

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL No. 1056

DIGEST OF HB 1056 (Updated March 12, 2019 10:30 am - DI 125)

Citations Affected: IC 6-1.1.

Synopsis: Property tax appeals. Requires a county or township official who receives a written appeal notice from a taxpayer to forward the notice to the county auditor, if the taxpayer raises a claim regarding a matter that is in the discretion of the county auditor. Provides that the county auditor is a party before the county property tax assessment board of appeals and for any appeal of the board's decision in an appeal related to a matter that is in the discretion of the county auditor. Authorizes the county auditor to use the ineligible homestead fund to pay the costs of expenses related to an appeal.

Effective: January 1, 2020.

Manning, Lehman, Engleman, Pryor

(SENATE SPONSORS — BUSCH, BUCK)

January 3, 2019, read first time and referred to Committee on Local Government. January 17, 2019, amended, reported — Do Pass. January 22, 2019, read second time, ordered engrossed. January 23, 2019, engrossed. January 24, 2019, read third time, passed. Yeas 99, nays 0.

SENATE ACTION

February 27, 2019, read first time and referred to Committee on Tax and Fiscal Policy. March 12, 2019, amended, reported favorably — Do Pass.



First Regular Session of the 121st General Assembly (2019)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in this style type, and deletions will appear in this style type.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or *this style type* reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2018 Regular and Special Session of the General Assembly.

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL No. 1056

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

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

1	SECTION 1. IC 6-1.1-12-37, AS AMENDED BY P.L.255-2017,
2	SECTION 13, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3	JANUARY 1, 2020]: Sec. 37. (a) The following definitions apply
4	throughout this section:
5	(1) "Dwelling" means any of the following:
6	(A) Residential real property improvements that an individual
7	uses as the individual's residence, including a house or garage.
8	(B) A mobile home that is not assessed as real property that an
9	individual uses as the individual's residence.
10	(C) A manufactured home that is not assessed as real property
11	that an individual uses as the individual's residence.
12	(2) "Homestead" means an individual's principal place of
13	residence:
14	(A) that is located in Indiana;
15	(B) that:
16	(i) the individual owns;
17	(ii) the individual is buying under a contract recorded in the



1	county recorder's office, or evidenced by a memorandum of
2	contract recorded in the county recorder's office under
3	IC 36-2-11-20, that provides that the individual is to pay the
4	property taxes on the residence, and that obligates the owner
5	to convey title to the individual upon completion of all of the
6	individual's contract obligations;
7	(iii) the individual is entitled to occupy as a
8	tenant-stockholder (as defined in 26 U.S.C. 216) of a
9	cooperative housing corporation (as defined in 26 U.S.C.
10	216); or
11	(iv) is a residence described in section 17.9 of this chapter
12	that is owned by a trust if the individual is an individual
13	described in section 17.9 of this chapter; and
14	(C) that consists of a dwelling and the real estate, not
15	exceeding one (1) acre, that immediately surrounds that
16	dwelling.
17	Except as provided in subsection (k), the term does not include
18	property owned by a corporation, partnership, limited liability
19	company, or other entity not described in this subdivision.
20	(b) Each year a homestead is eligible for a standard deduction from
21 22 23	the assessed value of the homestead for an assessment date. Except as
22	provided in subsection (p), the deduction provided by this section
23	applies to property taxes first due and payable for an assessment date
24	only if an individual has an interest in the homestead described in
25	subsection (a)(2)(B) on:
26	(1) the assessment date; or
27	(2) any date in the same year after an assessment date that a
28	statement is filed under subsection (e) or section 44 of this
29	chapter, if the property consists of real property.
30	If more than one (1) individual or entity qualifies property as a
31	homestead under subsection (a)(2)(B) for an assessment date, only one
32	(1) standard deduction from the assessed value of the homestead may
33	be applied for the assessment date. Subject to subsection (c), the
34	auditor of the county shall record and make the deduction for the
35	individual or entity qualifying for the deduction.
36	(c) Except as provided in section 40.5 of this chapter, the total
37	amount of the deduction that a person may receive under this section
38	for a particular year is the lesser of:
39	(1) sixty percent (60%) of the assessed value of the real property,
40	mobile home not assessed as real property, or manufactured home
41	not assessed as real property; or
42	(2) forty-five thousand dollars (\$45,000).



1	(d) A person who has sold real property, a mobile home not assessed
2	as real property, or a manufactured home not assessed as real property
3	to another person under a contract that provides that the contract buyer
4	is to pay the property taxes on the real property, mobile home, or
5	manufactured home may not claim the deduction provided under this
6	section with respect to that real property, mobile home, or
7	manufactured home.
8	(e) Except as provided in sections 17.8 and 44 of this chapter and
9	subject to section 45 of this chapter, an individual who desires to claim
10	the deduction provided by this section must file a certified statement on
11	forms prescribed by the department of local government finance, with
12	the auditor of the county in which the homestead is located. The
13	statement must include:
14	(1) the parcel number or key number of the property and the name
15	of the city, town, or township in which the property is located;
16	(2) the name of any other location in which the applicant or the
17	applicant's spouse owns, is buying, or has a beneficial interest in
18	residential real property;
19	(3) the names of:
20	(A) the applicant and the applicant's spouse (if any):
21	(i) as the names appear in the records of the United States
22	Social Security Administration for the purposes of the
23	issuance of a Social Security card and Social Security
24	number; or
25	(ii) that they use as their legal names when they sign their
26	names on legal documents;
27	if the applicant is an individual; or
28	(B) each individual who qualifies property as a homestead
29	under subsection (a)(2)(B) and the individual's spouse (if any):
30	(i) as the names appear in the records of the United States
31	Social Security Administration for the purposes of the
32	issuance of a Social Security card and Social Security
33	number; or
34	(ii) that they use as their legal names when they sign their
35	names on legal documents;
36	if the applicant is not an individual; and
37	(4) either:
38	(A) the last five (5) digits of the applicant's Social Security
39	number and the last five (5) digits of the Social Security
40	number of the applicant's spouse (if any); or
41	(B) if the applicant or the applicant's spouse (if any) does not
42	have a Social Security number, any of the following for that



1	individual:
2	(i) The last five (5) digits of the individual's driver's license
3	number.
4	(ii) The last five (5) digits of the individual's state
5	identification card number.
6	(iii) The last five (5) digits of a preparer tax identification
7	number that is obtained by the individual through the
8	Internal Revenue Service of the United States.
9	(iv) If the individual does not have a driver's license, a state
10	identification card, or an Internal Revenue Service preparer
11	tax identification number, the last five (5) digits of a control
12	number that is on a document issued to the individual by the
13	United States government.
14	If a form or statement provided to the county auditor under this section,
15	IC 6-1.1-22-8.1, or IC 6-1.1-22.5-12 includes the telephone number or
16	part or all of the Social Security number of a party or other number
17	described in subdivision (4)(B) of a party, the telephone number and
18	the Social Security number or other number described in subdivision
19	(4)(B) included are confidential. The statement may be filed in person
20	or by mail. If the statement is mailed, the mailing must be postmarked
21	on or before the last day for filing. The statement applies for that first
22	year and any succeeding year for which the deduction is allowed. With
23	respect to real property, the statement must be completed and dated in
24	the calendar year for which the person desires to obtain the deduction
25	and filed with the county auditor on or before January 5 of the
26	immediately succeeding calendar year. With respect to a mobile home
27	that is not assessed as real property, the person must file the statement
28	during the twelve (12) months before March 31 of the year for which
29	the person desires to obtain the deduction.
30	(f) Except as provided in subsection (n), if a person who is
31	receiving, or seeks to receive, the deduction provided by this section in
32	the person's name:
33	(1) changes the use of the individual's property so that part or all
34	of the property no longer qualifies for the deduction under this
35	section; or
36	(2) is not eligible for a deduction under this section because the
37	person is already receiving:
38	(A) a deduction under this section in the person's name as an
39	individual or a spouse; or
40	(B) a deduction under the law of another state that is
41	equivalent to the deduction provided by this section;
42	the person must file a certified statement with the auditor of the county,



notifying the auditor of the person's ineligibility, not more than sixty (60) days after the date of the change in eligibility. A person who fails to file the statement required by this subsection may, under IC 6-1.1-36-17, be liable for any additional taxes that would have been due on the property if the person had filed the statement as required by this subsection plus a civil penalty equal to ten percent (10%) of the additional taxes due. The civil penalty imposed under this subsection is in addition to any interest and penalties for a delinquent payment that might otherwise be due. One percent (1%) of the total civil penalty collected under this subsection shall be transferred by the county to the department of local government finance for use by the department in establishing and maintaining the homestead property data base under subsection (i) and, to the extent there is money remaining, for any other purposes of the department. This amount becomes part of the property tax liability for purposes of this article.

- (g) The department of local government finance may adopt rules or guidelines concerning the application for a deduction under this section.
- (h) This subsection does not apply to property in the first year for which a deduction is claimed under this section if the sole reason that a deduction is claimed on other property is that the individual or married couple maintained a principal residence at the other property on the assessment date in the same year in which an application for a deduction is filed under this section or, if the application is for a homestead that is assessed as personal property, on the assessment date in the immediately preceding year and the individual or married couple is moving the individual's or married couple's principal residence to the property that is the subject of the application. Except as provided in subsection (n), the county auditor may not grant an individual or a married couple a deduction under this section if:
 - (1) the individual or married couple, for the same year, claims the deduction on two (2) or more different applications for the deduction; and
 - (2) the applications claim the deduction for different property.
- (i) The department of local government finance shall provide secure access to county auditors to a homestead property data base that includes access to the homestead owner's name and the numbers required from the homestead owner under subsection (e)(4) for the sole purpose of verifying whether an owner is wrongly claiming a deduction under this chapter or a credit under IC 6-1.1-20.4, IC 6-1.1-20.6, or IC 6-3.6-5 (after December 31, 2016).
 - (j) A county auditor may require an individual to provide evidence



proving that the individual's residence is the individual's principal place
of residence as claimed in the certified statement filed under subsection
(e). The county auditor may limit the evidence that an individual is
required to submit to a state income tax return, a valid driver's license,
or a valid voter registration card showing that the residence for which
the deduction is claimed is the individual's principal place of residence.
The department of local government finance shall work with county
auditors to develop procedures to determine whether a property owner
that is claiming a standard deduction or homestead credit is not eligible
for the standard deduction or homestead credit because the property
owner's principal place of residence is outside Indiana.

- (k) As used in this section, "homestead" includes property that satisfies each of the following requirements:
 - (1) The property is located in Indiana and consists of a dwelling and the real estate, not exceeding one (1) acre, that immediately surrounds that dwelling.
 - (2) The property is the principal place of residence of an individual.
 - (3) The property is owned by an entity that is not described in subsection (a)(2)(B).
 - (4) The individual residing on the property is a shareholder, partner, or member of the entity that owns the property.
 - (5) The property was eligible for the standard deduction under this section on March 1, 2009.
- (l) If a county auditor terminates a deduction for property described in subsection (k) with respect to property taxes that are:
 - (1) imposed for an assessment date in 2009; and
 - (2) first due and payable in 2010;

on the grounds that the property is not owned by an entity described in subsection (a)(2)(B), the county auditor shall reinstate the deduction if the taxpayer provides proof that the property is eligible for the deduction in accordance with subsection (k) and that the individual residing on the property is not claiming the deduction for any other property.

