## **SENATE BILL No. 282**

March 3, 2009, Introduced by Senators SANBORN, GILBERT, JANSEN, PAPPAGEORGE, JELINEK, KUIPERS, HARDIMAN and BIRKHOLZ and referred to the Committee on Finance.

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

by amending section 7cc (MCL 211.7cc), as amended by 2008 PA 198.

## 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 to
- 3 the extent provided under section 1211 of the revised school code,
- 4 1976 PA 451, MCL 380.1211, if an owner of that principal residence
- 5 claims an exemption as provided in this section. Notwithstanding
- 6 the tax day provided in section 2, the status of property as a
- 7 principal residence shall be determined on the date an affidavit
- 8 claiming an exemption is filed under subsection (2).
  - (2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (5), an owner

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- 15 state that is not rescinded or a substantially similar exemption,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- 17 rescinded.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- 23 exemption and that exemption shall remain in effect until rescinded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

- 1 this section. For taxes levied after December 31, 2002, a person is
- 2 not entitled to an exemption under this section if any of the
- 3 following conditions occur:
- 4 (a) That person has claimed a substantially similar exemption,
- 5 deduction, or credit on property in another state that is not
- 6 rescinded.
- 7 (b) Subject to subdivision (a), that person or his or her
- 8 spouse owns property in a state other than this state for which
- 9 that person or his or her spouse claims an exemption, deduction, or
- 10 credit substantially similar to the exemption provided under this
- 11 section, unless that person and his or her spouse file separate
- 12 income tax returns.
- 13 (c) That person has filed a nonresident Michigan income tax
- 14 return, except active duty military personnel stationed in this
- 15 state with his or her principal residence in this state.
- 16 (d) That person has filed an income tax return in a state
- 17 other than this state as a resident, except active duty military
- 18 personnel stationed in this state with his or her principal
- 19 residence in this state.
- (e) That person has previously rescinded an exemption under
- 21 this section for the same property for which an exemption is now
- 22 claimed and there has not been a transfer of ownership of that
- 23 property after the previous exemption was rescinded, if either of
- 24 the following conditions is satisfied:
- (i) That person has claimed an exemption under this section for
- 26 any other property for that tax year.
- (ii) That person has rescinded an exemption under this section

- 1 on other property, which exemption remains in effect for that tax
- 2 year, and there has not been a transfer of ownership of that
- 3 property.
- **4** (4) Upon receipt of an affidavit filed under subsection (2)
- 5 and unless the claim is denied under this section, the assessor
- 6 shall exempt the property from the collection of the tax levied by
- 7 a local school district for school operating purposes to the extent
- 8 provided under section 1211 of the revised school code, 1976 PA
- 9 451, MCL 380.1211, as provided in subsection (1) until December 31
- 10 of the year in which the property is transferred or, except as
- 11 otherwise provided in subsection (5), is no longer a principal
- 12 residence as defined in section 7dd. The local tax collecting unit
- 13 shall forward copies of affidavits to the department of treasury
- 14 according to a schedule prescribed by the department of treasury.
- 15 (5) Not more than 90 days after exempted property is no longer
- 16 used as a principal residence by the owner claiming an exemption,
- 17 that owner shall rescind the claim of exemption by filing with the
- 18 local tax collecting unit a rescission form prescribed by the
- 19 department of treasury. However, if IF an owner is eligible for and
- 20 claims an exemption for that owner's current principal residence,
- 21 that owner may retain an exemption for not more than 3 tax years on
- 22 property previously exempt as his or her principal residence if
- 23 that property is not occupied, is for sale, is not leased, and is
- 24 not used for any business or commercial purpose by filing a
- 25 conditional rescission form prescribed by the department of
- 26 treasury on or before May 1 with the local tax collecting unit. IF
- 27 AN OWNER IS RESIDING IN AN ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY OR NURSING

