CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE NO. 2

FOR

HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

HOUSE BILL NO. 148

AN ACT

2 To repeal sections 52.290, 52.312, 52.361, 52.370, 3 54.010, 55.140, 55.190, 67.110, 137.073, 139.031, 139.140, 139.150, 139.210, 139.220, 140.050, 140.070, 5 140.080, 140.160, and 165.071, RSMo, and to enact in 1 ieu thereof nineteen new sections relating to property 7 taxation.

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8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, 9 AS FOLLOWS:

Sections 52.290, 52.312, 52.361, 52.370, 10 Section A. 54.010, 55.140, 55.190, 67.110, 137.073, 139.031, 139.140, 11 139.150, 139.210, 139.220, 140.050, 140.070, 140.080, 140.160, 12 13 and 165.071, RSMo, are repealed and nineteen new sections enacted 14 in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 52.290, 52.312, 52.361, 15 52.370, 54.010, 55.140, 55.190, 67.110, 137.073, 139.031, 139.140, 139.150, 139.210, 139.220, 140.050, 140.070, 140.080, 16 140.160, and 165.071, to read as follows: 17 52.290. 1. In all counties except counties having a 18 19 charter form of government before January 1, 2008, and any city 20 not within a county, the collector shall collect on behalf of the county a fee for the collection of delinquent and back taxes of 21

22 seven percent on all sums collected to be added to the face of

the tax bill and collected from the party paying the tax. 1 2 Two-sevenths of the fees collected pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be paid into the county general fund, 3 4 two-sevenths of the fees collected pursuant to the provisions of 5 this section shall be paid into the tax maintenance fund of the 6 county as required by section 52.312 and three-sevenths of the 7 fees collected pursuant to the provisions of this section shall 8 be paid into the county employees' retirement fund created by 9 sections 50.1000 to 50.1200, RSMo. Notwithstanding provisions of 10 law to the contrary, an authorization for collection of a fee for the collection of delinquent and back taxes in a county's 11 12 charter, at a rate different than the rate allowed by law, shall 13 control.

14 2. In all counties having a charter form of government_ 15 other than any county adopting a charter form of government after January 1, 2008, and any city not within a county, the collector 16 17 shall collect on behalf of the county and pay into the county general fund a fee for the collection of delinguent and back 18 19 taxes of two percent on all sums collected to be added to the 20 face of the tax bill and collected from the party paying the tax 21 except that in a county with a charter form of government and 22 with more than two hundred fifty thousand but less than seven 23 hundred thousand inhabitants, the collector shall collect on 24 behalf of the county a fee for the collection of delinquent and 25 back taxes of three percent on all sums collected to be added to 26 the face of the tax bill and collected from the party paying the 27 tax. If a county is required by section 52.312 to establish a tax maintenance fund, one-third of the fees collected under this 28

subsection shall be paid into that fund; otherwise, all fees
collected under the provisions of this subsection shall be paid
into the county general fund.

Such county collector may accept credit cards as proper
 form of payment of outstanding delinquent and back taxes due. No
 county collector may charge a surcharge for payment by credit
 card.

8 52.312. Notwithstanding any provisions of law to the 9 contrary, in addition to fees provided for in this chapter, or 10 any other provisions of law in conflict with the provisions of this section, all counties, including any county adopting a 11 12 charter form of government after January 1, 2008, and any county 13 with a charter form of government and with more than two hundred 14 fifty thousand but less than seven hundred thousand inhabitants, 15 other than counties having a charter form of government before 16 January 1, 2008, and any city not within a county, subject to the 17 provisions of this section, shall establish a fund to be known as 18 the "Tax Maintenance Fund" to be used solely as a depository for 19 funds received or collected for the purpose of funding additional 20 costs and expenses incurred in the office of collector.

21 52.361. It shall be the duty of the county collector in all 22 counties of the first class not having a charter form of 23 government and in class two counties to prepare and keep in [his] 24 the collector's office, electronically or otherwise, back tax 25 books which shall contain and list all delinguent taxes on real and personal property levied and assessed in the county which 26 27 remain due and unpaid after the first day of January of each 28 year. Such back tax books shall replace and be in lieu of all

"delinquent lists" and other back tax books heretofore prepared
 by the collector or other county officer.

3 52.370. All money disbursed by the county collector in 4 counties of the first class not having a charter form of 5 government and in counties of the second class by virtue of [his] 6 the collector's office shall be paid by electronic transfer of 7 funds from the collector's account into the accounts of the 8 appropriate taxing authorities or by check signed by the collector and countersigned by the auditor of the county. All 9 10 disbursements shall be documented by the collector and certified 11 by the auditor.

12 54.010. 1. There is created in all the counties of this 13 state the office of county treasurer, except that in those 14 counties having adopted the township alternative form of county 15 government the qualified electors shall elect a county 16 collector-treasurer.

17 2. In counties of classes one and two the qualified
18 electors shall elect a county treasurer at the general election
19 in 1956 and every four years thereafter.

3. In counties of the third and fourth classifications the qualified electors shall elect a county treasurer at the general election in the year 1954, and every four years thereafter, except that in those counties having adopted the township alternative form of county government the qualified electors shall elect a county collector-treasurer at the November election in 1956, and every four years thereafter.

Laws generally applicable to county collectors, their
 offices, clerks, and deputies shall apply to and govern county

1 collector-treasurers in counties having township organization,
2 except when such general laws and such laws applicable to
3 counties of the third and fourth classification conflict with the
4 laws specifically applicable to county collector-treasurers,
5 their offices, clerks, and deputies in counties having township
6 organization, in which case, such laws shall govern.

5. In the event a county of the third or fourth
classification abolishes its township form of government under
chapter 65, RSMo, or a county collector shall become a collectortreasurer, the county collector-treasurer shall assume all
duties, compensation, fee schedules, and requirements of the
collector-treasurer provided under sections 54.280 and 54.320.

