LEGISLATIVE BILL 1089

Approved by the Governor April 17, 2018

Introduced by Smith, 14.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to revenue and taxation; to amend sections 77-118, 77-3505.02, and 77-3514.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, sections 77-376, 77-2791, 77-3501.01, 77-3506, 77-3506.02, 77-3506.03, 77-3507, 77-376, 77-2791, 77-3501.01, 77-3506, 77-3506.02, 77-3506.03, 77-3507, 77-3509.01, 77-3509.02, 77-3509.03, 77-3512, 77-3513, 77-3514, 77-3516, 77-3522, and 77-3523, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2016, and sections 77-3508 and 77-3510, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2017; to change provisions relating to the effect of purchases of certain depreciable property on the Nebraska adjusted basis; to provide that certain information of the Department of Revenue is confidential; to change provisions relating to the treatment of refundable income tax credits: to provisions relating to the treatment of refundable income tax credits; to change and eliminate provisions relating to homestead exemptions; to harmonize provisions; to provide operative dates; to repeal the original sections; to outright repeal section 77-3509, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2016; and to declare an emergency.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Section 77-118, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, amended to read: 77-118 (1

(1) Nebraska adjusted basis shall mean the adjusted basis of property as determined under the Internal Revenue Code increased by the total amount allowed under the code for depreciation or amortization or pursuant to an election to expense depreciable property under section 179 of the code.

(2) For purchases of depreciable personal property occurring on or after January 1, 2018, and before January 1, 2020, if there is an election to expense the depreciable property under section 179 of the code and similar personal property is traded in as part of the payment for the newly acquired property, the Nebraska adjusted basis shall be the remaining net book value of the property traded in, plus the additional amount that was paid by the taxpayer for the newly acquired property.

Sec. 2. Section 77-376, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2016, is

amended to read:

77-376 (1) The Tax Commissioner may examine or cause to be examined in his or her behalf, and make memoranda from, any of the financial records of state and local subdivisions, persons, and corporations subject to the tax laws of this state. No information shall be released that is not so authorized by existing statutes. Unless otherwise prohibited by law, the Tax Commissioner may share the information examined with the taxing or law enforcement authorities of this state, other states, and the federal government.

(2) The audit and examination selection criteria and standards, discovery techniques, the design of technological systems to detect fraud and inconsistencies, and all other techniques utilized by the Department of Revenue to discover fraud, misstatements, inconsistencies, underreporting, and tax avoidance shall be confidential information. The department may disclose this information to certain persons to further its enforcement activities and as provided under section 50-1213, but such limited disclosure shall not change the confidential nature of the information.

Sec. 3. Section 77-2791, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2016, is amended to read:

77-2791 (1) The Tax Commissioner, within the applicable period of limitations, may credit an overpayment of income tax and interest on such overpayment against any liability in respect of any tax imposed by the tax laws of this state on the person who made the overpayment, and the balance shall be refunded by the State Treasurer out of the General Fund.

(2) If the amount allowable as a credit for income tax withheld from the taxpayer exceeds his or her tax to which the credit relates, the excess shall be considered an overpayment.

(3) If the amount allowable as a A refundable income tax credit exceeds the tax liability of the taxpayer, the excess is considered an overpayment even if the taxpayer has no income tax liability prior to applying the refundable credit.

(4) If there has been an overpayment of tax required to be deducted and withheld under section 77-2753, refund shall be made to the employer or the payor only to the extent that the amount of the overpayment was not deducted and withheld by the employer or the payor.

(5) The Tax Commissioner may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations providing for the crediting against the estimated income tax for any taxable year of the amount determined to be an overpayment of the income tax for a preceding taxable year.
(6) If any amount of income tax is assessed or collected after the

expiration of the period of limitations properly applicable thereto, such amount shall be considered an overpayment.

Sec. 4. Section 77-3501.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2016, is amended to read:

LB1089 2018

77-3501.01 (1) For purposes of section 77-3507, exempt amount shall mean the lesser of (a) the taxable value of the homestead or (b) one hundred percent of the average assessed value of single-family residential property in the claimant's county of residence as determined in section 77-3506.02 or forty thousand dollars, whichever is greater.

