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SENATE BILL No. 163

Proposed Changes to introduced printing by AM016307

DIGEST OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Orders to enter property. Adds provisions: (1) limiting the entry onto a taxpayer's property by local assessing officials, the county property tax assessment board of appeals (county board), and the Indiana board of tax review (Indiana board) in property tax appeals without first receiving the permission of the taxpayer to enter the property; and (2) prohibiting the issuance of orders by a county board or the Indiana board authorizing entry onto property without taxpayer permission.

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning taxation.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

- 1 [SECTION 1. IC 6-1.1-4-15, AS AMENDED BY P.L.146-2008,
2 SECTION 69, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 15. (a) If real property is subject to
4 assessment or reassessment under this chapter, the assessor of the
5 township in which the property is located, or the county assessor if
6 there is no township assessor for the township, shall either appraise the
7 property or have it appraised.
8 (b) In order to determine the assessed value of buildings and other
9 improvements, the township or county assessor or the assessor's
10 authorized representative may, after first making known the assessor's
11 or representative's intention to the owner or occupant, enter and fully
12 examine all buildings and structures which are located within the
13 township or county and which are subject to assessment. However, the
14 township or county assessor or the assessor's authorized
15 representative shall not enter any buildings and structures without
16 first receiving the permission of the owner or occupant to enter the
17 building or structure. Notwithstanding any other provision to the

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contrary, a county property tax assessment board of appeals or the Indiana board of tax review shall not issue an order (including an order issued under 52 IAC 4-8-3) authorizing entry onto a taxpayer's property without the owner's or occupant's permission.

SECTION ~~4-8-3~~[2]. IC 6-1.1-12-14, AS AMENDED BY P.L.230-2025, SECTION 32, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 14. (a) Except as provided in subsection (c) and except as provided in section 40.5 of this chapter, an individual may have the sum of fourteen thousand dollars (\$14,000) deducted from the assessed value of the real property, mobile home not assessed as real property, or manufactured home not assessed as real property that the individual owns (or the real property, mobile home not assessed as real property, or manufactured home not assessed as real property that the individual is buying under a contract that provides that the individual is to pay property taxes on the real property, mobile home, or manufactured home if the contract or a memorandum of the contract is recorded in the county recorder's office) if:

- (1) the individual served in the military or naval forces of the United States for at least ninety (90) days;
- (2) the individual received an honorable discharge;
- (3) the individual either:
 - (A) has a total disability; or
 - (B) is at least sixty-two (62) years old and has a disability of at least ten percent (10%);
- (4) the individual's disability is evidenced by:
 - (A) a pension certificate or an award of compensation issued by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs; or
 - (B) a certificate of eligibility issued to the individual by the Indiana department of veterans' affairs after the Indiana department of veterans' affairs has determined that the individual's disability qualifies the individual to receive a deduction under this section; and
- (5) the individual:
 - (A) owns the real property, mobile home, or manufactured home; or
 - (B) is buying the real property, mobile home, or manufactured home under contract;
 on the date the statement required by section 15 of this chapter is filed.

(b) Except as provided in subsections (c) and ~~(d)~~; **(d)(1) through**



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(d)(3), the surviving spouse of an individual may receive the deduction provided by this section if:

(1) the individual satisfied the requirements of subsection (a)(1) through (a)(4) at the time of death; or

(2) the individual:

(A) was killed in action;

(B) died while serving on active duty in the military or naval forces of the United States; or

(C) died while performing inactive duty training in the military or naval forces of the United States; and

the surviving spouse satisfies the requirement of subsection (a)(5) at the time the deduction statement is filed. The surviving spouse is entitled to the deduction regardless of whether the property for which the deduction is claimed was owned by the deceased veteran or the surviving spouse before the deceased veteran's death.

(c) **This subsection applies to assessment dates before January 1, 2027.** Except as provided in subsection (f), no one is entitled to the deduction provided by this section if the assessed value of the individual's Indiana real property, Indiana mobile home not assessed as real property, and Indiana manufactured home not assessed as real property, as shown by the tax duplicate, exceeds the assessed value limit specified in subsection ~~(d)~~: **(d)(1) through (d)(3).**

(d) Except as provided in subsection (f), for the:

(1) January 1, 2017, January 1, 2018, and January 1, 2019, assessment dates, the assessed value limit for purposes of subsection (c) is one hundred seventy-five thousand dollars (\$175,000);

(2) January 1, 2020, January 1, 2021, January 1, 2022, and January 1, 2023, assessment dates, the assessed value limit for purposes of subsection (c) is two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000); ~~and~~

(3) January 1, 2024, **January 1, 2025, and January 1, 2026,** assessment ~~date dates, and for each assessment date thereafter,~~ the assessed value limit for purposes of subsection (c) is two hundred forty thousand dollars (\$240,000); **and**

(4) January 1, 2027, assessment date and for each assessment date thereafter, there shall be no assessed value limit to claim the deduction under this section.

(e) An individual who has sold real property, a mobile home not assessed as real property, or a manufactured home not assessed as real property to another person under a contract that provides that the contract buyer is to pay the property taxes on the real property, mobile



home, or manufactured home may not claim the deduction provided under this section against that real property, mobile home, or manufactured home.