13 55.140. The county auditor of each county of the first 14 class not having a charter form of government and of each county 15 of the second class shall [countersign] have access to all records, collections, and settlements for all licenses issued by 16 17 the county and shall [keep a record of the number, date of issue,] receive a monthly listing from each office issuing the 18 19 licenses stating the name of the party or parties to whom 20 issued[, the occupation, the expiration thereof,] and amount of money paid [therefor, and to whom paid]. 21

55.190. The county collector of revenue of each county of the first class not having a charter form of government and of each county of the second class shall [make] provide,

25 <u>electronically or otherwise</u>, a daily report to the auditor of 26 receipts [and balance in his hands, and where deposited], and 27 shall deliver to the auditor each day a deposit slip showing the 28 day's deposit. The collector shall, upon receiving taxes, give

1 [duplicate] a numbered tax [receipts, which] receipt to the 2 taxpayer [shall take to the auditor to be countersigned by him, one of which the auditor shall retain, and charge the amount 3 thereof to the collector]. The collector shall also [make] 4 5 provide, electronically or otherwise, a daily report to the 6 auditor of all other sums of money collected by [him] the 7 collector from any source whatsoever, and in such report shall 8 state [from whom collected, and] on what account[, which sums 9 shall be charged by the auditor to the collector] collected. The collector shall[, upon turning] turn money over to the county 10 11 treasurer[, take duplicate receipts therefor and file same immediately with the county auditor] under section 139.210, RSMo. 12

13 67.110. 1. Each political subdivision in the state, except counties and any political subdivision located at least partially 14 15 within any county with a charter form of government or any 16 political subdivision located at least partially within any city 17 not within a county, shall fix its ad valorem property tax rates 18 as provided in this section not later than September first for entry in the tax books. Each political subdivision located, at 19 20 least partially, within a county with a charter form of 21 government or within a city not within a county shall fix its ad 22 valorem property tax rates as provided in this section not later 23 than October first for entry in the tax books for each calendar 24 year after December 31, 2008. Before the governing body of each 25 political subdivision of the state, except counties, as defined 26 in section 70.120, RSMo, fixes its rate of taxation, its budget 27 officer shall present to its governing body the following 28 information for each tax rate to be levied: the assessed

valuation by category of real, personal and other tangible 1 2 property in the political subdivision as entered in the tax book 3 for the fiscal year for which the tax is to be levied, as 4 provided by subsection 3 of section 137.245, RSMo, the assessed 5 valuation by category of real, personal and other tangible 6 property in the political subdivisions for the preceding taxable 7 year, the amount of revenue required to be provided from the 8 property tax as set forth in the annual budget adopted as 9 provided by this chapter, and the tax rate proposed to be set. 10 Should any political subdivision whose taxes are collected by the county collector of revenue fail to fix its ad valorem property 11 12 tax rate by [September first] the date provided under this 13 section for such political subdivision, then no tax rate other 14 than the rate, if any, necessary to pay the interest and 15 principal on any outstanding bonds shall be certified for that 16 year.

2. 17 The governing body shall hold at least one public 18 hearing on the proposed rates of taxes at which citizens shall be heard prior to their approval. The governing body shall 19 20 determine the time and place for such hearing. A notice stating the hour, date and place of the hearing shall be published in at 21 22 least one newspaper qualified under the laws of the state of 23 Missouri of general circulation in the county within which all or 24 the largest portion of the political subdivision is situated, or 25 such notice shall be posted in at least three public places 26 within the political subdivision; except that, in any county of 27 the first class having a charter form of government, such notice 28 may be published in a newspaper of general circulation within the

political subdivision even though such newspaper is not qualified 1 2 under the laws of Missouri for other legal notices. Such notice 3 shall be published or posted at least seven days prior to the 4 date of the hearing. The notice shall include the assessed 5 valuation by category of real, personal and other tangible 6 property in the political subdivision for the fiscal year for 7 which the tax is to be levied as provided by subsection 3 of 8 section 137.245, RSMo, the assessed valuation by category of 9 real, personal and other tangible property in the political 10 subdivision for the preceding taxable year, for each rate to be levied the amount of revenue required to be provided from the 11 12 property tax as set forth in the annual budget adopted as 13 provided by this chapter, and the tax rates proposed to be set 14 for the various purposes of taxation. The tax rates shall be 15 calculated to produce substantially the same revenues as required 16 in the annual budget adopted as provided in this chapter. 17 Following the hearing the governing body of each political 18 subdivision shall fix the rates of taxes, the same to be entered 19 in the tax book. Failure of any taxpayer to appear at such 20 hearing shall not prevent the taxpayer from pursuit of any other 21 legal remedy otherwise available to the taxpayer. Nothing in 22 this section absolves political subdivisions of responsibilities 23 under section 137.073, RSMo, nor to adjust tax rates in event 24 changes in assessed valuation occur that would alter the tax rate 25 calculations.

Each political subdivision of the state shall fix its
 property tax rates in the manner provided in this section for
 each fiscal year which begins after December 31, 1976. New or

increased tax rates for political subdivisions whose taxes are
 collected by the county collector approved by voters after
 September first of any year shall not be included in that year's
 tax levy except for any new tax rate ceiling approved pursuant to
 section 71.800, RSMo.

4. In addition to the information required under
subsections 1 and 2 of this section, each political subdivision
shall also include the increase in tax revenue due to an increase
in assessed value as a result of new construction and improvement
and the increase, both in dollar value and percentage, in tax
revenue as a result of reassessment if the proposed tax rate is
adopted.

13 137.073. 1. As used in this section, the following terms 14 mean:

15 (1) "General reassessment", changes in value, entered in 16 the assessor's books, of a substantial portion of the parcels of 17 real property within a county resulting wholly or partly from 18 reappraisal of value or other actions of the assessor or county 19 equalization body or ordered by the state tax commission or any 20 court;

(2) "Tax rate", "rate", or "rate of levy", singular or plural, includes the tax rate for each purpose of taxation of property a taxing authority is authorized to levy without a vote and any tax rate authorized by election, including bond interest and sinking fund;

(3) "Tax rate ceiling", a tax rate as revised by the taxing
authority to comply with the provisions of this section or when a
court has determined the tax rate[; except that, other provisions

of law to the contrary notwithstanding, a school district may 1 2 levy the operating levy for school purposes required for the current year pursuant to subsection 2 of section 163.021, RSMo, 3 4 less all adjustments required pursuant to article X, section 22 5 of the Missouri Constitution, if such tax rate does not exceed 6 the highest tax rate in effect subsequent to the 1980 tax year]. 7 This is the maximum tax rate that may be levied, unless a higher 8 tax rate ceiling is approved by voters of the political 9 subdivision as provided in this section;