- (m) For assessment dates after 2009, the term "homestead" includes:
 - (1) a deck or patio;
 - (2) a gazebo; or
 - (3) another residential yard structure, as defined in rules adopted by the department of local government finance (other than a swimming pool);
- 41 that is assessed as real property and attached to the dwelling.
 - (n) A county auditor shall grant an individual a deduction under this



section regardless of whether the individual and the individual's spouse claim a deduction on two (2) different applications and each application claims a deduction for different property if the property owned by the individual's spouse is located outside Indiana and the individual files an affidavit with the county auditor containing the following information:

- (1) The names of the county and state in which the individual's spouse claims a deduction substantially similar to the deduction allowed by this section.
- (2) A statement made under penalty of perjury that the following are true:
 - (A) That the individual and the individual's spouse maintain separate principal places of residence.
 - (B) That neither the individual nor the individual's spouse has an ownership interest in the other's principal place of residence.
 - (C) That neither the individual nor the individual's spouse has, for that same year, claimed a standard or substantially similar deduction for any property other than the property maintained as a principal place of residence by the respective individuals.

A county auditor may require an individual or an individual's spouse to provide evidence of the accuracy of the information contained in an affidavit submitted under this subsection. The evidence required of the individual or the individual's spouse may include state income tax returns, excise tax payment information, property tax payment information, driver license information, and voter registration information.

(o) If:

- (1) a property owner files a statement under subsection (e) to claim the deduction provided by this section for a particular property; and
- (2) the county auditor receiving the filed statement determines that the property owner's property is not eligible for the deduction; the county auditor shall inform the property owner of the county auditor's determination in writing. If a property owner's property is not eligible for the deduction because the county auditor has determined that the property is not the property owner's principal place of residence, the property owner may appeal the county auditor's determination to the county property tax assessment board of appeals as provided in IC 6-1.1-15. The county auditor shall inform the property owner of the owner's right to appeal to the county property tax assessment board of appeals when the county auditor informs the



property	owner	of the	county	auditor's	determination	under	this
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(p) An individual is entitled to the deduction under this section for a homestead for a particular assessment date if:

(1) either:

- (A) the individual's interest in the homestead as described in subsection (a)(2)(B) is conveyed to the individual after the assessment date, but within the calendar year in which the assessment date occurs; or
- (B) the individual contracts to purchase the homestead after the assessment date, but within the calendar year in which the assessment date occurs;
- (2) on the assessment date:
 - (A) the property on which the homestead is currently located was vacant land; or
 - (B) the construction of the dwelling that constitutes the homestead was not completed; and

(3) either:

- (A) the individual files the certified statement required by subsection (e); or
- (B) a sales disclosure form that meets the requirements of section 44 of this chapter is submitted to the county assessor on or before December 31 of the calendar year for the individual's purchase of the homestead.

An individual who satisfies the requirements of subdivisions (1) through (3) is entitled to the deduction under this section for the homestead for the assessment date, even if on the assessment date the property on which the homestead is currently located was vacant land or the construction of the dwelling that constitutes the homestead was not completed. The county auditor shall apply the deduction for the assessment date and for the assessment date in any later year in which the homestead remains eligible for the deduction. A homestead that qualifies for the deduction under this section as provided in this subsection is considered a homestead for purposes of section 37.5 of this chapter and IC 6-1.1-20.6.

(q) This subsection applies to an application for the deduction provided by this section that is filed for an assessment date occurring after December 31, 2013. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, an individual buying a mobile home that is not assessed as real property or a manufactured home that is not assessed as real property under a contract providing that the individual is to pay the property taxes on the mobile home or manufactured home is not entitled to the



deduction provided by this section unless the parties to the contract comply with IC 9-17-6-17.

(r) This subsection:

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- (1) applies to an application for the deduction provided by this section that is filed for an assessment date occurring after December 31, 2013; and
- (2) does not apply to an individual described in subsection (q). The owner of a mobile home that is not assessed as real property or a manufactured home that is not assessed as real property must attach a copy of the owner's title to the mobile home or manufactured home to the application for the deduction provided by this section.
- (s) For assessment dates after 2013, the term "homestead" includes property that is owned by an individual who:
 - (1) is serving on active duty in any branch of the armed forces of the United States;
 - (2) was ordered to transfer to a location outside Indiana; and
 - (3) was otherwise eligible, without regard to this subsection, for the deduction under this section for the property for the assessment date immediately preceding the transfer date specified in the order described in subdivision (2).

For property to qualify under this subsection for the deduction provided by this section, the individual described in subdivisions (1) through (3) must submit to the county auditor a copy of the individual's transfer orders or other information sufficient to show that the individual was ordered to transfer to a location outside Indiana. The property continues to qualify for the deduction provided by this section until the individual ceases to be on active duty, the property is sold, or the individual's ownership interest is otherwise terminated, whichever occurs first. Notwithstanding subsection (a)(2), the property remains a homestead regardless of whether the property continues to be the individual's principal place of residence after the individual transfers to a location outside Indiana. The property continues to qualify as a homestead under this subsection if the property is leased while the individual is away from Indiana and is serving on active duty, if the individual has lived at the property at any time during the past ten (10) years. Otherwise, the property ceases to qualify as a homestead under this subsection if the property is leased while the individual is away from Indiana. Property that qualifies as a homestead under this subsection shall also be construed as a homestead for purposes of section 37.5 of this chapter.

SECTION 2. IC 6-1.1-15-1.1, AS ADDED BY P.L.232-2017, SECTION 10, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE



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1	JANUARY 1, 2020]: Sec. 1.1. (a) A taxpayer may appeal an
2	assessment of a taxpayer's tangible property by filing a notice in writing
3	with the township assessor, or the county assessor if the township is not
4	served by a township assessor. Except as provided in subsection (e), an
5	appeal under this section may raise any claim of an error related to the
6	following:
7	(1) The assessed value of the property.
8	(2) The assessment was against the wrong person.
9	(3) The approval, denial, or omission of a deduction, credit,
10	exemption, abatement, or tax cap.
11	(4) A clerical, mathematical, or typographical mistake.
12	(5) The description of the real property.
13	(6) The legality or constitutionality of a property tax or
14	assessment

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

- (b) A taxpayer may appeal an error in the assessed value of the property under subsection (a)(1) any time after the official's action, but not later than the following:
 - (1) For assessments before January 1, 2019, the earlier of:
 - (A) forty-five (45) days after the date on which the notice of assessment is mailed by the county; or
 - (B) forty-five (45) days after the date on which the tax statement is mailed by the county treasurer, regardless of whether the assessing official changes the taxpayer's assessment.
 - (2) For assessments after December 31, 2018, the earlier of:
 - (A) June 15 of the assessment year, if the notice of assessment is mailed by the county before May 1 of the assessment year;
 - (B) June 15 of the year in which the tax statement is mailed by the county treasurer, if the notice of assessment is mailed by the county on or after May 1 of the assessment year.

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

- (c) Except as provided in subsection (d), an appeal under this section applies only to the tax year corresponding to the tax statement or other notice of action.
- (d) An appeal under this section applies to a prior tax year if a county official took action regarding a prior tax year, and such action



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is reflected for the first time in the tax statement. A taxpayer who has timely filed a written notice of appeal under this section may be required to file a petition for each tax year, and each petition filed later must be considered timely.

- (e) A taxpayer may not appeal under this section any claim of error related to the following:
 - (1) The denial of a deduction, exemption, abatement, or credit if the authority to approve or deny is not vested in the county board, county auditor, county assessor, or township assessor.
 - (2) The calculation of interest and penalties.
 - (3) A matter under subsection (a) if a separate appeal or review process is statutorily prescribed.

However, a claim may be raised under this section regarding the omission or application of a deduction approved by an authority other than the county board, county auditor, county assessor, or township assessor under subdivision (2).

- (f) The filing of a written notice under this section constitutes a request by the taxpayer for a preliminary informal meeting with the township assessor, or the county assessor if the township is not served by a township assessor.
- (g) A county or township official who receives a written notice under this section shall forward the notice to:
 - (1) the county board; and
 - (2) the county auditor, if the taxpayer raises a claim regarding a matter that is in the discretion of the county auditor.

SECTION 3. IC 6-1.1-15-1.2, AS ADDED BY P.L.232-2017, SECTION 11, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2020]: Sec. 1.2. (a) A county or township official who receives a written notice under section 1.1 of this chapter shall schedule, at a time during business hours that is convenient to the taxpayer, a preliminary informal meeting with the taxpayer in order to resolve the appeal. If the taxpayer raises a claim regarding a matter that is in the discretion of the county auditor, the informal meeting must include the county auditor. At the preliminary informal meeting, in order to facilitate understanding and the resolution of disputed issues, a county or township official, the county auditor, if the matter is in the discretion of the county auditor, and the taxpayer shall exchange the information that each party is relying on at the time of the preliminary informal meeting to support the party's respective position on each disputed issue concerning the assessment or deduction. If additional information is obtained by the county or township official, the county auditor, or the taxpayer after the



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preliminary informal meeting and before the hearing held by the county board, the party obtaining the information shall provide the information to the other party. If the county or township official, **the county auditor**, or the taxpayer obtains additional information and provides the information to the other party for the first time at the hearing held by the county board, the county board, unless waived by the receiving party, shall continue the hearing until a future hearing date of the county board so that the receiving party has an opportunity to review all the information that the offering party is relying on to support the offering party's positions on the disputed issues concerning the assessment or deduction.

- (b) The official shall report on a form prescribed by the department of local government finance the results of the informal meeting. If the taxpayer and the official agree on the resolution of all issues in the appeal, the report shall state the agreed resolution of the matter and be signed by the official and the taxpayer. If an informal meeting is not held, or the informal meeting is unsuccessful, the official shall report those facts on the form. The official shall forward the report on the informal meeting to the county board.
- (c) If the county board receives a report on the informal meeting indicating an agreed resolution of the matter, the county board shall vote to accept or deny the agreed resolution. If the county board accepts the agreed resolution, the county board shall issue a notification of final assessment determination adopting the agreed resolution and vacating the hearing if scheduled.
- (d) The county board, upon receipt of a written notice under section 1.1 of this chapter, shall hold a hearing on the appeal not later than one hundred eighty (180) days after the filing date of the written notice. The county board shall, by mail, give at least thirty (30) days notice of the date, time, and place fixed for the hearing to the taxpayer, the county or township official with whom the taxpayer filed the written notice, and the county auditor. If the county board has notice that the taxpayer is represented by a third person, any hearing notice shall be mailed to the representative.
- (e) If good cause is shown, the county board shall grant a request for continuance filed in writing at least ten (10) days before the hearing, and reschedule the hearing under subsection (d).
- (f) A taxpayer may withdraw an appeal by filing a written request at least ten (10) days before the hearing. The county board shall issue a notification of final assessment determination indicating the withdrawal and no change in the assessment. A withdrawal waives a taxpayer's right to appeal to the Indiana board of tax review.



