FIRST REGULAR SESSION SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE NO. 2 FOR HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

HOUSE BILL NO. 148

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Reported from the Committee on Jobs, Economic Development and Local Government, April 15, 2009, with recommendation that the Senate Committee Substitute No. 2 do pass and be placed on the Consent Calendar.

0386S.05C

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

AN ACT

To repeal sections 52.290, 52.312, 52.361, 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, 140.160, and 165.071, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof nineteen new sections relating to property taxation.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 52.290, 52.312, 52.361, 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140.080, 140.160, and 165.071, RSMo, are repealed and nineteen new sections
enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 52.290, 52.312, 52.361, 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, 140.160, and 165.071, to read as follows:

52.290. 1. In all counties except counties having a charter form of $\mathbf{2}$ government before January 1, 2008, and any city not within a county, the 3 collector shall collect on behalf of the county a fee for the collection of delinquent and back taxes of seven percent on all sums collected to be added to the face of 4 the tax bill and collected from the party paying the tax. Two-sevenths of the fees $\mathbf{5}$ collected pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be paid into the county 6 7 general fund, two-sevenths of the fees collected pursuant to the provisions of this 8 section shall be paid into the tax maintenance fund of the county as required by section 52.312 and three-sevenths of the fees collected pursuant to the provisions 9 of this section shall be paid into the county employees' retirement fund created 10 by sections 50.1000 to 50.1200, RSMo. Notwithstanding provisions of law 11

to the contrary, an authorization for collection of a fee for the
collection of delinquent and back taxes in a county's charter, at a rate
different than the rate allowed by law, shall control.

2. In all counties having a charter form of government, other than any 1516county adopting a charter form of government after January 1, 2008, and any city not within a county, the collector shall collect on behalf of the county 17and pay into the county general fund a fee for the collection of delinquent and 1819 back taxes of two percent on all sums collected to be added to the face of the tax 20bill and collected from the party paying the tax except that in a county with a 21charter form of government and with more than two hundred fifty thousand but 22less than seven hundred thousand inhabitants, the collector shall collect on behalf 23of the county a fee for the collection of delinquent and back taxes of three percent 24on all sums collected to be added to the face of the tax bill and collected from the party paying the tax. If a county is required by section 52.312 to establish a tax 2526maintenance fund, one-third of the fees collected under this subsection shall be paid into that fund; otherwise, all fees collected under the provisions of this 2728subsection shall be paid into the county general fund.

3. 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.

52.312. Notwithstanding any provisions of law to the contrary, in addition to fees provided for in this chapter, or any other provisions of law in conflict with $\mathbf{2}$ the provisions of this section, all counties, including any county adopting a 3 charter form of government after January 1, 2008, and any county with 4 a charter form of government and with more than two hundred fifty thousand but 5less than seven hundred thousand inhabitants, other than counties having a 6 charter form of government before January 1, 2008, and any city not within a 7 county, subject to the provisions of this section, shall establish a fund to be 8 known as the "Tax Maintenance Fund" to be used solely as a depository for funds 9 received or collected for the purpose of funding additional costs and expenses 10incurred in the office of collector. 11

52.361. It shall be the duty of the county collector in all counties of the first class not having a charter form of government and in class two counties to prepare and keep in [his] the collector's office, electronically or otherwise, back tax books which shall contain and list all delinquent taxes on real and personal property levied and assessed in the county which remain due and unpaid

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after the first day of January of each year. Such back tax books shall replace and 6 7be in lieu of all "delinquent lists" and other back tax books heretofore prepared by the collector or other county officer. 8

52.370. All money disbursed by the county collector in counties of the first class not having a charter form of government and in counties of the second class 23 by virtue of [his] the collector's office shall be paid by electronic transfer of funds from the collector's account into the accounts of the appropriate 4 taxing authorities or by check signed by the collector and countersigned by the 5auditor of the county. All disbursements shall be documented by the 6 7 collector and certified by the auditor.

54.010. 1. There is created in all the counties of this state the office of county treasurer, except that in those counties having adopted the township 2 3 alternative form of county government the qualified electors shall elect a county 4 collector-treasurer.

52. In counties of classes one and two the qualified electors shall elect a 6 county treasurer at the general election in 1956 and every four years thereafter. 7 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 8 four years thereafter, except that in those counties having adopted the township 9 10 alternative form of county government the qualified electors shall elect a county collector-treasurer at the November election in 1956, and every four years

12thereafter.

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134. Laws generally applicable to county collectors, their offices, clerks, and deputies shall apply to and govern county collector-treasurers in counties having 14township organization, except when such general laws and such laws applicable 15to counties of the third and fourth classification conflict with the laws specifically 16 applicable to county collector-treasurers, their offices, clerks, and deputies in 17 counties having township organization, in which case, such laws shall govern. 18

5. In the event a county of the third or fourth classification 19 20abolishes its township form of government under chapter 65, RSMo, or a county collector shall become a collector-treasurer, the county 2122collector-treasurer shall assume all duties, compensation, fee schedules, and requirements of the collector-treasurer provided under sections 232454.280 and 54.320.

55.140. The county auditor of each county of the first class not having a charter form of government and of each county of the second class shall $\mathbf{2}$

3 [countersign] have access to all records, collections, and settlements for

- 4 all licenses issued by the county and shall [keep a record of the number, date of
 5 issue,] receive a monthly listing from each office issuing the licenses
 6 stating the name of the party or parties to whom issued[, the occupation, the
- 7 expiration thereof,] and amount of money paid [therefor, and to whom paid].

