SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 5168

A bill to amend 1893 PA 206, entitled "The general property tax act,"

by amending sections 7cc, 7ee, and 24c (MCL 211.7cc, 211.7ee, and 211.24c), sections 7cc and 24c as amended by 2003 PA 140 and section 7ee as amended by 2003 PA 105.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

- 1 Sec. 7cc. (1) A principal residence is exempt from the tax
- 2 levied by a local school district for school operating purposes
- 3 to the extent provided under section 1211 of the revised school
- 4 code, 1976 PA 451, MCL 380.1211, if an owner of that principal
- 5 residence claims an exemption as provided in this section.
- 6 Notwithstanding the tax day provided in section 2, -for taxes
- 7 levied before January 1, 2004, the status of property as a
- 8 principal residence shall be determined on the date an affidavit
- 9 claiming an exemption is filed under subsection (2). For taxes

- 1 levied after December 31, 2003, the status of property as a
- 2 principal residence shall be determined on the tax day provided
- 3 in section 2.
- 4 (2) An owner of property may claim an exemption under this
- 5 section by filing an affidavit on or before May 1 -for taxes
- 6 levied before January 1, 2004 and the tax day as provided in
- 7 section 2 for taxes levied after December 31, 2003 with the
- 8 local tax collecting unit in which the property is located. The
- 9 affidavit shall state that the property is owned and occupied as
- 10 a principal residence by that owner of the property on the date
- 11 that the affidavit is signed. The affidavit shall be on a form
- 12 prescribed by the department of treasury. One copy of the
- 13 affidavit shall be retained by the owner, 1 copy shall be
- 14 retained by the local tax collecting unit until any appeal or
- 15 audit period under this act has expired, and 1 copy shall be
- 16 forwarded to the department of treasury pursuant to subsection
- 17 (4), together with all information submitted under subsection
- 18 (27) for a cooperative housing corporation. The affidavit shall
- 19 require the owner claiming the exemption to indicate if that
- 20 owner or that owner's spouse has claimed another exemption on
- 21 property in this state that is not rescinded or a substantially
- 22 similar exemption, deduction, or credit on property in another
- 23 state that is not rescinded. If the affidavit requires an owner
- 24 to include a social security number, that owner's number is
- 25 subject to the disclosure restrictions in 1941 PA 122, MCL 205.1
- 26 to 205.31. If an owner of property filed an affidavit for an
- 27 exemption under this section before January 1, 2004, that

- 1 affidavit shall be considered the affidavit required under this
- 2 subsection for a principal residence exemption and that exemption
- 3 shall remain in effect until rescinded as provided in this
- 4 section.
- 5 (3) A husband and wife who are required to file or who do
- 6 file a joint Michigan income tax return are entitled to not more
- 7 than 1 exemption under this section. —A— For taxes levied after
- 8 December 31, 2002, a person is not entitled to an exemption under
- 9 this section if any of the following conditions occur:
- 10 (a) That person has claimed a substantially similar
- 11 exemption, deduction, or credit on property in another state that
- 12 is not rescinded.
- 13 (b) Subject to subdivision (a), that person or his or her
- 14 spouse owns property in a state other than this state for which
- 15 that person or his or her spouse claims an exemption, deduction,
- 16 or credit substantially similar to the exemption provided under
- 17 this section, unless that person and his or her spouse file
- 18 separate income tax returns.
- 19 (c) That person has filed a nonresident Michigan income tax
- 20 return, except active duty military personnel stationed in this
- 21 state with his or her principal residence in this state.
- 22 (d) That person has filed an income tax return in a state
- 23 other than this state as a resident, except active duty military
- 24 personnel stationed in this state with his or her principal
- 25 residence in this state.
- 26 (e) That person has previously rescinded an exemption under
- 27 this section for the same property for which an exemption is now

- 1 claimed and there has not been a transfer of ownership of that
- 2 property after the previous exemption was rescinded, if either of
- 3 the following conditions is satisfied:
- 4 (i) That person has claimed an exemption under this section
- 5 for any other property for that tax year.
- 6 (ii) That person has rescinded an exemption under this
- 7 section on other property, which exemption remains in effect for
- 8 that tax year, and there has not been a transfer of ownership of
- 9 that property.
- 10 (4) Upon receipt of an affidavit filed under subsection (2)
- 11 and unless the claim is denied under this section, the assessor
- 12 shall exempt the property from the collection of the tax levied
- 13 by a local school district for school operating purposes to the
- 14 extent provided under section 1211 of the revised school code,
- 15 1976 PA 451, MCL 380.1211, as provided in subsection (1) until
- 16 December 31 of the year in which the property is transferred or
- 17 is no longer a principal residence as defined in section 7dd.
- 18 The local tax collecting unit shall forward copies of affidavits
- 19 to the department of treasury according to a schedule prescribed
- 20 by the department of treasury.
- 21 (5) Not more than 90 days after exempted property is no
- 22 longer used as a principal residence by the owner claiming an
- 23 exemption, that owner shall rescind the claim of exemption by
- 24 filing with the local tax collecting unit a rescission form
- 25 prescribed by the department of treasury. An owner who fails to
- 26 file a rescission as required by this subsection is subject to a
- 27 penalty of \$5.00 per day for each separate failure beginning

