

**BILL NUMBER**: House Bill 2097 (First Edition)

**SHORT TITLE**: Property Tax Changes.

**SPONSOR(S)**: Representative Brubaker

FISCAL IMPACT

Yes ( ) No (X) No Estimate Available ( )

<u>FY 2006-07</u> <u>FY 2007-08</u> <u>FY 2008-09</u> <u>FY 2009-10</u> <u>FY 2010-11</u>

REVENUES: \*No Significant Impact\*

**EXPENDITURES:** 

**PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) & PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED:** North Carolina Department of Revenue, North Carolina Local Governments

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Becomes effective when law.

## **BILL SUMMARY:**

Sections 1 and 2 of the bill provide for the electronic filing of personal property. Currently, counties are allowed to provide for electronic listing only for business personal property. The Department indicates no reason that this listing mechanism should not be allowed for all personal property. Current law allows the period for electronic listing of business personal property to be extended to June 1. Section 2 of this bill clarifies that this extension is provided only to business personal property.

Section 3 of the bill makes a clarifying change to House Bill 1779, which was enacted during the 2005 Session. The bill creates a combined system for registration and taxation of motor vehicles. The bill increases the first-month interest payments on unpaid vehicle property taxes from 2% to 5% and directs 60% of interest revenue to a special account within the Department of State Treasurer for the purpose of creating a registration renewal and property tax collection computer system within the Division of Motor Vehicles. The intent of the bill, and the practice put into place by the Department of State Treasurer, is to transfer 60% of only the first month of interest on unpaid taxes to the special account. This bill clarifies that the transfer applies to only the month of interest.

Section 4 of the bill would give county boards of equalization and review the authority to approve a late application for present-use value appraisal of property if the applicant demonstrates a good cause for the delay. Current law allows similar approvals for property tax exemptions or exclusions.

Sections 5 and 6 of the bill would allow tax collectors to receive tax receipts for assessments that have been appealed to the Property Tax Commission, but would not allow the collector to collect the tax or enforce a tax lien resulting from the assessment while the appeal is pending. This bill would validate the current practice in which boards of equalization provide tax receipts to collectors by August 1, but clarifies that the collector may not seek remedies for appealed assessments until the appeal is adjudicated.

Section 7 of the bill makes a clarifying change to add taxes appealed to the Property Tax Commission to the list of items credited to the tax collector in the collector's final settlement with the governing body.

**ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY**: All of the proposed changes contained in the bill are administrative or clarifying in nature and would result in no significant fiscal impact.

**SOURCES OF DATA:** North Carolina Department of Revenue

**TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS**: None

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Publication

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