Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 2	State of Arkansas 84th General Assembly	A Bill Act 295 of	2003
2	Regular Session, 2003	SENATE BILL	
4	Regular Session, 2005	SENATE DILL	170
5	By: Senator J. Bookout		
6	Dy. Senator V. Doonout		
7			
8		For An Act To Be Entitled	
9	AN ACT	TO CLARIFY THE DUTIES OF THE COUNTY CLERK	
10	IN THE	PREPARATION OF THE COUNTY TAX BOOKS AND	
11	PRESCRI	BE DUTIES FOR THE PREPARER OF THE COUNTY	
12	TAX BOC	KS; TO REPEAL VARIOUS OBSOLETE SECTIONS OF	
13	ARKANSA	S CODE TITLE 26, CHAPTERS 28, 35, 39, AND	
14	73, REG	ARDING THE COUNTY TAX COLLECTIONS; AND FOR	
15	OTHER P	URPOSES.	
16			
17		Subtitle	
18	TO C	LARIFY THE DUTIES OF THE COUNTY	
19	CLER	K IN THE PREPARATION OF THE COUNTY	
20	TAX	BOOKS AND TO REPEAL VARIOUS OBSOLETE	
21	CODE	SECTIONS REGARDING COUNTY TAX	
22	COLL	ECTION.	
23			
24			
25	BE IT ENACTED BY THE	GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:	
26			
27		ansas Code § 26-28-101 is amended to read as follows:	
28		n of tax books.	
29		e county court preparer of the tax books shall make o	
30	· • •	r that purpose, in such manner as the Auditor of Stat	
31	-	mplete list or schedule of all the taxable property i	
32	form:	lue thereof as equalized and arranged in the followin	g
33 34		ate tract of real property in each congressional	
35 35	-	y, other than town or city property, in the county sh	11ء
36	_	opposite the names of the owners, arranged in numeri	



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1 order, and the tracts may be arranged further by school district and city.

2 (2) Each separate lot or tract of real property in each city or town
3 shall be set down in lines opposite the names of the owners, arranged in
4 numerical order.

5 (3)(2) The aggregate value of personal property, moneys, credits, 6 investments in bonds, stocks, joint-stock companies, or otherwise, of each 7 person, company, or corporation within each congressional township county 8 shall be placed in a column opposite the name of the owner, person, company, 9 or corporation in whose name it is listed <u>in alphabetical order, and the</u> 10 personal property may be arranged further by school district and city.

11 (4) The names of the persons in each school district who are not 12 residents of any incorporated town, city, or village shall be placed in 13 alphabetical order in one (1) list, and the names of the persons who are 14 residents of any incorporated town, city, or village shall be entered in 15 another list in alphabetical order.

- 16
- 17 18

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 26-28-103 is amended to read as follows: 26-28-103. Extension of taxes.

19 The elerk of the county court preparer of tax books, after receiving 20 statements of the rates and sums of money to be levied for the current year 21 from the Auditor of State and from such other officers and authorities as 22 shall be legally empowered to determine the rates or amount of taxes to be 23 levied for the various purposes authorized by law, shall immediately 24 determine the sums to be levied upon each tract or lot of real property in 25 his county, adding the taxes of any previous year that may have been omitted, 26 and the sums to be levied upon the amount of personal property, moneys, and 27 eredits listed in his county in the name of each person, company, or 28 corporation, which shall be assessed equally on all real and personal 29 property subject to those taxes.

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SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 26-28-104 is amended to read as follows: 26-28-104. Recapitulation of taxes.