- 1 after the 90 days have elapsed, up to a maximum of \$200.00. This
- 2 penalty shall be collected under 1941 PA 122, MCL 205.1 to
- 3 205.31, and shall be deposited in the state school aid fund
- 4 established in section 11 of article IX of the state constitution
- 5 of 1963. This penalty may be waived by the department of
- 6 treasury.
- 7 (6) If the assessor of the local tax collecting unit believes
- 8 that the property for which an exemption is claimed is not the
- 9 principal residence of the owner claiming the exemption, the
- 10 assessor may deny a new or existing claim by notifying the owner
- 11 and the department of treasury in writing of the reason for the
- 12 denial and advising the owner that the denial may be appealed to
- 13 the residential and small claims division of the Michigan tax
- 14 tribunal within 35 days after the date of the notice. The
- 15 assessor may deny a claim for exemption for the current year and
- 16 for the 3 immediately preceding calendar years. If the assessor
- 17 denies an existing claim for exemption, the assessor shall remove
- 18 the exemption of the property and, if the tax roll is in the
- 19 local tax collecting unit's possession, amend the tax roll to
- 20 reflect the denial and the local treasurer shall within 30 days
- 21 of the date of the denial issue a corrected tax bill for
- 22 previously unpaid any additional taxes with interest at the
- 23 rate of 1.25% per month or fraction of a month and penalties
- 24 computed from the date the taxes were last payable without
- 25 interest or penalty. If the tax roll is in the county
- 26 treasurer's possession, the tax roll shall be amended to reflect
- 27 the denial and the county treasurer shall within 30 days of the

- 1 date of the denial prepare and submit a supplemental tax bill for
- 2 any additional taxes, together with interest at the rate of 1.25%
- 3 per month or fraction of a month and penalties computed from the
- 4 date the taxes were last payable without interest or penalty.
- 5 Additional interest Interest on any tax set forth in a
- 6 corrected or supplemental tax bill shall again begin to accrue 60
- 7 days after the date the corrected or supplemental tax bill is
- 8 issued at the rate of 1.25% per month or fraction of a month.
- 9 Taxes levied in a corrected or supplemental tax bill shall be
- 10 returned as delinquent on the March 1 in the year immediately
- 11 succeeding the year in which the corrected or supplemental tax
- 12 bill is issued. If the assessor denies an existing claim for
- 13 exemption, the interest due shall be distributed as provided in
- 14 subsection (24). However, if the property has been transferred
- 15 to a bona fide purchaser before additional taxes were billed to
- 16 the seller as a result of the denial of a claim for exemption,
- 17 the taxes, interest, and penalties shall not be a lien on the
- 18 property and shall not be billed to the bona fide purchaser, and
- 19 the local tax collecting unit if the local tax collecting unit
- 20 has possession of the tax roll or the county treasurer if the
- 21 county has possession of the tax roll shall notify the department
- 22 of treasury of the amount of tax due, interest, and penalties
- 23 through the date of that notification. The department of
- 24 treasury shall then assess the owner who claimed the exemption
- 25 under this section for the tax, interest, and penalties accruing
- 26 as a result of the denial of the claim for exemption, if any, as
- 27 for unpaid taxes provided under 1941 PA 122, MCL 205.1 to 205.31,

- 1 and shall deposit any tax or penalty collected into the state
- 2 school aid fund and shall distribute any interest collected as
- 3 provided in subsection (24). The denial shall be made on a form
- 4 prescribed by the department of treasury. If the property for
- 5 which the assessor has denied a claim for exemption under this
- 6 subsection is located in a county in which the county treasurer
- 7 or the county equalization director have elected to audit
- 8 exemptions under subsection (10), the assessor shall notify the
- 9 county treasurer or the county equalization director of the
- 10 denial under this subsection.
- 11 (7) If the assessor of the local tax collecting unit believes
- 12 that the property for which the exemption is claimed is not the
- 13 principal residence of the owner claiming the exemption and has
- 14 not denied the claim, the assessor shall include a recommendation
- 15 for denial with any affidavit that is forwarded to the department
- 16 of treasury or, for an existing claim, shall send a
- 17 recommendation for denial to the department of treasury, stating
- 18 the reasons for the recommendation.
- 19 (8) The department of treasury shall determine if the
- 20 property is the principal residence of the owner claiming the
- 21 exemption. The department of treasury may review the validity of
- 22 exemptions for the current calendar year and for the 3
- 23 immediately preceding calendar years. If the department of
- 24 treasury determines that the property is not the principal
- 25 residence of the owner claiming the exemption, the department
- 26 shall send a notice of that determination to the local tax
- 27 collecting unit and to the owner of the property claiming the