- (g) The county board shall determine an appeal without a hearing if requested by the taxpayer in writing at least twenty (20) days before the hearing.
- (h) If a taxpayer appeals the assessment of tangible property under section 1.1 of this chapter, the taxpayer is not required to have an appraisal of the property in order to initiate the appeal or prosecute the appeal.
- (i) At a hearing under subsection (d), the taxpayer shall have the opportunity to present testimony and evidence regarding the matters on appeal. If the matters on appeal are in the discretion of the county auditor, the county auditor or the county auditor's representative shall attend the hearing. A county or township official, or the county auditor or the county auditor's representative, shall have an opportunity to present testimony and evidence regarding the matters on appeal. The county board may adjourn and continue the hearing to a later date in order to make a physical inspection or consider the evidence presented.
- (j) The county board shall determine the assessment by motion and majority vote. A county board may, based on the evidence before it, increase an assessment. The county board shall issue a written decision. Written notice of the decision shall be given to the township official, county official, county auditor, and the taxpayer.
- (k) If more than one hundred eighty (180) days have passed since the date the notice of appeal was filed, and the county board has not issued a determination, a taxpayer may initiate any appeal with the Indiana board of tax review under section 3 of this chapter.
- (1) The county assessor may assess a penalty of fifty dollars (\$50) against the taxpayer if the taxpayer or representative fails to appear at a hearing under subsection (d) and, under subsection (e), the taxpayer's request for continuance is denied, or the taxpayer's request for continuance, request for the board to take action without a hearing, or withdrawal is not timely filed. A taxpayer may appeal the assessment of the penalty to the Indiana board or directly to the tax court. The penalty may not be added as an amount owed on the property tax statement under IC 6-1.1-22 or IC 6-1.1-22.5.
- SECTION 4. IC 6-1.1-15-2.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.232-2017, SECTION 12, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2020]: Sec. 2.5. (a) This section applies to a notice filed by a taxpayer under section 1.1 of this chapter with respect to the assessment of the taxpayer's tangible property.
- (b) Instead of a hearing before the county board, a taxpayer and a township or county official or, if the claim concerns a matter that is in the discretion of the county auditor, the county auditor may enter



1	into an agreement in which both parties:
2	(1) agree to waive a determination by the county board and
3	submit the dispute directly to the Indiana board; or
4	(2) stipulate to the assessed value of the tangible property in
5	dispute as determined by an independent appraisal under terms
6	and conditions in subsection (e).
7	A taxpayer and a township or county official may still enter into an
8	agreement under section 1.2(b) of this chapter and not be subject to the
9	requirements of this section.
10	(c) An agreement under this section may not be entered into more
11	than one hundred twenty (120) days after the date of the notice under
12	subsection (a).
13	(d) The township or county official or county auditor, whichever
14	applies, shall immediately forward an agreement entered into under
15	this section to the county board.
16	(e) An agreement entered into by a taxpayer and a township or
17	county official under subsection (b)(2) must include the following
18	provisions:
19	(1) The county board shall select three (3) Indiana registered
20	appraisers as potential appraisers to conduct an independent
21	appraisal under the agreement.
22	(2) Not later than fifteen (15) days after the county board's
23	selection of potential appraisers, the:
24	(A) taxpayer; and
25	(B) township or county official;
26	may each strike one (1) appraiser from the list of potential
27	appraisers by providing written notice to the county board of the
28	name of the appraiser to strike from the list.
29	(3) Not later than sixty (60) days after the date of the agreement,
30	an appraisal shall be conducted by the Indiana registered
31	appraiser who is:
32	(A) not struck from the list of potential appraisers, if two (2)
33	potential appraisers are struck from the list under subdivision
34	(2); or
35	(B) selected by the county board from the list of potential
36	appraisers, if fewer than two (2) potential appraisers are struck
37	from the list under subdivision (2).
38	(4) The appraisal conducted under subdivision (3) shall be:
39	(A) prepared in accordance with usual and customary
40	professional standards for an Indiana registered appraiser;
41	(B) notarized; and
42	(C) filed with the county board not later than three (3) days



1	after its completion.
2	(5) The taxpayer and the township or county official stipulate for
3	purposes of review by the county board that the correct assessed
4	value of the tangible property in dispute is the appraised value of
5	the tangible property as determined by the appraisal conducted
6	under subdivision (3).
7	(6) The taxpayer and the township or county official retain the
8	right to initiate a proceeding for review of a stipulated
9	determination entered by the county board under subsection (g)
10	before the Indiana board under section 3 of this chapter.
11	(7) Any other provision the department of local government
12	finance considers appropriate.
13	(f) The department of local government finance shall prescribe a
14	standard form agreement that must be used for purposes of this section.
15	The department shall require the form agreement to be notarized.
16	(g) Upon receipt of an independent appraisal conducted under this
17	section, the county board shall enter a stipulated determination of
18	assessed value:
19	(1) based on the agreement of the parties under subsection (b)(2);
20	and
21	(2) equal to the appraised value of the property as determined by
22	the independent appraisal.
23	(h) A taxpayer or a township or county official may initiate a
24	proceeding for review of a stipulated determination entered by a county
25	board under this section before the Indiana board as required by section
26	3 of this chapter.
27	SECTION 5. IC 6-1.1-15-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.196-2016,
28	SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
29	JANUARY 1, 2020]: Sec. 3. (a) A taxpayer may obtain a review by the
30	Indiana board of a county board's action with respect to the following:
31	(1) The assessment of that taxpayer's tangible property if the
32	county board's action requires the giving of notice to the taxpayer.
33	(2) The exemption of that taxpayer's tangible property if the
34	taxpayer receives a notice of an exemption determination by the
35	county board under IC 6-1.1-11-7.
36	a claim under section 1.1 of this chapter.
37	(b) The county assessor is the party to the review under this section
38	to defend the determination of the county board. The county auditor
39	may appear as an additional party to the review if the
40	determination concerns a matter that is in the discretion of the
41	county auditor. At the time the notice of that determination is given
42	to the taxpayer, the taxpayer shall also be informed in writing of:



(1) the taxpayer's opportunity for review under this section; and

	() · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
2	(2) the procedures the taxpayer must follow in order to obtain
3	review under this section.
4	(c) A county assessor who dissents from the determination of an
5	assessment or an exemption by the county board may obtain a review
6	of the assessment or the exemption by the Indiana board. A county
7	auditor who dissents from the determination of the county board
8	concerning a matter that is in the discretion of the county auditor
9	may obtain a review by the Indiana board.
10	(d) In order to obtain a review by the Indiana board under this
11	section, the party must, not later than forty-five (45) days after the date
12	of the notice given to the party or parties of the determination of the
13	county board:
14	(1) file a petition for review with the Indiana board; and
15	(2) mail a copy of the petition to the other party.
16	(e) The Indiana board shall prescribe the form of the petition for
17	review of an assessment determination or an exemption by the county
18	board. under this chapter. The Indiana board shall issue instructions
19	for completion of the form. The form and the instructions must be
20	clear, simple, and understandable to the average individual. A petition
21	for review of such a determination must be made on the form
22	prescribed by the Indiana board. The form must require the petitioner
23	to specify the reasons why the petitioner believes that the assessment
24	determination or the exemption determination by the county board is
25	erroneous.
26	(f) If the action for which a taxpayer seeks review under this section
27	is the assessment of tangible property, the taxpayer is not required to
28	have an appraisal of the property in order to do the following:
29	(1) Initiate the review.
30	(2) Prosecute the review.
31	(g) If an owner petitions the Indiana board under IC 6-1.1-11-7(d),
32	the Indiana board is authorized to approve or disapprove an exemption
33	application:
34	(1) previously submitted to a county board under IC 6-1.1-11-6;
35	and
36	(2) that is not approved or disapproved by the county board within
37	one hundred eighty (180) days after the owner filed the
38	application for exemption under IC 6-1.1-11.
39	The county assessor is a party to a petition to the Indiana board under
40	IC 6-1.1-11-7(d).
41	SECTION 6. IC 6-1.1-15-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.86-2018,
42	SECTION 47, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE



JANUARY 1, 2020]: Sec. 4. (a) After receiving a petition for review which is filed under section 3 of this chapter, the Indiana board shall conduct a hearing at its earliest opportunity. The Indiana board may correct any errors that may have been made and adjust the assessment or exemption in accordance with the correction. related to a claim under section 1.1 of this chapter that is within the jurisdiction of the Indiana board under IC 6-1.5-4-1.

(b) If the Indiana board conducts a site inspection of the property as part of its review of the petition, the Indiana board shall give notice to all parties of the date and time of the site inspection. The Indiana board is not required to assess the property in question. The Indiana board shall give notice of the date fixed for the hearing, by mail, to the taxpayer and to the county assessor, parties or a party's representative. The Indiana board shall give these notices at least thirty (30) days before the day fixed for the hearing unless the parties agree to a shorter period. With respect to a petition for review filed by a county assessor, the county board that made the determination under review under this section may file an amicus curiae brief in the review proceeding under this section. The expenses incurred by the county board in filing the amicus curiae brief shall be paid from the property reassessment fund under IC 6-1.1-4-27.5 of the county in which the property is located. The executive of a taxing unit may file an amicus curiae brief in the review proceeding under this section if the property whose assessment or exemption that is under the subject of the appeal is subject to assessment by that taxing unit.

- (c) If a petition for review does not comply with the Indiana board's instructions for completing the form prescribed under section 3 of this chapter, the Indiana board shall return the petition to the petitioner and include a notice describing the defect in the petition. The petitioner then has thirty (30) days from the date on the notice to cure the defect and file a corrected petition. The Indiana board shall deny a corrected petition for review if it does not substantially comply with the Indiana board's instructions for completing the form prescribed under section 3 of this chapter.
- (d) After the hearing, the Indiana board shall give the taxpayer, the county assessor, parties and any entity that filed an amicus curiae brief, or their representatives:
 - (1) notice, by mail, of its final determination; and
 - (2) for parties entitled to appeal the final determination, notice of the procedures they must follow in order to obtain court review under section 5 of this chapter.
 - (e) Except as provided in subsection (f), the Indiana board shall



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1	conduct a hearing not later than nine (9) months after a petition in
2	proper form is filed with the Indiana board, excluding any time due to
3	a delay reasonably caused by the petitioner.
4	(f) With respect to an appeal of a real property assessment that takes
5	effect on the assessment date on which a reassessment of real property
6	takes effect under IC 6-1.1-4-4.2, the Indiana board shall conduct a
7	hearing not later than one (1) year after a petition in proper form is
8	filed with the Indiana board, excluding any time due to a delay
9	reasonably caused by the petitioner.
10	(g) Except as provided in subsection (h), the Indiana board shall
11	make a determination not later than the later of:

- make a determination not later than the later of:
 - (1) ninety (90) days after the hearing; or
 - (2) the date set in an extension order issued by the Indiana board.
- (h) With respect to an appeal of a real property assessment that takes effect on the assessment date on which a reassessment of real property takes effect under IC 6-1.1-4-4.2, the Indiana board shall make a determination not later than the later of:
 - (1) one hundred eighty (180) days after the hearing; or
 - (2) the date set in an extension order issued by the Indiana board.
- (i) The Indiana board may not extend the final determination date under subsection (g) or (h) by more than one hundred eighty (180) days. If the Indiana board fails to make a final determination within the time allowed by this section, the entity that initiated the petition may:
 - (1) take no action and wait for the Indiana board to make a final determination; or
 - (2) petition for judicial review under section 5 of this chapter.
- (i) A final determination must include separately stated findings of fact for all aspects of the determination. Findings of ultimate fact must be accompanied by a concise statement of the underlying basic facts of record to support the findings. Findings must be based exclusively upon the evidence on the record in the proceeding and on matters officially noticed in the proceeding. Findings must be based upon a preponderance of the evidence.
- (k) The Indiana board may limit the scope of the appeal to the issues raised in the petition and the evaluation of the evidence presented to the county board in support of those issues only if all parties participating in the hearing required under subsection (a) agree to the limitation. A party participating in the hearing required under subsection (a) is entitled to introduce evidence that is otherwise proper and admissible without regard to whether that evidence has previously been introduced at a hearing before the county board.
 - (1) The Indiana board may require the parties to the appeal:



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1 (1) to file not more than five (5) business days before the date of 2 the hearing required under subsection (a) documentary evidence 3 or summaries of statements of testimonial evidence; and 4 (2) to file not more than fifteen (15) business days before the date 5 of the hearing required under subsection (a) lists of witnesses and

exhibits to be introduced at the hearing.