- 1 HOME, THAT OWNER MAY RETAIN AN EXEMPTION ON PROPERTY PREVIOUSLY
- 2 EXEMPT AS HIS OR HER PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE IF THAT PROPERTY IS NOT
- 3 OCCUPIED, IS NOT LEASED, AND IS NOT USED FOR ANY BUSINESS OR
- 4 COMMERCIAL PURPOSE BY FILING A CONDITIONAL RESCISSION FORM
- 5 PRESCRIBED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY ON OR BEFORE MAY 1 WITH
- 6 THE LOCAL TAX COLLECTING UNIT. Property is eligible for a
- 7 conditional rescission if that property is available for lease and
- 8 all other conditions under this subsection are met. A copy of the
- 9 conditional rescission form shall be forwarded to the department of
- 10 treasury according to a schedule prescribed by the department of
- 11 treasury. An owner who files a conditional rescission form shall
- 12 annually verify to the assessor of the local tax collecting unit on
- 13 or before December 31 that the property for which the principal
- 14 residence exemption is retained is not occupied, is for sale, is
- 15 not leased, and is not used for any business or commercial purpose.
- 16 If an owner does not annually verify by December 31 that the
- 17 property for which the principal residence exemption is retained is
- 18 not occupied, is for sale, is not leased, and is not used for any
- 19 business or commercial purpose, the assessor of the local tax
- 20 collecting unit shall deny the principal residence exemption on
- 21 that property. If property subject to a conditional rescission is
- 22 leased, the local tax collecting unit shall deny that conditional
- 23 rescission and that denial is retroactive and is effective on
- 24 December 31 of the year immediately preceding the year in which the
- 25 property subject to the conditional rescission is leased. An owner
- 26 who fails to file a rescission as required by this subsection is
- 27 subject to a penalty of \$5.00 per day for each separate failure

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

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

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

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

- 1 regarding the implementation or administration of subsection (8)
- 2 with the assessor of any local tax collecting unit in a county that
- 3 has not elected to audit exemptions claimed under this section as
- 4 provided in subsection (10). The agreement may specify that for a
- 5 period of time, not to exceed 120 days, the department of treasury
- 6 will not deny an exemption identified by the department of treasury
- 7 in the list provided under subsection (11).
- 8 (10) A county may elect to audit the exemptions claimed under
- 9 this section in all local tax collecting units located in that
- 10 county as provided in this subsection. The election to audit
- 11 exemptions shall be made by the county treasurer, or by the county
- 12 equalization director with the concurrence by resolution of the
- 13 county board of commissioners. The initial election to audit
- 14 exemptions shall require an audit period of 2 years. Before 2009,
- 15 subsequent elections to audit exemptions shall be made every 2
- 16 years and shall require 2 annual audit periods. Beginning in 2009,
- 17 an election to audit exemptions shall be made every 5 years and
- 18 shall require 5 annual audit periods. An election to audit
- 19 exemptions shall be made by submitting an election to audit form to
- 20 the assessor of each local tax collecting unit in that county and
- 21 to the department of treasury not later than April 1 preceding the
- 22 October 1 in the year in which an election to audit is made. The
- 23 election to audit form required under this subsection shall be in a
- 24 form prescribed by the department of treasury. If a county elects
- 25 to audit the exemptions claimed under this section, the department
- 26 of treasury may continue to review the validity of exemptions as
- 27 provided in subsection (8). If a county does not elect to audit the

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

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

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

- 1 the implementation or administration of this section. The agreement
- 2 may specify that for a period of time, not to exceed 120 days, the
- 3 county will not deny an exemption identified by the department of
- 4 treasury in the list provided under subsection (11).
- 5 (13) An owner may appeal a denial by the assessor of the local
- 6 tax collecting unit under subsection (6), a final decision of the
- 7 department of treasury under subsection (8), or a denial by the
- 8 county treasurer or his or her designee or the county equalization
- 9 director or his or her designee under subsection (11) to the
- 10 residential and small claims division of the Michigan tax tribunal
- 11 within 35 days of that decision. An owner is not required to pay
- 12 the amount of tax in dispute in order to appeal a denial of a claim
- 13 of exemption to the department of treasury or to receive a final
- 14 determination of the residential and small claims division of the
- 15 Michigan tax tribunal. However, interest at the rate of 1.25% per
- 16 month or fraction of a month and penalties shall accrue and be
- 17 computed from the date the taxes were last payable without interest
- 18 and penalty. If the residential and small claims division of the
- 19 Michigan tax tribunal grants an owner's appeal of a denial and that
- 20 owner has paid the interest due as a result of a denial under
- 21 subsection (6), (8), or (11), the interest received after a
- 22 distribution was made under subsection (23) shall be refunded.
- 23 (14) For taxes levied after December 31, 2005, for each county
- 24 in which the county treasurer or the county equalization director
- 25 does not elect to audit the exemptions claimed under this section
- 26 as provided in subsection (10), the department of treasury shall
- 27 conduct an annual audit of exemptions claimed under this section

