## **HOUSE BILL No. 4215**

February 7, 2007, Introduced by Reps. Gaffney, Hune, Nofs, Marleau, Hansen and Stahl and referred to the Committee on Commerce.

A bill to amend 1893 PA 206, entitled

"The general property tax act,"

by amending section 7cc (MCL 211.7cc), as amended by 2006 PA 664.

## THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

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

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- 16 rescinded or a substantially similar exemption, deduction, or
- 17 credit on property in another state that is not rescinded.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

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

- 1 (ii) That person has rescinded an exemption under this section
- 2 on other property, which exemption remains in effect for that tax
- 3 year, and there has not been a transfer of ownership of that
- 4 property.
- 5 (4) Upon receipt of an affidavit filed under subsection (2)
- 6 and unless the claim is denied under this section, the assessor
- 7 shall exempt the property from the collection of the tax levied by
- 8 a local school district for school operating purposes to the extent
- 9 provided under section 1211 of the revised school code, 1976 PA
- 10 451, MCL 380.1211, as provided in subsection (1) until December 31
- 11 of the year in which the property is transferred or, EXCEPT AS
- 12 OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (5), is no longer a principal
- 13 residence as defined in section 7dd. The local tax collecting unit
- 14 shall forward copies of affidavits to the department of treasury
- 15 according to a schedule prescribed by the department of treasury.
- 16 (5) Not more than 90 days after exempted property is no longer
- 17 used as a principal residence by the owner claiming an exemption,
- 18 that owner shall rescind the claim of exemption by filing with the
- 19 local tax collecting unit a rescission form prescribed by the
- 20 department of treasury. HOWEVER, IN ADDITION TO AN EXEMPTION
- 21 CLAIMED FOR AN OWNER'S CURRENT PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE, THAT OWNER MAY
- 22 RETAIN AN EXEMPTION FOR NOT MORE THAN 3 YEARS ON PROPERTY
- 23 PREVIOUSLY EXEMPT AS HIS OR HER PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE IF THAT
- 24 PROPERTY IS NOT OCCUPIED AND IS FOR SALE. An owner who fails to
- 25 file a rescission as required by this subsection is subject to a
- 26 penalty of \$5.00 per day for each separate failure beginning after
- 27 the 90 days have elapsed, up to a maximum of \$200.00. This penalty

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

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

- 1 the department of treasury. If the property for which the assessor
- 2 has denied a claim for exemption under this subsection is located
- 3 in a county in which the county treasurer or the county
- 4 equalization director have elected to audit exemptions under
- 5 subsection (10), the assessor shall notify the county treasurer or
- 6 the county equalization director of the denial under this
- 7 subsection.
- 8 (7) If the assessor of the local tax collecting unit believes
- 9 that the property for which the exemption is claimed is not the
- 10 principal residence of the owner claiming the exemption and has not
- 11 denied the claim, the assessor shall include a recommendation for
- 12 denial with any affidavit that is forwarded to the department of
- 13 treasury or, for an existing claim, shall send a recommendation for
- 14 denial to the department of treasury, stating the reasons for the
- 15 recommendation.
- 16 (8) The department of treasury shall determine if the property
- 17 is the principal residence of the owner claiming the exemption. The
- 18 department of treasury may review the validity of exemptions for
- 19 the current calendar year and for the 3 immediately preceding
- 20 calendar years. #F—EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (5),
- 21 IF the department of treasury determines that the property is not
- 22 the principal residence of the owner claiming the exemption, the
- 23 department shall send a notice of that determination to the local
- 24 tax collecting unit and to the owner of the property claiming the
- 25 exemption, indicating that the claim for exemption is denied,
- 26 stating the reason for the denial, and advising the owner claiming
- 27 the exemption of the right to appeal the determination to the