(f) **This subsection applies to assessment dates before January 1, 2027.** For purposes of determining the assessed value of the real property, mobile home, or manufactured home under subsection ~~(d)~~ **(d)(1) through (d)(3)** for an individual who has received a deduction under this section in a previous year, increases in assessed value that occur after the later of:

(1) December 31, 2019; or

(2) the first year that the individual has received the deduction; are not considered unless the increase in assessed value is attributable to substantial renovation or new improvements. Where there is an increase in assessed value for purposes of the deduction under this section, the assessor shall provide a report to the county auditor describing the substantial renovation or new improvements, if any, that were made to the property prior to the increase in assessed value.

SECTION ~~167~~ ^[3]. IC 6-1.1-15-1.1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.9-2024, SECTION 167, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 1.1. (a) A taxpayer may appeal an assessment of a taxpayer's tangible property by filing a notice in writing with the township assessor, or the county assessor if the township is not served by a township assessor. Except as provided in subsections (e) and (h), an appeal under this section may raise any claim of an error related to the following:

(1) The assessed value of the property.

(2) The assessment was against the wrong person.

(3) The approval, denial, or omission of a deduction, credit, exemption, abatement, or tax cap.

(4) A clerical, mathematical, or typographical mistake.

(5) The description of the real property.

(6) The legality or constitutionality of a property tax or assessment.

A written notice under this section must be made on a form designated by the department of local government finance. A taxpayer must file a separate petition for each parcel.

(b) A taxpayer may appeal an error in the assessed value of the property under subsection (a)(1) any time after the official's action, but not later than the following:

(1) For assessments before January 1, 2019, the earlier of:

(A) forty-five (45) days after the date on which the notice of assessment is mailed by the county; or



(B) forty-five (45) days after the date on which the tax statement is mailed by the county treasurer, regardless of whether the assessing official changes the taxpayer's assessment.

(2) For assessments of real property, after December 31, 2018, the earlier of:

(A) June 15 of the assessment year, if the notice of assessment is mailed by the county before May 1 of the assessment year; or

(B) June 15 of the year in which the tax statement is mailed by the county treasurer, if the notice of assessment is mailed by the county on or after May 1 of the assessment year.

(3) For assessments of personal property, forty-five (45) days after the date on which the county mails the notice under IC 6-1.1-3-20.

A taxpayer may appeal an error in the assessment under subsection (a)(2), (a)(3), (a)(4), (a)(5), or (a)(6) not later than three (3) years after the taxes were first due.

(c) Except as provided in subsection (d), an appeal under this section applies only to the tax year corresponding to the tax statement or other notice of action.

(d) An appeal under this section applies to a prior tax year if a county official took action regarding a prior tax year, and such action is reflected for the first time in the tax statement. A taxpayer who has timely filed a written notice of appeal under this section may be required to file a petition for each tax year, and each petition filed later must be considered timely.

(e) A taxpayer may not appeal under this section any claim of error related to the following:

(1) The denial of a deduction, exemption, abatement, or credit if the authority to approve or deny is not vested in the county board, county auditor, county assessor, or township assessor.

(2) The calculation of interest and penalties.

(3) A matter under subsection (a) if a separate appeal or review process is statutorily prescribed.

However, a claim may be raised under this section regarding the omission or application of a deduction approved by an authority other than the county board, county auditor, county assessor, or township assessor.

(f) The filing of a written notice under this section constitutes a request by the taxpayer for a preliminary informal meeting with the township assessor, or the county assessor if the township is not served



by a township assessor.

(g) A county or township official who receives a written notice under this section shall forward the notice to:

(1) the county board; and

(2) the county auditor, if the taxpayer raises a claim regarding a matter that is in the discretion of the county auditor.

(h) A taxpayer may not raise any claim in an appeal under this section related to the legality or constitutionality of:


(1) a user fee (as defined in IC 33-23-1-10.5);

(2) any other charge, fee, or rate imposed by a political subdivision under any other law; or

(3) any tax imposed by a political subdivision other than a property tax.

(i) This subsection applies only to an appeal based on a claim of error in the determination of property that is or is not eligible for a standard homestead deduction under IC 6-1.1-12-37 and only for an assessment date occurring before January 1, 2024. A taxpayer may appeal an error in the assessment of property as described in this subsection any time after the official's action, but not later than one (1) year after the date on which the property that is the subject of the appeal was assessed.

(j) A county assessor who uses the contract services of a professional appraiser under IC 6-1.1-4-18.5 for assessment or reassessment purposes may not, anytime after the real property assessment date under IC 6-1.1-2-1.5 for the given assessment year, request, receive, consider, or use any additional advisory information provided to the county assessor from the professional appraiser for the purposes of a property tax appeal under this chapter, including a preliminary informal meeting under section 1.2(a) of this chapter.