- 1 for the current calendar year.
- 2 (15) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (5), an
- 3 affidavit filed by an owner for the exemption under this section
- 4 rescinds all previous exemptions filed by that owner for any other
- 5 property. The department of treasury shall notify the assessor of
- 6 the local tax collecting unit in which the property for which a
- 7 previous exemption was claimed is located if the previous exemption
- 8 is rescinded by the subsequent affidavit. When an exemption is
- 9 rescinded, the assessor of the local tax collecting unit shall
- 10 remove the exemption effective December 31 of the year in which the
- 11 affidavit was filed that rescinded the exemption. For any year for
- 12 which the rescinded exemption has not been removed from the tax
- 13 roll, the exemption shall be denied as provided in this section.
- 14 However, interest and penalty shall not be imposed for a year for
- 15 which a rescission form has been timely filed under subsection (5).
- 16 (16) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (28), if the
- 17 principal residence is part of a unit in a multiple-unit dwelling
- 18 or a dwelling unit in a multiple-purpose structure, an owner shall
- 19 claim an exemption for only that portion of the total taxable value
- 20 of the property used as the principal residence of that owner in a
- 21 manner prescribed by the department of treasury. If a portion of a
- 22 parcel for which the owner claims an exemption is used for a
- 23 purpose other than as a principal residence, the owner shall claim
- 24 an exemption for only that portion of the taxable value of the
- 25 property used as the principal residence of that owner in a manner
- 26 prescribed by the department of treasury.
- 27 (17) When a county register of deeds records a transfer of

- ownership of a property, he or she shall notify the local taxcollecting unit in which the property is located of the transfer.
- 3 (18) The department of treasury shall make available the
- 4 affidavit forms and the forms to rescind an exemption, which may be
- 5 on the same form, to all city and township assessors, county
- 6 equalization officers, county registers of deeds, and closing
- 7 agents. A person who prepares a closing statement for the sale of
- 8 property shall provide affidavit and rescission forms to the buyer
- 9 and seller at the closing and, if requested by the buyer or seller
- 10 after execution by the buyer or seller, shall file the forms with
- 11 the local tax collecting unit in which the property is located. If
- 12 a closing statement preparer fails to provide exemption affidavit
- 13 and rescission forms to the buyer and seller, or fails to file the
- 14 affidavit and rescission forms with the local tax collecting unit
- 15 if requested by the buyer or seller, the buyer may appeal to the
- 16 department of treasury within 30 days of notice to the buyer that
- 17 an exemption was not recorded. If the department of treasury
- 18 determines that the buyer qualifies for the exemption, the
- 19 department of treasury shall notify the assessor of the local tax
- 20 collecting unit that the exemption is granted and the assessor of
- 21 the local tax collecting unit or, if the tax roll is in the
- 22 possession of the county treasurer, the county treasurer shall
- 23 correct the tax roll to reflect the exemption. This subsection does
- 24 not create a cause of action at law or in equity against a closing
- 25 statement preparer who fails to provide exemption affidavit and
- 26 rescission forms to a buyer and seller or who fails to file the
- 27 affidavit and rescission forms with the local tax collecting unit

- 1 when requested to do so by the buyer or seller.
- 2 (19) An owner who owned and occupied a principal residence on
- 3 May 1 for which the exemption was not on the tax roll may file an
- 4 appeal with the July board of review or December board of review in
- 5 the year for which the exemption was claimed or the immediately
- 6 succeeding 3 years. If an appeal of a claim for exemption that was
- 7 not on the tax roll is received not later than 5 days prior to the
- 8 date of the December board of review, the local tax collecting unit
- 9 shall convene a December board of review and consider the appeal
- 10 pursuant to this section and section 53b. For the 2008 tax year
- 11 only, an owner of property eligible for a conditional rescission
- 12 under subsection (5) who did not file a conditional rescission form
- 13 prescribed by the department of treasury with the local tax
- 14 collecting unit on or before May 1, 2008 may file an appeal with
- 15 the 2008 July board of review or 2008 December board of review to
- 16 claim a conditional rescission for the 2008 tax year.
- 17 (20) If the assessor or treasurer of the local tax collecting
- 18 unit believes that the department of treasury erroneously denied a
- 19 claim for exemption, the assessor or treasurer may submit written
- 20 information supporting the owner's claim for exemption to the
- 21 department of treasury within 35 days of the owner's receipt of the
- 22 notice denying the claim for exemption. If, after reviewing the
- 23 information provided, the department of treasury determines that
- 24 the claim for exemption was erroneously denied, the department of
- 25 treasury shall grant the exemption and the tax roll shall be
- 26 amended to reflect the exemption.
- 27 (21) If granting the exemption under this section results in