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

- 1 supplemental tax bill shall again begin to accrue 60 days after the
- 2 date the corrected or supplemental tax bill is issued at the rate
- 3 of 1.25% per month or fraction of a month. Taxes levied in a
- 4 corrected or supplemental tax bill shall be returned as delinquent
- 5 on the March 1 in the year immediately succeeding the year in which
- 6 the corrected or supplemental tax bill is issued. If the department
- 7 of treasury denies an existing claim for exemption, the interest
- 8 due shall be distributed as provided in subsection (23). However,
- 9 if the property has been transferred to a bona fide purchaser
- 10 before additional taxes were billed to the seller as a result of
- 11 the denial of a claim for exemption, the taxes, interest, and
- 12 penalties shall not be a lien on the property and shall not be
- 13 billed to the bona fide purchaser, and the local tax collecting
- 14 unit if the local tax collecting unit has possession of the tax
- 15 roll or the county treasurer if the county has possession of the
- 16 tax roll shall notify the department of treasury of the amount of
- 17 tax due and interest through the date of that notification. The
- 18 department of treasury shall then assess the owner who claimed the
- 19 exemption under this section for the tax and interest plus penalty
- 20 accruing as a result of the denial of the claim for exemption, if
- 21 any, as for unpaid taxes provided under 1941 PA 122, MCL 205.1 to
- 22 205.31, and shall deposit any tax or penalty collected into the
- 23 state school aid fund and shall distribute any interest collected
- 24 as provided in subsection (23).
- 25 (9) The department of treasury may enter into an agreement
- 26 regarding the implementation or administration of subsection (8)
- 27 with the assessor of any local tax collecting unit in a county that

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

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

- 1 treasurer of the local tax collecting unit shall within 30 days of
- 2 the date of the denial issue a corrected tax bill for any
- 3 additional taxes with interest at the rate of 1.25% per month or
- 4 fraction of a month and penalties computed from the date the taxes
- 5 were last payable without interest and penalty. If the tax roll is
- 6 in the county treasurer's possession, the tax roll shall be amended
- 7 to reflect the denial and the county treasurer shall within 30 days
- 8 of the date of the denial prepare and submit a supplemental tax
- 9 bill for any additional taxes, together with interest at the rate
- 10 of 1.25% per month or fraction of a month and penalties computed
- 11 from the date the taxes were last payable without interest or
- 12 penalty. Interest on any tax set forth in a corrected or
- 13 supplemental tax bill shall again begin to accrue 60 days after the
- 14 date the corrected or supplemental tax bill is issued at the rate
- 15 of 1.25% per month or fraction of a month. Taxes levied in a
- 16 corrected or supplemental tax bill shall be returned as delinquent
- 17 on the March 1 in the year immediately succeeding the year in which
- 18 the corrected or supplemental tax bill is issued. If the county
- 19 treasurer or his or her designee or the county equalization
- 20 director or his or her designee denies an existing claim for
- 21 exemption, the interest due shall be distributed as provided in
- 22 subsection (23). However, if the property has been transferred to a
- 23 bona fide purchaser before additional taxes were billed to the
- 24 seller as a result of the denial of a claim for exemption, the
- 25 taxes, interest, and penalties shall not be a lien on the property
- 26 and shall not be billed to the bona fide purchaser, and the local
- 27 tax collecting unit if the local tax collecting unit has possession

- 1 of the tax roll or the county treasurer if the county has
- 2 possession of the tax roll shall notify the department of treasury
- 3 of the amount of tax due and interest through the date of that
- 4 notification. The department of treasury shall then assess the
- 5 owner who claimed the exemption under this section for the tax and
- 6 interest plus penalty accruing as a result of the denial of the
- 7 claim for exemption, if any, as for unpaid taxes provided under
- 8 1941 PA 122, MCL 205.1 to 205.31, and shall deposit any tax or
- 9 penalty collected into the state school aid fund and shall
- 10 distribute any interest collected as provided in subsection (23).
- 11 The department of treasury shall annually provide the county
- 12 treasurer or his or her designee or the county equalization
- 13 director or his or her designee a list of parcels of property
- 14 located in that county for which an exemption may be erroneously
- 15 claimed. The county treasurer or his or her designee or the county
- 16 equalization director or his or her designee shall forward copies
- 17 of the list provided by the department of treasury to each assessor
- 18 in each local tax collecting unit in that county within 10 days of
- 19 receiving the list.
- 20 (12) If a county elects to audit exemptions claimed under this
- 21 section as provided in subsection (10), the county treasurer or the
- 22 county equalization director may enter into an agreement with the
- 23 assessor of a local tax collecting unit in that county regarding
- 24 the implementation or administration of this section. The agreement
- 25 may specify that for a period of time, not to exceed 120 days, the
- 26 county will not deny an exemption identified by the department of
- 27 treasury in the list provided under subsection (11).