SECTION  4. IC 6-1.1-15-1.2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.9-2024, SECTION 168, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 1.2. (a) A county or township official who receives a written notice under section 1.1 of this chapter shall schedule, at a time during business hours that is convenient to the taxpayer, a preliminary informal meeting with the taxpayer in order to resolve the appeal. If the taxpayer raises a claim regarding a matter that is in the discretion of the county auditor, the informal meeting must include the county auditor. At the preliminary informal meeting, in order to facilitate understanding and the resolution of disputed issues:

(1) a county or township official;

(2) the county auditor, if the matter is in the discretion of the



1 county auditor; and
2 (3) the taxpayer;
3 shall exchange the information that each party is relying on at the time
4 of the preliminary informal meeting to support the party's respective
5 position on each disputed issue concerning the assessment or
6 deduction. If additional information is obtained by the county or
7 township official, the county auditor, or the taxpayer after the
8 preliminary informal meeting and before the hearing held by the county
9 board, the party obtaining the information shall provide the information
10 to the other party. If the county or township official, the county auditor,
11 or the taxpayer obtains additional information and provides the
12 information to the other party for the first time at the hearing held by
13 the county board, the county board, unless waived by the receiving
14 party, shall continue the hearing until a future hearing date of the
15 county board so that the receiving party has an opportunity to review
16 all the information that the offering party is relying on to support the
17 offering party's positions on the disputed issues concerning the
18 assessment or deduction.
19 (b) The official shall report on a form prescribed by the
20 department of local government finance the results of the informal
21 meeting. If the taxpayer and the official agree on the resolution of all
22 issues in the appeal, the report shall state the agreed resolution of the
23 matter and be signed by the official and the taxpayer. If an informal
24 meeting is not held, or the informal meeting is unsuccessful, the official
25 shall report those facts on the form. The official shall forward the
26 report on the informal meeting to the county board.
27 (c) If the county board receives a report on the informal meeting
28 indicating an agreed resolution of the matter, the county board shall
29 vote to accept or deny the agreed resolution. If the county board accepts
30 the agreed resolution, the county board shall issue a notification of final
31 assessment determination adopting the agreed resolution and vacating
32 the hearing if scheduled.
33 (d) The county board, upon receipt of a written notice under
34 section 1.1 of this chapter, shall hold a hearing on the appeal not later
35 than one hundred eighty (180) days after the filing date of the written
36 notice. The county board shall, by mail, give at least thirty (30) days
37 notice of the date, time, and place fixed for the hearing to the taxpayer,
38 the county or township official with whom the taxpayer filed the
39 written notice, and the county auditor. If the county board has notice
40 that the taxpayer is represented by a third person, any hearing notice
41 shall be mailed to the representative.
42 (e) If good cause is shown, the county board shall grant a request



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for continuance filed in writing at least ten (10) days before the hearing, and reschedule the hearing under subsection (d).

(f) A taxpayer may withdraw an appeal by filing a written request at least ten (10) days before the hearing. The county board shall issue a notification of final assessment determination indicating the withdrawal and no change in the assessment. A withdrawal waives a taxpayer's right to appeal to the Indiana board.

(g) The county board shall determine an appeal without a hearing if requested by the taxpayer in writing at least twenty (20) days before the hearing.

(h) If a taxpayer appeals the assessment of tangible property under section 1.1 of this chapter, the taxpayer is not required to have an appraisal of the property in order to initiate the appeal or prosecute the appeal. If the taxpayer presents an appraisal to the county board that:

(1) is prepared by a certified appraiser in compliance with the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice to determine the market value in use;

(2) is addressed to the property owner or the assessor's office;

(3) is commissioned for the purpose of the assessment appeal; and

(4) has an effective date that is the same date as the date of the assessment that is the subject of the appeal;

the value of the property contained in the appraisal is presumed to be correct. If the county board disagrees with the taxpayer's appraisal, the county board may seek review of the appraisal by a third party independent certified appraiser or obtain an independent appraisal report conducted by a certified appraiser in compliance with the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice. If the county board's appraisal differs from the taxpayer's appraisal, the county board shall weigh the evidence and determine the true tax value of the property based on the totality of the probative evidence before the county board. The county board's determination of the property's true tax value may be higher or lower than the assessment but may not be lower than the lowest appraisal presented to or obtained by the county board, or higher than the highest appraisal presented to or obtained by the county board. After the assignment of value, the parties shall retain their rights to appeal the assessment or assessments to the Indiana board, which must hear the appeal de novo.

(i) At a hearing under subsection (d), the taxpayer shall have the opportunity to present testimony and evidence regarding the matters on appeal. If the matters on appeal are in the discretion of the county auditor, the county auditor or the county auditor's representative shall



attend the hearing. A county or township official, or the county auditor or the county auditor's representative, shall have an opportunity to present testimony and evidence regarding the matters on appeal. The county board may adjourn and continue the hearing to a later date in order to make a physical inspection or consider the evidence presented.

However, the county board or assessing official shall not enter a property to conduct a physical inspection without first receiving the permission of the taxpayer to enter the property to make the physical inspection. Notwithstanding any other provision to the contrary, the county board shall not issue an order (including an order issued under 52 IAC 4-8-3) authorizing entry onto a taxpayer's property without the taxpayer's permission.

(j) The county board shall determine the assessment by motion and majority vote. Except as provided in subsection (m), a county board may, based on the evidence before it, increase an assessment. The county board shall issue a written decision. Written notice of the decision shall be given to the township official, county official, county auditor, and the taxpayer.

(k) If more than one hundred eighty (180) days have passed since the date the notice of appeal was filed, and the county board has not issued a determination, a taxpayer may initiate any appeal with the Indiana board of tax review under section 3 of this chapter.