- 1 exemption, indicating that the claim for exemption is denied,
- 2 stating the reason for the denial, and advising the owner
- 3 claiming the exemption of the right to appeal the determination
- 4 to the department of treasury and what those rights of appeal
- 5 are. The department of treasury may issue a notice denying a
- 6 claim if an owner fails to respond within 30 days of receipt of a
- 7 request for information from that department. An owner may
- 8 appeal the denial of a claim of exemption to the department of
- 9 treasury within 35 days of receipt of the notice of denial. An
- 10 appeal to the department of treasury shall be conducted according
- 11 to the provisions for an informal conference in section 21 of
- 12 1941 PA 122, MCL 205.21. Within 10 days after acknowledging an
- 13 appeal of a denial of a claim of exemption, the department of
- 14 treasury shall notify the assessor and the treasurer for the
- 15 county in which the property is located that an appeal has been
- 16 filed. Upon receipt of a notice that the department of treasury
- 17 has denied a claim for exemption, the assessor shall remove the
- 18 exemption of the property and, if the tax roll is in the local
- 19 tax collecting unit's possession, amend the tax roll to reflect
- 20 the denial and the local treasurer shall within 30 days of the
- 21 date of the denial issue a corrected tax bill for previously
- 22 unpaid any additional taxes with interest at the rate of 1.25%
- 23 per month or fraction of a month and penalties computed from the
- 24 date the taxes were last payable without interest and penalty.
- 25 If the tax roll is in the county treasurer's possession, the tax
- 26 roll shall be amended to reflect the denial and the county
- 27 treasurer shall within 30 days of the date of the denial prepare

- 1 and submit a supplemental tax bill for any additional taxes,
- 2 together with interest at the rate of 1.25% per month or fraction
- 3 of a month and penalties computed from the date the taxes were
- 4 last payable without interest or penalty. Additional interest
- 5 Interest on any tax set forth in a corrected or supplemental tax
- 6 bill shall again begin to accrue 60 days after the date the
- 7 corrected or supplemental tax bill is issued at the rate of 1.25%
- 8 per month or fraction of a month. Taxes levied in a corrected or
- 9 supplemental tax bill shall be returned as delinquent on the
- 10 March 1 in the year immediately succeeding the year in which the
- 11 corrected or supplemental tax bill is issued. If the department
- 12 of treasury denies an existing claim for exemption, the interest
- 13 due shall be distributed as provided in subsection (24).
- 14 However, if the property has been transferred to a bona fide
- 15 purchaser before additional taxes were billed to the seller as a
- 16 result of the denial of a claim for exemption, the taxes,
- 17 interest, and penalties shall not be a lien on the property and
- 18 shall not be billed to the bona fide purchaser, and the local tax
- 19 collecting unit if the local tax collecting unit has possession
- 20 of the tax roll or the county treasurer if the county has
- 21 possession of the tax roll shall notify the department of
- 22 treasury of the amount of tax due and interest through the date
- 23 of that notification. The department of treasury shall then
- 24 assess the owner who claimed the exemption under this section for
- 25 the tax and interest plus penalty accruing as a result of the
- 26 denial of the claim for exemption, if any, as for unpaid taxes
- 27 provided under 1941 PA 122, MCL 205.1 to 205.31, and shall

- 1 deposit any tax or penalty collected into the state school aid
- 2 fund and shall distribute any interest collected as provided in
- 3 subsection (24).
- 4 (9) The department of treasury may enter into an agreement
- 5 regarding the implementation or administration of subsection (8)
- 6 with the assessor of any local tax collecting unit in a county
- 7 that has not elected to audit exemptions claimed under this
- 8 section as provided in subsection (10). The agreement may
- 9 specify that for a period of time, not to exceed 120 days, the
- 10 department of treasury will not deny an exemption identified by
- 11 the department of treasury in the list provided under subsection
- **12** (11).
- 13 (10) A county may elect to audit the exemptions claimed under
- 14 this section in all local tax collecting units located in that
- 15 county as provided in this subsection. The election to audit
- 16 exemptions shall be made by the county treasurer, or by the
- 17 county equalization director with the concurrence by resolution
- 18 of the county board of commissioners. The initial election to
- 19 audit exemptions shall require an audit period of 2 years.
- 20 Subsequent elections to audit exemptions shall be made every 2
- 21 years and shall require 2 annual audit periods. An election to
- 22 audit exemptions shall be made by submitting an election to audit
- 23 form to the assessor of each local tax collecting unit in that
- 24 county and to the department of treasury not later than October 1
- 25 in the year in which an election to audit is made. The election
- 26 to audit form required under this subsection shall be in a form
- 27 prescribed by the department of treasury. If a county elects to

- 1 audit the exemptions claimed under this section, the department
- 2 of treasury may continue to review the validity of exemptions as
- 3 provided in subsection (8). If a county does not elect to audit
- 4 the exemptions claimed under this section as provided in this
- 5 subsection, the department of treasury shall conduct an audit of
- 6 exemptions claimed under this section in the initial 2-year audit
- 7 period for each local tax collecting unit in that county unless
- 8 the department of treasury has entered into an agreement with the
- 9 assessor for that local tax collecting unit under subsection
- **10** (9).
- 11 (11) If a county elects to audit the exemptions claimed under
- 12 this section as provided in subsection (10) and the county
- 13 treasurer or his or her designee or the county equalization
- 14 director or his or her designee believes that the property for
- 15 which an exemption is claimed is not the principal residence of
- 16 the owner claiming the exemption, the county treasurer or his or
- 17 her designee or the county equalization director or his or her
- 18 designee may deny an existing claim by notifying the owner, the
- 19 assessor of the local tax collecting unit, and the department of
- 20 treasury in writing of the reason for the denial and advising the
- 21 owner that the denial may be appealed to the residential and
- 22 small claims division of the Michigan tax tribunal within 35 days
- 23 after the date of the notice. The county treasurer or his or her
- 24 designee or the county equalization director or his or her
- 25 designee may deny a claim for exemption for the current year and
- 26 for the 3 immediately preceding calendar years. If the county
- 27 treasurer or his or her designee or the county equalization