- (2) For purposes of <u>section</u> <u>sections</u> 77-3508 <u>and 77-3509</u>, exempt amount shall mean the lesser of (a) the taxable value of the homestead or (b) one hundred twenty percent of the average assessed value of single-family residential property in the claimant's county of residence as determined in section 77-3506.02 or fifty thousand dollars, whichever is greater.
- (3) For purposes of section 77-3506, exempt amount shall mean the taxable value of the homestead.
- Sec. 5. Section 77-3505.02, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

77-3505.02 Maximum value shall mean:

- (1) For applicants eligible under section 77-3507, two hundred percent of the average assessed value of single-family residential property in the claimant's county of residence as determined in section 77-3506.02 or ninety-five thousand dollars, whichever is greater; and
- (2) For applicants eligible under <u>section</u> <u>sections</u> 77-3508 <u>and 77-3509</u>, two hundred twenty-five percent of the average assessed value of single-family residential property in the claimant's county of residence as determined in section 77-3506.02 or one hundred ten thousand dollars, whichever is greater.

Sec. 6. Section 77-3506, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2016, is amended to read:

77-3506 (1) All homesteads in this state shall be assessed for taxation the same as other property, except that there shall be exempt from taxation, on any homestead described in subsection (2) of this section, one hundred percent of the exempt amount.

- (2) The exemption described in subsection (1) of this section shall apply to homesteads of:
- (a) A veteran who was discharged or otherwise separated with a characterization of honorable or general (under honorable conditions), who is drawing compensation from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs because of one hundred percent service-connected disability, and who is not eligible for total exemption under sections 77-3526 to 77-3528, an unremarried surviving spouse of such a veteran, or a surviving spouse of such a veteran who remarries after attaining the age of fifty-seven years;
- (b) An unremarried surviving spouse of any veteran, including a veteran other than a veteran described in section 80-401.01, who was discharged or otherwise separated with a characterization of honorable or general (under honorable conditions) and who died because of a service-connected disability or a surviving spouse of such a veteran who remarries after attaining the age of fifty-seven years;—and
- (c) An unremarried surviving spouse of a serviceman or servicewoman, including a veteran other than a veteran described in section 80-401.01, whose death while on active duty was service-connected or a surviving spouse of such a serviceman or servicewoman who remarries after attaining the age of fifty-seven years; and \div
- (d) An unremarried surviving spouse of a serviceman or servicewoman who died while on active duty during the periods described in section 80-401.01 or a surviving spouse of such a serviceman or servicewoman who remarries after attaining the age of fifty-seven years.
- attaining the age of fifty-seven years.

 (3) Application for exemption under this section shall include certification of the status set forth in subsection (2) of this section from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

Sec. 7. Section 77-3506.02, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2016, is amended to read:

77-3506.02 After county board of equalization action pursuant to sections 77-1502 to 77-1504.01 and on or before September 1 each year, the county assessor shall certify to the Department of Revenue the average assessed value of single-family residential property in the county for the current year for purposes of sections 77-3507 and $_{7}$ 77-3508, and 77-3509. The county assessor shall determine the current average assessed value of

The county assessor shall determine the current average assessed value of single-family residential property from all real property records containing dwellings, mobile homes, and duplexes all of which are designed for occupancy as single-family residential property and any associated land not to exceed one acre.

The county assessor shall also report to the Department of Revenue the computed exempt amounts pursuant to section 77-3501.01.

Sec. 8. Section 77-3506.03, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2016, is amended to read:

77-3506.03 For homesteads valued at or above the maximum value, the exempt amount for any exemption under section 77-3507_or $_{ au}$ 77-3508, or 77-3509 shall be reduced by ten percent for each two thousand five hundred dollars of value by which the homestead exceeds the maximum value and any homestead which exceeds the maximum value by twenty thousand dollars or more is not eligible for any exemption under section 77-3507_or $_{ au}$ 77-3508, or 77-3509. This section shall not apply to any exemption under section 77-3506.

Sec. 9. Section 77-3507, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2016, is amended to read:

77-3507 (1) All homesteads in this state shall be assessed for taxation the same as other property, except that there shall be exempt from taxation on

LB1089 LB1089 2018 2018

homesteads of qualified claimants a percentage of the exempt amount as limited by section 77-3506.03. The percentage of the exempt amount shall be determined based on the household income of a claimant pursuant to subsections (2) through (4) of this section.