- (m) A party to a proceeding before the Indiana board shall provide to all other parties to the proceeding the information described in subsection (l) if the other party requests the information in writing at least ten (10) days before the deadline for filing of the information under subsection (l).
- (n) The Indiana board may base its final determination on a stipulation between the respondent and the petitioner. If the final determination is based on a stipulated assessed valuation of tangible property, the Indiana board may order the placement of a notation on the permanent assessment record of the tangible property that the assessed valuation was determined by stipulation. The Indiana board may:
 - (1) order that a final determination under this subsection has no precedential value; or
 - (2) specify a limited precedential value of a final determination under this subsection.
- (o) If a party to a proceeding, or a party's authorized representative, elects to receive any notice under this section by electronic mail, the notice is considered effective in the same manner as if the notice had been sent by United States mail, with postage prepaid, to the party's or representative's mailing address of record.
- (p) At a hearing under this section, the Indiana board shall admit into evidence an appraisal report, prepared by an appraiser, unless the appraisal report is ruled inadmissible on grounds besides a hearsay objection. This exception to the hearsay rule shall not be construed to limit the discretion of the Indiana board, as trier of fact, to review the probative value of an appraisal report.

SECTION 7. IC 6-1.1-15-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007, SECTION 41, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2020]: Sec. 5. (a) Not later than fifteen (15) days after the Indiana board gives notice of its final determination under section 4 of this chapter to the party or the maximum allowable time for the issuance of a final determination by the Indiana board under section 4 of this chapter expires, a party to the proceeding may request a rehearing before the Indiana board. The Indiana board may conduct a rehearing and affirm or modify its final determination, giving the same



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1	notices after the rehearing as are required by section 4 of this chapter.
2	The Indiana board has fifteen (15) days after receiving a petition for a
3	rehearing to determine whether to grant a rehearing. Failure to grant a
4	rehearing not later than fifteen (15) days after receiving the petition
5	shall be treated as a final determination to deny the petition. A petition
6	for a rehearing does not toll the time in which to file a petition for
7	judicial review unless the petition for rehearing is granted. If the
8	Indiana board determines to rehear a final determination, the Indiana
9	board:
10	(1) may conduct the additional hearings that the Indiana board
11	determines necessary or review the written record without
12	additional hearings; and
13	(2) shall issue a final determination not later than ninety (90) days
14	after notifying the parties that the Indiana board will rehear the

after notifying the parties that the Indiana board will rehear the final determination.

If the Indiana board fails to make a final determination within the time allowed under subdivision (2), the entity that initiated the petition for rehearing may take no action and wait for the Indiana board to make a final determination or petition for judicial review under subsection (g).

- (b) A party may petition for judicial review of the final determination of the Indiana board. regarding the assessment or exemption of tangible property. In order to obtain judicial review under this section, a party must:
 - (1) file a petition with the Indiana tax court;
 - (2) serve a copy of the petition on:
 - (A) the county assessor; parties to the review by the Indiana board:
 - (B) the attorney general; and
 - (C) any entity that filed an amicus curiae brief with the Indiana board: and
 - (3) file a written notice of appeal with the Indiana board informing the Indiana board of the party's intent to obtain judicial review.

Petitions for judicial review may be consolidated at the request of the appellants if it can be done in the interest of justice. The department of local government finance may intervene in an action taken under this subsection if the interpretation of a rule of the department is at issue in the action. The county assessor is a party to the review under this section.

(c) Except as provided in subsection (g), to initiate a proceeding for judicial review under this section, a party must take the action required by subsection (b) not later than:



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1	(1) forty-five (45) days after the Indiana board gives the person
2	notice of its final determination, unless a rehearing is conducted
3	under subsection (a); or
4	(2) forty-five (45) days after the Indiana board gives the person
5	notice under subsection (a) of its final determination, if a
6	rehearing is conducted under subsection (a) or the maximum time
7	elapses for the Indiana board to make a determination under this
8	section.
9	(d) The failure of the Indiana board to conduct a hearing within the
10	period prescribed in section 4(e) or 4(f) of this chapter does not
11	constitute notice to the party of an Indiana board final determination.
12	(e) The county assessor may petition for judicial review to the tax
13	court in the manner prescribed in this section. If the county auditor
14	appeared before the Indiana board concerning the matter, the
15	county auditor may petition for judicial review to the tax court in
16	the manner prescribed in this section.
17	(f) The county assessor may not be represented by the attorney
18	general in a judicial review initiated under subsection (b) by the county
19	assessor.
20	(g) If the maximum time elapses for the Indiana board to give notice
21	of its final determination under subsection (a) or section 4 of this
22	chapter, a party may initiate a proceeding for judicial review by taking
23	the action required by subsection (b) at any time after the maximum
24	time elapses. If:
25	(1) a judicial proceeding is initiated under this subsection; and
26	(2) the Indiana board has not issued a determination;
27	the tax court shall determine the matter de novo.
28	SECTION 8. IC 6-1.1-15-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.232-2017,
29	SECTION 13, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
30	JANUARY 1, 2020]: Sec. 8. (a) If a final determination by the Indiana
31	board regarding the assessment or exemption of any tangible property
32	is not affirmed under the decision of the tax court, the matter of the
33	assessment or exemption of the property shall be remanded to the
34	Indiana board with instructions to the Indiana board. The Indiana board
35	may, under the tax court's instructions, conduct further proceedings or
36	refer the matter to the:
37	(1) department of local government finance with respect to an
38	appeal of a determination made by the department; or
39	(2) county board with respect to an appeal of a determination



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made by the county board;

to make another assessment or exemption determination. take action

that is consistent with the court's opinion. Upon remand, the Indiana

board may take action only on those issues specified in the decision of the tax court.

- (b) The department of local government finance or the county board shall take action on a case referred to it by the Indiana board under subsection (a) not later than ninety (90) days after the date the referral is made. The department of local government finance or the county board may petition the Indiana board at any time for an extension of the ninety (90) day period. An extension shall be granted upon a showing of reasonable cause.
- (c) The taxpayer in a case remanded under subsection (a) may petition the tax court for an order requiring the department of local government finance or the county board to show cause why action has not been taken pursuant to the Indiana board's referral under subsection (a) if:
 - (1) at least ninety (90) days have elapsed since the referral was made;
 - (2) the department of local government finance or the county board has not taken action on the issues specified in the tax court's decision; and
 - (3) an appeal of the tax court's decision has not been filed.
- (d) If a case remanded under subsection (a) is appealed under section 5 of this chapter, the ninety (90) day period provided in subsection (b) is tolled until the appeal is concluded.

SECTION 9. IC 6-1.1-15-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.232-2017, SECTION 14, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2020]: Sec. 9. (a) If the assessment or exemption of tangible property is corrected by the Indiana board After further proceedings under section 8 of this chapter, a party has a right to appeal the final determination by the Indiana board.

(b) An appeal under this section must be initiated in the manner prescribed in section 5 of this chapter.

SECTION 10. IC 6-1.1-15-10.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.232-2017, SECTION 15, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2020]: Sec. 10.5. (a) The fiscal officer of a taxing unit may establish a separate fund known as the property tax assessment appeals fund to hold property tax receipts that are attributable to an increase in the taxing unit's tax rate caused by a reduction in the taxing unit's net assessed value under IC 6-1.1-17-0.5.

(b) A taxing unit may transfer property tax receipts from a fund that is not a debt service fund to the taxing unit's property tax assessment appeals fund. A taxing unit may not transfer property tax receipts from a debt service fund to the taxing unit's property tax assessment appeals



1	fund.
2	(c) A taxing unit may use money in the taxing unit's property tax
3	assessment appeals fund only to pay the following:
4	(1) Expenses incurred by a county assessor or county auditor in
5	defending appeals prosecuted under this chapter with respect to
6	property located in the taxing unit.
7	(2) Refunds under IC 6-1.1-26-3.1.
8	(d) The balance in a taxing unit's property tax assessment appeals
9	fund may not exceed five percent (5%) of the amount budgeted by the
10	taxing unit for a particular year.
11	(e) Money transferred to a taxing unit's property tax assessment
12	appeals fund is not considered miscellaneous revenue. Both the taxing
13	unit and the department of local government finance shall disregard
14	any balance in the taxing unit's property tax assessment appeals fund
15	in the determination of the taxing unit's property tax levy, property tax
16	rate, and budget (except for appropriations for the purposes permitted
17	by subsection (c)) for a particular calendar year.
18	(f) Property tax receipts that qualify as levy excess under
19	IC 6-1.1-18.5-17 and IC 20-44-3 must be treated as levy excess and are
20	not eligible for transfer to a taxing unit's property tax assessment
21	appeals fund.
22	SECTION 11. IC 6-1.1-15-15, AS AMENDED BY P.L.232-2017,
23	SECTION 22, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
24	JANUARY 1, 2020]: Sec. 15. A class action suit against an assessing
25	official, a county auditor, or the department of local government
26	finance may not be maintained in any court, including the Indiana tax
27	court, on behalf of a person who has not complied with the
28	requirements of this chapter or IC 6-1.1-26 before the certification of
29	the class.
30	SECTION 12. IC 6-1.1-26-3.1, AS ADDED BY P.L.232-2017,
31	SECTION 31, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
32	JANUARY 1, 2020]: Sec. 3.1. (a) If a determination in a review or
33	appeal authorized under IC 6-1.1-15 results in an overpayment by the
34	taxpayer during the same tax year to which the assessment appeal
35	relates, the taxpayer is entitled to a credit in the amount of the
36	overpayment of tax on the next successive tax installment, if any, due
37	in that tax year. After the credit is given, the county auditor shall:
38	(1) determine if a further amount is due the taxpayer; and
39	(2) if a further amount is due the taxpayer, notwithstanding
40	IC 5-11-10-1 and IC 36-2-6-2, without a claim or an appropriation
41	being required, pay the amount due the taxpayer.
42	The county auditor shall charge the amount refunded to the taxpayer as



1	provided in section 2.1 of this chapter.
2	(b) If the taxpayer no longer owns the property on which the tax was
3	assessed and paid and is no longer the lawful claimant, the county
4	auditor shall pay the refund to the lawful claimant.
5	(c) If a credit is not applied or a refund is not paid within ninety (90)
6	days of the final resolution of an appeal, the taxpayer or lawful
7	claimant may seek a refund of the overpayment under section 1.1 of
8	this chapter.
9	SECTION 13. IC 6-1.1-28-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.232-2017,
10	SECTION 36, AND AS AMENDED BY P.L.255-2017, SECTION 17,
11	IS CORRECTED AND AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
12	[EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2020]: Sec. 12. (a) This section applies
13	beginning January 1, 2016.
14	(b) Each county property tax assessment board of appeals (referred
15	to as the "county PTABOA" in this section) shall submit annually a
16	report of the notices for <i>review an appeal</i> filed with the county
17	PTABOA under <i>IC</i> 6-1.1-15-1(c) and <i>IC</i> 6-1.1-15-1(d)
18	IC 6-1.1-15-1.1(a) in the preceding year to the department of local
19	government finance, the Indiana board of tax review, and the legislative
20	services agency before April 1 of each year. A report submitted to the
21	legislative services agency must be in an electronic format under
22	IC 5-14-6.
23	(c) The report required by subsection (b) must include the following
24	information:
25	(1) The total number of notices <i>for review</i> filed with the county
26	PTABOA.
27	(2) The notices, for review, either filed or pending during the
28	year, that were resolved during the year by a preliminary informal
29	meeting under $\frac{1C}{1} = \frac{6-1.1-15-1(h)(2)}{1} = \frac{1}{1} = \frac{1}$
30	IC 6-1.1-15-1.2.
31	(3) The notices, for review, either filed or pending during the
32	year, in which a hearing was conducted during the year by the
33	county PTABOA under IC 6-1.1-15-1(k). IC 6-1.1-15-1.2.
34	(4) The number of written decisions issued during the year by the
35	county PTABOA under <i>IC</i> 6-1.1-15-1(n). IC 6-1.1-15-1.2(j).
36	(5) The number of notices <i>for review</i> pending with the county
37	PTABOA on December 31 of the reporting year.
38	(6) The number of reviews appeals resolved through a
39	preliminary informal meeting under IC 6-1.1-15-1(h)(2) and
40	<i>IC</i> 6-1.1-15-1(j) <i>IC</i> 6-1.1-15-1.2 that were:
41	(A) resolved in favor of the taxpayer;