55.190. The county collector of revenue of each county of the first class not $\mathbf{2}$ having a charter form of government and of each county of the second class shall [make] provide, electronically or otherwise, a daily report to the auditor of 3 receipts [and balance in his hands, and where deposited], and shall deliver to the 4 auditor each day a deposit slip showing the day's deposit. The collector shall, 5upon receiving taxes, give [duplicate] a numbered tax [receipts, which] receipt 6 to the taxpayer [shall take to the auditor to be countersigned by him, one of 7 which the auditor shall retain, and charge the amount thereof to the 8 collector]. The collector shall also [make] provide, electronically or 9 otherwise, a daily report to the auditor of all other sums of money collected by 10[him] the collector from any source whatsoever, and in such report shall state 11 12[from whom collected, and] on what account[, which sums shall be charged by the auditor to the collector] collected. The collector shall, upon turning] turn 13money over to the county treasurer[, take duplicate receipts therefor and file 1415same immediately with the county auditor] under section 139.210, RSMo.

67.110. 1. Each political subdivision in the state, except counties and any $\mathbf{2}$ political subdivision located at least partially within any county with a charter 3 form of government or any political subdivision located at least partially within any city not within a county, shall fix its ad valorem property tax rates as 4 provided in this section not later than September first for entry in the tax $\mathbf{5}$ books. Each political subdivision located, at least partially, within a county with 6 a charter form of government or within a city not within a county shall fix its ad 7 valorem property tax rates as provided in this section not later than October first 8 for entry in the tax books for each calendar year after December 31, 2008. Before 9 the governing body of each political subdivision of the state, except counties, as 10 defined in section 70.120, RSMo, fixes its rate of taxation, its budget officer shall 11 12present to its governing body the following information for each tax rate to be 13levied: the assessed valuation by category of real, personal and other tangible property in the political subdivision as entered in the tax book for the fiscal year 14for which the tax is to be levied, as provided by subsection 3 of section 137.245, 15RSMo, the assessed valuation by category of real, personal and other tangible 16

property in the political subdivisions for the preceding taxable year, the amount 1718 of revenue required to be provided from the property tax as set forth in the annual budget adopted as provided by this chapter, and the tax rate proposed to 19 20be set. Should any political subdivision whose taxes are collected by the county collector of revenue fail to fix its ad valorem property tax rate by [September 2122first] the date provided under this section for such political subdivision, 23then no tax rate other than the rate, if any, necessary to pay the interest and 24principal on any outstanding bonds shall be certified for that year.

252. The governing body shall hold at least one public hearing on the proposed rates of taxes at which citizens shall be heard prior to their 2627approval. The governing body shall determine the time and place for such hearing. A notice stating the hour, date and place of the hearing shall be 28published in at least one newspaper qualified under the laws of the state of 2930 Missouri of general circulation in the county within which all or the largest portion of the political subdivision is situated, or such notice shall be posted in 31at least three public places within the political subdivision; except that, in any 32county of the first class having a charter form of government, such notice may be 33 published in a newspaper of general circulation within the political subdivision 34even though such newspaper is not qualified under the laws of Missouri for other 3536 legal notices. Such notice shall be published or posted at least seven days prior 37 to the date of the hearing. The notice shall include the assessed valuation by category of real, personal and other tangible property in the political subdivision 3839for the fiscal year for which the tax is to be levied as provided by subsection 3 of 40section 137.245, RSMo, the assessed valuation by category of real, personal and other tangible property in the political subdivision for the preceding taxable year, 41for each rate to be levied the amount of revenue required to be provided from the 42property tax as set forth in the annual budget adopted as provided by this 43chapter, and the tax rates proposed to be set for the various purposes of 44taxation. The tax rates shall be calculated to produce substantially the same 45revenues as required in the annual budget adopted as provided in this 46chapter. Following the hearing the governing body of each political subdivision 4748shall fix the rates of taxes, the same to be entered in the tax book. Failure of any 49taxpayer to appear at such hearing shall not prevent the taxpayer from pursuit 50of any other legal remedy otherwise available to the taxpayer. Nothing in this section absolves political subdivisions of responsibilities under section 137.073, 51RSMo, nor to adjust tax rates in event changes in assessed valuation occur that 52

53 would alter the tax rate calculations.

3. 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.

60 4. In addition to the information required under subsections 1 and 2 of 61 this section, each political subdivision shall also include the increase in tax 62 revenue due to an increase in assessed value as a result of new construction and 63 improvement and the increase, both in dollar value and percentage, in tax 64 revenue as a result of reassessment if the proposed tax rate is adopted.