33 <u>(a)</u> It shall be the duty of the <u>county clerk preparer of tax books</u> to 34 add each tax book delivered to the collector, making the separate columns of 35 values when added together amount to the sum of the column of total values 36 when added up and, at the end of the tax book, recapitulate the additions of

1 each page, so as to make it prove itself to be correct, according to the form 2 to be furnished by the Auditor of State. 3 (b) A copy of the recapitulation under this section shall be a part of 4 the tax books. 5 6 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 26-28-105 is amended to read as follows: 7 26-28-105. Entry for omitted years. 8 (a) In all cases where any clerk of the county court preparer of the 9 tax books shall, by inadvertence or mistake, in any year omit to enter on the 10 books of his county any lands or lots or parts of lots situated in his county 11 subject to taxation, it shall be his duty to enter them on the tax books of 12 the next succeeding year and to add to the taxes of the current year the simple taxes of each and every preceding year in which the lands or lots so 13 14 escaped taxation. 15 (b) There shall be separate recapitulation of those lands and lots. 16 17 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 26-28-107 is amended to read as follows: 26-28-107. Marking of forfeited lands. 18 19 The clerk of the county court preparer of the tax books shall mark opposite every tract, town, or city lot that may have been forfeited to the state for the nonpayment of taxes the word "forfeited." On that tract, town, or city lot, there shall not be charged any taxes unless the Commissioner of

20 21 22 23 State Lands shall officially advise the elerk preparer that it has become 24 subject to taxation. In that event, the same taxes shall be charged and 25 collected thereon as may be allowed by law. The assessors in the counties 26 shall assess all the lands or lots, or parts thereof, that may appear on the 27 plats or lists furnished them. If any clerk of the county court shall have 28 lost or if the records of his office shall not contain a list of the lands forfeited to the state within his county, he shall certify that fact to the 29 30 Commissioner, and the Commissioner shall immediately furnish the clerk with 31 that list.

32

33

SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 26-28-108 is amended to read as follows: 34 26-28-108. Delivery of tax books to collector.

35 (a) The elerk of the county court preparer of tax books of each county shall, on or before the third Monday in February in February 1 of each year, 36

1 make out and deliver the tax books of his county to the collector, with his 2 warrant attached, under his hand and the seal of his office, authorizing the 3 collector to collect the taxes.

(b) The collector shall give duplicate receipts a receipt for the tax
books, in which the amount of the different taxes shall be separately stated,
and the county clerk shall forward one (1) of the receipts to the Auditor of
State file the receipt in the records of the county.

26-28-304. Duty of preparer of tax books.

SECTION 7. Arkansas Code § 26-28-304 is amended to read as follows:

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Under the system provided for in this subchapter:

11

12 (1) After receiving statements of the rates and sums of money to be levied for the current year from the Auditor of State and from such other 13 14 officers and authorities, including special improvement districts, as shall 15 be legally empowered to determine the rates or amounts of taxes to be levied 16 for the various purposes authorized by law, and after levied by the quorum 17 court, the preparer of the tax books shall immediately determine the sums to be levied upon personal property and each tract or lot of real property in 18 19 the county;

20 (2) The preparer of the tax books of each county shall, on or 21 before February 1 in each year, make out and deliver the tax books of the 22 county to the collector, with his warrant attached, under his hand and the 23 seal of his office, authorizing the collector to collect the taxes; and

(3) The collector shall give duplicate receipts a receipt for
the tax books, in which the amount of the different taxes shall be separately
stated, and the preparer of the tax books shall forward one (1) of the
receipts to the Auditor of State file the receipt in the records of the
county.

29

30 31 SECTION 8. Arkansas Code § 26-35-501 is amended to read as follows: 26-35-501. Time to pay - Installments.

32 (a)(1) All ad valorem taxes levied on real and personal property by 33 the several county courts of the state when assembled for the purpose of 34 levying taxes, except taxes on the property of utilities and carriers and all 35 ad valorem taxes on real property held in escrow, shall be due and payable on 36 and from the third Monday in February first business day in March to and