(B) resolved in favor of the assessor; or



1	(C) resolved in some other manner.
2	(7) The number of <i>reviews appeals</i> resolved through a written
3	decision issued during the year by the county PTABOA under
4	$\frac{1C}{6-1.1-15-1(n)}$ IC 6-1.1-15-1.2(j) that were:
5	(A) resolved in favor of the taxpayer;
6	(B) resolved in favor of the assessor; or
7	(C) resolved in some other manner.
8	The report may not include any confidential information.
9	(d) A multiple county PTABOA shall submit a separate report under
10	this section for each county participating in the multiple county
11	PTABOA. A report filed under this subsection for a county
12	participating in a multiple county PTABOA must provide information
13	on the notices for review that originated within the county.
14	SECTION 14. IC 6-1.1-36-17, AS AMENDED BY P.L.85-2017,
15	SECTION 21, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
16	JANUARY 1, 2020]: Sec. 17. (a) As used in this section, "nonreverting
17	fund" refers to a nonreverting fund established under subsection (d).
18	(b) If a county auditor makes a determination that property was not
19	eligible for a standard deduction under IC 6-1.1-12-37 in a particular
20	year within three (3) years after the date on which taxes for the
21	particular year are first due, the county auditor may issue a notice of
22	taxes, interest, and penalties due to the owner that improperly received
23	the standard deduction and include a statement that the payment is to
24	be made payable to the county auditor. The additional taxes and civil
25	penalties that result from the removal of the deduction, if any, are
26	imposed for property taxes first due and payable for an assessment date
27	occurring before the earlier of the date of the notation made under
28	subsection (c)(2)(A) or the date a notice of an ineligible homestead lien
29	is recorded under subsection (e)(2) in the office of the county recorder.
30	The notice must require full payment of the amount owed within:
31	(1) one (1) year with no penalties and interest, if:
32	(A) the taxpayer did not comply with the requirement to return
33	the homestead verification form under IC 6-1.1-22-8.1(b)(9)
34	(expired January 1, 2015); and
35	(B) the county auditor allowed the taxpayer to receive the
36	standard deduction in error; or
37	(2) thirty (30) days, if subdivision (1) does not apply.
38	With respect to property subject to a determination made under this
39	subsection that is owned by a bona fide purchaser without knowledge
40	of the determination, no lien attaches for any additional taxes and civil
41	penalties that result from the removal of the deduction.
TI	penaries mai resuit from the removal of the deduction.

(c) If a county auditor issues a notice of taxes, interest, and penalties



1	due to an owner under subsection (b), the county auditor shall:
2	(1) notify the county treasurer of the determination; and
3	(2) do one (1) or more of the following:
4	(A) Make a notation on the tax duplicate that the property is
5	ineligible for the standard deduction and indicate the date the
6	notation is made.
7	(B) Record a notice of an ineligible homestead lien under
8	subsection (e)(2).
9	(d) Each county auditor shall establish a nonreverting fund. Upor
10	collection of the adjustment in tax due (and any interest and penalties
11	on that amount) after the termination of a deduction or credit as
12	specified in subsection (b), the county treasurer shall deposit tha
13	amount:
14	(1) in the nonreverting fund, if the county contains a consolidated
15	city; or
16	(2) if the county does not contain a consolidated city:
17	(A) in the nonreverting fund, to the extent that the amoun
18	collected, after deducting the direct cost of any contract
19	including contract related expenses, under which the
20	contractor is required to identify homestead deduction
21	eligibility, does not cause the total amount deposited in the
22	nonreverting fund under this subsection for the year during
23	which the amount is collected to exceed one hundred thousand
24	dollars (\$100,000); or
25	(B) in the county general fund, to the extent that the amoun
26	collected exceeds the amount that may be deposited in the
27	nonreverting fund under clause (A).
28	(e) Any part of the amount due under subsection (b) that is no
29	collected by the due date is subject to collection under one (1) or more
30	of the following:
31	(1) After being placed on the tax duplicate for the affected
32	property and collected in the same manner as other property taxes
33	(2) Through a notice of an ineligible homestead lien recorded in
34	the county recorder's office without charge.
35	The adjustment in tax due (and any interest and penalties on tha
36	amount) after the termination of a deduction or credit as specified in
37	subsection (b) shall be deposited as specified in subsection (d) only ir
38	the first year in which that amount is collected. Upon the collection of
39	the amount due under subsection (b) or the release of a lien recorded
40	under subdivision (2), the county auditor shall submit the appropriate
41	documentation to the county recorder, who shall amend the information

recorded under subdivision (2) without charge to indicate that the lien



	2,
1	has been released or the amount has been paid in full.
2	(f) The amount to be deposited in the nonreverting fund or the
3	county general fund under subsection (d) includes adjustments in the
4	tax due as a result of the termination of deductions or credits available
5	only for property that satisfies the eligibility for a standard deduction
6	under IC 6-1.1-12-37, including the following:
7	(1) Supplemental deductions under IC 6-1.1-12-37.5.
8	(2) Homestead credits under IC 6-1.1-20.4, IC 6-3.6-5,
9	IC 6-3.6-11-3, or any other law.
10	(3) Credit for excessive property taxes under IC 6-1.1-20.6-7.5 or
11	IC 6-1.1-20.6-8.5.
12	Any amount paid that exceeds the amount required to be deposited
13	under subsection $(d)(1)$ or $(d)(2)$ shall be distributed as property taxes.
14	(g) Money deposited under subsection (d)(1) or (d)(2) shall be
15	treated as miscellaneous revenue. Distributions shall be made from the
16	nonreverting fund established under this section upon appropriation by
17	the county fiscal body and shall be made only for the following
18	purposes:
19	(1) Fees and other costs incurred by the county auditor to discover
20	property that is eligible for a standard deduction under
21	IC 6-1.1-12-37.
22	(2) Other expenses of the office of the county auditor, including
23	the expenses related to an appeal under IC 6-1.1-15.
24	The amount of deposits in a reverting fund, the balance of a
25	nonreverting fund, and expenditures from a reverting fund may not be
26	considered in establishing the budget of the office of the county auditor
27	or in setting property tax levies that will be used in any part to fund the
28	office of the county auditor.



COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Speaker: Your Committee on Local Government, to which was referred House Bill 1056, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that said bill be amended as follows:

Page 10, line 1, delete "Except as provided in section 1.3".

Page 10, line 2, delete "of this chapter, a" and insert "A".

Page 10, line 11, delete ", except a homestead standard" and insert

Page 10, delete line 12.

Page 11, line 22, after "assessor." insert "If a taxpayer files a written notice regarding a deduction described in subsection (a)(3) for real property or a mobile home assessed under IC 6-1.1-7, the township assessor, or the county assessor if the township is not served by a township assessor, upon receipt of the written notice shall notify the county auditor of the written notice and provide the county auditor with the date of the hearing before the county board."

Page 11, delete lines 25 through 42.

Page 12, delete lines 1 through 14, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"SECTION 3. IC 6-1.1-15-1.2, AS ADDED BY P.L.232-2017, SECTION 11, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2020]: Sec. 1.2. (a) This section does not apply to a deduction under section 1.1(a)(3) of this chapter for real property or a mobile home assessed under IC 6-1.1-7. A county or township official who receives a written notice under section 1.1 of this chapter shall schedule, at a time during business hours that is convenient to the taxpayer, a preliminary informal meeting with the taxpayer in order to resolve the appeal. At the preliminary informal meeting, in order to facilitate understanding and the resolution of disputed issues, a county or township official and the taxpayer shall exchange the information that each party is relying on at the time of the preliminary informal meeting to support the party's respective position on each disputed issue concerning the assessment or deduction. If additional information is obtained by the county or township official or the taxpayer after the preliminary informal meeting and before the hearing held by the county board, the party obtaining the information shall provide the information to the other party. If the county or township official or the taxpayer obtains additional information and provides the information to the other party for the first time at the hearing held by the county board, the



county board, unless waived by the receiving party, shall continue the hearing until a future hearing date of the county board so that the receiving party has an opportunity to review all the information that the offering party is relying on to support the offering party's positions on the disputed issues concerning the assessment or deduction.

- (b) The official shall report on a form prescribed by the department of local government finance the results of the informal meeting. If the taxpayer and the official agree on the resolution of all issues in the appeal, the report shall state the agreed resolution of the matter and be signed by the official and the taxpayer. If an informal meeting is not held, or the informal meeting is unsuccessful, the official shall report those facts on the form. The official shall forward the report on the informal meeting to the county board.
- (c) If the county board receives a report on the informal meeting indicating an agreed resolution of the matter, the county board shall vote to accept or deny the agreed resolution. If the county board accepts the agreed resolution, the county board shall issue a notification of final assessment determination adopting the agreed resolution and vacating the hearing if scheduled.
- (d) The county board, upon receipt of a written notice under section 1.1 of this chapter, shall hold a hearing on the appeal not later than one hundred eighty (180) days after the filing date of the written notice. The county board shall, by mail, give at least thirty (30) days notice of the date, time, and place fixed for the hearing to the taxpayer, the county or township official with whom the taxpayer filed the written notice, and the county auditor. If the county board has notice that the taxpayer is represented by a third person, any hearing notice shall be mailed to the representative.
- (e) If good cause is shown, the county board shall grant a request for continuance filed in writing at least ten (10) days before the hearing, and reschedule the hearing under subsection (d).
- (f) A taxpayer may withdraw an appeal by filing a written request at least ten (10) days before the hearing. The county board shall issue a notification of final assessment determination indicating the withdrawal and no change in the assessment. A withdrawal waives a taxpayer's right to appeal to the Indiana board of tax review.
- (g) The county board shall determine an appeal without a hearing if requested by the taxpayer in writing at least twenty (20) days before the hearing.
- (h) If a taxpayer appeals the assessment of tangible property under section 1.1 of this chapter, the taxpayer is not required to have an appraisal of the property in order to initiate the appeal or prosecute the



appeal.

- (i) At a hearing under subsection (d), the taxpayer shall have the opportunity to present testimony and evidence regarding the matters on appeal. If the matters on appeal are in the discretion of the county auditor, the county auditor or the county auditor's representative shall attend the hearing. A county or township official, or the county auditor or the county auditor's representative, shall have an opportunity to present testimony and evidence regarding the matters on appeal. The county board may adjourn and continue the hearing to a later date in order to make a physical inspection or consider the evidence presented.
- (j) The county board shall determine the assessment by motion and majority vote. A county board may, based on the evidence before it, increase an assessment. The county board shall issue a written decision. Written notice of the decision shall be given to the township official, county official, county auditor, and the taxpayer.
- (k) If more than one hundred eighty (180) days have passed since the date the notice of appeal was filed, and the county board has not issued a determination, a taxpayer may initiate any appeal with the Indiana board of tax review under section 3 of this chapter.
- (l) The county assessor may assess a penalty of fifty dollars (\$50) against the taxpayer if the taxpayer or representative fails to appear at a hearing under subsection (d) and, under subsection (e), the taxpayer's request for continuance is denied, or the taxpayer's request for continuance, request for the board to take action without a hearing, or withdrawal is not timely filed. A taxpayer may appeal the assessment of the penalty to the Indiana board or directly to the tax court. The penalty may not be added as an amount owed on the property tax statement under IC 6-1.1-22 or IC 6-1.1-22.5.".