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

2 (1) "General reassessment", changes in value, entered in the assessor's 3 books, of a substantial portion of the parcels of real property within a county 4 resulting wholly or partly from reappraisal of value or other actions of the 5 assessor or county equalization body or ordered by the state tax commission or 6 any court;

7 (2) "Tax rate", "rate", or "rate of levy", singular or plural, includes the tax 8 rate for each purpose of taxation of property a taxing authority is authorized to 9 levy without a vote and any tax rate authorized by election, including bond 10 interest and sinking fund;

11 (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 12rate[; except that, other provisions of law to the contrary notwithstanding, a 13school district may levy the operating levy for school purposes required for the 14current year pursuant to subsection 2 of section 163.021, RSMo, less all 15adjustments required pursuant to article X, section 22 of the Missouri 16Constitution, if such tax rate does not exceed the highest tax rate in effect 17 subsequent to the 1980 tax year]. This is the maximum tax rate that may be 18levied, unless a higher tax rate ceiling is approved by voters of the political 1920subdivision as provided in this section;

(4) "Tax revenue", when referring to the previous year, means the actual
receipts from ad valorem levies on all classes of property, including state-assessed
property, in the immediately preceding fiscal year of the political subdivision,
plus an allowance for taxes billed but not collected in the fiscal year and plus an

additional allowance for the revenue which would have been collected from 2526property which was annexed by such political subdivision but which was not previously used in determining tax revenue pursuant to this section. The term 2728"tax revenue" shall not include any receipts from ad valorem levies on any property of a railroad corporation or a public utility, as these terms are defined 2930 in section 386.020, RSMo, which were assessed by the assessor of a county or city in the previous year but are assessed by the state tax commission in the current 3132year. All school districts and those counties levying sales taxes pursuant to 33chapter 67, RSMo, shall include in the calculation of tax revenue an amount equivalent to that by which they reduced property tax levies as a result of sales 34tax pursuant to section 67.505, RSMo, and section 164.013, RSMo, or as excess 35home dock city or county fees as provided in subsection 4 of section 313.820, 36 RSMo, in the immediately preceding fiscal year but not including any amount 37calculated to adjust for prior years. For purposes of political subdivisions which 38 were authorized to levy a tax in the prior year but which did not levy such tax or 39levied a reduced rate, the term "tax revenue", as used in relation to the revision 40of tax levies mandated by law, shall mean the revenues equal to the amount that 41would have been available if the voluntary rate reduction had not been made. 42

2. Whenever changes in assessed valuation are entered in the assessor's 4344 books for any personal property, in the aggregate, or for any subclass of real 45property as such subclasses are established in section 4(b) of article X of the 46Missouri Constitution and defined in section 137.016, the county clerk in all 47counties and the assessor of St. Louis City shall notify each political subdivision wholly or partially within the county or St. Louis City of the change in valuation 48of each subclass of real property, individually, and personal property, in the 49 aggregate, exclusive of new construction and improvements. All political 50subdivisions shall immediately revise the applicable rates of levy for each purpose 51for each subclass of real property, individually, and personal property, in the 52aggregate, for which taxes are levied to the extent necessary to produce from all 53taxable property, exclusive of new construction and improvements, substantially 5455the same amount of tax revenue as was produced in the previous year for each 56subclass of real property, individually, and personal property, in the aggregate, except that for all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2009, but 57ending on or before December 31, 2013, the rate may not exceed the 58greater of the rate in effect in the 1984 tax year or the most recent 59voter-approved rate. For all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 60

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2014, all political subdivisions shall immediately revise the applicable 61 62rates of levy for each purpose for each subclass of real property, individually, and personal property, in the aggregate, for which taxes 63 are levied to the extent necessary to produce from all taxable property, 64exclusive of new construction and improvements, substantially the 65same amount of tax revenue as was produced in the previous year for 66each subclass of real property, individually, and personal property, in 67the aggregate, except that the rate may not exceed the most recent 68voter-approved rate. For the 2009 tax year, any political subdivision 69 may levy a rate sufficient to generate substantially the same amount of 70tax revenue as was produced in the 2007 tax year from all taxable 71property, exclusive of any new construction or improvements 72attributable to tax years 2008 and 2009, except that such rate shall not 73exceed the greater of the rate in effect for the 1984 tax year or the most 74recent voter approved tax rate. Provisions of section 163.021, RSMo, to 75the contrary notwithstanding, any school district may levy the 76operating levy for school purposes required for the current year 7778pursuant to subsection 2 of section 163.021, RSMo, less all adjustments required pursuant to article X, section 22 of the Missouri Constitution 7980 and under subdivision (4) of subsection 5 of this section, if such tax 81 rate does not exceed the highest tax rate in effect subsequent to the 821980 tax year. Provisions of section 163.021, RSMo, to the contrary 83 notwithstanding, for all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2014, any school district may levy the operating levy for school purposes 84required for the current year pursuant to subsection 2 of section 85163.021, RSMo, less all adjustments required pursuant to article X, 86 87 section 22 of the Missouri Constitution and under subdivision (4) of 88 subsection 5 of this section if such tax rate does not exceed the most recent voter-approved tax rate. Such tax revenue shall not include any 89 receipts from ad valorem levies on any real property which was assessed by the 90 assessor of a county or city in such previous year but is assessed by the assessor 91of a county or city in the current year in a different subclass of real 9293property. Where the taxing authority is a school district for the purposes of revising the applicable rates of levy for each subclass of real property, the tax 9495revenues from state-assessed railroad and utility property shall be apportioned 96 and attributed to each subclass of real property based on the percentage of the 97 total assessed valuation of the county that each subclass of real property