(2) For 2014, for a qualified married or closely related claimant, the percentage of the exempt amount for which the claimant shall be eligible shall be the percentage in Column B which corresponds with the claimant's household income in Column A in the table found in this subsection.

	Column A	Со	lumn B
	Household Income	Per	centage
	In Dollars	0f	Relief
	0 through 31,600		100
31	1,601 through 33,300		90
33	3,301 through 35,000		80
35	5,001 through 36,700		70
36	6,701 through 38,400		60
38	3,401 through 40,100		50
40	0,101 through 41,800		40
41	L,801 through 43,500		30
43	3,501 through 45,200		20
45	5,201 through 46,900		10
	46,901 and over		0

(3) For 2014, for a qualified single claimant, the percentage of the exempt amount for which the claimant shall be eligible shall be the percentage in Column B which corresponds with the claimant's household income in Column A in the table found in this subsection.

Column B

Column A	Column B
Household Income	Percentage
In Dollars	Of Relief
0 through 26,900	100
26,901 through 28,300	90
28,301 through 29,700	80
29,701 through 31,100	70
31,101 through 32,500	60
32,501 through 33,900	50
33,901 through 35,300	40
35,301 through 36,700	30
36,701 through 38,100	20
38,101 through 39,500	10
39,501 and over	Θ

(4) For exemption applications filed in calendar <u>years</u> year 2015 <u>through 2017</u> and each year thereafter, the income eligibility amounts in subsections (2) and (3) of this section shall be adjusted by the percentage determined pursuant to the provisions of section 1(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as it existed prior to December 22, 2017. For exemption applications filed in calendar year 2018 and each calendar year thereafter, the income eligibility amounts in subsections (2) and (3) of this section shall be adjusted by the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers published by the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics from the twelve months ending on August 31, 2016, to the twelve months ending on August 31 of the year preceding the applicable calendar year for inflation by the method provided in section 151 of the Internal Revenue Code. The income eligibility

amounts shall be adjusted for cumulative inflation since 2014. If any amount is not a multiple of one hundred dollars, the amount shall be rounded to the next lower multiple of one hundred dollars.

Sec. $\dot{10}$. Section 77-3508, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2017, is amended to read:

77-3508 (1)(a) All homesteads in this state shall be assessed for taxation the same as other property, except that there shall be exempt from taxation, on any homestead described in subdivision (b) of this subsection, a percentage of the exempt amount as limited by section 77-3506.03. The exemption shall be based on the household income of a claimant pursuant to subsections (2) through (4) of this section.

- (b) The exemption described in subdivision (a) of this subsection shall apply to homesteads of:
- (i) Veterans as defined in section 80-401.01 who were discharged or otherwise separated with a characterization of honorable or general (under honorable conditions) and who are totally disabled by a non-service-connected accident or illness;
- (ii) Individuals who have a permanent physical disability and have lost all mobility so as to preclude locomotion without the use of a mechanical aid or prostheses;
- (iii) Individuals who have undergone amputation of both arms above the elbow or who have a permanent partial disability of both arms in excess of seventy-five percent; and
- (iv) Beginning January 1, 2015, individuals who have a developmental disability as defined in section 83-1205.
- (c) Application for the exemption described in subdivision (a) of this subsection shall include certification from a qualified medical physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse for subdivisions (b) (i) through (b)(iii) of this subsection, certification from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs affirming that the homeowner is totally disabled due to non-service-connected accident or illness for subdivision (b)(i) of this subsection, or certification from the Department of Health and Human Services for subdivision (b)(iv) of this subsection. Such certification from a qualified medical physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse or from the Department of Health and Human Services shall be made on forms prescribed by the Department of Revenue. If an individual described in subdivision (b)(i), (ii), (iii), or (iv) of this subsection is granted a homestead exemption pursuant to this section for any year, such individual shall not be required to submit the certification required under this subdivision in succeeding years if no change in medical condition has occurred, except that the county assessor or the Tax Commissioner may request such certification to verify that no change in medical condition has occurred.
- except that the county assessor or the Tax Commissioner may request such certification to verify that no change in medical condition has occurred.

 (2) For 2014, for a married or closely related claimant as described in subsection (1) of this section, the percentage of the exempt amount for which the claimant shall be eligible shall be the percentage in Column B which corresponds with the claimant's household income in Column A in the table found in this subsection.