- 1 an overpayment of the tax, a rebate, including any interest paid,
- 2 shall be made to the taxpayer by the local tax collecting unit if
- 3 the local tax collecting unit has possession of the tax roll or by
- 4 the county treasurer if the county has possession of the tax roll
- 5 within 30 days of the date the exemption is granted. The rebate
- 6 shall be without interest.
- 7 (22) If an exemption under this section is erroneously granted
- 8 for an affidavit filed before October 1, 2003, an owner may request
- 9 in writing that the department of treasury withdraw the exemption.
- 10 The request to withdraw the exemption shall be received not later
- 11 than November 1, 2003. If an owner requests that an exemption be
- 12 withdrawn, the department of treasury shall issue an order
- 13 notifying the local assessor that the exemption issued under this
- 14 section has been denied based on the owner's request. If an
- 15 exemption is withdrawn, the property that had been subject to that
- 16 exemption shall be immediately placed on the tax roll by the local
- 17 tax collecting unit if the local tax collecting unit has possession
- 18 of the tax roll or by the county treasurer if the county has
- 19 possession of the tax roll as though the exemption had not been
- 20 granted. A corrected tax bill shall be issued for the tax year
- 21 being adjusted by the local tax collecting unit if the local tax
- 22 collecting unit has possession of the tax roll or by the county
- 23 treasurer if the county has possession of the tax roll. Unless a
- 24 denial has been issued prior to July 1, 2003, if an owner requests
- 25 that an exemption under this section be withdrawn and that owner
- 26 pays the corrected tax bill issued under this subsection within 30
- 27 days after the corrected tax bill is issued, that owner is not

- 1 liable for any penalty or interest on the additional tax. An owner
- 2 who pays a corrected tax bill issued under this subsection more
- 3 than 30 days after the corrected tax bill is issued is liable for
- 4 the penalties and interest that would have accrued if the exemption
- 5 had not been granted from the date the taxes were originally
- 6 levied.
- 7 (23) Subject to subsection (24), interest at the rate of 1.25%
- 8 per month or fraction of a month collected under subsection (6),
- 9 (8), or (11) shall be distributed as follows:
- 10 (a) If the assessor of the local tax collecting unit denies
- 11 the exemption under this section, as follows:
- 12 (i) To the local tax collecting unit, 70%.
- 13 (ii) To the department of treasury, 10%.
- 14 (iii) To the county in which the property is located, 20%.
- 15 (b) If the department of treasury denies the exemption under
- 16 this section, as follows:
- 17 (i) To the local tax collecting unit, 20%.
- 18 (ii) To the department of treasury, 70%.
- 19 (iii) To the county in which the property is located, 10%.
- 20 (c) If the county treasurer or his or her designee or the
- 21 county equalization director or his or her designee denies the
- 22 exemption under this section, as follows:
- (i) To the local tax collecting unit, 20%.
- 24 (ii) To the department of treasury, 10%.
- 25 (iii) To the county in which the property is located, 70%.
- 26 (24) Interest distributed under subsection (23) is subject to
- 27 the following conditions:

- 1 (a) Interest distributed to a county shall be deposited into a
- 2 restricted fund to be used solely for the administration of
- 3 exemptions under this section. Money in that restricted fund shall
- 4 lapse to the county general fund on the December 31 in the year 3
- 5 years after the first distribution of interest to the county under
- 6 subsection (23) and on each succeeding December 31 thereafter.
- 7 (b) Interest distributed to the department of treasury shall
- 8 be deposited into the principal residence property tax exemption
- 9 audit fund, which is created within the state treasury. The state
- 10 treasurer may receive money or other assets from any source for
- 11 deposit into the fund. The state treasurer shall direct the
- 12 investment of the fund. The state treasurer shall credit to the
- 13 fund interest and earnings from fund investments. Money in the fund
- 14 shall be considered a work project account and at the close of the
- 15 fiscal year shall remain in the fund and shall not lapse to the
- 16 general fund. Money from the fund shall be expended, upon
- 17 appropriation, only for the purpose of auditing exemption
- 18 affidavits.
- 19 (25) Interest distributed under subsection (23) is in addition
- 20 to and shall not affect the levy or collection of the county
- 21 property tax administration fee established under this act.
- 22 (26) A cooperative housing corporation is entitled to a full
- 23 or partial exemption under this section for the tax year in which
- 24 the cooperative housing corporation files all of the following with
- 25 the local tax collecting unit in which the cooperative housing
- 26 corporation is located if filed on or before May 1:
- 27 (a) An affidavit form.

