Session of 2021

Senate Substitute for HOUSE BILL No. 2313

By Committee on Assessment and Taxation

5-3

AN ACT concerning taxation; relating to property taxation; establishing the COVID-19 retail storefront property tax relief act to provide partial refunds to certain businesses impacted by COVID-19-related shutdowns and restrictions; relating to the reimbursement of property taxes to certain property owners and operators resulting from a forced shutdown or capacity limitation by the state, county, city or other political subdivision of the state; allowing Kansas national guard and reservist members who are in good standing to receive a property tax exemption for up to two motor vehicles; authorizing continuation of the statewide levy for schools and the exemption of a portion of residential property from such levy; relating to the board of tax appeals and authorizing appointment by the governor of a member pro tempore when a vacancy on the board exists; directing a post audit study of taxation and exemption issues relating to non-profit and governmental entities competing against for-profit businesses; {establishing the golden years homestead property tax freeze act providing certain residential property tax refunds; providing for the expiration of the selective assistance for effective senior relief (SAFESR) credit;} amending K.S.A. 74-2433, as amended by section 5 of 2021 House Bill No. 2104, 79-201x{, 79-32,263} and 79-5107 and K.S.A. 2020 Supp. 72-5142 and repealing the existing sections.

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

New Section 1. The provisions of sections 1 through 14, and amendments thereto, shall be known and may be cited as the COVID-19 retail storefront property tax relief act. The purpose of this act shall be to provide refunds to certain businesses impacted by COVID-19 related shutdowns and restrictions during tax years 2020 and 2021 based on a portion of property taxes accrued on retail storefront property.

New Sec. 2. As used in this act:

- (a) "Act" means the COVID-19 retail storefront property tax relief act.
- (b) (1) "Claimant" means a for-profit business, regardless of legal structure, who has filed a claim under the provisions of this act and who:
- (A) Conducts a majority of its retail sales through customers' physical, on-site presence at a retail storefront property;

- 1 (B) was in operation on or prior to July 1, 2019, and filed a 2019 tax 2 return;
 - (C) had at least \$10,000 but less than \$2,500,000 in annual revenues, including gross sales and receipts, in 2019;
 - (D) received less gross revenue in 2020 or 2021, as applicable, compared to 2019;
 - (E) was in active operations as of March 1, 2020; and
 - (F) has not received more than a total of \$150,000 in prior COVID-19-related local, state or federal funding or any combination thereof.
 - (2) "Claimant" shall not include:
 - (A) Grocery stores and pharmacies;
 - (B) hardware stores and home improvement businesses;
 - (C) retail liquor stores;
 - (D) manufacturers and food processors;
 - (E) schools, such as pre-kindergarten, kindergarten through grade 12, post-secondary, higher education, technical education and training;
 - (F) hospitals and healthcare providers, including, but not limited to, physicians, surgeons, psychologists and psychoanalysts, but not including personal services providers such as massage therapists and chiropractors;
 - (G) property management and real estate services, including owners or operators of short-term rental properties;
 - (H) professional services, including, but not limited to, accounting, insurance, legal, financial services and firms, information technology, engineering and architecture;
 - (I) agriculture and aquaculture producers, including farms, ranches and fisheries, but not including their retail storefronts used to conduct retail sales to customers;
 - (J) hosts or operators of a vacation or short-term rental unit;
 - (K) passive businesses, investment companies and investors who file a schedule E on their individual tax returns;
 - (L) financial businesses primarily engaged in the business of lending, such as banks, finance companies and factoring companies;
 - (M) cable companies, telephone companies, utilities and other similar businesses; and
 - (N) energy production, generation and distribution companies.
 - (3) When a retail storefront is occupied by two or more businesses and more than one of the businesses is able to qualify as a claimant, the businesses may determine between them as to whom the claimant will be. If they are unable to agree, the matter shall be referred to the secretary of revenue whose decision shall be final.
 - (c) "Gross rent" means the rental paid at arm's length solely for the right of occupancy of a retail storefront paid to a landlord, as expressly set out in the rental agreement, exclusive of charges for any utilities, services,

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furniture and furnishings or personal property appliances furnished by the landlord as a part of the rental agreement, whether or not expressly set out in the rental agreement. Whenever the director of taxation finds that the landlord and tenant have not dealt with each other at arm's length and that the gross rent charge was excessive, the director may adjust the gross rent to a reasonable amount for the purpose of the claim.