Column A	Column B
Household Income	Percentage
In Dollars	Of Relief
0 through 34,700	100
34,701 through 36,400	90
36,401 through 38,100	80
38,101 through 39,800	70
39,801 through 41,500	60
41,501 through 43,200	50
43,201 through 44,900	40
44,901 through 46,600	30
46,601 through 48,300	20
48,301 through 50,000	10
50,001 and over	0

(3) For 2014, for a single claimant as described in subsection (1) of this section, the percentage of the exempt amount for which the claimant shall be eligible shall be the percentage in Column B which corresponds with the claimant's household income in Column A in the table found in this subsection.

Household Income	Percentage
In Dollars	Of Relief
0 through 30,300	100
30,301 through 31,700	90
31,701 through 33,100	80
33,101 through 34,500	70
34,501 through 35,900	60
35,901 through 37,300	50
37,301 through 38,700	40
38,701 through 40,100	30
40,101 through 41,500	20
41,501 through 42,900	10
42,901 and over	Θ

(4) For exemption applications filed in calendar <u>years</u> year 2015 <u>through</u> 2017 and each year thereafter, the income eligibility amounts in subsections
(2) and (3) of this section shall be adjusted by the percentage determined pursuant to the provisions of section 1(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as it existed prior to December 22, 2017. For exemption applications filed in calendar year 2018 and each calendar year thereafter, the income eligibility amounts in subsections (2) and (3) of this section shall be adjusted by the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers published by the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics from the twelve menths anding an August 21 of months ending on August 31, 2016, to the twelve months ending on August 31 of the year preceding the applicable calendar year for inflation by the method provided in section 151 of the Internal Revenue Code. The income eligibility amounts shall be adjusted for cumulative inflation since 2014. If any amount is not a multiple of one hundred dollars, the amount shall be rounded to the next lower multiple of one hundred dollars.

Sec. 11. Section 77-3509.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2016, is amended to read:

77-3509.01 <u>If an</u> The owner of a homestead <u>applies for</u> which has been granted an exemption under section provided in sections 77-3506, and 77-3507, or 77-3508 for any year and such owner subsequently to 77-3509, who becomes the owner of another homestead prior to August 15 <u>of such</u> during the year<u>, the</u> <u>owner</u> for which the exemption was granted, may file an application with the county assessor of the county where the new homestead is located, on or before August 15 of such year, for a transfer of the exemption to the new homestead. The owner shall file the application for transfer with the county assessor on or before August 15 of such year or within thirty days after receiving a notice of rejection on the owner's application for exemption for the original homestead. The county assessor shall examine each application for transfer and determine whether or not the new homestead, except for the January 1 through August 15 ownership and occupancy requirement and the income requirements, is eligible for exemption under <u>section</u> <u>sections</u> 77-3506, <u>and</u> 77-3507, <u>or 77-3508</u> to 77-3509. If the application <u>for transfer</u> is approved by the county assessor, he or she shall make a deduction upon the assessment rolls using the same criteria as previously applied to the original homestead. The county assessor may allow the application for transfer to also be considered an application for a homestead exemption for the subsequent year.

Sec. 12. Section 77-3509.02, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2016,

is amended to read:

77-3509.02 If the owner of \underline{a} any homestead files an application for transfer of the homestead exemption granted an exemption under sections 77-3506 and 77-3507 to 77-3509 becomes the owner of another homestead on or before August 15 of any year pursuant to section 77-3509.01 and makes the application for transfer of the homestead exemption and such application for transfer is approved, the owner's application for exemption for the original homestead shall be rejected disallowed for such year as applied to the original homestead if the <u>application</u> exemption was granted based on the status of such owner. If the transfer involves property in more than one county, the county assessor of the county where the new homestead is located shall notify the other county assessor and the Department of Revenue of the application for transfer within

ten days after receipt of <u>such</u> the application.

Sec. 13. Section 77-3509.03, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2016, is amended to read:

77-3509.03 All property tax statements for homesteads granted an exemption in sections 77-3506, and 77-3507, and 77-3508 to 77-3509 shall show the amount of the exemption, the tax that would otherwise be due, and a statement that the tax loss shall be reimbursed by the state as a homestead exemption.