(l) The county assessor may assess a penalty of fifty dollars (\$50) against the taxpayer if the taxpayer or representative fails to appear at a hearing under subsection (d) and, under subsection (e), the taxpayer's request for continuance is denied, or the taxpayer's request for continuance, request for the board to take action without a hearing, or withdrawal is not timely filed. A taxpayer may appeal the assessment of the penalty to the Indiana board or directly to the tax court. The penalty may not be added as an amount owed on the property tax statement under IC 6-1.1-22 or IC 6-1.1-22.5.

(m) The determination of an appealed assessed value of tangible property by a county or township official resulting from an informal meeting under subsection (a), or by a county board resulting from an appeal hearing under subsection (d), may be less than or equal to the tangible property's original appealed assessed value at issue, but may not exceed the original appealed assessed value at issue. However, an increase in assessed value that is attributable to substantial renovation, new improvements, zoning change, or use change is excluded from the limitation under this subsection.

SECTION 5. IC 6-1.1-15-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.230-2025, SECTION 40, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE



1 UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 4. (a) After receiving a petition for review
 2 which is filed under section 3 of this chapter, the Indiana board shall
 3 conduct a hearing at its earliest opportunity. The Indiana board may
 4 correct any errors related to a claim under section 1.1 of this chapter
 5 that is within the jurisdiction of the Indiana board under IC 6-1.5-4-1.

6 (b) If the Indiana board conducts a site inspection of the property
 7 as part of its review of the petition, the Indiana board shall give notice
 8 to all parties of the date and time of the site inspection. **However, the**
 9 **Indiana board shall not enter a property to conduct a site**
 10 **inspection of the property without first receiving the permission of**
 11 **the taxpayer to enter the property to make the site inspection.**
 12 **Notwithstanding any other provision to the contrary, the Indiana**
 13 **board shall not issue an order (including an order issued under 52**
 14 **IAC 4-8-3) authorizing entry onto a taxpayer's property without**
 15 **the taxpayer's permission.** The Indiana board is not required to assess
 16 the property in question. The Indiana board shall give notice of the date
 17 fixed for the hearing, by mail, to the parties or a party's representative.
 18 The Indiana board shall give these notices at least thirty (30) days
 19 before the day fixed for the hearing unless the parties agree to a shorter
 20 period. With respect to a petition for review filed by a county assessor,
 21 the county board that made the determination under review under this
 22 section may file an amicus curiae brief in the review proceeding under
 23 this section. The expenses incurred by the county board in filing the
 24 amicus curiae brief shall be paid from the property reassessment fund
 25 under IC 6-1.1-4-27.5 of the county in which the property is located.
 26 The executive of a taxing unit may file an amicus curiae brief in the
 27 review proceeding under this section if the property that is the subject
 28 of the appeal is subject to assessment by that taxing unit.

29 (c) If a petition for review does not comply with the Indiana
 30 board's instructions for completing the form prescribed under section
 31 3 of this chapter, the Indiana board shall serve a notice describing the
 32 defect in the petition. The petitioner then has thirty (30) days from the
 33 date on the notice to cure the defect and file a corrected petition. The
 34 Indiana board shall deny a corrected petition for review if it does not
 35 substantially comply with the Indiana board's instructions for
 36 completing the form prescribed under section 3 of this chapter.

37 (d) After the hearing, the Indiana board shall give the parties and
 38 any entity that filed an amicus curiae brief, or their representatives:

39 (1) notice of its final determination; and

40 (2) for parties entitled to appeal the final determination, notice
 41 of the procedures they must follow in order to obtain court
 42 review under section 5 of this chapter.



1 (e) The Indiana board shall conduct a hearing not later than one
 2 (1) year after a petition in proper form is filed with the Indiana board.

3 (f) The Indiana board shall issue a determination not later than the
 4 later of:

5 (1) ninety (90) days after the hearing; or

6 (2) the date set in an extension order issued by the Indiana board.
 7 The board may not extend the date by more than one hundred
 8 eighty (180) days.

9 (g) The time periods described in subsections (e) and (f) do not
 10 include any period of time that is attributable to a party's:

11 (1) request for a continuance, stay, extension, or summary
 12 disposition;

13 (2) consent to a case management order, stipulated record, or
 14 proposed hearing date;

15 (3) failure to comply with the board's orders or rules; or

16 (4) waiver of a deadline.

17 (h) If the Indiana board fails to take action required under
 18 subsection (e) or (f), the entity that initiated the petition may:

19 (1) take no action and wait for the Indiana board to hear the
 20 matter and issue a final determination; or

21 (2) petition for judicial review under section 5 of this chapter.

22 (i) This subsection applies when the board has not held a hearing.
 23 A person may not seek judicial review under subsection (h)(2) until:

24 (1) the person requests a hearing in writing; and

25 (2) sixty (60) days have passed after the person requests a
 26 hearing under subdivision (1) and the matter has not been heard
 27 or otherwise extended under subsection (g).

28 (j) A final determination must include separately stated findings
 29 of fact for all aspects of the determination. Findings of ultimate fact
 30 must be accompanied by a concise statement of the underlying basic
 31 facts of record to support the findings. Findings must be based
 32 exclusively upon the evidence on the record in the proceeding and on
 33 matters officially noticed in the proceeding. Findings must be based
 34 upon a preponderance of the evidence.