- "Property taxes accrued" means property taxes, exclusive of special assessments, delinquent interest and charges for service, levied on a claimant's retail storefront in 2020 or 2021, as applicable, by the state of Kansas and the political and taxing subdivisions of the state. When a retail storefront is owned by two or more persons or entities as joint tenants or tenants in common and one or more of the persons or entities is not a part of claimant's business, "property taxes accrued" is that part of property taxes levied on the retail storefront that reflects the ownership percentage of the claimant's business. For purposes of this act, property taxes are "levied" when the tax roll is delivered to the local treasurer with the treasurer's warrant for collection. When a claimant owns its retail storefront part of a calendar year, "property taxes accrued" means only taxes levied on the retail storefront when both owned and occupied as a retail storefront by the claimant's business at the time of the levy, multiplied by the percentage of 12 months that the property was owned and occupied by the business as its retail storefront in the year. When a business owns and occupies two or more different retail storefronts in the same calendar year, property taxes accrued shall be the sum of the taxes allocable to those several properties while occupied by the business as its retail storefront during the year. Whenever a retail storefront is an integral part of a larger unit such as a multi-purpose or multi-retail storefront building, property taxes accrued shall be that percentage of the total property taxes accrued as the value of the retail storefront is of the total value. For the purpose of this act, the word "unit" refers to that parcel of property covered by a single tax statement of which the retail storefront is a part.
- (e) "Rent constituting property taxes accrued" means 15% of the gross rent actually paid in cash or its equivalent in 2020 or 2021, as applicable, by a claimant solely for the right of occupancy of a retail storefront on which ad valorem property taxes were levied in full for that year. When a claimant occupies two or more different retail storefronts in the same calendar year, rent constituting property taxes accrued shall be computed by adding the rent constituting property taxes accrued for each property rented by the claimant while occupied by the claimant as its retail storefront during the year.
- (f) "Retail storefront" means the real property in this state, whether owned or rented, that is occupied by the claimant's business and where the

claimant conducts retail sales through customers' physical, on-site presence. "Retail storefront" may consist of a part of a multi-purpose or multi-retail storefront building. "Owned" includes a vendee in possession under a land contract, a life tenant, a beneficiary under a trust and one or more joint tenants or tenants in common.

New Sec. 3. (a) For tax years 2020 and 2021, a claimant shall be eligible for a claim for refund under this act if the claimant's eligible business operated at the retail storefront was operationally shut down or restricted by a COVID-19-related order or action imposed by the state, a local unit of government or a local health officer, including, but not limited to, by an executive order issued by the governor pursuant to K.S.A. 48-925, and amendments thereto, or any action taken by a local unit of government related to a state of disaster emergency declared pursuant to K.S.A. 48-924, and amendments thereto, or a state of local disaster emergency declared pursuant to K.S.A. 48-932, and amendments thereto.

- (b) The amount of refund under this act shall be equal to 33% of the COVID-19 qualifying sum. The COVID-19 qualifying sum shall be the sum of the COVID-19 ordered shutdown days gross rebate amount calculated pursuant to subsection (c) and the COVID-19 ordered restricted operations days gross rebate amount calculated pursuant to subsection (d).
- (c) The COVID-19 ordered shutdown days gross rebate amount shall be the amount of the claimant's property taxes accrued or rent constituting property taxes accrued for the tax year divided by the applicable factor set forth in the following schedule:

25		Divide property taxes accrued
26	Number of ordered	or rent constituting property taxes
27	shutdown days	accrued by:
28	91 or more	3
29	61 to 90	4
30	31 to 60	6
31	1 to 30	12
32	(d) The COVID-19 or	rdered restricted operations days gross rebate

(d) The COVID-19 ordered restricted operations days gross rebate amount shall be the amount of the claimant's property taxes accrued or rent constituting property taxes accrued for the tax year divided by the applicable factor set forth in the following schedule:

	1 1	ϵ
36		Divide property taxes accrued
37	Number of ordered	or rent constituting property taxes
38	restricted operations days	accrued by:
39	211 or more	2
40	181 to 210	2.289
41	151 to 180	2.667
42	121 to 150	3.2
43	91 to 120	4

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1	61 to 90	5.333
2	31 to 60	8
3	1 to 30	16