including October 10 in the year succeeding the year in which the levy is 1 2 made. 3 (2)(A) Every taxpayer other than a utility or carrier shall have 4 the option to pay the taxes on real property of the taxpayer in installments 5 as follows: 6 The first installment of one-fourth (1/4) of the (i) 7 amount of the taxes shall be payable on and from the third Monday in February 8 to and including the third Monday in April; or 9 (ii) A second installment of one-fourth (1/4) or a first installment of one-half (1/2) if no payment was made before the third 10 11 Monday in April shall be payable on and from the third Monday in April to and 12 including the third Monday in July; and The third installment of one-half (1/2) shall 13 (iii) 14 be payable on and from the third Monday in July to and including October 10. 15 (B) A taxpayer who does not submit installment payments in 16 compliance with this schedule shall be deemed to have waived the option to 17 pay in installments. (b) All ad valorem taxes levied on the real and personal property of 18 19 utilities and carriers shall be due and payable as follows: (1) One-fourth (1/4) shall be due and payable on and from the 20 21 third Monday in February to and including the third Monday in April; 22 (2) One-fourth (1/4) shall be due and payable on and from the 23 third Monday in April to and including the second Monday in June; and One-half (1/2) shall be due and payable on and from the 24 (3) 25 third Monday in April to and including October 10 in the year succeeding the 26 year in which the levy is made. 27 (c)(1) It shall be the duty of the collectors of the respective 28 counties to assess a penalty of ten percent (10%) against all unpaid tax balances remaining after October 10 for every taxpayer other than a utility 29 30 or carrier or after the prescribed dates listed in subsection (b) of this 31 section for utilities and carriers. 32 (2) No taxpayer paying in installments under subdivision (a)(2) 33 of this section shall be assessed a penalty until such taxes become due and 34 remain unpaid after October 10. However, if the last day for the payment of

35 taxes on any installment is a Saturday or Sunday <u>or postal holiday</u>, the taxes 36 shall become due and payable without penalty the following Monday <u>last day to</u>

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pay taxes without a penalty is the following business day. 1 2 3 SECTION 9. Arkansas Code § 26-39-204 is amended to read as follows: 4 26-39-204. Collector to pay in kind. 5 (a) The collector shall pay into the state and county treasury, in 6 kind, all money collected by him, whether specie, United States paper 7 currency, national bank notes, silver or gold certificates, or warrants or 8 scrip, or check drawn on the collector's account, as authorized by law to be 9 received. 10 (b) Every collector or other officer who shall fail to comply with the 11 provisions of this section shall: 12 (1) Be fined one hundred dollars (\$100) for each violation; 13 (2) Be held liable on his official bond for the difference in 14 value between the funds received and those paid; and 15 (3) Not be eligible to hold any office of trust in this state. 16 17 SECTION 10. Arkansas Code § 26-39-404 is amended to read as follows: 26-39-404. Settlement with state and subdivisions. 18 19 After the settlement made with him by the county clerk has been examined and acted upon by the county court, as provided in § 26-39-402, the 20 21 collector shall, on or before December 30 of each year, make settlement with 22 the county and its various subdivisions and with the Auditor of State for all 23 state taxes collected by him. 24 25 SECTION 11. Arkansas Code § 26-28-109 is repealed. 26 26-28-109. List of delinguent lands. 27 (a) The county clerk shall furnish the collector of taxes, thirty (30) 28 days before the collector shall begin to collect taxes, a complete list of 29 all delinquent lands in the county, showing the names of the owners at the 30 time the lands were forfeited and describing the lands accurately. 31 (b) This section applies to the counties of Arkansas, Ashley, Baxter, Benton, Boone, Calhoun, Carroll, Clark, Clay, Cleburne, Cleveland, Columbia, 32 33 Conway, Craighead, Crawford, Cross, Faulkner, Franklin, Fulton, Garland, 34 Grant, Greene, Hempstead, Hot Spring, Howard, Independence, Izard, Jackson, 35 Johnson, Lafayette, Lawrence, Lincoln, Little River, Logan, Lonoke, Madison,

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Marion, Miller, Mississippi, Monroe, Montgomery, Nevada, Newton, Ouachita,