"Tax revenue", when referring to the previous year, 10 (4)11 means the actual receipts from ad valorem levies on all classes 12 of property, including state-assessed property, in the 13 immediately preceding fiscal year of the political subdivision, plus an allowance for taxes billed but not collected in the 14 15 fiscal year and plus an additional allowance for the revenue which would have been collected from property which was annexed 16 17 by such political subdivision but which was not previously used 18 in determining tax revenue pursuant to this section. The term 19 "tax revenue" shall not include any receipts from ad valorem 20 levies on any property of a railroad corporation or a public utility, as these terms are defined in section 386.020, RSMo, 21 22 which were assessed by the assessor of a county or city in the 23 previous year but are assessed by the state tax commission in the 24 current year. All school districts and those counties levying 25 sales taxes pursuant to chapter 67, RSMo, shall include in the 26 calculation of tax revenue an amount equivalent to that by which 27 they reduced property tax levies as a result of sales tax 28 pursuant to section 67.505, RSMo, and section 164.013, RSMo, or

as excess home dock city or county fees as provided in subsection 1 2 4 of section 313.820, RSMo, in the immediately preceding fiscal year but not including any amount calculated to adjust for prior 3 4 years. For purposes of political subdivisions which were 5 authorized to levy a tax in the prior year but which did not levy 6 such tax or levied a reduced rate, the term "tax revenue", as 7 used in relation to the revision of tax levies mandated by law, 8 shall mean the revenues equal to the amount that would have been 9 available if the voluntary rate reduction had not been made.

10 Whenever changes in assessed valuation are entered in 2. 11 the assessor's books for any personal property, in the aggregate, 12 or for any subclass of real property as such subclasses are 13 established in section 4(b) of article X of the Missouri 14 Constitution and defined in section 137.016, the county clerk in 15 all counties and the assessor of St. Louis City shall notify each political subdivision wholly or partially within the county or 16 17 St. Louis City of the change in valuation of each subclass of real property, individually, and personal property, in the 18 19 aggregate, exclusive of new construction and improvements. All 20 political subdivisions shall immediately revise the applicable 21 rates of levy for each purpose for each subclass of real 22 property, individually, and personal property, in the aggregate, 23 for which taxes are levied to the extent necessary to produce 24 from all taxable property, exclusive of new construction and 25 improvements, substantially the same amount of tax revenue as was 26 produced in the previous year for each subclass of real property, 27 individually, and personal property, in the aggregate, except that the rate may not exceed the greater of the rate in effect in 28

the 1984 tax year or the most recent voter-approved rate. For 1 2 the 2009 tax year, any political subdivision may levy a rate 3 sufficient to generate substantially the same amount of tax 4 revenue as was produced in the 2007 tax year from all taxable 5 property, exclusive of any new construction or improvements 6 attributable to tax years 2008 and 2009, except that such rate 7 shall not exceed the greater of the rate in effect for the 1984 8 tax year or the most recent voter approved tax rate. Such tax 9 revenue shall not include any receipts from ad valorem levies on 10 any real property which was assessed by the assessor of a county or city in such previous year but is assessed by the assessor of 11 12 a county or city in the current year in a different subclass of 13 real property. Where the taxing authority is a school district 14 for the purposes of revising the applicable rates of levy for 15 each subclass of real property, the tax revenues from 16 state-assessed railroad and utility property shall be apportioned 17 and attributed to each subclass of real property based on the percentage of the total assessed valuation of the county that 18 19 each subclass of real property represents in the current taxable 20 year. As provided in section 22 of article X of the 21 constitution, a political subdivision may also revise each levy 22 to allow for inflationary assessment growth occurring within the 23 political subdivision. The inflationary growth factor for any 24 such subclass of real property or personal property shall be 25 limited to the actual assessment growth in such subclass or 26 class, exclusive of new construction and improvements, and 27 exclusive of the assessed value on any real property which was 28 assessed by the assessor of a county or city in the current year

in a different subclass of real property, but not to exceed the 1 2 consumer price index or five percent, whichever is lower. Should 3 the tax revenue of a political subdivision from the various tax 4 rates determined in this subsection be different than the tax 5 revenue that would have been determined from a single tax rate as 6 calculated pursuant to the method of calculation in this 7 subsection prior to January 1, 2003, then the political 8 subdivision shall revise the tax rates of those subclasses of 9 real property, individually, and/or personal property, in the 10 aggregate, in which there is a tax rate reduction, pursuant to the provisions of this subsection. Such revision shall yield an 11 12 amount equal to such difference and shall be apportioned among 13 such subclasses of real property, individually, and/or personal 14 property, in the aggregate, based on the relative assessed 15 valuation of the class or subclasses of property experiencing a 16 tax rate reduction. Such revision in the tax rates of each class 17 or subclass shall be made by computing the percentage of current year adjusted assessed valuation of each class or subclass with a 18 19 tax rate reduction to the total current year adjusted assessed 20 valuation of the class or subclasses with a tax rate reduction, 21 multiplying the resulting percentages by the revenue difference 22 between the single rate calculation and the calculations pursuant 23 to this subsection and dividing by the respective adjusted 24 current year assessed valuation of each class or subclass to 25 determine the adjustment to the rate to be levied upon each class 26 or subclass of property. The adjustment computed herein shall be 27 multiplied by one hundred, rounded to four decimals in the manner provided in this subsection, and added to the initial rate 28

1 computed for each class or subclass of property. Notwithstanding 2 any provision of this subsection to the contrary, no revision to 3 the rate of levy for personal property shall cause such levy to 4 increase over the levy for personal property from the prior year.