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113 114 represents in the current taxable year. As provided in section 22 of article X of the constitution, a political subdivision may also revise each levy to allow for inflationary assessment growth occurring within the political subdivision. The inflationary growth factor for any such subclass of real property or personal property shall be limited to the actual assessment growth in such subclass or class, exclusive of new construction and improvements, and exclusive of the assessed value on any real property which was 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 consumer price index or five percent, whichever is lower. Should the tax revenue of a political subdivision from the various tax rates determined in this subsection be different than the tax revenue that would have been determined from a single tax rate as calculated pursuant to the method of calculation in this subsection prior to January 1, 2003, then the political subdivision shall revise the tax rates of those subclasses of real property, individually, and/or personal property, in the aggregate, in which there is a tax rate reduction, pursuant to the provisions of this subsection. Such revision shall yield an amount equal to such difference and shall be apportioned among such

subclasses of real property, individually, and/or personal property, in the 115aggregate, based on the relative assessed valuation of the class or subclasses of 116 117 property experiencing a tax rate reduction. Such revision in the tax rates of each 118 class or subclass shall be made by computing the percentage of current year 119 adjusted assessed valuation of each class or subclass with a tax rate reduction to 120the total current year adjusted assessed valuation of the class or subclasses with a tax rate reduction, multiplying the resulting percentages by the revenue 121difference between the single rate calculation and the calculations pursuant to 122123this subsection and dividing by the respective adjusted current year assessed 124valuation of each class or subclass to determine the adjustment to the rate to be levied upon each class or subclass of property. The adjustment computed herein 125126shall be multiplied by one hundred, rounded to four decimals in the manner 127provided in this subsection, and added to the initial rate computed for each class 128or subclass of property. Notwithstanding any provision of this subsection to the 129contrary, no revision to the rate of levy for personal property shall cause such 130levy to increase over the levy for personal property from the prior year.

131 3. (1) Where the taxing authority is a school district, it shall be required
132 to revise the rates of levy to the extent necessary to produce from all taxable
133 property, including state-assessed railroad and utility property, which shall be

134separately estimated in addition to other data required in complying with section 135164.011, RSMo, substantially the amount of tax revenue permitted in this section. In the year following tax rate reduction, the tax rate ceiling may be adjusted to 136 137offset such district's reduction in the apportionment of state school moneys due to its reduced tax rate. However, in the event any school district, in calculating 138139a tax rate ceiling pursuant to this section, requiring the estimating of effects of state-assessed railroad and utility valuation or loss of state aid, discovers that the 140141estimates used result in receipt of excess revenues, which would have required 142a lower rate if the actual information had been known, the school district shall reduce the tax rate ceiling in the following year to compensate for the excess 143receipts, and the recalculated rate shall become the tax rate ceiling for purposes 144of this section. 145

146 (2) For any political subdivision which experiences a reduction in the 147 amount of assessed valuation relating to a prior year, due to decisions of the state 148 tax commission or a court pursuant to sections 138.430 to 138.433, RSMo, or due 149 to clerical errors or corrections in the calculation or recordation of any assessed 150 valuation:

(a) Such political subdivision may revise the tax rate ceiling for each 151purpose it levies taxes to compensate for the reduction in assessed value 152153occurring after the political subdivision calculated the tax rate ceiling for the 154particular subclass of real property or for personal property, in the aggregate, in 155a prior year. Such revision by the political subdivision shall be made at the time 156of the next calculation of the tax rate for the particular subclass of real property or for personal property, in the aggregate, after the reduction in assessed 157valuation has been determined and shall be calculated in a manner that results 158in the revised tax rate ceiling being the same as it would have been had the 159corrected or finalized assessment been available at the time of the prior 160161 calculation;

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

168 4. (1) In order to implement the provisions of this section and section 22
169 of article X of the Constitution of Missouri, the term "improvements" shall apply

170to both real and personal property. In order to determine the value of new 171construction and improvements, each county assessor shall maintain a record of real property valuations in such a manner as to identify each year the increase 172173in valuation for each political subdivision in the county as a result of new 174construction and improvements. The value of new construction and 175improvements shall include the additional assessed value of all improvements or 176additions to real property which were begun after and were not part of the prior 177year's assessment, except that the additional assessed value of all improvements 178or additions to real property which had been totally or partially exempt from ad valorem taxes pursuant to sections 99.800 to 99.865, RSMo, sections 135.200 to 179180 135.255, RSMo, and section 353.110, RSMo, shall be included in the value of new construction and improvements when the property becomes totally or partially 181 182subject to assessment and payment of all ad valorem taxes. The aggregate 183increase in valuation of personal property for the current year over that of the previous year is the equivalent of the new construction and improvements factor 184185for personal property. Notwithstanding any opt-out implemented pursuant to 186 subsection 15 of section 137.115, the assessor shall certify the amount of new construction and improvements and the amount of assessed value on any real 187 property which was assessed by the assessor of a county or city in such previous 188189 year but is assessed by the assessor of a county or city in the current year in a 190 different subclass of real property separately for each of the three subclasses of 191 real property for each political subdivision to the county clerk in order that 192political subdivisions shall have this information for the purpose of calculating tax rates pursuant to this section and section 22, article X, Constitution of 193194 Missouri. In addition, the state tax commission shall certify each year to each 195 county clerk the increase in the general price level as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers for the United States, or its successor 196 publications, as defined and officially reported by the United States Department 197 198 of Labor, or its successor agency. The state tax commission shall certify the 199increase in such index on the latest twelve-month basis available on February 200first of each year over the immediately preceding prior twelve-month period in 201order that political subdivisions shall have this information available in setting 202their tax rates according to law and section 22 of article X of the Constitution of 203 Missouri. For purposes of implementing the provisions of this section and section 20422 of article X of the Missouri Constitution, the term "property" means all taxable 205property, including state-assessed property.