Page 12, line 18, delete "1.3" and insert "1.1".

Page 12, line 18, after "chapter" insert "concerning a deduction".

Page 14, line 22, delete "or 1.3".

Page 14, line 25, delete "an agreement" and insert "a deduction".

Page 14, line 26, delete "subdivision (1)" and insert "section 1.1(a)(3) of this chapter concerning real property or a mobile home assessed under IC 6-1.1-7".

Page 16, delete lines 11 through 42.

Page 17, delete lines 1 through 30, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"SECTION 6. IC 6-1.1-15-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.196-2016, SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2020]: Sec. 3. (a) A taxpayer may obtain a review by the Indiana board of a county board's action with respect to the following:



- (1) The assessment of that taxpayer's tangible property if the county board's action requires the giving of notice to the taxpayer.
- (2) The exemption of that taxpayer's tangible property if the taxpayer receives a notice of an exemption determination by the county board under IC 6-1.1-11-7.
- (3) A deduction under this article for that taxpayer's real property or mobile home assessed under IC 6-1.1-7 if the county board's action requires the giving of notice to the taxpayer.
- (b) The county assessor is the party to the review under this section to defend the determination of the county board unless the determination concerns an appeal under section 1.1(a)(3) of this chapter for a deduction under this article for real property or a mobile home assessed under IC 6-1.1-7. The county auditor is the party to the review under this section to defend the determination of the county board if the determination concerns an appeal under section 1.1(a)(3) of this chapter for a deduction under this article for real property or a mobile home assessed under IC 6-1.1-7. At the time the notice of that determination is given to the taxpayer, the taxpayer shall also be informed in writing of:
 - (1) the taxpayer's opportunity for review under this section; and
 - (2) the procedures the taxpayer must follow in order to obtain review under this section.
- (c) A county assessor who dissents from the determination of an assessment or an exemption by the county board may obtain a review of the assessment or the exemption by the Indiana board. A county auditor who dissents from the determination by the county board concerning a deduction under this article for real property or a mobile home assessed under IC 6-1.1-7 may obtain a review of the determination by the Indiana board.
- (d) In order to obtain a review by the Indiana board under this section, the party must, not later than forty-five (45) days after the date of the notice given to the party or parties of the determination of the county board:
 - (1) file a petition for review with the Indiana board; and
 - (2) mail a copy of the petition to the other party.
- (e) The Indiana board shall prescribe the form of the petition for review of an assessment determination, or an exemption, or a deduction under this article by the county board. The Indiana board shall issue instructions for completion of the form. The form and the instructions must be clear, simple, and understandable to the average individual. A petition for review of such a determination must be made



on the form prescribed by the Indiana board. The form must require the petitioner to specify the reasons why the petitioner believes that the assessment determination, or the exemption determination, or the determination of a deduction under this article by the county board is erroneous.

- (f) If the action for which a taxpayer seeks review under this section is the assessment of tangible property, the taxpayer is not required to have an appraisal of the property in order to do the following:
 - (1) Initiate the review.
 - (2) Prosecute the review.
- (g) If an owner petitions the Indiana board under IC 6-1.1-11-7(d), the Indiana board is authorized to approve or disapprove an exemption application:
 - (1) previously submitted to a county board under IC 6-1.1-11-6; and
 - (2) that is not approved or disapproved by the county board within one hundred eighty (180) days after the owner filed the application for exemption under IC 6-1.1-11.

The county assessor is a party to a petition to the Indiana board under IC 6-1.1-11-7(d).".

Page 17, line 37, delete "homestead standard deduction" and insert "deduction described in section 1.1(f) of this chapter".

Page 18, line 2, delete "homestead".

Page 18, line 3, delete "standard deduction" and insert "deduction described in section 1.1(f) of this chapter".

Page 18, line 14, delete "homestead standard deduction" and insert "deduction described in section 1.1(f) of this chapter".

Page 18, line 26, delete "homestead standard deduction" and insert "deduction described in section 1.1(f) of this chapter".

Page 21, line 12, delete "homestead standard deduction" and insert "deduction described in section 1.1(f) of this chapter".

Page 21, line 16, delete "homestead".

Page 21, line 17, delete "standard deduction" and insert "deduction described in section 1.1(f) of this chapter".

Page 22, line 4, delete "homestead standard deduction" and insert "deduction described in section 1.1(f) of this chapter".

Page 22, line 7, delete "homestead standard deduction" and insert "deduction described in section 1.1(f) of this chapter".

Page 22, line 23, delete "homestead standard deduction" and insert "deduction described in section 1.1(f) of this chapter".

Page 22, line 25, delete "homestead standard deduction" and insert "deduction described in section 1.1(f) of this chapter".



Page 22, line 33, delete "homestead standard".

Page 22, line 34, after "deduction" insert "described in section 1.1(f) of this chapter".

Page 23, line 18, delete "homestead standard deduction" and insert "deduction described in section 1.1(f) of this chapter".

Page 23, line 28, delete "homestead standard".

Page 23, line 29, after "deduction" insert "described in section 1.1(f) of this chapter".

Page 23, line 30, delete "homestead standard".

Page 23, line 31, after "deduction" insert "described in section 1.1(f) of this chapter".

Page 23, line 34, delete "homestead standard deduction" and insert "deduction described in section 1.1(f) of this chapter".

Page 23, line 41, delete "homestead standard".

Page 23, line 42, after "deduction" insert "described in section 1.1(f) of this chapter".

Page 24, line 6, delete "homestead standard deduction" and insert "deduction described in section 1.1(f) of this chapter".

Page 24, line 13, delete "homestead standard".

Page 24, line 14, after "deduction" insert "described in section 1.1(f) of this chapter".

Page 25, line 25, delete "homestead standard deduction" and insert "deduction described in section 1.1(f) of this chapter".

Page 26, line 28, delete "or IC 6-1.1-15-1.3(a)".

Page 27, after line 26, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"SECTION 17. IC 6-1.1-36-17, AS AMENDED BY P.L.85-2017, SECTION 21, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2020]: Sec. 17. (a) As used in this section, "nonreverting fund" refers to a nonreverting fund established under subsection (d).

(b) If a county auditor makes a determination that property was not eligible for a standard deduction under IC 6-1.1-12-37 in a particular year within three (3) years after the date on which taxes for the particular year are first due, the county auditor may issue a notice of taxes, interest, and penalties due to the owner that improperly received the standard deduction and include a statement that the payment is to be made payable to the county auditor. The additional taxes and civil penalties that result from the removal of the deduction, if any, are imposed for property taxes first due and payable for an assessment date occurring before the earlier of the date of the notation made under subsection (c)(2)(A) or the date a notice of an ineligible homestead lien is recorded under subsection (e)(2) in the office of the county recorder. The notice must require full payment of the amount owed within:



- (1) one (1) year with no penalties and interest, if:
 - (A) the taxpayer did not comply with the requirement to return the homestead verification form under IC 6-1.1-22-8.1(b)(9) (expired January 1, 2015); and
 - (B) the county auditor allowed the taxpayer to receive the standard deduction in error; or
- (2) thirty (30) days, if subdivision (1) does not apply. With respect to property subject to a determination made under this subsection that is owned by a bona fide purchaser without knowledge

subsection that is owned by a bona fide purchaser without knowledge of the determination, no lien attaches for any additional taxes and civil penalties that result from the removal of the deduction.

- (c) If a county auditor issues a notice of taxes, interest, and penalties due to an owner under subsection (b), the county auditor shall:
 - (1) notify the county treasurer of the determination; and
 - (2) do one (1) or more of the following:
 - (A) Make a notation on the tax duplicate that the property is ineligible for the standard deduction and indicate the date the notation is made.
 - (B) Record a notice of an ineligible homestead lien under subsection (e)(2).
- (d) Each county auditor shall establish a nonreverting fund. Upon collection of the adjustment in tax due (and any interest and penalties on that amount) after the termination of a deduction or credit as specified in subsection (b), the county treasurer shall deposit that amount:
 - (1) in the nonreverting fund, if the county contains a consolidated city; or
 - (2) if the county does not contain a consolidated city:
 - (A) in the nonreverting fund, to the extent that the amount collected, after deducting the direct cost of any contract, including contract related expenses, under which the contractor is required to identify homestead deduction eligibility, does not cause the total amount deposited in the nonreverting fund under this subsection for the year during which the amount is collected to exceed one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000); or
 - (B) in the county general fund, to the extent that the amount collected exceeds the amount that may be deposited in the nonreverting fund under clause (A).
- (e) Any part of the amount due under subsection (b) that is not collected by the due date is subject to collection under one (1) or more of the following:



- (1) After being placed on the tax duplicate for the affected property and collected in the same manner as other property taxes.
- (2) Through a notice of an ineligible homestead lien recorded in the county recorder's office without charge.

The adjustment in tax due (and any interest and penalties on that amount) after the termination of a deduction or credit as specified in subsection (b) shall be deposited as specified in subsection (d) only in the first year in which that amount is collected. Upon the collection of the amount due under subsection (b) or the release of a lien recorded under subdivision (2), the county auditor shall submit the appropriate documentation to the county recorder, who shall amend the information recorded under subdivision (2) without charge to indicate that the lien has been released or the amount has been paid in full.

- (f) The amount to be deposited in the nonreverting fund or the county general fund under subsection (d) includes adjustments in the tax due as a result of the termination of deductions or credits available only for property that satisfies the eligibility for a standard deduction under IC 6-1.1-12-37, including the following:
 - (1) Supplemental deductions under IC 6-1.1-12-37.5.
 - (2) Homestead credits under IC 6-1.1-20.4, IC 6-3.6-5, IC 6-3.6-11-3, or any other law.
 - (3) Credit for excessive property taxes under IC 6-1.1-20.6-7.5 or IC 6-1.1-20.6-8.5.

Any amount paid that exceeds the amount required to be deposited under subsection (d)(1) or (d)(2) shall be distributed as property taxes.

- (g) Money deposited under subsection (d)(1) or (d)(2) shall be treated as miscellaneous revenue. Distributions shall be made from the nonreverting fund established under this section upon appropriation by the county fiscal body and shall be made only for the following purposes:
 - (1) Fees and other costs incurred by the county auditor to discover property that is eligible for a standard deduction under IC 6-1.1-12-37.
 - (2) Other expenses of the office of the county auditor, including the defense of a deduction described in IC 6-1.1-15-1.1(f) in the manner set forth in IC 6-1.1-15.

The amount of deposits in a reverting fund, the balance of a nonreverting fund, and expenditures from a reverting fund may not be considered in establishing the budget of the office of the county auditor



or in setting property tax levies that will be used in any part to fund the office of the county auditor.".

Renumber all SECTIONS consecutively.

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to HB 1056 as introduced.)

ZENT

Committee Vote: yeas 10, nays 0.

COMMITTEE REPORT

Madam President: The Senate Committee on Tax and Fiscal Policy, to which was referred House Bill No. 1056, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said bill be AMENDED as follows:

Page 9, delete lines 41 through 42, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"SECTION 2. IC 6-1.1-15-1.1, AS ADDED BY P.L.232-2017, SECTION 10, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2020]: Sec. 1.1. (a) A taxpayer may appeal an assessment of a taxpayer's tangible property by filing a notice in writing with the township assessor, or the county assessor if the township is not served by a township assessor. Except as provided in subsection (e), an appeal under this section may raise any claim of an error related to the following:

- (1) The assessed value of the property.
- (2) The assessment was against the wrong person.
- (3) The approval, denial, or omission of a deduction, credit, exemption, abatement, or tax cap.
- (4) A clerical, mathematical, or typographical mistake.
- (5) The description of the real property.
- (6) The legality or constitutionality of a property tax or assessment.