- 1 director or his or her designee denies an existing claim for
- 2 exemption, the county treasurer or his or her designee or the
- 3 county equalization director or his or her designee shall direct
- 4 the assessor of the local tax collecting unit in which the
- 5 property is located to remove the exemption of the property from
- 6 the assessment roll and, if the tax roll is in the local tax
- 7 collecting unit's possession, direct the assessor of the local
- 8 tax collecting unit to amend the tax roll to reflect the denial
- 9 and the treasurer of the local tax collecting unit shall within
- 10 30 days of the date of the denial issue a corrected tax bill for
- 11 previously unpaid any additional taxes with interest at the
- 12 rate of 1.25% per month or fraction of a month and penalties
- 13 computed from the date the taxes were last payable without
- 14 interest and penalty. If the tax roll is in the county
- 15 treasurer's possession, the tax roll shall be amended to reflect
- 16 the denial and the county treasurer shall within 30 days of the
- 17 date of the denial prepare and submit a supplemental tax bill for
- 18 any additional taxes, together with interest at the rate of 1.25%
- 19 per month or fraction of a month and penalties computed from the
- 20 date the taxes were last payable without interest or penalty.
- 21 Additional interest Interest on any tax set forth in a
- 22 corrected or supplemental tax bill shall again begin to accrue 60
- 23 days after the date the corrected or supplemental tax bill is
- 24 issued at the rate of 1.25% per month or fraction of a month.
- 25 Taxes levied in a corrected or supplemental tax bill shall be
- 26 returned as delinquent on the March 1 in the year immediately
- 27 succeeding the year in which the corrected or supplemental tax

- 1 bill is issued. If the county treasurer or his or her designee
- 2 or the county equalization director or his or her designee denies
- 3 an existing claim for exemption, the interest due shall be
- 4 distributed as provided in subsection (24). However, if the
- 5 property has been transferred to a bona fide purchaser before
- 6 additional taxes were billed to the seller as a result of the
- 7 denial of a claim for exemption, the taxes, interest, and
- 8 penalties shall not be a lien on the property and shall not be
- 9 billed to the bona fide purchaser, and the local tax collecting
- 10 unit if the local tax collecting unit has possession of the tax
- 11 roll or the county treasurer if the county has possession of the
- 12 tax roll shall notify the department of treasury of the amount of
- 13 tax due and interest through the date of that notification. The
- 14 department of treasury shall then assess the owner who claimed
- 15 the exemption under this section for the tax and interest plus
- 16 penalty accruing as a result of the denial of the claim for
- 17 exemption, if any, as for unpaid taxes provided under 1941 PA
- 18 122, MCL 205.1 to 205.31, and shall deposit any tax or penalty
- 19 collected into the state school aid fund and shall distribute any
- 20 interest collected as provided in subsection (24). The
- 21 department of treasury shall annually provide the county
- 22 treasurer or his or her designee or the county equalization
- 23 director or his or her designee a list of parcels of property
- 24 located in that county for which an exemption may be erroneously
- 25 claimed. The county treasurer or his or her designee or the
- 26 county equalization director or his or her designee shall forward
- 27 copies of the list provided by the department of treasury to each

- 1 assessor in each local tax collecting unit in that county within
- 2 10 days of receiving the list.
- 3 (12) If a county elects to audit exemptions claimed under
- 4 this section as provided in subsection (10), the county treasurer
- 5 or the county equalization director may enter into an agreement
- 6 with the assessor of a local tax collecting unit in that county
- 7 regarding the implementation or administration of this section.
- 8 The agreement may specify that for a period of time, not to
- 9 exceed 120 days, the county will not deny an exemption identified
- 10 by the department of treasury in the list provided under
- 11 subsection (11).
- 12 (13) An owner may appeal a denial by the assessor of the
- 13 local tax collecting unit under subsection (6), a final decision
- 14 of the department of treasury under subsection (8), or a denial
- 15 by the county treasurer or his or her designee or the county
- 16 equalization director or his or her designee under subsection
- 17 (11) to the residential and small claims division of the Michigan
- 18 tax tribunal within 35 days of that decision. An owner is not
- 19 required to pay the amount of tax in dispute in order to appeal a
- 20 denial of a claim of exemption to the department of treasury or
- 21 to receive a final determination of the residential and small
- 22 claims division of the Michigan tax tribunal. However, interest
- 23 at the rate of 1.25% per month or fraction of a month and
- 24 penalties shall accrue and be computed from the date the taxes
- **25** were last payable without interest and penalty. If the
- 26 residential and small claims division of the Michigan tax
- 27 tribunal grants an owner's appeal of a denial and that owner has