LB1089 LB1089 2018 2018

Sec. 14. Section 77-3510, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2017, is amended to

77-3510 On or before February 1 of each year, the Tax Commissioner shall prescribe forms to be used by all claimants for homestead exemption or for transfer of homestead exemption. Such forms shall contain provisions for the showing of all information which the Tax Commissioner may deem necessary to (1) enable the county officials and the Tax Commissioner to determine whether each claim for exemption under sections 77-3506, and 77-3507, and 77-3508 to 77-3509 should be allowed and (2) enable the county assessor to determine whether each claim for transfer of homestead exemption pursuant to section 77-3509.01 should be allowed. It shall be the duty of the county assessor of each county in this state to furnish such forms, upon request, to each person desiring to make application for homestead exemption or for transfer of homestead exemption. The forms so prescribed shall be used uniformly throughout the state, and no application for exemption or for transfer of homestead exemption shall be allowed unless the applicant uses the prescribed form in making an application. The forms shall require the attachment of an income statement for any applicant seeking an exemption under section 77-3507 or 7 77-3508, or 77-3509 as prescribed by the Tax Commissioner fully accounting for all household income. The Tax Commissioner shall provide to each county assessor claim forms and address lists of applicants from the prior year in the manner approved by the Tax Commissioner. The application and information contained on any attachments to the application shall be confidential and available to tax officials only.

Sec. 15. Section 77-3512, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2016, is

77-3512 It shall be the duty of each owner who wants a applies for the homestead exemption under section provided in sections 77-3506, and 77-3507, or $\frac{77-3508}{2}$ to file an application therefor with the county assessor of the county in which the homestead is located after February 1 and on or before June 30 of each year. Failure to do so shall constitute a waiver of the exemption for that year, except that:

- (1) The county board of the county in which the homestead is located may, by majority vote, extend the deadline for an applicant to on or before July 20. An extension shall not be granted to an applicant who received an extension in the immediately preceding year; and
- (2) An owner may file a late application pursuant to section 77-3514.01 if he or she includes documentation of a medical condition which impaired the owner's ability to file the application in a timely manner.

Sec. 16. Section 77-3513, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2016, is amended to read:

77-3513 (1) Except as required by section 77-3514, if an owner is granted a homestead exemption as provided in section 77-3506, 77-3507, or 77-3509 or subdivision (1)(b)(ii), (iii), or (iv) of section 77-3508, no reapplication need be filed for succeeding years, in which case the county assessor and Tax Commissioner shall determine whether the claimant qualifies for the homestead exemption in such succeeding years as otherwise provided in sections 77-3501 to 77-3529 as though a claim were made.

(2) It shall be the duty of each claimant who wants the homestead exemption provided in subdivision (1)(b)(i) of section 77-3508 to file an application therefor with the county assessor on or before June 30 of each year. Failure to do so shall constitute a waiver of the exemption for such year, except that:

(a) The county board of the county in which the homestead is located may, by majority vote, extend the deadline for an applicant to on or before July 20. An extension shall not be granted to an applicant who received an extension in the immediately preceding year; and

(b) A claimant may file a late application pursuant to section 77-3514.01 if he or she includes documentation of a medical condition which impaired the

claimant's ability to file the application in a timely manner.

(3) The county assessor shall mail a notice on or before April 1 to claimants who are the owners of a homestead which was granted an exemption under subdivision (1)(b)(i) of section 77-3506, 77-3507, or 77-3508 in the preceding year unless the claimant has already filed the application for the current year or the county assessor has reason to believe there has been a change of circumstances so that the claimant no longer qualifies. The notice shall include the claimant's name, the application deadlines for the current year, a list of documents that must be filed with the application, and the county assessor's office address and telephone number. county assessor's office address and telephone number.

Sec. 17. Section 77-3514, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2016, is amended to read:

77-3514 A claimant who is the owner of a homestead which has been granted an exemption under sections 77-3506 and 77-3507 to 77-3509, except subdivision (1)(b)(i) of section 77-3508, shall certify to the county assessor on or before June 30 of each year that a change in the homestead exemption status has occurred or that no change in the homestead exemption status has occurred. The county board of the county in which the homestead is located may, by majority vote, extend the deadline for certification by a claimant to on or before July 20. An extension shall not be granted to an applicant who received an extension in the immediately preceding year. In addition, a claimant may make such certification late pursuant to section 77-3514.01 if he or she includes documentation of a medical condition which impaired the claimant's ability to certify in a timely manner. The county assessor shall mail a notice on or before April 1 to claimants who are the owners of a homestead which has been LB1089 LB1089 2018 2018

granted an exemption under sections 77-3506 and 77-3507 to 77-3509, except subdivision (1)(b)(i) of section 77-3508, in the preceding year unless the claimant has already filed the certification for the current year or the county assessor has reason to believe there has been a change of circumstances so that the claimant no longer qualifies. The notice shall include the claimant's name, the certification deadlines for the current year, a list of documents that must be filed with the certification, and the county assessor's office address and telephone number.

