a child within the child welfare system
85 pursuant to chapter 63 on or after July 1, 2022. A tax collector

86 employee may apply for the monetary benefit provided in this
 87 subsection if he or she is domiciled in this state and adopts a
 88 child within the child welfare system under chapter 63 on or
 89 after July 1, 2024.

90 (a) Benefits paid to a qualifying adoptive employee who is
 91 a part-time employee must be prorated based on the qualifying
 92 adoptive employee's full-time equivalency at the time of
 93 applying for the benefits.

94 (b) Monetary benefits awarded under this subsection are
 95 limited to one award per adopted child within the child welfare
 96 system.

97 (c) The payment of a lump-sum monetary benefit for
 98 adopting a child within the child welfare system under this
 99 section is subject to a specific appropriation to the department
 100 for such purpose.

101 (3) A qualifying adoptive employee must apply to his or
 102 her agency head, or to his or her school director in the case of
 103 a qualifying adoptive employee of a charter school or the
 104 Florida Virtual School, to obtain the monetary benefit provided
 105 in subsection (2). A veteran, ~~or~~ servicemember, or tax collector
 106 employee must apply to the department to obtain the benefit. A
 107 law enforcement officer must apply to the Department of Law
 108 Enforcement to obtain the benefit. Applications must be on forms
 109 approved by the department and must include a certified copy of
 110 the final order of adoption naming the applicant as the adoptive

111 parent. Monetary benefits shall be approved on a first-come,
112 first-served basis based upon the date that each fully completed
113 application is received by the department.

114 (4) This section does not preclude a qualifying adoptive
115 employee, veteran, servicemember, tax collector employee, or law
116 enforcement officer from receiving adoption assistance for which
117 he or she may qualify under s. 409.166 or any other statute that
118 provides financial incentives for the adoption of children.

119 (6) The department may adopt rules to administer this
120 section. The rules may provide for an application process such
121 as, but not limited to, an open enrollment period during which
122 qualifying adoptive employees, veterans, servicemembers, tax
123 collector employees, or law enforcement officers may apply for
124 monetary benefits under this section.

125 Section 3. Section 445.09, Florida Statutes, is created to
126 read:

127 445.09 Bonuses for tax collector employees.—Notwithstanding
128 any other law to the contrary, a county tax collector may budget
129 for and pay a hiring or retention bonus to an employee if the
130 expenditure is approved by the Department of Revenue in the
131 respective tax collector's budget or approved by the respective
132 board of county commissioners after the budget is submitted to
133 the Department of Revenue as set forth in s. 195.087(2).

134 Section 4. Subsection (6) is added to section 1003.48,
135 Florida Statutes, to read:

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136 1003.48 Instruction in operation of motor vehicles.—
137 (6) The district school board may contract with the county
138 tax collector to authorize a tax collector employee, as defined
139 in s. 409.1664(1), to administer road tests on school grounds at
140 one or more secondary schools within the district.

141 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.