35 (k) The Indiana board may limit the scope of the appeal to the
 36 issues raised in the petition and the evaluation of the evidence
 37 presented to the county board in support of those issues only if all
 38 parties participating in the hearing required under subsection (a) agree
 39 to the limitation. A party participating in the hearing required under
 40 subsection (a) is entitled to introduce evidence that is otherwise proper
 41 and admissible without regard to whether that evidence has previously
 42 been introduced at a hearing before the county board.



(l) The Indiana board may require the parties to the appeal:

(1) to file not more than five (5) business days before the date of the hearing required under subsection (a) documentary evidence or summaries of statements of testimonial evidence; and

(2) to file not more than fifteen (15) business days before the date of the hearing required under subsection (a) lists of witnesses and exhibits to be introduced at the hearing.

(m) A party to a proceeding before the Indiana board shall provide to all other parties to the proceeding the information described in subsection (l) if the other party requests the information in writing at least ten (10) days before the deadline for filing of the information under subsection (l).

(n) The Indiana board may base its final determination on a stipulation between the respondent and the petitioner. If the final determination is based on a stipulated assessed valuation of tangible property, the Indiana board may order the placement of a notation on the permanent assessment record of the tangible property that the assessed valuation was determined by stipulation. The Indiana board may:

(1) order that a final determination under this subsection has no precedential value; or

(2) specify a limited precedential value of a final determination under this subsection.

(o) If a party to a proceeding, or a party's authorized representative, elects to receive any notice under this section electronically, the notice is considered effective in the same manner as if the notice had been sent by United States mail, with postage prepaid, to the party's or representative's mailing address of record.

(p) At a hearing under this section, the Indiana board shall admit into evidence an appraisal report, prepared by an appraiser, unless the appraisal report is ruled inadmissible on grounds besides a hearsay objection. This exception to the hearsay rule shall not be construed to limit the discretion of the Indiana board, as trier of fact, to review the probative value of an appraisal report.

SECTION 6. IC 6-1.1-15-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.121-2019, SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 6. (a) Except with respect to a petition filed under section 5(g) of this chapter, if a petition for judicial review is initiated by a person under section 5 of this chapter, the Indiana board shall prepare a certified record of the proceedings related to the petition. The Indiana board shall file a notice of completion with the clerk of the tax court within forty-five (45) days after the filing of the



petition indicating that the certified record of the proceedings is complete. If the Indiana board is unable to timely complete the Indiana board's preparation of the certified record of proceedings, the Indiana board shall file a statement with the clerk of the tax court providing the reasons for the delay and the date the Indiana board will complete the preparation. If the reasons for the delay are due to circumstances within the Indiana board's control, the tax court may issue a revised due date for the Indiana board to file the notice of completion. If the reasons for the delay are due to circumstances within the control of the petitioner, the case may be subject to dismissal.

(b) The record for judicial review required under subsection (a) must include the following documents and items:

(1) Copies of all papers submitted to the Indiana board during the course of the action and copies of all papers provided to the parties by the Indiana board. For purposes of this subdivision, the term "papers" includes, without limitation, all notices, petitions, motions, pleadings, orders, orders on rehearing, briefs, requests, intermediate rulings, photographs, and other written documents.

(2) Evidence received or considered by the Indiana board.

~~(3) A statement of whether a site inspection was conducted, and, if a site inspection was conducted, either:~~

~~(A) a summary report of the site inspection; or~~

~~(B) a videotape transcript of the site inspection.~~

~~(4) (3) A statement of matters officially noticed.~~

~~(5) (4) Proffers of proof and objections and rulings on them.~~

~~(6) (5) Copies of proposed findings, requested orders, and exceptions.~~

~~(7) (6) Either:~~

~~(A) a transcription of the audio tape of the hearing; or~~

~~(B) a transcript of the hearing prepared by a court reporter.~~

Copies of exhibits that, because of their nature, cannot be incorporated into the certified record must be kept by the Indiana board until the appeal is finally terminated. However, this evidence must be briefly named and identified in the transcript of the evidence and proceedings.

(c) Except with respect to a petition filed under section 5(g) of this chapter, if the tax court judge finds that:

(1) a report of all or a part of the evidence or proceedings at a hearing conducted by the Indiana board was not made; or

(2) a transcript is unavailable;

a party to the appeal initiated under section 5 of this chapter may, at the discretion of the tax court judge, prepare a statement of the evidence or



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proceedings. The statement must be submitted to the tax court and also must be served on all other parties. A party to the proceeding may serve objections or prepare amendments to the statement not later than ten (10) days after service.

SECTION 7. IC 6-1.1-30-21 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]: **Sec. 21. (a) The department shall develop and provide to each county a standard Internet user portal through which taxpayers may make property tax payments on at least a monthly basis by electronic payment (as defined in IC 5-27-2-3) to the county treasurer.**

(b) The department shall make the portal available to each county treasurer not later than December 31, 2026.

(c) After December 31, 2026, each county treasurer shall maintain on the treasurer's website and make available for taxpayer use the portal described in subsection (a).