- 1 paid the interest due as a result of a denial under subsection
- 2 (6), (8), or (11), the interest received after a distribution was
- 3 made under subsection (24) shall be refunded.
- 4 (14) For taxes levied after December 31, 2005, for each
- 5 county in which the county treasurer or the county equalization
- 6 director does not elect to audit the exemptions claimed under
- 7 this section as provided in subsection (10), the department of
- 8 treasury shall conduct an annual audit of exemptions claimed
- 9 under this section for the current calendar year.
- 10 (15) An affidavit filed by an owner for the exemption under
- 11 this section rescinds all previous exemptions filed by that owner
- 12 for any other property. The department of treasury shall notify
- 13 the assessor of the local tax collecting unit in which the
- 14 property for which a previous exemption was claimed is located
- 15 that the previous exemption is rescinded by the subsequent
- 16 affidavit. Upon receipt of notice that an exemption is
- 17 rescinded, the assessor of the local tax collecting unit shall
- 18 remove the exemption effective December 31 of the year in which
- 19 the property is transferred or is no longer a principal residence
- 20 as defined in section 7dd. The assessor of the local tax
- 21 collecting unit in which that property is located shall notify
- 22 the treasurer in possession of the tax roll for a year for which
- 23 the exemption is rescinded. If the tax roll is in the local tax
- 24 collecting unit's possession, the tax roll shall be amended to
- 25 reflect the rescission and the local treasurer shall prepare and
- 26 issue a corrected tax bill for previously unpaid any additional
- 27 taxes with interest and penalties computed based on the interest

- 1 and penalties that would have accrued from the date the taxes
- 2 were originally levied if there had not been an exemption for
- 3 that year. If the tax roll is in the county treasurer's
- 4 possession, the tax roll shall be amended to reflect the
- 5 rescission and the county treasurer shall prepare and submit a
- 6 supplemental tax bill for any additional taxes, together with any
- 7 interest and penalties. However, if the property has been
- 8 transferred to a bona fide purchaser, the taxes, interest, and
- 9 penalties shall not be billed to the bona fide purchaser, and the
- 10 local tax collecting unit if the local tax collecting unit has
- 11 possession of the tax roll or the county treasurer if the county
- 12 has possession of the tax roll shall notify the department of
- 13 treasury of the amount of tax due and interest through the date
- 14 of that notification. The department of treasury shall then
- 15 assess the owner who received the exemption under this section
- 16 when the property was not a principal residence as defined in
- 17 section 7dd for the tax and interest plus penalty accruing, if
- 18 any, as for unpaid taxes provided under 1941 PA 122, MCL 205.1 to
- 19 205.31, and shall deposit any tax, interest, or penalty collected
- 20 into the state school aid fund.
- 21 (16) An owner of property for which a claim of exemption is
- 22 rescinded may appeal that rescission with either the July or
- 23 December board of review in either the year for which the
- 24 exemption is rescinded or in the immediately succeeding year. If
- 25 an appeal of a rescission of a claim for exemption is received
- 26 not later than 5 days prior to the date of the December board of
- 27 review, the local tax collecting unit shall convene a December

- 1 board of review and consider the appeal pursuant to this section
- 2 and section 53b. An owner of property for which a claim of
- 3 exemption is rescinded may appeal the decision of the board of
- 4 review to the residential and small claims division of the
- 5 Michigan tax tribunal within 35 days of that decision.
- 6 (17) If the principal residence is part of a unit in a
- 7 multiple-unit dwelling or a dwelling unit in a multiple-purpose
- 8 structure, an owner shall claim an exemption for only that
- 9 portion of the total taxable value of the property used as the
- 10 principal residence of that owner in a manner prescribed by the
- 11 department of treasury. If a portion of a parcel for which the
- 12 owner claims an exemption is used for a purpose other than as a
- 13 principal residence, the owner shall claim an exemption for only
- 14 that portion of the taxable value of the property used as the
- 15 principal residence of that owner in a manner prescribed by the
- 16 department of treasury.
- 17 (18) When a county register of deeds records a transfer of
- 18 ownership of a property, he or she shall notify the local tax
- 19 collecting unit in which the property is located of the
- 20 transfer.
- 21 (19) The department of treasury shall make available the
- 22 affidavit forms and the forms to rescind an exemption, which may
- 23 be on the same form, to all city and township assessors, county
- 24 equalization officers, county registers of deeds, and closing
- 25 agents. A person who prepares a closing statement for the sale
- 26 of property shall provide affidavit and rescission forms to the
- 27 buyer and seller at the closing and, if requested by the buyer or

- 1 seller after execution by the buyer or seller, shall file the
- 2 forms with the local tax collecting unit in which the property is
- 3 located. If a closing statement preparer fails to provide
- 4 exemption affidavit and rescission forms to the buyer and seller,
- 5 or fails to file the affidavit and rescission forms with the
- 6 local tax collecting unit if requested by the buyer or seller,
- 7 the buyer may appeal to the department of treasury within 30 days
- 8 of notice to the buyer that an exemption was not recorded. If
- 9 the department of treasury determines that the buyer qualifies
- 10 for the exemption, the department of treasury shall notify the
- 11 assessor of the local tax collecting unit that the exemption is
- 12 granted and the assessor of the local tax collecting unit or, if
- 13 the tax roll is in the possession of the county treasurer, the
- 14 county treasurer shall correct the tax roll to reflect the
- 15 exemption. This subsection does not create a cause of action at
- 16 law or in equity against a closing statement preparer who fails
- 17 to provide exemption affidavit and rescission forms to a buyer
- 18 and seller or who fails to file the affidavit and rescission
- 19 forms with the local tax collecting unit when requested to do so
- 20 by the buyer or seller.
- 21 (20) An owner who owned and occupied a principal residence on
- 22 May 1 for taxes levied before January 1, 2004 and the tax day as
- 23 provided in section 2 for taxes levied after December 31, 2003
- 24 for which the exemption was not on the tax roll may file an
- 25 appeal with the July board of review or December board of review
- 26 in the year for which the exemption was claimed or the
- 27 immediately succeeding 3 years. If an appeal of a claim for