5 Where the taxing authority is a school district, it 3. (1)6 shall be required to revise the rates of levy to the extent 7 necessary to produce from all taxable property, including 8 state-assessed railroad and utility property, which shall be 9 separately estimated in addition to other data required in 10 complying with section 164.011, RSMo, substantially the amount of 11 tax revenue permitted in this section. In the year following tax 12 rate reduction, the tax rate ceiling may be adjusted to offset 13 such district's reduction in the apportionment of state school 14 moneys due to its reduced tax rate. However, in the event any 15 school district, in calculating a tax rate ceiling pursuant to 16 this section, requiring the estimating of effects of 17 state-assessed railroad and utility valuation or loss of state aid, discovers that the estimates used result in receipt of 18 19 excess revenues, which would have required a lower rate if the 20 actual information had been known, the school district shall 21 reduce the tax rate ceiling in the following year to compensate 22 for the excess receipts, and the recalculated rate shall become the tax rate ceiling for purposes of this section. 23

(2) For any political subdivision which experiences a
reduction in the amount of assessed valuation relating to a prior
year, due to decisions of the state tax commission or a court
pursuant to sections 138.430 to 138.433, RSMo, or due to clerical
errors or corrections in the calculation or recordation of any

1 assessed valuation:

2 (a) Such political subdivision may revise the tax rate 3 ceiling for each purpose it levies taxes to compensate for the 4 reduction in assessed value occurring after the political 5 subdivision calculated the tax rate ceiling for the particular 6 subclass of real property or for personal property, in the 7 aggregate, in a prior year. Such revision by the political 8 subdivision shall be made at the time of the next calculation of 9 the tax rate for the particular subclass of real property or for 10 personal property, in the aggregate, after the reduction in assessed valuation has been determined and shall be calculated in 11 12 a manner that results in the revised tax rate ceiling being the 13 same as it would have been had the corrected or finalized 14 assessment been available at the time of the prior calculation;

15 (b) In addition, for up to three years following the 16 determination of the reduction in assessed valuation as a result 17 of circumstances defined in this subdivision, such political subdivision may levy a tax rate for each purpose it levies taxes 18 19 above the revised tax rate ceiling provided in paragraph (a) of 20 this subdivision to recoup any revenues it was entitled to 21 receive had the corrected or finalized assessment been available 22 at the time of the prior calculation.

4. (1) In order to implement the provisions of this
section and section 22 of article X of the Constitution of
Missouri, the term "improvements" shall apply to both real and
personal property. In order to determine the value of new
construction and improvements, each county assessor shall
maintain a record of real property valuations in such a manner as

to identify each year the increase in valuation for each 1 2 political subdivision in the county as a result of new 3 construction and improvements. The value of new construction and 4 improvements shall include the additional assessed value of all 5 improvements or additions to real property which were begun after 6 and were not part of the prior year's assessment, except that the 7 additional assessed value of all improvements or additions to 8 real property which had been totally or partially exempt from ad 9 valorem taxes pursuant to sections 99.800 to 99.865, RSMo, 10 sections 135.200 to 135.255, RSMo, and section 353.110, RSMo, shall be included in the value of new construction and 11 12 improvements when the property becomes totally or partially 13 subject to assessment and payment of all ad valorem taxes. The 14 aggregate increase in valuation of personal property for the current year over that of the previous year is the equivalent of 15 16 the new construction and improvements factor for personal 17 property. Notwithstanding any opt-out implemented pursuant to subsection 15 of section 137.115, the assessor shall certify the 18 19 amount of new construction and improvements and the amount of 20 assessed value on any real property which was assessed by the 21 assessor of a county or city in such previous year but is 22 assessed by the assessor of a county or city in the current year 23 in a different subclass of real property separately for each of 24 the three subclasses of real property for each political 25 subdivision to the county clerk in order that political 26 subdivisions shall have this information for the purpose of 27 calculating tax rates pursuant to this section and section 22, article X, Constitution of Missouri. In addition, the state tax 28

commission shall certify each year to each county clerk the 1 2 increase in the general price level as measured by the Consumer 3 Price Index for All Urban Consumers for the United States, or its successor publications, as defined and officially reported by the 4 5 United States Department of Labor, or its successor agency. The 6 state tax commission shall certify the increase in such index on 7 the latest twelve-month basis available on February first of each 8 year over the immediately preceding prior twelve-month period in 9 order that political subdivisions shall have this information 10 available in setting their tax rates according to law and section 22 of article X of the Constitution of Missouri. For purposes of 11 12 implementing the provisions of this section and section 22 of 13 article X of the Missouri Constitution, the term "property" means 14 all taxable property, including state-assessed property.

15 (2) Each political subdivision required to revise rates of levy pursuant to this section or section 22 of article X of the 16 Constitution of Missouri shall calculate each tax rate it is 17 authorized to levy and, in establishing each tax rate, shall 18 19 consider each provision for tax rate revision provided in this 20 section and section 22 of article X of the Constitution of 21 Missouri, separately and without regard to annual tax rate 22 reductions provided in section 67.505, RSMo, and section 164.013, 23 RSMo. Each political subdivision shall set each tax rate it is 24 authorized to levy using the calculation that produces the lowest 25 tax rate ceiling. It is further the intent of the general 26 assembly, pursuant to the authority of section 10(c) of article X 27 of the Constitution of Missouri, that the provisions of such 28 section be applicable to tax rate revisions mandated pursuant to

section 22 of article X of the Constitution of Missouri as to 1 2 reestablishing tax rates as revised in subsequent years, 3 enforcement provisions, and other provisions not in conflict with section 22 of article X of the Constitution of Missouri. 4 Annual 5 tax rate reductions provided in section 67.505, RSMo, and section 6 164.013, RSMo, shall be applied to the tax rate as established 7 pursuant to this section and section 22 of article X of the 8 Constitution of Missouri, unless otherwise provided by law.

9 5. (1)In all political subdivisions, the tax rate ceiling 10 established pursuant to this section shall not be increased 11 unless approved by a vote of the people. Approval of the higher 12 tax rate shall be by at least a majority of votes cast. When a 13 proposed higher tax rate requires approval by more than a simple 14 majority pursuant to any provision of law or the constitution, 15 the tax rate increase must receive approval by at least the 16 majority required.