1	Perry, Phillips, Pike, Poinsett, Pope, Prairie, Saline, Scott, Searcy,
2	Sebastian, Sevier, Sharp, Stone, Union, Van Buren, Washington, White,
3	Woodruff, and Yell.
4	
5	SECTION 12. Arkansas Code §§ 26-35-1001 through 26-35-1003 are
6	repealed.
7	26-35-1001. Record of tax receipts.
8	(a) Each collector shall enter in a book the date of each tax receipt
9	issued by him: the name of the person paying the taxes, distinctly specifying
10	each tract of land, town, or city lot, as it is described in the tax receipts
11	as taken from the tax book; the valuation of the real estate; the valuation
12	of the personal property; the name of the township in which the personal
13	property is situated, total valuation of real and personal property; the
14	amount of taxes paid on account of state, county, school, city, or town,
15	respectively; and total amount of taxes paid by the person.
16	(b) The entry shall be made at the time of issuing the receipt, and
17	the aggregate of the receipt shall be added up on each page and carried
18	forward to the next page, and so on, so that the amount collected can be seen
19	at any time by an inspection of the book.
20	(c) The collector shall, at the time the entry is made, enter upon the
21	margin of the tax book, opposite the property paid on, the page of the record
22	book of tax receipts and where the entry is made therein.
23	(d) Each collector shall also enter in the book, in immediate
24	connection with the other entries, the amount of his payment of taxes to the
25	State Treasurer and county treasurers, respectively, with the date of the
26	payments, so that it can be seen by reference to the book whether the
27	payments made to the State Treasurer and county treasurers embraced all he
28	had collected, less his commissions. The books shall, at all times, be
29	subject to the inspection of any state or county officer or of any citizen of
30	this state.
31	(e) If any collector shall fail to keep this book or to make the
32	entries at the time and in the manner prescribed in this act, or shall make
33	any false entry therein or shall refuse to permit any person entitled thereto
34	to examine the book or shall fail to preserve the book and deliver it to the
35	county clerk at the time prescribed in § 26-35-1002, he shall be guilty of a
36	misdemeanor and, upon conviction, fined in any sum not more than five hundred

1	dollars (\$500), and be removed from office.
2	(f) The expense of printing and binding the book shall be paid for out
3	of the State Treasury.
4	
5	26-35-1002. Delivery of record book to county court.
6	(a) The book of record of tax receipts required by § 26-35-1001 to be
7	kept by the collectors of the respective counties of this state, whether
8	filled or not, shall, at the time of making his final settlement with the
9	county clerk, as prescribed in chapter 39 of this title, be delivered by the
10	collector to the county clerk, which shall be received and receipted by the
11	county clerk and preserved by him as a public record of his office.
12	(b) The book shall become a public record of the county and shall be
13	evidence that the taxes have been paid by the respective persons upon the
14	property and at the times as therein specified and entered.
15	
16	26-35-1003. Tax record form.
17	The Auditor of State shall prepare and, by the first Monday in November
18	in each year, furnish to the collectors of the respective counties a
19	sufficient number of blank forms, contained in a well-bound book, for the
20	record of tax receipts, to be issued by the collectors. The blanks may be in
21	the following form:
22	
23	REFER TO THE BOOK FOR THE PROPER FORM
24	
25	SECTION 13. Arkansas Code §§ 26-39-202 and 26-39-203 are repealed.
26	26-39-202. Report of tax installments.
27	Immediately following the date each installment of taxes is due as
28	provided in § 26-35-501, the collector shall make and file with the county
29	clerk a report showing installments paid on personal property listed in the
30	name of each owner and the installment of taxes paid on each tract and parcel
31	of land. The collector shall account for his collections of each installment
32	of taxes in the manner provided by law for collector's settlement, and he
33	shall make settlement within thirty (30) days after each installment of taxes
34	is due as provided in § 26-35-501.
35	
36	26-39-203. Collector charged for late filings.