- 1 exemption that was not on the tax roll is received not later than
- 2 5 days prior to the date of the December board of review, the
- 3 local tax collecting unit shall convene a December board of
- 4 review and consider the appeal pursuant to this section and
- 5 section 53b.
- **6** (21) If the assessor or treasurer of the local tax collecting
- 7 unit believes that the department of treasury erroneously denied
- 8 a claim for exemption, the assessor or treasurer may submit
- 9 written information supporting the owner's claim for exemption to
- 10 the department of treasury within 35 days of the owner's receipt
- 11 of the notice denying the claim for exemption. If, after
- 12 reviewing the information provided, the department of treasury
- 13 determines that the claim for exemption was erroneously denied,
- 14 the department of treasury shall grant the exemption and the tax
- 15 roll shall be amended to reflect the exemption.
- 16 (22) If granting the exemption under this section results in
- 17 an overpayment of the tax, a rebate, including any interest paid,
- 18 shall be made to the taxpayer by the local tax collecting unit if
- 19 the local tax collecting unit has possession of the tax roll or
- 20 by the county treasurer if the county has possession of the tax
- **21** roll within 30 days of the date the exemption is granted. The
- 22 rebate shall be without interest.
- 23 (23) If an exemption under this section is erroneously
- 24 granted for an affidavit filed before October 1, 2003, an owner
- 25 may request in writing that the department of treasury withdraw
- 26 the exemption. The request to withdraw the exemption shall be
- 27 received not later than November 1, 2003. If an owner requests

- 1 that an exemption be withdrawn, the department of treasury shall
- 2 issue an order notifying the local assessor that the exemption
- 3 issued under this section has been denied based on the owner's
- 4 request. If an exemption is withdrawn, the property that had
- 5 been subject to that exemption shall be immediately placed on the
- 6 tax roll by the local tax collecting unit if the local tax
- 7 collecting unit has possession of the tax roll or by the county
- 8 treasurer if the county has possession of the tax roll as though
- 9 the exemption had not been granted. A corrected tax bill shall
- 10 be issued for the tax year being adjusted by the local tax
- 11 collecting unit if the local tax collecting unit has possession
- 12 of the tax roll or by the county treasurer if the county has
- 13 possession of the tax roll. Unless a denial has been issued
- 14 prior to July 1, 2003, if an owner requests that an exemption
- 15 under this section be withdrawn and that owner pays the corrected
- 16 tax bill issued under this subsection within 30 days after the
- 17 corrected tax bill is issued, that owner is not liable for any
- 18 penalty or interest on the additional tax. An owner who pays a
- 19 corrected tax bill issued under this subsection more than 30 days
- 20 after the corrected tax bill is issued is liable for the
- 21 penalties and interest that would have accrued if the exemption
- 22 had not been granted from the date the taxes were originally
- 23 levied.
- 24 (24) Subject to subsection (25), interest at the rate of
- 25 1.25% per month or fraction of a month collected under subsection
- 26 (6), (8), or (11) shall be distributed as follows:
- 27 (a) If the assessor of the local tax collecting unit denies

- 1 the exemption under this section, as follows:
- 2 (i) To the local tax collecting unit, 70%.
- 3 (ii) To the department of treasury, 10%.
- 4 (iii) To the county in which the property is located, 20%.
- 5 (b) If the department of treasury denies the exemption this
- 6 section, as follows:
- 7 (i) To the local tax collecting unit, 20%.
- 8 (ii) To the department of treasury, 70%.
- 9 (iii) To the county in which the property is located, 10%.
- 10 (c) If the county treasurer or his or her designee or the
- 11 county equalization director or his or her designee denies the
- 12 exemption under this section, as follows:
- 13 (i) To the local tax collecting unit, 20%.
- 14 (ii) To the department of treasury, 10%.
- 15 (iii) To the county in which the property is located, 70%.
- 16 (25) Interest distributed under subsection (24) is subject to
- 17 the following conditions:
- 18 (a) Interest distributed to a county shall be deposited into
- 19 a restricted fund to be used solely for the administration of
- 20 exemptions under this section. Money in that restricted fund
- 21 shall lapse to the county general fund on the December 31 in the
- 22 year 3 years after the first distribution of interest to the
- 23 county under subsection (24) and on each succeeding December 31
- 24 thereafter.
- 25 (b) Interest distributed to the department of treasury shall
- 26 be deposited into the principal residence property tax exemption
- 27 audit fund, which is created within the state treasury. The