- 1 (b) A statement of the total number of units owned by the
- 2 cooperative housing corporation and occupied as the principal
- 3 residence of a tenant stockholder as of the date of the filing
- 4 under this subsection.
- 5 (c) A list that includes the name, address, and social
- 6 security number of each tenant stockholder of the cooperative
- 7 housing corporation occupying a unit in the cooperative housing
- 8 corporation as his or her principal residence as of the date of the
- 9 filing under this subsection.
- 10 (d) A statement of the total number of units of the
- 11 cooperative housing corporation on which an exemption under this
- 12 section was claimed and that were transferred in the tax year
- 13 immediately preceding the tax year in which the filing under this
- 14 section was made.
- 15 (27) Before May 1, 2004 and before May 1, 2005, the treasurer
- 16 of each county shall forward to the department of education a
- 17 statement of the taxable value of each school district and fraction
- 18 of a school district within the county for the preceding 4 calendar
- 19 years. This requirement is in addition to the requirement set forth
- 20 in section 151 of the state school aid act of 1979, 1979 PA 94, MCL
- **21** 388.1751.
- 22 (28) For a parcel of property open and available for use as a
- 23 bed and breakfast, the portion of the taxable value of the property
- 24 used as a principal residence under subsection (16) shall be
- 25 calculated in the following manner:
- 26 (a) Add all of the following:
- 27 (i) The square footage of the property used exclusively as that

- 1 owner's principal residence.
- (ii) 50% of the square footage of the property's common area.
- 3 (iii) If the property was not open and available for use as a
- 4 bed and breakfast for 90 or more consecutive days in the
- 5 immediately preceding 12-month period, the result of the following
- 6 calculation:
- 7 (A) Add the square footage of the property that is open and
- 8 available regularly and exclusively as a bed and breakfast, and 50%
- 9 of the square footage of the property's common area.
- 10 (B) Multiply the result of the calculation in sub-subparagraph
- 11 (A) by a fraction, the numerator of which is the number of
- 12 consecutive days in the immediately preceding 12-month period that
- 13 the property was not open and available for use as a bed and
- 14 breakfast and the denominator of which is 365.
- 15 (b) Divide the result of the calculation in subdivision (a) by
- 16 the total square footage of the property.
- 17 (29) The owner claiming an exemption under this section for
- 18 property open and available as a bed and breakfast shall file an
- 19 affidavit claiming the exemption on or before May 1 with the local
- 20 tax collecting unit in which the property is located. The affidavit
- 21 shall be in a form prescribed by the department of treasury.
- 22 (30) As used in this section:
- 23 (A) "ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY" MEANS A LICENSED ADULT FOSTER
- 24 CARE FACILITY OR HOME FOR THE AGED.
- 25 (B) (a)—"Bed and breakfast" means property classified as
- 26 residential real property under section 34c that meets all of the
- 27 following criteria:

- ${f 1}$  (i) Has 10 or fewer sleeping rooms, including sleeping rooms
- 2 occupied by the owner of the property, 1 or more of which are
- 3 available for rent to transient tenants.
- 4 (ii) Serves meals at no extra cost to its transient tenants.
- 5 (iii) Has a smoke detector in proper working order in each
- 6 sleeping room and a fire extinguisher in proper working order on
- 7 each floor.
- 8 (C) (b) "Common area" includes, but is not limited to, a
- 9 kitchen, dining room, living room, fitness room, porch, hallway,
- 10 laundry room, or bathroom that is available for use by guests of a
- 11 bed and breakfast or, unless guests are specifically prohibited
- 12 from access to the area, an area that is used to provide a service
- 13 to guests of a bed and breakfast.

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