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1	(a) The county clerk, at the time of making settlement with the
2	collector, shall carefully examine the record of tax receipts as kept by the
3	collector and shall charge the collector with a sum equal to ten percent
4	(10%) of all tax receipts recorded subsequent to the time specified in § 26-
5	35-501.
6	(b) All errors or omissions of the collector in recording any tax
7	receipt shall be exempt from the penalty prescribed in this section.
8	
9	SECTION 14. Arkansas Code § 26-39-205 is repealed.
10	26-39-205. Settlement of accounts for blank licenses.
11	The county court shall, at each regular term, cause the collector to
12	settle his accounts of all blank licenses with which he shall stand charged.
13	After giving him credit for all licenses returned, the court shall ascertain
14	the amount due from him on that account and shall cause it to be entered of
15	record, so as to show the amount due the county.
16	
17	SECTION 15. Arkansas Code §§ 26-39-302 through 26-39-305 are repealed.
18	26-39-302. Delinquent and insolvent taxpayers reported.
19	(a) The collector shall, within seventy (70) days after October 10 in
20	each year, make out and furnish to the county clerk a report of all the
21	delinquent and insolvent taxpayers in his county, with the amount due from
22	each.
23	(b) The report shall be verified by the written affidavit of the
24	collector to the effect that:
25	(1) He has, in person or by his deputy, made a legal demand for
26	taxes of all delinquent taxpayers found in his county, by going to their
27	places of abode or business and searching for something to seize and sell for
28	the taxes;
29	(2) The taxpayers mentioned in the report have failed to pay
30	their taxes and have no effects known to the collector upon which they can be
31	made to pay their taxes; and
32	(3) He has made diligent inquiry to find them in his county and
33	they have no effects known to him which can be used to pay their taxes.
34	
35	26-39-303. List to be under oath - Examination.
36	(a) The county court or county judge shall not allow to the collector

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1	a credit for the insolvent and delinquent list he reports unless it is
2	verified by the oath of the collector, as prescribed in § 26-39-302, nor
3	shall it be allowed to the collector merely because he presents it duly sworn
4	to.
5	(b) The county court or county judge shall carefully examine each
6	school district and incorporated city or town list, as reported. The court
7	shall:
8	(1) Scrutinize each name and amount reported insolvent;
9	(2) Avail himself of any information by witnesses to test the
10	accuracy of the list; and
11	(3) Not allow to the collector credit for the taxes of any
12	delinquent who may be ascertained to have any personal property by a sale of
13	which to make such taxes.
14	(c) All of the lists for which the collector shall not be allowed as a
15	credit shall stand as a charge against the collector.
16	
17	26-39-304. Collector given credit for unpaid taxes.
18	(a)(1) The county court shall proceed to examine the report made as
19	indicated in § 26-39-302 and shall allow to the collector a credit for such
20	of the taxes so reported insolvent or delinquent as satisfactorily appears to
21	the court to remain uncollected without default of the collector, and no
22	more.
23	(2) A list of the allowance shall be made out by the county
24	clerk and certified and transmitted to the Auditor of State within ten (10)
25	days after it is approved by the county court or county judge, and it shall
26	be credited to the collector in his settlement with the Auditor of State and
27	with the county clerk.
28	(b)(1) In the event the county court shall not meet at the time of the
29	filing of the report or within ten (10) days thereafter, the collector may
30	present the report to the county judge, who shall proceed to examine it, make
31	such allowance as to him satisfactorily appears to remain uncollected without
32	any default of the collector, and certify it under his hand and seal.
33	(2) The allowance shall be entered of record by the clerk, and
34	the same proceedings shall be had as if it had been done by the county court.
35	
36	26-39-305. Collection of delinquencies after credit of allowance.