17 When voters approve an increase in the tax rate, the (2) 18 amount of the increase shall be added to the tax rate ceiling as 19 calculated pursuant to this section to the extent the total rate 20 does not exceed any maximum rate prescribed by law. If a ballot 21 question presents a stated tax rate for approval rather than 22 describing the amount of increase in the question, the stated tax 23 rate approved shall be adjusted as provided in this section and, 24 so adjusted, shall be the current tax rate ceiling. The 25 increased tax rate ceiling as approved shall be adjusted such 26 that when applied to the current total assessed valuation of the 27 political subdivision, excluding new construction and 28 improvements since the date of the election approving such

increase, the revenue derived from the adjusted tax rate ceiling 1 2 is equal to the sum of: the amount of revenue which would have 3 been derived by applying the voter-approved increased tax rate 4 ceiling to total assessed valuation of the political subdivision, 5 as most recently certified by the city or county clerk on or 6 before the date of the election in which such increase is 7 approved, increased by the percentage increase in the consumer 8 price index, as provided by law. Such adjusted tax rate ceiling 9 may be applied to the total assessed valuation of the political 10 subdivision at the setting of the next tax rate. If a ballot 11 question presents a phased-in tax rate increase, upon voter 12 approval, each tax rate increase shall be adjusted in the manner 13 prescribed in this section to yield the sum of: the amount of 14 revenue that would be derived by applying such voter-approved 15 increased rate to the total assessed valuation, as most recently 16 certified by the city or county clerk on or before the date of 17 the election in which such increase was approved, increased by 18 the percentage increase in the consumer price index, as provided 19 by law, from the date of the election to the time of such 20 increase and, so adjusted, shall be the current tax rate ceiling.

21 The governing body of any political subdivision may (3) 22 levy a tax rate lower than its tax rate ceiling and may, in a 23 nonreassessment year, increase that lowered tax rate to a level 24 not exceeding the tax rate ceiling without voter approval in the 25 manner provided under subdivision (4) of this subsection. 26 Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting a 27 political subdivision from voluntarily levying a tax rate lower 28 than that which is required under the provisions of this section

or from seeking voter approval of a reduction to such political
 subdivision's tax rate ceiling.

3 In a year of general reassessment, a governing body (4) 4 whose tax rate is lower than its tax rate ceiling shall revise 5 its tax rate pursuant to the provisions of subsection 4 of this 6 section as if its tax rate was at the tax rate ceiling. In a 7 year following general reassessment, if such governing body 8 intends to increase its tax rate, the governing body shall 9 conduct a public hearing, and in a public meeting it shall adopt 10 an ordinance, resolution, or policy statement justifying its action prior to setting and certifying its tax rate. 11 The 12 provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to any political 13 subdivision which levies a tax rate lower than its tax rate 14 ceiling solely due to a reduction required by law resulting from 15 sales tax collections. The provisions of this subdivision shall 16 not apply to any political subdivision which has received voter 17 approval for an increase to its tax rate ceiling subsequent to setting its most recent tax rate. 18

19 6. (1)For the purposes of calculating state aid for 20 public schools pursuant to section 163.031, RSMo, each taxing 21 authority which is a school district shall determine its proposed 22 tax rate as a blended rate of the classes or subclasses of 23 property. Such blended rate shall be calculated by first 24 determining the total tax revenue of the property within the 25 jurisdiction of the taxing authority, which amount shall be equal 26 to the sum of the products of multiplying the assessed valuation 27 of each class and subclass of property by the corresponding tax rate for such class or subclass, then dividing the total tax 28

revenue by the total assessed valuation of the same jurisdiction, and then multiplying the resulting quotient by a factor of one hundred. Where the taxing authority is a school district, such blended rate shall also be used by such school district for calculating revenue from state-assessed railroad and utility property as defined in chapter 151, RSMo, and for apportioning the tax rate by purpose.

8 (2) Each taxing authority proposing to levy a tax rate in 9 any year shall notify the clerk of the county commission in the 10 county or counties where the tax rate applies of its tax rate ceiling and its proposed tax rate. Each taxing authority shall 11 12 express its proposed tax rate in a fraction equal to the nearest 13 one-tenth of a cent, unless its proposed tax rate is in excess of 14 one dollar, then one/one-hundredth of a cent. If a taxing 15 authority shall round to one/one-hundredth of a cent, it shall 16 round up a fraction greater than or equal to five/one-thousandth 17 of one cent to the next higher one/one-hundredth of a cent; if a 18 taxing authority shall round to one-tenth of a cent, it shall 19 round up a fraction greater than or equal to five/one-hundredths 20 of a cent to the next higher one-tenth of a cent. Any taxing 21 authority levying a property tax rate shall provide data, in such 22 form as shall be prescribed by the state auditor by rule, 23 substantiating such tax rate complies with Missouri law. All 24 forms for the calculation of rates pursuant to this section shall 25 be promulgated as a rule and shall not be incorporated by 26 reference. The state auditor shall promulgate rules for any and 27 all forms for the calculation of rates pursuant to this section which do not currently exist in rule form or that have been 28

incorporated by reference. In addition, each taxing authority 1 2 proposing to levy a tax rate for debt service shall provide data, 3 in such form as shall be prescribed by the state auditor by rule, 4 substantiating the tax rate for debt service complies with 5 Missouri law. A tax rate proposed for annual debt service 6 requirements will be prima facie valid if, after making the 7 payment for which the tax was levied, bonds remain outstanding 8 and the debt fund reserves do not exceed the following year's 9 payments. The county clerk shall keep on file and available for 10 public inspection all such information for a period of three The clerk shall, within three days of receipt, forward a 11 years. 12 copy of the notice of a taxing authority's tax rate ceiling and 13 proposed tax rate and any substantiating data to the state 14 auditor. The state auditor shall, within fifteen days of the 15 date of receipt, examine such information and return to the 16 county clerk his or her findings as to compliance of the tax rate 17 ceiling with this section and as to compliance of any proposed 18 tax rate for debt service with Missouri law. If the state 19 auditor believes that a taxing authority's proposed tax rate does 20 not comply with Missouri law, then the state auditor's findings 21 shall include a recalculated tax rate, and the state auditor may 22 request a taxing authority to submit documentation supporting 23 such taxing authority's proposed tax rate. The county clerk 24 shall immediately forward a copy of the auditor's findings to the 25 taxing authority and shall file a copy of the findings with the 26 information received from the taxing authority. The taxing 27 authority shall have fifteen days from the date of receipt from 28 the county clerk of the state auditor's findings and any request

for supporting documentation to accept or reject in writing the 1 2 rate change certified by the state auditor and to submit all 3 requested information to the state auditor. A copy of the taxing 4 authority's acceptance or rejection and any information submitted 5 to the state auditor shall also be mailed to the county clerk. 6 If a taxing authority rejects a rate change certified by the 7 state auditor and the state auditor does not receive supporting 8 information which justifies the taxing authority's original or 9 any subsequent proposed tax rate, then the state auditor shall 10 refer the perceived violations of such taxing authority to the attorney general's office and the attorney general is authorized 11 12 to obtain injunctive relief to prevent the taxing authority from 13 levying a violative tax rate.