A For purposes of this section, change in the homestead exemption status shall include any change in the name of the owner, ownership, residence, occupancy, marital status, veteran status, or rating by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or any other change that would affect the qualification for or type of exemption granted, except income checked by the Tax Commissioner under section 77-3517. The certificate shall require the attachment of an income statement for exemptions under sections 77-3507, 77-3508, and 77-3509 as prescribed by the Tax Commissioner fully accounting for all household income. The certification and the information contained on any attachments to the certification shall be confidential and available to tax officials only. In addition, a claimant who is the owner of a homestead which has been granted an exemption under <u>section</u> 77-3506, and 77-3507, or <u>77-3508</u> to <u>77-3509</u> may notify the county assessor by August 15 of each year of any change in the homestead exemption status occurring in the preceding portion of the calendar year as a result of a transfer of the homestead exemption pursuant to sections 77-3509.01 and 77-3509.02. If by his or her failure to give such notice any property owner permits the allowance of the homestead exemption for any year, or in the year of application in the case of transfers pursuant to sections 77-3509.01 and 77-3509.02, after the homestead exemption status of such property has changed, an amount equal to the amount of the taxes lawfully due but not paid by reason of such unlawful and improper allowance of homestead exemption, together with penalty and interest on such total sum as provided by statute on delinquent ad valorem taxes, shall be due and shall upon entry of the amount thereof on the books of the county treasurer be a lien on such property while unpaid. Such lien may be enforced in the manner provided for liens for other delinquent taxes. Any person who has permitted the improper and unlawful allowance of such homestead exemption on his or her property shall, as an additional penalty, also forfeit his or her right to a homestead exemption on any property in this state for the two succeeding years.

Sec. 18. Section 77-3514.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is

amended to read:

77-3514.01 (1) A late application or certification filed pursuant to section 77-3512, 77-3513, or 77-3514 because of a medical condition which impaired the claimant's ability to apply or certify in a timely manner shall only be for the current tax year. The late application or certification shall be filed with the county assessor on or before the date on which the first half of the real estate taxes levied on the property for the current year become delinguent.

- (2) The application or certification shall include certification of the medical condition affecting the filing from a physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse. The medical certification shall be made on forms prescribed by the Tax Commissioner.
- on forms prescribed by the Tax Commissioner.

 (3) The county assessor shall approve or reject the late filing within thirty days of receipt of the late filing. If approved, the county assessor shall mark it approved and sign the application—or certification. In case he or she finds that the exemption should not be allowed by reason of not being in conformity to law, the county assessor shall mark the application or certification as rejected and state the reason for rejection and sign the application—or certification. In any case when the county assessor rejects an exemption, he or she shall notify the applicant of such action by mailing written notice to the applicant at the address shown in the application—or certification. The notice shall be on forms prescribed by the Tax Commissioner. In any case when the county assessor rejects an exemption, such applicant may obtain a hearing before the county board of equalization in the manner described by section 77-3519. described by section 77-3519.

Sec. 19. Section 77-3516, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2016, is amended to read:

77-3516 The county assessor shall examine each application for homestead exemption filed with him or her for an exemption pursuant to $\underline{\text{sections}}$ exemption filed with him or her for an exemption pursuant to section sections 77-3506, and 77-3507, or 77-3508 to 77-3509 and shall determine, except for the income requirements, whether or not such application should be approved or rejected. If the application is approved, the county assessor shall mark the same approved and sign the application. In case he or she finds that the exemption should not be allowed by reason of not being in conformity to law, the county assessor shall mark the application rejected, and state thereon the reason for such rejection, and sign the application. In any case when the county assessor rejects an application for exemption, he or she shall notify the applicant of such action by mailing written notice to the applicant at the address shown in the application within ten days after the application is address shown in the application within ten days after the application is rejected, which notice shall be mailed not later than July 31 of each year, except that in cases of a change in ownership or occupancy from January 1 through August 15 or a late application authorized by the county board or permitted because of a medical condition which impaired the applicant's ability to file in a timely manner, the notice shall be sent within a reasonable time. The notice shall be on forms prescribed by the Tax Commissioner.

