

Department of Finance and Administration

Legislative Impact Statement

Bill: SB305

Bill Subtitle: TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE PAYMENT OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT RECOGNITION PAYMENTS TO CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS WHO ACTIVELY WORK WITH PROPERTY TAXES; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Basic Change :

Sponsors: Sen. Stone and Rep. J. Moore

SB305 amends § 14-15-205(e) to provide that an annual professional development recognition payment shall be paid to an eligible person by the county or state agency that employs the person. The county or state agency will be responsible for withholding all state and federal taxes from the payment.

The Assessment Coordination Division of the Department of Finance and Administration (ACD) authorizes the payment of professional development recognition payments to eligible employees who work directly with ad valorem taxes. The professional recognition payments are available in the following amounts provided that funds are available:

- Level 4 Senior Appraiser - \$500;
- Level 4 Senior Appraisal Manager - \$750;
- Certified Residential Appraiser - \$1,000; and
- Certified General Appraiser - \$2,000.

The payments are required to be subject to withholding of all federal and state taxes. The payments are currently delivered to the employee by ACD. SB305 makes ACD responsible for identifying an eligible employee and transferring the amount of the payment to their county or state agency employer. Their employer would then be responsible for making the payment to the employee after withholding the appropriate taxes.

SB305 contains an emergency clause and will be effective on the date of its approval by the Governor; the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the bill; or the date the last house overrides the veto.

Revenue Impact :

None.

Taxpayer Impact :

A professional development recognition payment will be paid by the employer of the person that is eligible for the payment.

Resources Required :

None.

Time Required :

Adequate time is provided for implementation.

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Procedural Changes :

ACD staff will require training on the new procedures for distributing annual professional recognition payments to county assessors for distribution to county employees. County assessors and employees will need to be notified of the new procedure.

Other Comments :

None.

Legal Analysis :

None.