SECTION ~~4~~ 8. IC 6-1.1-49-4, AS ADDED BY P.L.95-2023, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 4. (a) Subject to subsection ~~(h)~~; (g), a county fiscal body may adopt an ordinance to provide a credit against a qualified individual's property tax liability as set forth in this chapter.**

(b) An ordinance adopted under this section may designate a neighborhood enhancement district. A neighborhood enhancement district may include:

- (1) all of the territory of the county; or**
- (2) one (1) or more specific geographic territories within the county;**

as an area in which qualified individuals may apply for the credit.

(c) Subject to subsection ~~(h)~~; (g), an ordinance adopted under this section must:

- (1) include a boundary description of the neighborhood enhancement district or districts to which the ordinance applies;**
- (2) specify the income thresholds for a qualified individual under section 3(5)(A) and 3(5)(B) of this chapter, if any; and**
- (3) specify the percentage of increase on a qualified individual's property tax liability in a particular year compared to the prior year that is to be used in determining the amount of the county option circuit breaker tax credit calculated under section 7(2)(B) of this chapter. The percentage must be at least two percent (2%) but not more than five percent (5%).**

The boundary description required under subdivision (1) must be sufficient to identify the parcel or parcels to which the credit may be



1 applied, including identification by taxing district, a parcel list, or a
2 legal description.

3 (d) If a proposal is presented to the county fiscal body to adopt an
4 ordinance under this section, the county fiscal body shall hear the
5 proposal at a public meeting of the county fiscal body and may then
6 vote to adopt the ordinance at the next meeting of the county fiscal
7 body.

8 (e) The county fiscal body may rescind an ordinance adopted
9 under this section.

10 (f) An ordinance adopted under this section is effective January 1
11 of the year following the year in which the ordinance is adopted.

12 ~~(g) An ordinance adopted under this section must specify that the~~
13 ~~credit does not apply for property taxes first due and payable after~~
14 ~~December 31, 2027.~~

15 ~~(h)~~ (g) A county fiscal body shall prescribe the same income
16 thresholds, credit amounts, and any other requirements related to
17 eligibility for each neighborhood enhancement district designated in
18 the county.

19 SECTION ~~6-1.1-49-11~~ [\[9\]](#). IC 6-1.1-49-11 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
20 JULY 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 11: This chapter expires January 1, 2028.~~

21 SECTION ~~6-1.1-53~~ [\[10\]](#). IC 6-1.1-53 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
22 CODE AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS
23 [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]:

24 **Chapter 53. County Option First Time Home Buyer's Circuit**
25 **Breaker Tax Credit**

26 **Sec. 1.** As used in this chapter, "first time home buyer" means
27 an individual who has not had an ownership interest in a home at
28 any time preceding the date on which the individual purchases a
29 home.

30 **Sec. 2.** As used in this chapter, "home" means an individual's
31 principal place of residence in Indiana that is:

32 (1) in the first year, eligible for the standard homestead
33 deduction under IC 6-1.1-12-37; and

34 (2) in the second and following years, granted the standard
35 homestead deduction under IC 6-1.1-12-37.

36 The term does not include a newly constructed home that is less
37 than one hundred percent (100%) completed.

38 **Sec. 3.** As used in this chapter, "qualified individual" means an
39 individual who:

40 (1) is a first time home buyer;

41 (2) is:

42 (A) in the first year, eligible for the standard homestead



deduction under IC 6-1.1-12-37; and

(B) in the second and following years, granted the standard homestead deduction under IC 6-1.1-12-37;

(3) had:

(A) in the case of an individual who filed a single return, an adjusted gross income (as defined in Section 62 of the Internal Revenue Code) not exceeding the amount specified in the ordinance adopted by the county under section 4(b)(2) of this chapter; or

(B) in the case of an individual who filed a joint income tax return with the individual's spouse, combined adjusted gross income (as defined in Section 62 of the Internal Revenue Code) not exceeding the amount specified in the ordinance adopted by the county under section 4(b)(2) of this chapter;

for the calendar year preceding by two (2) years the calendar year in which property taxes are first due and payable;

(4) had an assessed value for the individual's Indiana real property that is an amount not more than the amount specified in the ordinance adopted by the county fiscal body under section 4(b)(3) of this chapter in the first year the credit will be applied; and

(5) resides within the boundaries specified in the ordinance adopted by the county fiscal body under section 4(b)(1) of this chapter.

Sec. 4. (a) Subject to subsection (f), a county fiscal body may adopt an ordinance to provide a credit against a qualified individual's property tax liability as set forth in this chapter.

(b) Subject to subsection (f), an ordinance adopted under this section must:

(1) include a boundary description to which the ordinance applies;

(2) specify the income thresholds for a qualified individual under section 3(3)(A) and 3(3)(B) of this chapter, if any;

(3) specify the maximum assessed value for an individual's qualifying Indiana real property, if any; and

(4) specify the number of years the credit is to be applied, which must be at least one (1) calendar year but not more than five (5) consecutively succeeding calendar years, beginning with the calendar year that the qualified individual's home is first assessed as a first time home buyer.

The boundary description required under subdivision (1) must be



sufficient to identify the parcel or parcels to which the credit may be applied, including identification by taxing district, a parcel list, or a legal description.

(c) If a proposal is presented to the county fiscal body to adopt an ordinance under this section, the county fiscal body shall hear the proposal at a public meeting of the county fiscal body and may then vote to adopt the ordinance at the next meeting of the county fiscal body.