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

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

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- (1) For assessments before January 1, 2019, the earlier of:
 - (A) forty-five (45) days after the date on which the notice of assessment is mailed by the county; or
 - (B) forty-five (45) days after the date on which the tax statement is mailed by the county treasurer, regardless of whether the assessing official changes the taxpayer's assessment.
- (2) For assessments after December 31, 2018, the earlier of:
 - (A) June 15 of the assessment year, if the notice of assessment is mailed by the county before May 1 of the assessment year; or
 - (B) June 15 of the year in which the tax statement is mailed by the county treasurer, if the notice of assessment is mailed by the county on or after May 1 of the assessment year.

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

- (c) Except as provided in subsection (d), an appeal under this section applies only to the tax year corresponding to the tax statement or other notice of action.
- (d) An appeal under this section applies to a prior tax year if a county official took action regarding a prior tax year, and such action is reflected for the first time in the tax statement. A taxpayer who has timely filed a written notice of appeal under this section may be required to file a petition for each tax year, and each petition filed later must be considered timely.
- (e) A taxpayer may not appeal under this section any claim of error related to the following:
 - (1) The denial of a deduction, exemption, abatement, or credit if the authority to approve or deny is not vested in the county board, county auditor, county assessor, or township assessor.
 - (2) The calculation of interest and penalties.
 - (3) A matter under subsection (a) if a separate appeal or review process is statutorily prescribed.

However, a claim may be raised under this section regarding the omission or application of a deduction approved by an authority other than the county board, county auditor, county assessor, or township assessor under subdivision (2).

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



- (g) A county or township official who receives a written notice under this section shall forward the notice to:
 - (1) the county board; and
 - (2) the county auditor, if the taxpayer raises a claim regarding a matter that is in the discretion of the county auditor.

SECTION 3. IC 6-1.1-15-1.2, AS ADDED BY P.L.232-2017, SECTION 11, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2020]: Sec. 1.2. (a) A county or township official who receives a written notice under section 1.1 of this chapter shall schedule, at a time during business hours that is convenient to the taxpayer, a preliminary informal meeting with the taxpayer in order to resolve the appeal. If the taxpayer raises a claim regarding a matter that is in the discretion of the county auditor, the informal meeting must include the county auditor. At the preliminary informal meeting, in order to facilitate understanding and the resolution of disputed issues, a county or township official, the county auditor, if the matter is in the discretion of the county auditor, and the taxpayer shall exchange the information that each party is relying on at the time of the preliminary informal meeting to support the party's respective position on each disputed issue concerning the assessment or deduction. If additional information is obtained by the county or township official, the county auditor, or the taxpayer after the preliminary informal meeting and before the hearing held by the county board, the party obtaining the information shall provide the information to the other party. If the county or township official, the county auditor, or the taxpayer obtains additional information and provides the information to the other party for the first time at the hearing held by the county board, the county board, unless waived by the receiving party, shall continue the hearing until a future hearing date of the county board so that the receiving party has an opportunity to review all the information that the offering party is relying on to support the offering party's positions on the disputed issues concerning the assessment or deduction.

- (b) The official shall report on a form prescribed by the department of local government finance the results of the informal meeting. If the taxpayer and the official agree on the resolution of all issues in the appeal, the report shall state the agreed resolution of the matter and be signed by the official and the taxpayer. If an informal meeting is not held, or the informal meeting is unsuccessful, the official shall report those facts on the form. The official shall forward the report on the informal meeting to the county board.
 - (c) If the county board receives a report on the informal meeting



indicating an agreed resolution of the matter, the county board shall vote to accept or deny the agreed resolution. If the county board accepts the agreed resolution, the county board shall issue a notification of final assessment determination adopting the agreed resolution and vacating the hearing if scheduled.

- (d) The county board, upon receipt of a written notice under section 1.1 of this chapter, shall hold a hearing on the appeal not later than one hundred eighty (180) days after the filing date of the written notice. The county board shall, by mail, give at least thirty (30) days notice of the date, time, and place fixed for the hearing to the taxpayer, the county or township official with whom the taxpayer filed the written notice, and the county auditor. If the county board has notice that the taxpayer is represented by a third person, any hearing notice shall be mailed to the representative.
- (e) If good cause is shown, the county board shall grant a request for continuance filed in writing at least ten (10) days before the hearing, and reschedule the hearing under subsection (d).
- (f) A taxpayer may withdraw an appeal by filing a written request at least ten (10) days before the hearing. The county board shall issue a notification of final assessment determination indicating the withdrawal and no change in the assessment. A withdrawal waives a taxpayer's right to appeal to the Indiana board of tax review.
- (g) The county board shall determine an appeal without a hearing if requested by the taxpayer in writing at least twenty (20) days before the hearing.
- (h) If a taxpayer appeals the assessment of tangible property under section 1.1 of this chapter, the taxpayer is not required to have an appraisal of the property in order to initiate the appeal or prosecute the appeal.
- (i) At a hearing under subsection (d), the taxpayer shall have the opportunity to present testimony and evidence regarding the matters on appeal. If the matters on appeal are in the discretion of the county auditor, the county auditor or the county auditor's representative shall attend the hearing. A county or township official, or the county auditor or the county auditor's representative, shall have an opportunity to present testimony and evidence regarding the matters on appeal. The county board may adjourn and continue the hearing to a later date in order to make a physical inspection or consider the evidence presented.
- (j) The county board shall determine the assessment by motion and majority vote. A county board may, based on the evidence before it, increase an assessment. The county board shall issue a written decision. Written notice of the decision shall be given to the township



official, county official, county auditor, and the taxpayer.

- (k) If more than one hundred eighty (180) days have passed since the date the notice of appeal was filed, and the county board has not issued a determination, a taxpayer may initiate any appeal with the Indiana board of tax review under section 3 of this chapter.
- (1) The county assessor may assess a penalty of fifty dollars (\$50) against the taxpayer if the taxpayer or representative fails to appear at a hearing under subsection (d) and, under subsection (e), the taxpayer's request for continuance is denied, or the taxpayer's request for continuance, request for the board to take action without a hearing, or withdrawal is not timely filed. A taxpayer may appeal the assessment of the penalty to the Indiana board or directly to the tax court. The penalty may not be added as an amount owed on the property tax statement under IC 6-1.1-22 or IC 6-1.1-22.5.".

Delete pages 10 through 14.

Page 15, delete lines 1 through 38.

Page 16, line 3, delete "in the case of a deduction under".

Page 16, delete line 4.

Page 16, line 5, delete "mobile home assessed under IC 6-1.1-7," and insert "if the claim concerns a matter that is in the discretion of the county auditor,".

Page 17, delete lines 32 through 42, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"SECTION 5. IC 6-1.1-15-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.196-2016, SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2020]: Sec. 3. (a) A taxpayer may obtain a review by the Indiana board of a county board's action with respect to the following:

- (1) The assessment of that taxpayer's tangible property if the county board's action requires the giving of notice to the taxpayer.
- (2) The exemption of that taxpayer's tangible property if the taxpayer receives a notice of an exemption determination by the county board under IC 6-1.1-11-7.

a claim under section 1.1 of this chapter.

- (b) The county assessor is the party to the review under this section to defend the determination of the county board. The county auditor may appear as an additional party to the review if the determination concerns a matter that is in the discretion of the county auditor. At the time the notice of that determination is given to the taxpayer, the taxpayer shall also be informed in writing of:
 - (1) the taxpayer's opportunity for review under this section; and
 - (2) the procedures the taxpayer must follow in order to obtain review under this section.



- (c) A county assessor who dissents from the determination of an assessment or an exemption by the county board may obtain a review of the assessment or the exemption by the Indiana board. A county auditor who dissents from the determination of the county board concerning a matter that is in the discretion of the county auditor may obtain a review by the Indiana board.
- (d) In order to obtain a review by the Indiana board under this section, the party must, not later than forty-five (45) days after the date of the notice given to the party or parties of the determination of the county board:
 - (1) file a petition for review with the Indiana board; and
 - (2) mail a copy of the petition to the other party.
- (e) The Indiana board shall prescribe the form of the petition for review of an assessment determination or an exemption by the county board. under this chapter. The Indiana board shall issue instructions for completion of the form. The form and the instructions must be clear, simple, and understandable to the average individual. A petition for review of such a determination must be made on the form prescribed by the Indiana board. The form must require the petitioner to specify the reasons why the petitioner believes that the assessment determination or the exemption determination by the county board is erroneous.
- (f) If the action for which a taxpayer seeks review under this section is the assessment of tangible property, the taxpayer is not required to have an appraisal of the property in order to do the following:
 - (1) Initiate the review.
 - (2) Prosecute the review.
- (g) If an owner petitions the Indiana board under IC 6-1.1-11-7(d), the Indiana board is authorized to approve or disapprove an exemption application:
 - (1) previously submitted to a county board under IC 6-1.1-11-6; and
 - (2) that is not approved or disapproved by the county board within one hundred eighty (180) days after the owner filed the application for exemption under IC 6-1.1-11.

The county assessor is a party to a petition to the Indiana board under IC 6-1.1-11-7(d).

SECTION 6. IC 6-1.1-15-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.86-2018, SECTION 47, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2020]: Sec. 4. (a) After receiving a petition for review which is filed under section 3 of this chapter, the Indiana board shall conduct a hearing at its earliest opportunity. The Indiana board may



correct any errors that may have been made and adjust the assessment or exemption in accordance with the correction. related to a claim under section 1.1 of this chapter that is within the jurisdiction of the Indiana board under IC 6-1.5-4-1.

- (b) If the Indiana board conducts a site inspection of the property as part of its review of the petition, the Indiana board shall give notice to all parties of the date and time of the site inspection. The Indiana board is not required to assess the property in question. The Indiana board shall give notice of the date fixed for the hearing, by mail, to the taxpayer and to the county assessor. parties or a party's representative. The Indiana board shall give these notices at least thirty (30) days before the day fixed for the hearing unless the parties agree to a shorter period. With respect to a petition for review filed by a county assessor, the county board that made the determination under review under this section may file an amicus curiae brief in the review proceeding under this section. The expenses incurred by the county board in filing the amicus curiae brief shall be paid from the property reassessment fund under IC 6-1.1-4-27.5 of the county in which the property is located. The executive of a taxing unit may file an amicus curiae brief in the review proceeding under this section if the property whose assessment or exemption that is under the subject of the appeal is subject to assessment by that taxing unit.
- (c) If a petition for review does not comply with the Indiana board's instructions for completing the form prescribed under section 3 of this chapter, the Indiana board shall return the petition to the petitioner and include a notice describing the defect in the petition. The petitioner then has thirty (30) days from the date on the notice to cure the defect and file a corrected petition. The Indiana board shall deny a corrected petition for review if it does not substantially comply with the Indiana board's instructions for completing the form prescribed under section 3 of this chapter.
- (d) After the hearing, the Indiana board shall give the taxpayer, the county assessor, parties and any entity that filed an amicus curiae brief, or their representatives:
 - (1) notice, by mail, of its final determination; and
 - (2) for parties entitled to appeal the final determination, notice of the procedures they must follow in order to obtain court review under section 5 of this chapter.
- (e) Except as provided in subsection (f), the Indiana board shall conduct a hearing not later than nine (9) months after a petition in proper form is filed with the Indiana board, excluding any time due to a delay reasonably caused by the petitioner.