- 1 state treasurer may receive money or other assets from any source
- 2 for deposit into the fund. The state treasurer shall direct the
- 3 investment of the fund. The state treasurer shall credit to the
- 4 fund interest and earnings from fund investments. Money in the
- 5 fund shall be considered a work project account and at the close
- 6 of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund and shall not lapse
- 7 to the general fund. Money from the fund shall be expended, upon
- 8 appropriation, only for the purpose of auditing exemption
- 9 affidavits.
- 10 (26) Interest distributed under subsection (24) is in
- 11 addition to and shall not affect the levy or collection of the
- 12 county property tax administration fee established under this
- **13** act.
- 14 (27) A cooperative housing corporation is entitled to a full
- 15 or partial exemption under this section for the tax year in which
- 16 the cooperative housing corporation files all of the following
- 17 with the local tax collecting unit in which the cooperative
- 18 housing corporation is located if filed on or before May 1: -for
- 19 taxes levied before January 1, 2004 and the tax day as provided
- 20 in section 2 for taxes levied after December 31, 2003:
- 21 (a) An affidavit form.
- 22 (b) A statement of the total number of units owned by the
- 23 cooperative housing corporation and occupied as the principal
- 24 residence of a tenant stockholder as of the date of the filing
- 25 under this subsection.
- 26 (c) A list that includes the name, address, and social
- 27 security number of each tenant stockholder of the cooperative

- 1 housing corporation occupying a unit in the cooperative housing
- 2 corporation as his or her principal residence as of the date of
- 3 the filing under this subsection.
- 4 (d) A statement of the total number of units of the
- 5 cooperative housing corporation on which an exemption under this
- 6 section was claimed and that were transferred in the tax year
- 7 immediately preceding the tax year in which the filing under this
- 8 section was made.
- 9 (28) Before May 1, 2004 and before May 1, 2005, the treasurer
- 10 of each county shall forward to the department of education a
- 11 statement of the taxable value of each school district and
- 12 fraction of a school district within the county for the preceding
- 13 4 calendar years. This requirement is in addition to the
- 14 requirement set forth in section 151 of the state school aid act
- 15 of 1979, 1979 PA 94, MCL 388.1751.
- 16 Sec. 7ee. (1) Qualified agricultural property is exempt
- 17 from the tax levied by a local school district for school
- 18 operating purposes to the extent provided under section 1211 of
- 19 the revised school code, 1976 PA 451, MCL 380.1211, according to
- 20 the provisions of this section.
- 21 (2) Qualified agricultural property that is classified as
- 22 agricultural under section 34c is exempt under subsection (1) and
- 23 the owner is not required to file an affidavit claiming an
- 24 exemption with the local tax collecting unit unless requested by
- 25 the assessor to determine whether the property includes
- 26 structures that are not exempt under this section. To claim an
- 27 exemption under subsection (1) for qualified agricultural

- 1 property that is not classified as agricultural under section
- 2 34c, the owner shall file an affidavit claiming the exemption
- **3** with the local tax collecting unit by May 1. for taxes levied
- 4 before January 1, 2004 and the tax day as provided in section 2
- 5 for taxes levied after December 31, 2003.
- 6 (3) The affidavit shall be on a form prescribed by the
- 7 department of treasury.
- 8 (4) For property classified as agricultural, and upon receipt
- 9 of an affidavit filed under subsection (2) for property not
- 10 classified as agricultural, the assessor shall determine if the
- 11 property is qualified agricultural property and if so shall
- 12 exempt the property from the collection of the tax as provided in
- 13 subsection (1) until December 31 of the year in which the
- 14 property is no longer qualified agricultural property as defined
- 15 in section 7dd. An owner is required to file a new claim for
- 16 exemption on the same property as requested by the assessor under
- 17 subsection (2).
- 18 (5) Not more than 90 days after all or a portion of the
- 19 exempted property is no longer qualified agricultural property,
- 20 the owner shall rescind the exemption for the applicable portion
- 21 of the property by filing with the local tax collecting unit a
- 22 rescission form prescribed by the department of treasury. An
- 23 owner who fails to file a rescission as required by this
- 24 subsection is subject to a penalty of \$5.00 per day for each
- 25 separate failure beginning after the 90 days have elapsed, up to
- 26 a maximum of \$200.00. This penalty shall be collected under 1941
- 27 PA 122, MCL 205.1 to 205.31, and shall be deposited in the state

- 1 school aid fund established in section 11 of article IX of the
- 2 state constitution of 1963. This penalty may be waived by the
- 3 department of treasury.
- 4 (6) An owner of property that is qualified agricultural
- 5 property on May 1 -for taxes levied before January 1, 2004 and
- 6 the tax day as provided in section 2 for taxes levied after
- 7 December 31, 2003 for which an exemption was not on the tax roll
- 8 may file an appeal with the July or December board of review in
- 9 the year the exemption was claimed or the immediately succeeding
- 10 year. An owner of property that is qualified agricultural
- 11 property on May 1 -for taxes levied before January 1, 2004 and
- 12 the tax day as provided in section 2 for taxes levied after
- 13 December 31, 2003 for which an exemption was denied by the
- 14 assessor in the year the affidavit was filed, may file an appeal
- 15 with the July board of review for summer taxes or, if there is
- 16 not a summer levy of school operating taxes, with the December
- 17 board of review.
- 18 (7) If the assessor of the local tax collecting unit believes
- 19 that the property for which an exemption has been granted is not
- 20 qualified agricultural property, the assessor may deny or modify
- 21 an existing exemption by notifying the owner in writing at the
- 22 time required for providing a notice under section 24c. A
- 23 taxpayer may appeal the assessor's determination to the board of
- 24 review meeting under section 30. A decision of the board of
- 25 review may be appealed to the residential and small claims
- 26 division of the Michigan tax tribunal.
- 27 (8) If an exemption under this section is erroneously