(d) The county fiscal body may rescind an ordinance adopted under this section. However, the rescission of an ordinance shall not affect those qualified individuals who are eligible and granted the credit for the qualified individual's property tax liability under the ordinance before the date of the rescission and would continue to be eligible to apply the credit under the term of years specified in the ordinance in one (1) or more succeeding years, if not for the rescission. The county fiscal body must state in the ordinance that the credit allowed under the ordinance shall continue in effect for those qualified individuals, notwithstanding the rescission.

(e) An ordinance adopted under this section is effective January 1 of the year following the year in which the ordinance is adopted.

(f) A county fiscal body shall prescribe the same income and assessed value thresholds and any other requirements and limitations related to eligibility for each boundary designated in the county.

Sec. 5. If a county fiscal body adopts an ordinance to either provide the credit under this chapter or rescind an ordinance previously adopted, the county fiscal body shall, not later than fifteen (15) days after the adoption of the ordinance, give notice of the adoption of the ordinance to:

- (1) the department on the form and in the manner prescribed by the department;
- (2) the county auditor;
- (3) the fiscal officer of each taxing unit within each boundary to which the ordinance applies; and
- (4) in the case of a county that has rescinded an ordinance under section 4(d) of this chapter, each qualified individual who has already been granted and will continue to be eligible to apply the credit to the qualified individual's property tax liability under the ordinance, notwithstanding the rescission, advising them that they will continue to be eligible to do so; including a certified copy of the adopted ordinance.



1 **Sec. 6. (a)** A qualified individual who has a credit provided
 2 under this chapter applied to the qualified individual's property
 3 tax liability in a particular calendar year may not also have a
 4 credit under IC 6-1.1-20.6-8.5 applied to the qualified individual's
 5 property tax liability in the same calendar year.

6 **(b)** Not more than one (1) credit may be claimed under this
 7 chapter with respect to a particular homestead by any qualified
 8 individual.

9 **Sec. 7. (a)** The amount of the credit under this chapter is equal
 10 to the greater of zero (0) or the result of:

11 **(1)** the property tax liability first due and payable on the
 12 qualified individual's homestead property for the calendar
 13 year (excluding any property tax liability imposed in a voter
 14 approved referendum levy); minus

15 **(2)** the result of:

16 **(A)** the property tax liability first due and payable on
 17 the qualified individual's homestead property for the
 18 immediately preceding year after the application of the
 19 credit granted under this section for that year
 20 (excluding any property tax liability imposed in a voter
 21 approved referendum levy); multiplied by

22 **(B)** the sum of:

23 **(i)** the applicable percentage under subsection (b),
 24 expressed as a decimal; plus

25 **(ii)** one (1).

26 However, the credit provided by this chapter shall not apply to any
 27 portion of property tax liability imposed on a qualified individual's
 28 homestead property that is used for trade or business purposes in
 29 connection with the production of income, and the qualified
 30 individual must attest to this on the application for the credit. In
 31 addition, the credit does not affect the allocation of taxes to a
 32 referendum fund.

33 **(b)** The following percentage applies under subsection
 34 **(a)(2)(B)(i)** depending on the number of years the credit is to be
 35 applied under section 4(b)(4) of this chapter:

36 **(1)** For the first calendar year that a credit is applied to the
 37 qualified individual's homestead property under this
 38 chapter, the applicable percentage under subsection
 39 **(a)(2)(B)(i)** is two percent (2%) for that calendar year.

40 **(2)** If a credit is applied to the qualified individual's
 41 homestead property under this chapter for a second calendar
 42 year, the applicable percentage under subsection **(a)(2)(B)(i)**



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1 is two percent (2%) for that calendar year.

2 (3) If a credit is applied to the qualified individual's
3 homestead property under this chapter for a third calendar
4 year, the applicable percentage under subsection (a)(2)(B)(i)
5 is three percent (3%) for that calendar year.

6 (4) If a credit is applied to the qualified individual's
7 homestead property under this chapter for a fourth calendar
8 year, the applicable percentage under subsection (a)(2)(B)(i)
9 is four percent (4%) for that calendar year.

10 (5) If a credit is applied to the qualified individual's
11 homestead property under this chapter for a fifth calendar
12 year, the applicable percentage under subsection (a)(2)(B)(i)
13 is five percent (5%) for that calendar year.

14 Sec. 8. If the ownership of a homestead for which a qualified
15 individual received a credit under this chapter changes, and the
16 qualified individual no longer owns or principally resides in the
17 homestead, the county auditor shall remove the designation of the
18 individual as a qualified individual with respect to that homestead.

19 Sec. 9. The auditor of each county shall, in a particular year,
20 apply a credit provided under this chapter to each qualified
21 individual who received the credit in the preceding year, unless the
22 county auditor determines that the individual is no longer eligible
23 for the credit.

24 Sec. 10. (a) If a qualified individual who is receiving the credit
25 provided by this chapter:

26 (1) knows or should have known that the individual does not
27 qualify for the credit under this chapter; or

28 (2) changes the use of the individual's property so that part
29 or all of the property no longer qualifies for the credit under
30 this chapter;

31 the individual must file a certified statement with the county
32 auditor notifying the county auditor that subdivision (1) or (2)
33 applies not more than sixty (60) days after the date subdivision (1)
34 or (2) first applies.