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

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

- 1 affidavit forms and the forms to rescind an exemption, which may be
- 2 on the same form, to all city and township assessors, county
- 3 equalization officers, county registers of deeds, and closing
- 4 agents. A person who prepares a closing statement for the sale of
- 5 property shall provide affidavit and rescission forms to the buyer
- 6 and seller at the closing and, if requested by the buyer or seller
- 7 after execution by the buyer or seller, shall file the forms with
- 8 the local tax collecting unit in which the property is located. If
- 9 a closing statement preparer fails to provide exemption affidavit
- 10 and rescission forms to the buyer and seller, or fails to file the
- 11 affidavit and rescission forms with the local tax collecting unit
- 12 if requested by the buyer or seller, the buyer may appeal to the
- 13 department of treasury within 30 days of notice to the buyer that
- 14 an exemption was not recorded. If the department of treasury
- 15 determines that the buyer qualifies for the exemption, the
- 16 department of treasury shall notify the assessor of the local tax
- 17 collecting unit that the exemption is granted and the assessor of
- 18 the local tax collecting unit or, if the tax roll is in the
- 19 possession of the county treasurer, the county treasurer shall
- 20 correct the tax roll to reflect the exemption. This subsection does
- 21 not create a cause of action at law or in equity against a closing
- 22 statement preparer who fails to provide exemption affidavit and
- 23 rescission forms to a buyer and seller or who fails to file the
- 24 affidavit and rescission forms with the local tax collecting unit
- 25 when requested to do so by the buyer or seller.
- 26 (19) An owner who owned and occupied a principal residence on
- 27 May 1 for which the exemption was not on the tax roll may file an

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

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

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

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

- 1 (d) A statement of the total number of units of the
- 2 cooperative housing corporation on which an exemption under this
- 3 section was claimed and that were transferred in the tax year
- 4 immediately preceding the tax year in which the filing under this
- 5 section was made.
- 6 (27) Before May 1, 2004 and before May 1, 2005, the treasurer
- 7 of each county shall forward to the department of education a
- 8 statement of the taxable value of each school district and fraction
- 9 of a school district within the county for the preceding 4 calendar
- 10 years. This requirement is in addition to the requirement set forth
- 11 in section 151 of the state school aid act of 1979, 1979 PA 94, MCL
- **12** 388.1751.
- 13 (28) For a parcel of property open and available for use as a
- 14 bed and breakfast, the portion of the taxable value of the property
- 15 used as a principal residence under subsection (16) shall be
- 16 calculated in the following manner:
- 17 (a) Add all of the following:
- (i) The square footage of the property used exclusively as that
- 19 owner's principal residence.
- (ii) 50% of the square footage of the property's common area.
- 21 (iii) If the property was not open and available for use as a
- 22 bed and breakfast for 90 or more consecutive days in the
- 23 immediately preceding 12-month period, the result of the following
- 24 calculation:
- 25 (A) Add the square footage of the property that is open and
- 26 available regularly and exclusively as a bed and breakfast, and 50%
- 27 of the square footage of the property's common area.

- 1 (B) Multiply the result of the calculation in sub-subparagraph
- 2 (A) by a fraction, the numerator of which is the number of
- 3 consecutive days in the immediately preceding 12-month period that
- 4 the property was not open and available for use as a bed and
- **5** breakfast and the denominator of which is 365.
- 6 (b) Divide the result of the calculation in subdivision (a) by
- 7 the total square footage of the property.
- 8 (29) The owner claiming an exemption under this section for
- 9 property open and available as a bed and breakfast shall file an
- 10 affidavit claiming the exemption on or before May 1 with the local
- 11 tax collecting unit in which the property is located. The affidavit
- 12 shall be in a form prescribed by the department of treasury.
- 13 (30) As used in this section:
- 14 (a) "Bed and breakfast" means property classified as
- 15 residential real property under section 34c that meets all of the
- 16 following criteria:
- 17 (i) Has 10 or fewer sleeping rooms, including sleeping rooms
- 18 occupied by the owner of the property, 1 or more of which are
- 19 available for rent to transient tenants.
- 20 (ii) Serves meals at no extra cost to its transient tenants.
- 21 (iii) Has a smoke detector in proper working order in each
- 22 sleeping room and a fire extinguisher in proper working order on
- 23 each floor.
- 24 (b) "Common area" includes, but is not limited to, a kitchen,
- 25 dining room, living room, fitness room, porch, hallway, laundry
- 26 room, or bathroom that is available for use by guests of a bed and
- 27 breakfast or, unless guests are specifically prohibited from access

- 1 to the area, an area that is used to provide a service to guests of
- 2 a bed and breakfast.