- 1 granted, an owner may request in writing that the local tax
- 2 collecting unit withdraw the exemption. If an owner requests
- 3 that an exemption be withdrawn, the local assessor shall notify
- 4 the owner that the exemption issued under this section has been
- 5 denied based on that owner's request. If an exemption is
- 6 withdrawn, the property that had been subject to that exemption
- 7 shall be immediately placed on the tax roll by the local tax
- 8 collecting unit if the local tax collecting unit has possession
- 9 of the tax roll or by the county treasurer if the county has
- 10 possession of the tax roll as though the exemption had not been
- 11 granted. A corrected tax bill shall be issued for the tax year
- 12 being adjusted by the local tax collecting unit if the local tax
- 13 collecting unit has possession of the tax roll or by the county
- 14 treasurer if the county has possession of the tax roll. If an
- 15 owner requests that an exemption under this section be withdrawn
- 16 before that owner is contacted in writing by the local assessor
- 17 regarding that owner's eligibility for the exemption and that
- 18 owner pays the corrected tax bill issued under this subsection
- 19 within 30 days after the corrected tax bill is issued, that owner
- 20 is not liable for any penalty or interest on the additional tax.
- 21 An owner who pays a corrected tax bill issued under this
- 22 subsection more than 30 days after the corrected tax bill is
- 23 issued is liable for the penalties and interest that would have
- 24 accrued if the exemption had not been granted from the date the
- 25 taxes were originally levied.
- 26 Sec. 24c. (1) The assessor shall give to each owner or
- 27 person or persons listed on the assessment roll of the property a

- 1 notice by first-class mail of an increase in the tentative state
- 2 equalized valuation or the tentative taxable value for the year.
- 3 The notice shall specify each parcel of property, the tentative
- 4 taxable value for the current year, and the taxable value for the
- 5 immediately preceding year. The notice shall also specify the
- 6 time and place of the meeting of the board of review. The notice
- 7 shall also specify the difference between the property's
- 8 tentative taxable value in the current year and the property's
- 9 taxable value in the immediately preceding year.
- 10 (2) The notice shall include, in addition to the information
- 11 required by subsection (1), all of the following:
- 12 (a) The state equalized valuation for the immediately
- 13 preceding year.
- 14 (b) The tentative state equalized valuation for the current
- **15** year.
- 16 (c) The net change between the tentative state equalized
- 17 valuation for the current year and the state equalized valuation
- 18 for the immediately preceding year.
- 19 (d) The classification of the property as defined by section
- **20** 34c.
- 21 (e) The inflation rate for the immediately preceding year as
- 22 defined in section 34d.
- 23 (f) A statement provided by the state tax commission
- 24 explaining the relationship between state equalized valuation and
- 25 taxable value. If the assessor believes that a transfer of
- 26 ownership has occurred in the immediately preceding year, the
- 27 statement shall state that the ownership was transferred and that

- 1 the taxable value of that property is the same as the state
- 2 equalized valuation of that property.
- 3 (3) When required by the income tax act of 1967, 1967 PA 281,
- 4 MCL 206.1 to 206.532, the assessment notice shall include or be
- 5 accompanied by information or forms prescribed by the income tax
- 6 act of 1967, 1967 PA 281, MCL 206.1 to 206.532.
- 7 (4) The assessment notice shall be addressed to the owner
- 8 according to the records of the assessor and mailed not less than
- 9 10 days before the meeting of the board of review. The failure
- 10 to send or receive an assessment notice does not invalidate an
- 11 assessment roll or an assessment on that property.
- 12 (5) The tentative state equalized valuation shall be
- 13 calculated by multiplying the assessment by the tentative
- 14 equalized valuation multiplier. If the assessor has made
- 15 assessment adjustments that would have changed the tentative
- 16 multiplier, the assessor may recalculate the multiplier for use
- 17 in the notice.
- 18 (6) The state tax commission shall prepare a model assessment
- 19 notice form that shall be made available to local units of
- 20 government.
- 21 (7) Beginning in 1995 through 2003, the The assessment
- 22 notice under subsection (1) shall include the following
- 23 statement:
- 24 "If you purchased your -homestead principal
- 25 residence after May 1 last year, to claim the
- 26 <u>homestead</u> principal residence exemption, if you

- 1 have not already done so, you are required to file an
- affidavit before May 1.".
- 3 (8) Beginning in 2004, the assessment notice under
- 4 subsection (1) shall include the following statement:
- 5 <u>"If you purchased your principal residence after</u>
- 6 December 31 last year, to claim the principal
- 7 residence exemption for next year, if you have not
- 8 already done so, you are required to file an
- 9 affidavit on or before December 31 this year.".
- 10 (8) -(9) For taxes levied after December 31, 2003, the
- 11 assessment notice under subsection (1) shall separately state the
- 12 state equalized valuation and taxable value for any leasehold
- 13 improvements.