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206(2) Each political subdivision required to revise rates of levy pursuant to 207this section or section 22 of article X of the Constitution of Missouri shall calculate each tax rate it is authorized to levy and, in establishing each tax rate, 208209shall consider each provision for tax rate revision provided in this section and section 22 of article X of the Constitution of Missouri, separately and without 210211regard to annual tax rate reductions provided in section 67.505, RSMo, and section 164.013, RSMo. Each political subdivision shall set each tax rate it is 212213authorized to levy using the calculation that produces the lowest tax rate ceiling. 214It is further the intent of the general assembly, pursuant to the authority of section 10(c) of article X of the Constitution of Missouri, that the provisions of 215such section be applicable to tax rate revisions mandated pursuant to section 22 216of article X of the Constitution of Missouri as to reestablishing tax rates as 217revised in subsequent years, enforcement provisions, and other provisions not in 218219conflict with section 22 of article X of the Constitution of Missouri. Annual tax rate reductions provided in section 67.505, RSMo, and section 164.013, RSMo, 220shall be applied to the tax rate as established pursuant to this section and section 22122222 of article X of the Constitution of Missouri, unless otherwise provided by law. 2235. (1) In all political subdivisions, the tax rate ceiling established pursuant to this section shall not be increased unless approved by a vote of the 224225people. Approval of the higher tax rate shall be by at least a majority of votes 226cast. When a proposed higher tax rate requires approval by more than a simple 227majority pursuant to any provision of law or the constitution, the tax rate 228increase must receive approval by at least the majority required.

229(2) When voters approve an increase in the tax rate, the amount of the increase shall be added to the tax rate ceiling as calculated pursuant to this 230section to the extent the total rate does not exceed any maximum rate prescribed 231232by law. If a ballot question presents a stated tax rate for approval rather than describing the amount of increase in the question, the stated tax rate approved 233234shall be adjusted as provided in this section and, so adjusted, shall be the current 235tax rate ceiling. The increased tax rate ceiling as approved shall be adjusted 236such that when applied to the current total assessed valuation of the political 237subdivision, excluding new construction and improvements since the date of the 238election approving such increase, the revenue derived from the adjusted tax rate 239ceiling is equal to the sum of: the amount of revenue which would have been derived by applying the voter-approved increased tax rate ceiling to total assessed 240valuation of the political subdivision, as most recently certified by the city or 241

242county clerk on or before the date of the election in which such increase is 243approved, increased by the percentage increase in the consumer price index, as provided by law. Such adjusted tax rate ceiling may be applied to the total 244245assessed valuation of the political subdivision at the setting of the next tax rate. 246If a ballot question presents a phased-in tax rate increase, upon voter approval, each tax rate increase shall be adjusted in the manner prescribed in this section 247248to yield the sum of: the amount of revenue that would be derived by applying 249such voter-approved increased rate to the total assessed valuation, as most 250recently certified by the city or county clerk on or before the date of the election 251in which such increase was approved, increased by the percentage increase in the 252consumer price index, as provided by law, from the date of the election to the time 253of such increase and, so adjusted, shall be the current tax rate ceiling.

254(3) The governing body of any political subdivision may levy a tax rate 255lower than its tax rate ceiling and may, in a nonreassessment year, increase that 256lowered tax rate to a level not exceeding the tax rate ceiling without voter 257approval in the manner provided under subdivision (4) of this 258subsection. Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting a political subdivision from voluntarily levying a tax rate lower than that which is required 259260under the provisions of this section or from seeking voter approval of a reduction 261to such political subdivision's tax rate ceiling.

262(4) In a year of general reassessment, a governing body whose tax rate is 263lower than its tax rate ceiling shall revise its tax rate pursuant to the provisions 264of subsection 4 of this section as if its tax rate was at the tax rate ceiling. In a year following general reassessment, if such governing body intends to increase 265its tax rate, the governing body shall conduct a public hearing, and in a public 266267meeting it shall adopt an ordinance, resolution, or policy statement justifying its 268action prior to setting and certifying its tax rate. The provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to any political subdivision which levies a tax rate 269270lower than its tax rate ceiling solely due to a reduction required by law resulting 271from sales tax collections. The provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to 272any political subdivision which has received voter approval for an increase to its 273tax rate ceiling subsequent to setting its most recent tax rate.

6. (1) For the purposes of calculating state aid for public schools pursuant to section 163.031, RSMo, each taxing authority which is a school district shall determine its proposed tax rate as a blended rate of the classes or subclasses of property. Such blended rate shall be calculated by first determining the total tax 278revenue of the property within the jurisdiction of the taxing authority, which 279amount shall be equal to the sum of the products of multiplying the assessed valuation of each class and subclass of property by the corresponding tax rate for 280281such class or subclass, then dividing the total tax revenue by the total assessed 282valuation of the same jurisdiction, and then multiplying the resulting quotient 283by a factor of one hundred. Where the taxing authority is a school district, such 284blended rate shall also be used by such school district for calculating revenue 285from state-assessed railroad and utility property as defined in chapter 151, RSMo, 286and for apportioning the tax rate by purpose.