14 7. No tax rate shall be extended on the tax rolls by the 15 county clerk unless the political subdivision has complied with 16 the foregoing provisions of this section.

17 Whenever a taxpayer has cause to believe that a taxing 8. authority has not complied with the provisions of this section, 18 19 the taxpayer may make a formal complaint with the prosecuting 20 attorney of the county. Where the prosecuting attorney fails to 21 bring an action within ten days of the filing of the complaint, 22 the taxpayer may bring a civil action pursuant to this section and institute an action as representative of a class of all 23 24 taxpayers within a taxing authority if the class is so numerous 25 that joinder of all members is impracticable, if there are 26 questions of law or fact common to the class, if the claims or 27 defenses of the representative parties are typical of the claims 28 or defenses of the class, and if the representative parties will

fairly and adequately protect the interests of the class. In any 1 2 class action maintained pursuant to this section, the court may direct to the members of the class a notice to be published at 3 4 least once each week for four consecutive weeks in a newspaper of 5 general circulation published in the county where the civil 6 action is commenced and in other counties within the jurisdiction 7 of a taxing authority. The notice shall advise each member that 8 the court will exclude him or her from the class if he or she so 9 requests by a specified date, that the judgment, whether 10 favorable or not, will include all members who do not request exclusion, and that any member who does not request exclusion 11 12 may, if he or she desires, enter an appearance. In any class 13 action brought pursuant to this section, the court, in addition 14 to the relief requested, shall assess against the taxing 15 authority found to be in violation of this section the reasonable 16 costs of bringing the action, including reasonable attorney's 17 fees, provided no attorney's fees shall be awarded any attorney or association of attorneys who receive public funds from any 18 19 source for their services. Any action brought pursuant to this 20 section shall be set for hearing as soon as practicable after the 21 cause is at issue.

9. If in any action, including a class action, the court issues an order requiring a taxing authority to revise the tax rates as provided in this section or enjoins a taxing authority from the collection of a tax because of its failure to revise the rate of levy as provided in this section, any taxpayer paying his or her taxes when an improper rate is applied has erroneously paid his or her taxes in part, whether or not the taxes are paid

under protest as provided in section 139.031, RSMo, or otherwise 1 2 contested. The part of the taxes paid erroneously is the 3 difference in the amount produced by the original levy and the 4 amount produced by the revised levy. The township or county 5 collector of taxes or the collector of taxes in any city shall 6 refund the amount of the tax erroneously paid. The taxing 7 authority refusing to revise the rate of levy as provided in this 8 section shall make available to the collector all funds necessary 9 to make refunds pursuant to this subsection. No taxpayer shall 10 receive any interest on any money erroneously paid by him or her pursuant to this subsection. Effective in the 1994 tax year, 11 12 nothing in this section shall be construed to require a taxing 13 authority to refund any tax erroneously paid prior to or during 14 the third tax year preceding the current tax year.

15 10. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined 16 in section 536.010, RSMo, that is created under the authority 17 delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 18 19 536, RSMo, and, if applicable, section 536.028, RSMo. This 20 section and chapter 536, RSMo, are nonseverable and if any of the 21 powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536, 22 RSMo, to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove 23 and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the 24 grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted 25 after August 28, 2004, shall be invalid and void.

26 <u>11. Any political subdivision that levies a tax rate</u>
 27 greater than the most recent voter-approved tax rate shall
 28 provide notice of such fact in a newspaper of general circulation

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within such political subdivision:

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2	(1) No later than fourteen days following the setting of
3	such tax rate;
4	(2) At least once between October fifteenth and November
5	fifteenth of such tax year; and
6	(3) On December fifteenth of such tax year.
7	12. For all tax years beginning on or after January 1,
8	2010, the county collector shall include in each taxpayer's tax
9	bill the current tax rate and the most recent voter-approved tax
10	rate for each purpose for each political subdivision located at
11	least partially within the county levying a tax on property.
12	139.031. 1. Any taxpayer may protest all or any part of
13	any current taxes assessed against the taxpayer, except taxes
14	collected by the director of revenue of Missouri. Any such
15	taxpayer desiring to pay any current taxes under protest or while
16	paying taxes based upon a disputed assessment shall, at the time
17	of paying such taxes, <u>make full payment of the current tax bill</u>
18	before the delinquency date and file with the collector a written
19	statement setting forth the grounds on which the protest <u>or</u>
20	dispute is based. The statement shall include the true value in
21	money claimed by the taxpayer if disputed. <u>An appeal before the</u>
22	state tax commission shall not be dismissed on the grounds that a
23	taxpayer failed to file a written statement when paying taxes
24	based upon a disputed assessment.
25	2. [For all tax years beginning on or after January 1,
26	2009, any taxpayer desiring to protest any current taxes shall

make full payment of the current tax bill and file with the 28 collector a written statement setting forth the grounds on which

1 the protest is based.

2 3.] Upon receiving payment of current taxes under protest pursuant to subsection 1 of this section or upon receiving from 3 the state tax commission or the circuit court notice of an appeal 4 from the state tax commission or the circuit court pursuant to 5 section 138.430, RSMo, the collector shall disburse to the proper 6 7 official all portions of taxes not protested or not disputed by 8 the taxpayer and shall impound in a separate fund all portions of 9 such taxes which are protested or in dispute. Every taxpayer protesting the payment of current taxes under subsection 1 [or 2] 10 11 of this section shall, within ninety days after filing his 12 protest, commence an action against the collector by filing a 13 petition for the recovery of the amount protested in the circuit court of the county in which the collector maintains his office. 14 15 If any taxpayer so protesting his taxes under subsection 1 [or 2] of this section shall fail to commence an action in the circuit 16 17 court for the recovery of the taxes protested within the time 18 prescribed in this subsection, such protest shall become null and 19 void and of no effect, and the collector shall then disburse to 20 the proper official the taxes impounded, and any interest earned 21 thereon, as provided above in this subsection.

[4.] <u>3.</u> No action against the collector shall be commenced by any taxpayer who has, effective for the current tax year, filed with the state tax commission or the circuit court a timely and proper appeal of the assessment of the taxpayer's property. The portion of taxes in dispute from an appeal of an assessment shall be impounded in a separate fund and the commission in its decision and order issued pursuant to chapter 138, RSMo, or the

circuit court in its judgment may order all or any part of such taxes refunded to the taxpayer, or may authorize the collector to release and disburse all or any part of such taxes.