- (f) With respect to an appeal of a real property assessment that takes effect on the assessment date on which a reassessment of real property takes effect under IC 6-1.1-4-4.2, the Indiana board shall conduct a hearing not later than one (1) year after a petition in proper form is filed with the Indiana board, excluding any time due to a delay reasonably caused by the petitioner.
- (g) Except as provided in subsection (h), the Indiana board shall make a determination not later than the later of:
 - (1) ninety (90) days after the hearing; or
 - (2) the date set in an extension order issued by the Indiana board.
- (h) With respect to an appeal of a real property assessment that takes effect on the assessment date on which a reassessment of real property takes effect under IC 6-1.1-4-4.2, the Indiana board shall make a determination not later than the later of:
 - (1) one hundred eighty (180) days after the hearing; or
 - (2) the date set in an extension order issued by the Indiana board.
- (i) The Indiana board may not extend the final determination date under subsection (g) or (h) by more than one hundred eighty (180) days. If the Indiana board fails to make a final determination within the time allowed by this section, the entity that initiated the petition may:
 - (1) take no action and wait for the Indiana board to make a final determination; or
 - (2) petition for judicial review under section 5 of this chapter.
- (j) A final determination must include separately stated findings of fact for all aspects of the determination. Findings of ultimate fact must be accompanied by a concise statement of the underlying basic facts of record to support the findings. Findings must be based exclusively upon the evidence on the record in the proceeding and on matters officially noticed in the proceeding. Findings must be based upon a preponderance of the evidence.
- (k) The Indiana board may limit the scope of the appeal to the issues raised in the petition and the evaluation of the evidence presented to the county board in support of those issues only if all parties participating in the hearing required under subsection (a) agree to the limitation. A party participating in the hearing required under subsection (a) is entitled to introduce evidence that is otherwise proper and admissible without regard to whether that evidence has previously been introduced at a hearing before the county board.
 - (1) The Indiana board may require the parties to the appeal:
 - (1) to file not more than five (5) business days before the date of the hearing required under subsection (a) documentary evidence or summaries of statements of testimonial evidence; and



- (2) to file not more than fifteen (15) business days before the date of the hearing required under subsection (a) lists of witnesses and exhibits to be introduced at the hearing.
- (m) A party to a proceeding before the Indiana board shall provide to all other parties to the proceeding the information described in subsection (l) if the other party requests the information in writing at least ten (10) days before the deadline for filing of the information under subsection (l).
- (n) The Indiana board may base its final determination on a stipulation between the respondent and the petitioner. If the final determination is based on a stipulated assessed valuation of tangible property, the Indiana board may order the placement of a notation on the permanent assessment record of the tangible property that the assessed valuation was determined by stipulation. The Indiana board may:
 - (1) order that a final determination under this subsection has no precedential value; or
 - (2) specify a limited precedential value of a final determination under this subsection.
- (o) If a party to a proceeding, or a party's authorized representative, elects to receive any notice under this section by electronic mail, the notice is considered effective in the same manner as if the notice had been sent by United States mail, with postage prepaid, to the party's or representative's mailing address of record.
- (p) At a hearing under this section, the Indiana board shall admit into evidence an appraisal report, prepared by an appraiser, unless the appraisal report is ruled inadmissible on grounds besides a hearsay objection. This exception to the hearsay rule shall not be construed to limit the discretion of the Indiana board, as trier of fact, to review the probative value of an appraisal report.

SECTION 7. IC 6-1.1-15-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.219-2007, SECTION 41, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2020]: Sec. 5. (a) Not later than fifteen (15) days after the Indiana board gives notice of its final determination under section 4 of this chapter to the party or the maximum allowable time for the issuance of a final determination by the Indiana board under section 4 of this chapter expires, a party to the proceeding may request a rehearing before the Indiana board. The Indiana board may conduct a rehearing and affirm or modify its final determination, giving the same notices after the rehearing as are required by section 4 of this chapter. The Indiana board has fifteen (15) days after receiving a petition for a rehearing to determine whether to grant a rehearing. Failure to grant a



rehearing not later than fifteen (15) days after receiving the petition shall be treated as a final determination to deny the petition. A petition for a rehearing does not toll the time in which to file a petition for judicial review unless the petition for rehearing is granted. If the Indiana board determines to rehear a final determination, the Indiana board:

- (1) may conduct the additional hearings that the Indiana board determines necessary or review the written record without additional hearings; and
- (2) shall issue a final determination not later than ninety (90) days after notifying the parties that the Indiana board will rehear the final determination.

If the Indiana board fails to make a final determination within the time allowed under subdivision (2), the entity that initiated the petition for rehearing may take no action and wait for the Indiana board to make a final determination or petition for judicial review under subsection (g).

- (b) A party may petition for judicial review of the final determination of the Indiana board. regarding the assessment or exemption of tangible property. In order to obtain judicial review under this section, a party must:
 - (1) file a petition with the Indiana tax court;
 - (2) serve a copy of the petition on:
 - (A) the county assessor; parties to the review by the Indiana board:
 - (B) the attorney general; and
 - (C) any entity that filed an amicus curiae brief with the Indiana board; and
 - (3) file a written notice of appeal with the Indiana board informing the Indiana board of the party's intent to obtain judicial review.

Petitions for judicial review may be consolidated at the request of the appellants if it can be done in the interest of justice. The department of local government finance may intervene in an action taken under this subsection if the interpretation of a rule of the department is at issue in the action. The county assessor is a party to the review under this section.

- (c) Except as provided in subsection (g), to initiate a proceeding for judicial review under this section, a party must take the action required by subsection (b) not later than:
 - (1) forty-five (45) days after the Indiana board gives the person notice of its final determination, unless a rehearing is conducted under subsection (a); or



- (2) forty-five (45) days after the Indiana board gives the person notice under subsection (a) of its final determination, if a rehearing is conducted under subsection (a) or the maximum time elapses for the Indiana board to make a determination under this section.
- (d) The failure of the Indiana board to conduct a hearing within the period prescribed in section 4(e) or 4(f) of this chapter does not constitute notice to the party of an Indiana board final determination.
- (e) The county assessor may petition for judicial review to the tax court in the manner prescribed in this section. If the county auditor appeared before the Indiana board concerning the matter, the county auditor may petition for judicial review to the tax court in the manner prescribed in this section.
- (f) The county assessor may not be represented by the attorney general in a judicial review initiated under subsection (b) by the county assessor.
- (g) If the maximum time elapses for the Indiana board to give notice of its final determination under subsection (a) or section 4 of this chapter, a party may initiate a proceeding for judicial review by taking the action required by subsection (b) at any time after the maximum time elapses. If:
 - (1) a judicial proceeding is initiated under this subsection; and
- (2) the Indiana board has not issued a determination; the tax court shall determine the matter de novo.

SECTION 8. IC 6-1.1-15-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.232-2017, SECTION 13, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2020]: Sec. 8. (a) If a final determination by the Indiana board regarding the assessment or exemption of any tangible property is not affirmed under the decision of the tax court, the matter of the assessment or exemption of the property shall be remanded to the Indiana board with instructions to the Indiana board. The Indiana board may, under the tax court's instructions, conduct further proceedings or refer the matter to the:

- (1) department of local government finance with respect to an appeal of a determination made by the department; or
- (2) county board with respect to an appeal of a determination made by the county board;

to make another assessment or exemption determination. take action that is consistent with the court's opinion. Upon remand, the Indiana board may take action only on those issues specified in the decision of the tax court.

(b) The department of local government finance or the county board



shall take action on a case referred to it by the Indiana board under subsection (a) not later than ninety (90) days after the date the referral is made. The department of local government finance or the county board may petition the Indiana board at any time for an extension of the ninety (90) day period. An extension shall be granted upon a showing of reasonable cause.

- (c) The taxpayer in a case remanded under subsection (a) may petition the tax court for an order requiring the department of local government finance or the county board to show cause why action has not been taken pursuant to the Indiana board's referral under subsection (a) if:
 - (1) at least ninety (90) days have elapsed since the referral was made:
 - (2) the department of local government finance or the county board has not taken action on the issues specified in the tax court's decision; and
 - (3) an appeal of the tax court's decision has not been filed.
- (d) If a case remanded under subsection (a) is appealed under section 5 of this chapter, the ninety (90) day period provided in subsection (b) is tolled until the appeal is concluded.

SECTION 9. IC 6-1.1-15-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.232-2017, SECTION 14, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2020]: Sec. 9. (a) If the assessment or exemption of tangible property is corrected by the Indiana board After further proceedings under section 8 of this chapter, a party has a right to appeal the final determination by the Indiana board.

(b) An appeal under this section must be initiated in the manner prescribed in section 5 of this chapter.".

Delete pages 18 through 25.

Page 26, delete lines 1 through 10.

Page 27, delete lines 9 through 28.

Page 28, delete lines 8 through 42, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"SECTION 11. IC 6-1.1-28-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.232-2017, SECTION 36, AND AS AMENDED BY P.L.255-2017, SECTION 17, IS CORRECTED AND AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2020]: Sec. 12. (a) This section applies beginning January 1, 2016.

(b) Each county property tax assessment board of appeals (referred to as the "county PTABOA" in this section) shall submit annually a report of the notices for *review an appeal* filed with the county PTABOA under *IC* 6-1.1-15-1(c) and *IC* 6-1.1-15-1(d)



- *IC* 6-1.1-15-1.1(a) in the preceding year to the department of local government finance, the Indiana board of tax review, and the legislative services agency before April 1 of each year. A report submitted to the legislative services agency must be in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.
- (c) The report required by subsection (b) must include the following information:
 - (1) The total number of notices *for review* filed with the county PTABOA.
 - (2) The notices, *for review*, either filed or pending during the year, that were resolved during the year by a preliminary informal meeting under *IC* 6-1.1-15-1(h)(2) and *IC* 6-1.1-15-1(j). *IC* 6-1.1-15-1.2.
 - (3) The notices, *for review*, either filed or pending during the year, in which a hearing was conducted during the year by the county PTABOA under *IC* 6-1.1-15-1(k). *IC* 6-1.1-15-1.2.
 - (4) The number of written decisions issued during the year by the county PTABOA under *IC* 6-1.1-15-1(n). *IC* 6-1.1-15-1.2(j).
 - (5) The number of notices *for review* pending with the county PTABOA on December 31 of the reporting year.
 - (6) The number of *reviews* appeals resolved through a preliminary informal meeting under *IC* 6-1.1-15-1(h)(2) and *IC* 6-1.1-15-1(j) *IC* 6-1.1-15-1.2 that were:
 - (A) resolved in favor of the taxpayer;
 - (B) resolved in favor of the assessor; or
 - (C) resolved in some other manner.
 - (7) The number of *reviews appeals* resolved through a written decision issued during the year by the county PTABOA under IC 6-1.1-15-1(n) IC 6-1.1-15-1.2(j) that were:
 - (A) resolved in favor of the taxpayer;
 - (B) resolved in favor of the assessor; or
 - (C) resolved in some other manner.

The report may not include any confidential information.

(d) A multiple county PTABOA shall submit a separate report under this section for each county participating in the multiple county PTABOA. A report filed under this subsection for a county participating in a multiple county PTABOA must provide information on the notices for review that originated within the county."

Page 29, delete lines 1 through 15.



Page 31, line 25, delete "defense of a deduction described in IC 6-1.1-15-1.1(f) in" and insert "expenses related to an appeal under IC 6-1.1-15.".

Page 31, delete line 26.

Renumber all SECTIONS consecutively.

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to HB 1056 as printed January 18, 2019.)

HOLDMAN, Chairperson

Committee Vote: Yeas 12, Nays 0.