287(2) Each taxing authority proposing to levy a tax rate in any year shall 288notify the clerk of the county commission in the county or counties where the tax rate applies of its tax rate ceiling and its proposed tax rate. Each taxing 289authority shall express its proposed tax rate in a fraction equal to the nearest 290291one-tenth of a cent, unless its proposed tax rate is in excess of one dollar, then one/one-hundredth of a cent. If a taxing authority shall round to 292293one/one-hundredth of a cent, it shall round up a fraction greater than or equal to 294five/one-thousandth of one cent to the next higher one/one-hundredth of a cent; if a taxing authority shall round to one-tenth of a cent, it shall round up a 295fraction greater than or equal to five/one-hundredths of a cent to the next higher 296297one-tenth of a cent. Any taxing authority levying a property tax rate shall 298provide data, in such form as shall be prescribed by the state auditor by rule, 299substantiating such tax rate complies with Missouri law. All forms for the 300 calculation of rates pursuant to this section shall be promulgated as a rule and shall not be incorporated by reference. The state auditor shall promulgate rules 301 for any and all forms for the calculation of rates pursuant to this section which 302do not currently exist in rule form or that have been incorporated by reference. In 303addition, each taxing authority proposing to levy a tax rate for debt service shall 304provide data, in such form as shall be prescribed by the state auditor by rule, 305306 substantiating the tax rate for debt service complies with Missouri law. A tax 307 rate proposed for annual debt service requirements will be prima facie valid if, 308 after making the payment for which the tax was levied, bonds remain outstanding 309 and the debt fund reserves do not exceed the following year's payments. The 310county clerk shall keep on file and available for public inspection all such information for a period of three years. The clerk shall, within three days of 311receipt, forward a copy of the notice of a taxing authority's tax rate ceiling and 312proposed tax rate and any substantiating data to the state auditor. The state 313

314auditor shall, within fifteen days of the date of receipt, examine such information 315and return to the county clerk his or her findings as to compliance of the tax rate ceiling with this section and as to compliance of any proposed tax rate for debt 316 317 service with Missouri law. If the state auditor believes that a taxing authority's proposed tax rate does not comply with Missouri law, then the state auditor's 318319 findings shall include a recalculated tax rate, and the state auditor may request 320a taxing authority to submit documentation supporting such taxing authority's 321proposed tax rate. The county clerk shall immediately forward a copy of the 322auditor's findings to the taxing authority and shall file a copy of the findings with 323the information received from the taxing authority. The taxing authority shall 324 have fifteen days from the date of receipt from the county clerk of the state auditor's findings and any request for supporting documentation to accept or 325reject in writing the rate change certified by the state auditor and to submit all 326 327 requested information to the state auditor. A copy of the taxing authority's acceptance or rejection and any information submitted to the state auditor shall 328329 also be mailed to the county clerk. If a taxing authority rejects a rate change 330 certified by the state auditor and the state auditor does not receive supporting information which justifies the taxing authority's original or any subsequent 331332proposed tax rate, then the state auditor shall refer the perceived violations of 333 such taxing authority to the attorney general's office and the attorney general is 334authorized to obtain injunctive relief to prevent the taxing authority from levying 335 a violative tax rate.

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

339 8. Whenever a taxpayer has cause to believe that a taxing authority has 340not complied with the provisions of this section, the taxpayer may make a formal complaint with the prosecuting attorney of the county. Where the prosecuting 341342 attorney fails to bring an action within ten days of the filing of the complaint, the 343taxpayer may bring a civil action pursuant to this section and institute an action as representative of a class of all taxpayers within a taxing authority if the class 344345is so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable, if there are questions 346of law or fact common to the class, if the claims or defenses of the representative 347parties are typical of the claims or defenses of the class, and if the representative parties will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the class. In any class 348 action maintained pursuant to this section, the court may direct to the members 349

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350 of the class a notice to be published at least once each week for four consecutive 351weeks in a newspaper of general circulation published in the county where the civil action is commenced and in other counties within the jurisdiction of a taxing 352353authority. The notice shall advise each member that the court will exclude him or her from the class if he or she so requests by a specified date, that the 354355judgment, whether favorable or not, will include all members who do not request 356exclusion, and that any member who does not request exclusion may, if he or she 357desires, enter an appearance. In any class action brought pursuant to this 358section, the court, in addition to the relief requested, shall assess against the taxing authority found to be in violation of this section the reasonable costs of 359360bringing the action, including reasonable attorney's fees, provided no attorney's 361fees shall be awarded any attorney or association of attorneys who receive public funds from any source for their services. Any action brought pursuant to this 362363section shall be set for hearing as soon as practicable after the cause is at issue.

364 9. If in any action, including a class action, the court issues an order 365requiring 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 366revise the rate of levy as provided in this section, any taxpayer paying his or her 367 taxes when an improper rate is applied has erroneously paid his or her taxes in 368 369 part, whether or not the taxes are paid under protest as provided in section 370139.031, RSMo, or otherwise contested. The part of the taxes paid erroneously 371is the difference in the amount produced by the original levy and the amount 372produced by the revised levy. The township or county collector of taxes or the 373collector of taxes in any city shall refund the amount of the tax erroneously paid. The taxing authority refusing to revise the rate of levy as provided in this 374section shall make available to the collector all funds necessary to make refunds 375376pursuant to this subsection. No taxpayer shall receive any interest on any money erroneously paid by him or her pursuant to this subsection. Effective in the 1994 377tax year, nothing in this section shall be construed to require a taxing authority 378379to refund any tax erroneously paid prior to or during the third tax year preceding the current tax year. 380

10. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, RSMo, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536, RSMo, and, if applicable, section 536.028, RSMo. This section and chapter 536, RSMo, are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the

general assembly pursuant to chapter 536, RSMo, to review, to delay the effective
date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional,
then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after
August 28, 2004, shall be invalid and void.