[5.] 4. Trial of the action for recovery of taxes 4 5 protested under subsection 1 [or 2] of this section in the 6 circuit court shall be in the manner prescribed for nonjury civil 7 proceedings, and, after determination of the issues, the court 8 shall make such orders as may be just and equitable to refund to 9 the taxpayer all or any part of the current taxes paid under 10 protest, together with any interest earned thereon, or to 11 authorize the collector to release and disburse all or any part 12 of the impounded taxes, and any interest earned thereon, to the 13 appropriate officials of the taxing authorities. Either party to the proceedings may appeal the determination of the circuit 14 15 court.

16 [6.] 5. All the county collectors of taxes, and the 17 collector of taxes in any city not within a county, shall, upon 18 written application of a taxpayer, refund or credit against the 19 taxpayer's tax liability in the following taxable year and 20 subsequent consecutive taxable years until the taxpayer has 21 received credit in full for any real or personal property tax 22 mistakenly or erroneously levied against the taxpayer and 23 collected in whole or in part by the collector. Such application 24 shall be filed within three years after the tax is mistakenly or 25 erroneously paid. The governing body, or other appropriate body 26 or official of the county or city not within a county, shall make 27 available to the collector funds necessary to make refunds under 28 this subsection by issuing warrants upon the fund to which the

1 mistaken or erroneous payment has been credited, or otherwise.

[7.] <u>6.</u> No taxpayer shall receive any interest on any
money paid in by the taxpayer erroneously.

4 [8.] 7. All protested taxes impounded under protest under 5 subsection 1 [or 2] of this section and all disputed taxes impounded under notice as required by section 138.430, RSMo, 6 7 shall be invested by the collector in the same manner as assets 8 specified in section 30.260, RSMo, for investment of state 9 moneys. A taxpayer who is entitled to a refund of protested or 10 disputed taxes shall also receive the interest earned on the investment thereof. If the collector is ordered to release and 11 12 disburse all or part of the taxes paid under protest or dispute 13 to the proper official, such taxes shall be disbursed along with 14 the proportional amount of interest earned on the investment of 15 the taxes due the particular taxing authority.

8. Any taxing authority may request to be notified by 16 [9.] 17 the county collector of current taxes paid under protest. Such 18 request shall be in writing and submitted on or before [March] 19 February first next following the delinguent date of current 20 taxes paid under protest or disputed, and the county collector 21 shall [notify any] provide such information on or before March 22 first of the same year to the requesting taxing authority of the taxes paid under protest and disputed taxes which would be 23 received by such taxing authority if the funds were not the 24 25 subject of a protest or dispute. Any taxing authority may apply 26 to the circuit court of the county or city not within a county in which a collector has impounded protested or disputed taxes under 27 28 this section and, upon a satisfactory showing that such taxing

authority would receive such impounded tax funds if they were not 1 2 the subject of a protest or dispute and that such taxing 3 authority has the financial ability and legal capacity to repay 4 such impounded tax funds in the event a decision ordering a 5 refund to the taxpayer is subsequently made, the circuit court 6 shall order, pendente lite, the disbursal of all or any part of 7 such impounded tax funds to such taxing authority. The circuit 8 court issuing an order under this subsection shall retain 9 jurisdiction of such matter for further proceedings, if any, to 10 compel restitution of such tax funds to the taxpayer. In the event that any protested or disputed tax funds refunded to a 11 12 taxpayer were disbursed to a taxing authority under this subsection instead of being held and invested by the collector 13 under subsection [8] $\underline{7}$ of this section, such taxing authority 14 15 shall pay the taxpayer entitled to the refund of such protested or disputed taxes the same amount of interest, as determined by 16 the circuit court having jurisdiction in the matter, such 17 18 protested or disputed taxes would have earned if they had been 19 held and invested by the collector.

20 [10.] 9. No appeal filed from the circuit court's or state 21 tax commission's determination pertaining to the amount of refund 22 shall stay any order of refund, but the decision filed by any 23 court of last review modifying that determination shall be binding on the parties, and the decision rendered shall be 24 25 complied with by the party affected by any modification within ninety days of the date of such decision. No taxpayer shall 26 27 receive any interest on any additional award of refund, and the 28 collector shall not receive any interest on any ordered return of

1 refund in whole or in part.

2 139.140. Except as provided in section 52.361, RSMo, the personal delinquent lists allowed to any collector shall be 3 delivered to the collector and when [his] the collector's term of 4 5 office expires then to [his] the successor, who shall be charged 6 with the full amount thereof, and shall account therefor as for 7 other moneys collected by [him] the collector. When [he] the collector makes [his] the next annual settlement [he] the 8 collector shall return the lists to the clerk of the county 9 10 commission, and in the city of St. Louis the lists and the 11 uncollected tax bills to the comptroller of the city, and shall 12 be entitled to credit for the amount [he] the collector has been unable to collect. The lists and bills shall be delivered to 13 14 [his] the collector's successor, and so on until the whole are 15 collected.

16 139.150. And in making collections on the said personal 17 delinquent lists, the said collectors, except collectors in 18 <u>counties of the first or second classifications</u>, shall give 19 duplicate receipts therefor, one to be delivered to the person 20 paying the same, and the other to be filed with the clerk of the 21 county commission, who shall charge the collector therewith.

139.210. 1. Every county collector and [ex officio county collector] <u>collector-treasurer</u>, <u>other than the county collector</u> of revenue of each county of the first or second classifications and except in the city of St. Louis, shall, on or before the fifth day of each month, file with the county clerk a detailed statement, verified by affidavit of all state, county, school, road and municipal taxes, and of all licenses by [him] <u>the</u>

1 <u>collector</u> collected during the preceding month, and shall, except 2 for tax payments made pursuant to section 139.053, on or before 3 the fifteenth day of the month, pay the same, less [his] <u>the</u> 4 <u>collector's</u> commissions, into the county treasuries and to the 5 director of revenue.

