

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BILL ANALYSIS

AMENDMENT DATE: June 25, 2008
POSITION: Neutral

BILL NUMBER: AB 3080
AUTHOR: Assembly Revenue and Taxation

SPONSOR: The California Assessors' Association

BILL SUMMARY: Property Taxation: Local Administration

The bill would make various technical and non-controversial changes to the administrative provisions of the property tax law.

FISCAL SUMMARY

Finance concurs with the Board of Equalization (BOE) that this bill would result in minor, absorbable costs for their operations.

COMMENTS

Finance notes the following regarding this bill:

- This bill, which is sponsored by the California Assessors' Association, makes various non-controversial, technical changes to streamline the operation of county assessors' offices.

Analyst/Principal (0760) C. Hill	Date	Program Budget Manager Mark Hill	Date
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Department Deputy Director	Date
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Governor's Office:	By:	Date:	Position Approved _____
			Position Disapproved _____

BILL ANALYSIS Form DF-43 (Rev 03/95 Buff)

Assembly Revenue and Taxation

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ANALYSIS

A. Programmatic Analysis

Existing law requires county assessors to assess all new construction that occurs within their county for property tax purposes. Existing law requires property owners to file with the county assessor a scale copy of floor plans and exterior dimensions designated for the assessor's use.

This bill would allow property owners to file either a paper or electronic version of a scale copy of floor plans and exterior dimensions designated for the county assessor's use.

Existing law authorizes a county to exempt from property tax those real and personal properties having a value too low to justify the costs of assessment and collection. This "low-value ordinance" exemption is limited to \$5,000, except in the case of a possessory interest in specified facilities where the limit is increased to \$50,000.

This bill would increase the maximum amount of the "low-value ordinance" property tax exemption from \$5,000 to \$10,000.

Existing law authorizes the exemption from all or a portion of property tax of the principal residence of a qualified disabled or deceased veteran, or surviving spouse. The amount of the exemption is dependent upon the claimant's income level and indexed each year.

This bill would allow, but not require, county assessors to supply information from disabled veterans' property tax exemption claims and county records to the BOE in order to prevent approvals of multiple claims within the state for the same homeowners.

Existing law requires taxpayers to report the cost of their business real and personal property to the county assessor on a business property statement. A corporate owner of property is required to submit its business property statement with a signature of an officer of the corporation or an employee or agent who has been designated in writing by the board of directors.

This bill would delete the requirement that the signature of a corporate employee or agent be designated in writing by the corporation's board of directors.

Existing law requires the county assessor to mail a property statement to any person required to file one, in order to prompt taxpayers to complete and file annual property statements. The taxpayer is allowed to furnish the required information as attachments to the property statement provided that one copy of the statement is signed by the taxpayer and contains an appropriate reference to the data attached.

This bill would delete the requirement that a copy of the property statement be printed and mailed by the assessor to the property owners be signed by the owners and contain an appropriate reference to the attached data, and instead allows the property owner to sign the attachments.

Existing law prohibits the county assessor from making a separate valuation on any parcel covered by a subdivision map filed for record after the lien date immediately preceding the current fiscal year.

This bill would allow the county assessor to make a separate valuation on any parcel covered by a subdivision map filed for record after the lien date immediately preceding the current fiscal year if the board of supervisors of that county provides for a separate valuation pursuant to an ordinance adopted by a majority vote of the board.

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B. Fiscal Analysis

Finance concurs with the BOE that this bill would result in minor, absorbable costs for their operations.

Code/Department Agency or Revenue Type	SO	(Fiscal Impact by Fiscal Year)							Fund Code
	LA	(Dollars in Thousands)							
	CO RV	PROP 98	FC	2007-2008 FC	2008-2009 FC	2009-2010	FC		
0860/Equalization	SO	No			-----	No/Minor Fiscal Impact	-----	0001	
9210/LocGovtFin	LA	No			-----	No/Minor Fiscal Impact	-----	0001	