35 (b) An individual who fails to file the statement required by
36 this section is liable for any additional taxes that would have been
37 due on the property if the individual had filed the statement as
38 required by this section, plus a civil penalty equal to ten percent
39 (10%) of the additional taxes due. The additional taxes owed plus
40 the civil penalty become part of the property tax liability for
41 purposes of this article.

42 (c) The civil penalty imposed under this section is in addition



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to any interest and penalties for a delinquent payment that might otherwise be due. One percent (1%) of the total civil penalty collected under this section shall be transferred by the county to the department for use by the department in establishing and maintaining the homestead property data base under IC 6-1.1-12-37(j) and, to the extent there is money remaining, for any other purposes of the department.

SECTION ~~6-3.1-35-7~~ [\[11\]](#). IC 6-3.1-35-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.194-2023, SECTION 24, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) An eligible applicant who wishes to obtain the state tax credit provided by this chapter for a qualified project must submit an application to the authority after June 30, 2023, and before January 1, ~~2028~~, **2033**, in the manner prescribed by the authority.

(b) An application submitted under subsection (a) must include:

- (1) the name and address of the qualified project;
- (2) the name and address of the owner of the qualified project;
- and
- (3) any other information required by the authority.

(c) Subject to section 8 of this chapter, the authority may approve a tax credit application if:

- (1) the applicant is an eligible applicant;
- (2) the project identified in the application is a qualified project;
- and
- (3) the tax credit application meets any other requirements for receipt of state tax credits established by the authority.

(d) If the authority approves a tax credit application for a qualified project, for each taxable year in the tax credit period the authority may approve a maximum amount of state tax credits. The maximum aggregate amount of state tax credits awarded by the authority for the state tax credit period of a qualified project is an amount that is the product of:

- (1) a percentage determined by the authority, which must be less than or equal to one hundred percent (100%); multiplied by
- (2) the anticipated aggregate federal tax credits over the credit period as defined by Section 42(f) of the Internal Revenue Code and specified in a letter issued by the authority for the qualified project under Section 42(m) of the Internal Revenue Code (annual amount multiplied by ten (10) years).

(e) If the authority approves a tax credit application for a qualified project, the authority shall issue an eligibility statement to the eligible applicant. The eligibility statement must specify at least the following:



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(1) A unique identification code for the eligibility statement, determined by the authority.

(2) The name of the qualified project.

(3) For each taxable year in the state tax credit period of the qualified project, the maximum amount of state tax credit that the authority is awarding to the eligible applicant for the qualified project.

(f) The authority shall transmit a copy of each eligibility statement issued under subsection (e) to the department.

SECTION ~~8~~ [12]. IC 6-3.1-35-8, AS ADDED BY P.L.137-2022, SECTION 52, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) For each state fiscal year beginning after June 30, 2023, and before July 1, ~~2028~~, **2033**, the aggregate amount of state tax credits awarded by the authority under this chapter may not exceed thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000). For purposes of calculating the aggregate state tax credit limit for a state fiscal year, the amounts awarded by the authority are considered to be awarded in the year the award is made to the state tax credit recipient by the authority, notwithstanding the fact that the awarded state tax credit is to be claimed over the state tax credit period.

(b) To the extent that the tax credit applications requesting state tax credits exceed the amount of available state tax credits in a year, or the authority reasonably anticipates that the requests will exceed the state fiscal year limitation established in subsection (a), the authority may allocate the state tax credits in a manner that furthers the mission and purpose of the authority and otherwise promotes the establishment of qualified projects.

SECTION ~~9~~ [13]. IC 6-3.1-35-11, AS ADDED BY P.L.137-2022, SECTION 52, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. This chapter is subject to review under IC 2-5-3.2-1 to evaluate the effectiveness of the state tax credit. ~~one (1) year prior to its expiration under section 12 of this chapter.~~

SECTION 1 ~~4~~ [4]. IC 6-3.1-35-12, AS ADDED BY P.L.137-2022, SECTION 52, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12. This chapter expires July 1, ~~2028~~: **2033**.

[SECTION 15. IC 36-2-15-12 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 12. A county assessor shall not enter a property to conduct a physical inspection of a property without first receiving the permission of the property owner to



enter the property to make the physical inspection. Notwithstanding any other provision to the contrary, a county property tax assessment board of appeals or the Indiana board of tax review shall not issue an order (including an order issued under 52 IAC 4-8-3) authorizing entry onto a taxpayer's property without the property owner's permission.

SECTION 1 ~~6~~ [6]. [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE] (a) As used in this SECTION, "automated valuation system" means a centralized system of automated valuation models and algorithms that may be applied to homestead and residential property valuation.

(b) As used in this SECTION, "homestead" refers to a homestead that qualifies for a standard deduction under IC 6-1.1-12-37.

(c) As used in this SECTION, "residential property" has the meaning set forth in IC 6-1.1-20.6-4.

(d) The department of local government finance shall prepare a report regarding the creation of an automated valuation system for local assessors to use in the state for the assessment of homestead and residential property values.

(e) The department of local government finance shall present the report prepared under subsection (d) to the interim study committee on fiscal policy on or before November 1, 2026.

(f) This SECTION expires July 1, 2027.

SECTION 1 ~~6~~ [7]. An emergency is declared for this act.

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