The county collector of revenue of each county of the 6 2. 7 first or second classifications shall, before the fifteenth day 8 of each month, file with the county clerk and auditor a detailed statement, verified by affidavit, of all state, county, school, 9 road, and municipal taxes and of all licenses collected by the 10 collector during the preceding month, and shall, except for tax 11 12 payments made under section 139.053, on or before the fifteenth 13 day of the month, pay such taxes and licenses, less commissions, into the treasuries of the appropriate taxing entities and to the 14 15 director of revenue.

16 <u>3.</u> It shall be the duty of the county clerk, and [he] <u>the</u> 17 <u>clerk</u> is hereby required, to forward immediately a certified copy 18 of such detailed statement to the director of revenue, who shall 19 keep an account of the state taxes with the collector.

20 139.220. Every collector of the revenue having made 21 settlement, according to law, of county revenue [by him] collected or received by the collector, shall pay the amount 22 found due into the county treasury, and the treasurer shall give 23 24 [him] the collector duplicate receipts therefor, one of which 25 shall be filed in the office of the clerk of the county 26 commission, who shall grant [him] the collector full quietus 27 under the seal of the commission.

28 140.050. 1. Except as provided in section 52.361, RSMo,

the county clerk shall file the delinquent lists in [his] the county clerk's office and within ten days thereafter make, under the seal of the commission, the lists into a back tax book as provided in section 140.060.

5 2. Except as provided in section 52.361, RSMO, when 6 completed, the clerk shall deliver the book to the collector 7 taking duplicate receipts therefor, one of which [he] <u>the clerk</u> 8 shall file in [his] <u>the clerk's</u> office and the other [he] <u>the</u> 9 <u>clerk</u> shall file with the director of revenue. The clerk shall 10 charge the collector with the aggregate amount of taxes, 11 interest, and clerk's fees contained in the back tax book.

12 3. The collector shall collect such back taxes and may levy 13 upon, seize and distrain tangible personal property and may sell 14 such property for taxes.

4. In the city of St. Louis, the city comptroller or other
proper officer shall return the back tax book together with the
uncollected tax bills within thirty days to the city collector.

5. If any county commission or clerk <u>in counties not having</u> <u>a county auditor</u> fails to comply with section 140.040, and this section, to the extent that the collection of taxes cannot be enforced by law, the county commission or clerk, or their successors in office, shall correct such omissions at once and return the back tax book to the collector who shall collect such taxes.

140.070. All back taxes, of whatever kind, whether state, county or school, or of any city or incorporated town, which return delinquent tax lists to the county collector to collect, appearing due upon delinquent real estates shall be extended in

the back tax book made under this chapter or chapter 52, RSMo. In 1 2 case the collector of any city or town has omitted or neglected to return to the county collector a list of delinquent lands and 3 4 lots, as required by section 140.670, the present authorities of 5 the city or town may cause the delinquent list to be certified, 6 as by that section contemplated, and the delinquent taxes shall 7 be by the county clerk put upon the back tax book and collected 8 by the collector under authority of this chapter.

9 140.080. Except as provided in section 52.361, RSMo, the 10 county clerk and the county collector shall compare the back tax book with the corrected delinguent land list made pursuant to 11 12 sections 140.030 and 140.040 respectively, and the clerk shall 13 certify on the delinquent land list on file in [his] the clerk's 14 office that the list has been properly entered in the back tax 15 book and shall attach a certificate at the end of the back tax book that it contains a true copy of the delinquent land list on 16 17 file in [his] the collector's office.

140.160. 1. No proceedings for the sale of land and lots 18 19 for delinquent taxes pursuant to this chapter or unpaid special 20 assessments as provided in section 67.469, RSMo, relating to the 21 collection of delinquent and back taxes and unpaid special 22 assessments and providing for foreclosure sale and redemption of 23 land and lots therefor, shall be valid unless initial proceedings 24 therefor shall be commenced within three years after delinquency 25 of such taxes and unpaid special assessments, and any sale held pursuant to initial proceedings commenced within such period of 26 27 three years shall be deemed to have been in compliance with the 28 provisions of said law insofar as the time at which such sales

are to be had is specified therein; provided further, that in 1 2 suits or actions to collect delinguent drainage and/or levee assessments on real estate such suits or actions shall be 3 4 commenced within three years after delinquency, otherwise no suit 5 or action therefor shall be commenced, had or maintained, except 6 that the three-year limitation described in this subsection shall 7 not be applicable if any written instrument conveys any real 8 estate having a tax-exempt status, if such instrument causes such 9 real estate to again become taxable real property and if such 10 instrument has not been recorded in the office of the recorder in the county in which the real estate has been situated. 11 Such 12 three-year limitation shall only be applicable once the recording 13 of the title has occurred.

14 2. [In order to enable county and city collectors to be 15 able to collect delinquent and back taxes and unpaid special 16 assessments,] The county auditor in all counties having a county auditor shall annually audit [and list all delinquent and back 17 18 taxes and unpaid special assessments] collections, deposits, and 19 supporting reports of the collector and provide a copy of such 20 audit [and list] to the county collector and to the governing 21 body of the county. A copy of the audit [and list] may be provided to [city collectors] all applicable taxing entities 22 23 within the county at the discretion of the county collector.

24 165.071. 1. At least once in every month the county 25 collector in all counties of the first and second classifications 26 and the collector-treasurer in counties having township 27 organization shall pay over to the treasurer of the school board 28 of all seven-director districts all moneys received and collected

by the county collector and the collector-treasurer to which the 1 2 board is entitled and take duplicate receipts from the treasurer, one of which the county collector and the collector-treasurer 3 4 shall file with the secretary of the school board and the other 5 the county collector and the collector-treasurer shall file in 6 his or her settlement with the county commission.

7 2. The county collector in counties of the third and fourth 8 classification, except in counties under township organization, 9 shall pay over to the county treasurer at least once in every 10 month all moneys received and collected by the county collector which are due each school district and shall take duplicate 11 12 receipts therefor, one of which the county collector shall file 13 in his or her settlement with the county commission. The county 14 treasurer in such counties shall pay over to the treasurer of the 15 school board of seven-director districts, at least once in every 16 month, all moneys so received by the county treasurer to which 17 the board is entitled. Upon payment the county treasurer shall take duplicate receipts from the treasurer of the school board, 18 19 one of which the county treasurer shall file with the secretary of the school board, and the other [he] the county treasurer 20 shall file in his or her settlement with the county commission. 21 √

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