LB1089 LB1089 2018 2018

Sec. 20. Section 77-3522, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2016, is amended to read:

77-3522 (1) Any person who makes any false or fraudulent claim for exemption or any false statement or false representation of a material fact in support of such claim or any person who assists another in the preparation of any such false or fraudulent claim or enters into any collusion with another by the execution of a fictitious deed or other instrument for the purpose of obtaining unlawful exemption under sections 77-3501 to 77-3529 shall be guilty of a Class II misdemeanor and shall be subject to a forfeiture of any such exemption for a period of two years from the date of conviction. Any person who shall make an oath or affirmation to any false or fraudulent application for homestead exemption knowing the same to be false or fraudulent shall be guilty of a Class I misdemeanor.

(2) In addition to the penalty provided in subsection (1) of this section, if any person files a claim for exemption as provided in section 77-3506, 77-3507, or 77-3508, or 77-3509 which is excessive due to misstatements by the owner filing such claim, the claim may be disallowed in full and, if the claim has been allowed, an amount equal to the amount of taxes lawfully due but not paid by reason of such unlawful and improper allowance of homestead exemption shall be due and shall upon entry of the amount thereof on the books of the county treasurer be a lien on such property until paid and a penalty equal to the amount of taxes lawfully due but claimed for exemption shall be assessed.

Sec. 21. Section 77-3523, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2016, is

amended to read:

77-3523 The county treasurer <u>and county assessor</u> shall, on or before November 30 of each year, certify to the Tax Commissioner the total tax revenue that will be lost to all taxing agencies within <u>the his or her</u> county from taxes levied and assessed in that year because of exemptions allowed under sections 77-3501 to 77-3529. The county treasurer <u>and county assessor</u> may amend the certification to show any change or correction in the total tax that will be lost until May 30 of the next succeeding year. If a homestead exemption is approved, denied, or corrected by the Tax Commissioner under subsection (2) of section 77-3517 after May 1 of the next year, the county treasurer <u>and county</u> <u>assessor</u> shall prepare and submit amended reports to the Tax Commissioner and the political subdivisions covering any affected year and shall adjust the reimbursement to the county and the other political subdivisions by adjusting the reimbursement due under this section in later years. The Tax Commissioner shall, on or before January 1 next following such certification or within thirty days of any amendment to the certification, notify the Director of Administrative Services of the amount so certified to be reimbursed by the state. Reimbursement of the funds lost shall be made to each county according to the certification and shall be distributed in six as nearly as possible equal monthly payments on the last business day of each month beginning in January. The State Treasurer shall, on the business day preceding the last business day of each month, notify the Director of Administrative Services of the amount of funds available in the General Fund for payment purposes. The Director of Administrative Services shall, on the last business day of each month, draw warrants against funds appropriated. Out of the amount so received the county treasurer shall distribute to each of the taxing agencies within his or her county the full amount so lost by such agency, except that one percent of such amount shall be deposited in the county general fund and that the amount due a Class V school district shall be paid to the district and the county shall be compensated pursuant to section 14-554. Each taxing agency shall, in preparing its annual or biennial budget, take into account the amount to be received under this section.

Sec. 22. Sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 24, and 25 of this act become operative on January 1, 2019. The other sections of this act become operative on their effective date.

Sec. 23. Original section 77-118, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, sections 77-376, 77-2791, 77-3507, and 77-3523, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2016, and section 77-3508, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2017, are repealed.

Sec. 24. Original sections 77-3505.02 and 77-3514.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, sections 77-3501.01, 77-3506, 77-3506.02, 77-3506.03, 77-3509.01, 77-3509.02, 77-3509.03, 77-3512, 77-3513, 77-3514, 77-3516, and 77-3522, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2016, and section 77-3510, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2017, are repealed.

Sec. 25. The following section is outright repealed: Section 77-3509, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2016.

Sec. 26. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when passed and

approved according to law.