1 (a)(1) Notwithstanding any allowance, the tax collector, if possible, 2 shall collect the taxes of insolvent and delinquent taxpayers. 3 (2) He shall retain a copy of the list reported by him for six 4 (6) months, which shall be charged to him by the county clerk, and whenever 5 he can find any personal property belonging to such a person, he shall 6 distrain and sell it, on ten (10) days' notice, to the highest bidder for 7 cash and pay over proceeds as other taxes collected. 8 (b) The Auditor of State upon every settlement with the collector 9 shall require of him a report, under oath, whether he has collected taxes 10 from any, and of which, of the delinquent taxpayers. 11 12 SECTION 16. Arkansas Code § 26-39-405 is repealed. 13 26-39-405. Mileage of collectors. 14 The collectors, in making their annual settlements on account of state 15 revenue and paying it over, shall be allowed mileage at the rate of ten cents 16 (10¢) per mile from the county seats of their respective counties to and 17 returning from the capital of the state by the most direct and usually traveled land route. The Auditor of State shall allow them credit therefor in 18 19 their settlement, but the Auditor of State shall not allow mileage to any 20 collector for more than one (1) time in any one (1) year. 21 2.2 SECTION 17. Arkansas Code §§ 26-39-503 through 26-39-509 are repealed. 23 26-39-503. Distress warrant against collector. 24 It shall be the duty of the Auditor of State, immediately after the time specified in § 26-39-502, in each year, to issue a warrant of distress 25 26 against a delinguent collector and his sureties, directed to the coroner or 27 any constable in the county in which the delinquent collector and his 28 sureties reside, commanding him to distrain, levy, and sell the goods, 29 chattels, lands, and tenements of the delinquent collector and his sureties 30 in the same manner as such property is required to be sold by virtue of an 31 execution issued out of the circuit court. 32 33 26-39-504. Endorsement of warrant. 34 It shall be the duty of every officer, immediately after the receipt of 35 any distress warrant, to endorse thereon the time when it came to his hands

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1	circuit court of his county.
2	
3	26-39-505. Lien on property of collector.
4	The amount due by a delinquent collector shall be a lien on the goods,
5	chattels, lands, and tenements of the delinquent collector and his securities
6	from the time the distress warrant shall come to the hands of the distress
7	officer until it shall be discharged according to law.
8	
9	26-39-506. Sale of lands and tenements.
10	(a) When any lands and tenements shall be sold by any officer, under
11	the authority of any distress warrant, he shall make, execute, acknowledge,
12	and deliver to the purchaser, at the expense of the purchaser, a deed for the
13	lands and tenements in the same manner as sheriffs are required to make and
14	acknowledge deeds for lands sold under execution.
15	(b) The deeds when recorded shall have the same force and effect as a
16	deed made by a sheriff.
17	
18	26-39-507. Payment of money collected.
19	(a) It shall be the duty of every officer collecting money by virtue
20	of any distress warrant issued as provided in this subchapter to pay it into
21	the State Treasury within thirty (30) days after the receipt thereof.
22	(b) An officer shall, with his securities, be liable on his official
23	bond for the amount so collected, with the sum of twenty-five percent (25%)
24	added thereto, in case of his failure to pay it into the State Treasury as
25	provided in this section.
26	
27	26-39-508. Fees of officer executing warrant.
28	Every officer collecting money by virtue of any distress warrant issued
29	by the Auditor of State as provided in this subchapter shall be entitled to
30	receive the same fees as are allowed by law to sheriffs for collecting and
31	paying over moneys under executions.
32	
33	26-39-509. Return of surplus moneys.
34	All moneys which may remain in the hands of an officer of the proceeds
35	of any sale of goods, chattels, lands, or tenements, after paying the amount
36	of the distress warrant and the cost and expense of sale, shall be returned

1	to the delinquent collector or his securities, as the case may be.
2	
3	SECTION 18. Arkansas Code § 26-73-203 is repealed.
4	26-73-203. Payment of taxes by county collector.
5	(a) It shall be the duty of the county collector to pay over to the
6	city treasurer of any municipal corporation all moneys received by him
7	arising from taxes belonging to the municipal corporation within five (5)
8	days after the collector shall have settled with the county clerk.
9	(b) For delinquent taxes that the county collector may have received
10	belonging to the corporation, he shall pay them over within five (5) days
11	after he shall have received them.
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14	APPROVED: 3/4/2003
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