139.031. 1. Any taxpayer may protest all or any part of any current taxes $\mathbf{2}$ assessed against the taxpayer, except taxes collected by the director of revenue of Missouri. Any such taxpayer desiring to pay any current taxes under protest 3 4 or while paying taxes based upon a disputed assessment shall, at the time 5of paying such taxes, make full payment of the current tax bill before the delinquency date and file with the collector a written statement setting forth 6 the grounds on which the protest or dispute is based. The statement shall 7 include the true value in money claimed by the taxpayer if disputed. An appeal 8 before the state tax commission shall not be dismissed on the grounds 9 10 that a taxpayer failed to file a written statement when paying taxes based upon a disputed assessment. 11

12 2. [For all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2009, any taxpayer
13 desiring to protest any current taxes shall make full payment of the current tax
14 bill and file with the collector a written statement setting forth the grounds on
15 which the protest is based.

163.] Upon receiving payment of current taxes under protest pursuant to 17 subsection 1 of this section or upon receiving from the state tax commission or the 18circuit court notice of an appeal from the state tax commission or the circuit court pursuant to section 138.430, RSMo, the collector shall disburse to the proper 1920official all portions of taxes not protested or not disputed by the taxpayer and 21shall impound in a separate fund all portions of such taxes which are protested or in dispute. Every taxpayer protesting the payment of current taxes under 22subsection 1 [or 2] of this section shall, within ninety days after filing his protest, 23commence an action against the collector by filing a petition for the recovery of 24the amount protested in the circuit court of the county in which the collector 25maintains his office. If any taxpayer so protesting his taxes under subsection 1 26[or 2] of this section shall fail to commence an action in the circuit court for the 27recovery of the taxes protested within the time prescribed in this subsection, such 2829protest shall become null and void and of no effect, and the collector shall then 30 disburse to the proper official the taxes impounded, and any interest earned 31thereon, as provided above in this subsection.

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[4.] 3. 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 protested under subsection 401 [or 2] of this section in the circuit court shall be in the manner prescribed for 41 nonjury civil proceedings, and, after determination of the issues, the court shall 42make such orders as may be just and equitable to refund to the taxpayer all or 4344any part of the current taxes paid under protest, together with any interest earned thereon, or to authorize the collector to release and disburse all or any 45part of the impounded taxes, and any interest earned thereon, to the appropriate 46officials of the taxing authorities. Either party to the proceedings may appeal the 47determination of the circuit court. 48

49[6.] 5. All the county collectors of taxes, and the collector of taxes in any city not within a county, shall, upon written application of a taxpayer, refund or 50credit against the taxpayer's tax liability in the following taxable year and 5152subsequent consecutive taxable years until the taxpayer has received credit in full 53for any real or personal property tax mistakenly or erroneously levied against the taxpayer and collected in whole or in part by the collector. Such application shall 5455be filed within three years after the tax is mistakenly or erroneously paid. The 56governing body, or other appropriate body or official of the county or city not within a county, shall make available to the collector funds necessary to make 57refunds under this subsection by issuing warrants upon the fund to which the 58mistaken or erroneous payment has been credited, or otherwise. 59

60 [7.] 6. No taxpayer shall receive any interest on any money paid in by the61 taxpayer erroneously.

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

72[9.] 8. Any taxing authority may request to be notified by the county collector of current taxes paid under protest. Such request 7374shall be in writing and submitted on or before [March] February first next 75following the delinquent date of **current** taxes paid under protest or disputed, and the county collector shall [notify any] provide such information on or 76before March first of the same year to the requesting taxing authority of 77the taxes paid under protest and disputed taxes which would be received by such 7879taxing authority if the funds were not the subject of a protest or dispute. Any taxing authority may apply to the circuit court of the county or city not within a 80 county in which a collector has impounded protested or disputed taxes under this 81 section and, upon a satisfactory showing that such taxing authority would receive 82 such impounded tax funds if they were not the subject of a protest or dispute and 83 that such taxing authority has the financial ability and legal capacity to repay 84 such impounded tax funds in the event a decision ordering a refund to the 85taxpayer is subsequently made, the circuit court shall order, pendente lite, the 86 disbursal of all or any part of such impounded tax funds to such taxing 87 88 authority. The circuit court issuing an order under this subsection shall retain 89 jurisdiction of such matter for further proceedings, if any, to compel restitution 90 of such tax funds to the taxpayer. In the event that any protested or disputed tax funds refunded to a taxpayer were disbursed to a taxing authority under this 91subsection instead of being held and invested by the collector under subsection 928 of this section, such taxing authority shall pay the taxpayer entitled to the 93refund of such protested or disputed taxes the same amount of interest, as 94determined by the circuit court having jurisdiction in the matter, such protested 95or disputed taxes would have earned if they had been held and invested by the 96 97 collector.

98 [10.] 9. No appeal filed from the circuit court's or state tax commission's 99 determination pertaining to the amount of refund shall stay any order of refund, 100 but the decision filed by any court of last review modifying that determination 101 shall be binding on the parties, and the decision rendered shall be complied with 102 by the party affected by any modification within ninety days of the date of such 103 decision. No taxpayer shall receive any interest on any additional award of 104 refund, and the collector shall not receive any interest on any ordered return of 105 refund in whole or in part.

139.140. Except as provided in section 52.361, RSMo, the personal delinquent lists allowed to any collector shall be delivered to the collector and 23 when [his] the collector's term of office expires then to [his] the successor, who shall be charged with the full amount thereof, and shall account therefor as for 4 other moneys collected by [him] the collector. When [he] the collector makes 5[his] the next annual settlement [he] the collector shall return the lists to the 6 7 clerk of the county commission, and in the city of St. Louis the lists and the uncollected tax bills to the comptroller of the city, and shall be entitled to credit 8 for the amount [he] the collector has been unable to collect. The lists and bills 9 shall be delivered to [his] the collector's successor, and so on until the whole 1011 are collected.

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

139.210. 1. Every county collector and [ex officio county collector] collector-treasurer, other than the county collector of revenue of each 23 county of the first or second classifications and except in the city of St. 4 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 5 6 municipal taxes, and of all licenses by [him] the collector collected during the 7preceding month, and shall, except for tax payments made pursuant to section 139.053, on or before the fifteenth day of the month, pay the same, less [his] the 8 collector's commissions, into the county treasuries and to the director of 9 10 revenue.

2. The county collector of revenue of each county of the first or 11 12second classifications shall, before the fifteenth day of each month, file with the county clerk and auditor a detailed statement, verified by 13affidavit, of all state, county, school, road, and municipal taxes and of 14all licenses collected by the collector during the preceding month, and 1516shall, except for tax payments made under section 139.053, on or before the fifteenth day of the month, pay such taxes and licenses, less 1718commissions, into the treasuries of the appropriate taxing entities and to the director of revenue. 19

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

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

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 completed, the 6 clerk shall deliver the book to the collector taking duplicate receipts therefor, one 7 of which [he] the clerk shall file in [his] the clerk's office and the other [he] 8 the clerk shall file with the director of revenue. The clerk shall charge the 9 collector with the aggregate amount of taxes, interest, and clerk's fees contained 10 in the back tax book.

3. The collector shall collect such back taxes and may levy upon, seize and
 distrain tangible personal property and may sell 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 in counties not having a county auditor 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 case the collector of any city or town has omitted or neglected to return to the
county collector a list of delinquent lands and lots, as required by section 140.670,

7 the present authorities of the city or town may cause the delinquent list to be 8 certified, as by that section contemplated, and the delinquent taxes shall be by 9 the county clerk put upon the back tax book and collected by the collector under 10 authority of this chapter.

140.080. Except as provided in section 52.361, RSMo, the county clerk and the county collector shall compare the back tax book with the corrected delinquent land list made pursuant to sections 140.030 and 140.040 respectively, and the clerk shall certify on the delinquent land list on file in [his] the clerk's office that the list has been properly entered in the back tax 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 file in [his] the collector's office.

140.160. 1. No proceedings for the sale of land and lots for delinquent taxes pursuant to this chapter or unpaid special assessments as provided in 2section 67.469, RSMo, relating to the collection of delinquent and back taxes and 3 unpaid special assessments and providing for foreclosure sale and redemption of 4 land and lots therefor, shall be valid unless initial proceedings therefor shall be 5commenced within three years after delinquency of such taxes and unpaid special 6 assessments, and any sale held pursuant to initial proceedings commenced within 7 such period of three years shall be deemed to have been in compliance with the 8 9 provisions of said law insofar as the time at which such sales are to be had is 10specified therein; provided further, that in suits or actions to collect delinquent drainage and/or levee assessments on real estate such suits or actions shall be 11 12commenced within three years after delinquency, otherwise no suit or action 13therefor shall be commenced, had or maintained, except that the three-year limitation described in this subsection shall not be applicable if any written 14instrument conveys any real estate having a tax-exempt status, if such 15instrument causes such real estate to again become taxable real property and if 16such instrument has not been recorded in the office of the recorder in the county 17in which the real estate has been situated. Such three-year limitation shall only 18 be applicable once the recording of the title has occurred. 19

20 2. [In order to enable county and city collectors to be able to collect 21 delinquent and back taxes and unpaid special assessments,] The county auditor 22 in all counties having a county auditor shall annually audit [and list all 23 delinquent and back taxes and unpaid special assessments] collections, 24 deposits, and supporting reports of the collector and provide a copy of such 25 audit [and list] to the county collector and to the governing body of the county. 26 A copy of the audit [and list] may be provided to [city collectors] all applicable

27 taxing entities within the county at the discretion of the county collector.

165.071. 1. At least once in every month the county collector in all $\mathbf{2}$ counties of the first and second classifications and the collector-treasurer in counties having township organization shall pay over to the treasurer of the 3 4 school board of all seven-director districts all moneys received and collected by the county collector and the collector-treasurer to which the board is entitled 5and take duplicate receipts from the treasurer, one of which the county 6 collector and the collector-treasurer shall file with the secretary of the school 78 board and the other the **county collector and the** collector-treasurer shall file 9 in his or her settlement with the county commission.

10 2. The county collector in counties of the third and fourth classification, except in counties under township organization, shall pay over to the county 11 treasurer at least once in every month all moneys received and collected by the 12county collector which are due each school district and shall take duplicate 13receipts therefor, one of which the county collector shall file in his or her 14settlement with the county commission. The county treasurer in such counties 15shall pay over to the treasurer of the school board of seven-director districts, at 16 least once in every month, all moneys so received by the county treasurer to 1718which the board is entitled. Upon payment the county treasurer shall take 19duplicate receipts from the treasurer of the school board, one of which the county 20treasurer shall file with the secretary of the school board, and the other [he] the county treasurer shall file in his or her settlement with the county commission. 21