- For purposes of subsections (c) and (d), an eligible calendar day may be counted only once as either an ordered shutdown day or an ordered restricted operations day.
- A claimant with a qualifying business at a retail storefront that ceased operations after March 1, 2020, and before January 1, 2021, is eligible for a rebate only for tax year 2020.
- (g) The maximum amount of a refund that may be claimed by a claimant in any single tax year pursuant to this act shall be \$7,500.
 - New Sec. 4. A claimant may claim property tax relief under this act with respect to property taxes accrued or rent constituting property taxes accrued and, after audit by the director of taxation with respect to this act, the allowable amount of such claim shall be paid, except as otherwise provided in section 9, and amendments thereto, to the claimant from the income tax refund fund. Such payment shall be made upon warrants of the director of accounts and reports pursuant to vouchers approved by the director of taxation or by any person designated by the claimant, but no warrant issued shall be drawn in an amount of less than \$5. No interest shall be allowed on any payment made to a claimant pursuant to this act.
 - New Sec. 5. Only one claimant per retail storefront per year shall be entitled to relief under this act.
 - New Sec. 6. For tax years 2020 and 2021, no claim shall be paid or allowed unless such claim is filed with and in the possession of the department of revenue on or before April 15, 2022, except that the director of taxation may extend the time for filing any claim or accept a claim filed after the filing deadline when good cause exists, if the claim has been filed within four years of the deadline.
- 30 New Sec. 7. (a) In administering this act, the director of taxation shall make available suitable forms with instructions for claimants.
 - (b) The secretary of revenue is hereby authorized to adopt such rules and regulations as may be necessary for the administration of the provisions of this act.
 - New Sec. 8. (a) Every claimant under this act shall provide to the director of taxation, in support of a claim, reasonable proof of eligibility for the refund.
 - (b) Every claimant who is a retail storefront owner, or whose claim is based wholly or partly upon retail storefront ownership at some time during the calendar year, shall supply to the director of taxation, in support of a claim, the amount of property taxes levied upon the property claimed as a retail storefront and a statement that the property taxes accrued used for purposes of this act have been or will be paid by the claimant. Upon

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request by the director, such claimant shall provide a copy of the statement of property taxes levied upon the property claimed as a retail storefront.

- (c) Every claimant who is a retail storefront renter, or whose claim is based wholly or partly upon retail storefront rental at some time during the calendar year, shall supply to the division, in support of a claim, a statement prescribed by the director certifying the amount of gross rent paid and that ad valorem property taxes were levied in full for that year on the property, all or a part of which was rented by the claimant.
- (d) The information required to be furnished under subsection (b) or (c) shall be in addition to that required under subsection (a).
- New Sec. 9. (a) The amount of any claim otherwise payable under this act may be applied by the director of taxation against any liability outstanding on the books of the department of revenue against the claimant in the year that the claim relates.
- (b) If there are delinquent property taxes for tax year 2020 or 2021 on a retail storefront owned by the claimant, the refund shall be paid to the county treasurer of the county in which such retail storefront is located and applied to such delinquent property taxes.

New Sec. 10. If there are delinquent property taxes for a tax year commencing prior to January 1, 2020, on a retail storefront owned by the claimant, the claimant shall not be eligible for the refund pursuant to this act for such retail storefront.

In any case in which it is determined that a claim is or New Sec. 11. was excessive and was filed with fraudulent intent, the claim shall be disallowed in full, and, if the claim has been paid, the amount paid may be recovered by assessment as income taxes are assessed, and such assessment shall bear interest from the date of payment or credit of the claim, until recovered, at the rate of 1% per month. The claimant in such case and any person who assisted in the preparation or filing of such excessive claim or supplied information upon which such excessive claim was prepared, with fraudulent intent, shall be guilty of a class B misdemeanor. In any case in which it is determined that a claim is or was excessive and was negligently prepared, 10% of the corrected claim shall be disallowed, and, if the claim has been paid, the proper portion of any amount paid shall be similarly recovered by assessment as income taxes are assessed, and such assessment shall bear interest at the rate of 1% per month from the date of payment until recovered. In any case in which it is determined that a claim is or was excessive due to the fact that the claimant neglected to include certain income received during the year, the claim shall be corrected and the excess disallowed, and, if the claim has been paid, the proper portion of any amount paid shall be similarly recovered by assessment as income taxes are assessed.

New Sec. 12. A claim shall be disallowed if the director of taxation

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finds that the claimant received title to such claimant's retail storefront primarily for the purpose of receiving benefits under this act.

New Sec. 13. Each county shall pay to the state an amount equal to 33% of the refund claims paid pursuant to this act for eligible property located in such county. A county may expend moneys from the county general fund to pay the state pursuant to this section.

New Sec. 14. To the extent applicable, the provisions of K.S.A. 79-3226, and amendments thereto, shall apply to claims for refunds allowable pursuant to this act that may become in dispute.

(a) The owner of any building listed and assessed for New Sec. 15. property taxation purposes as real property that maintains a business on the property that was shut down or limited in any capacity from conducting operations by the state, county, city or other political subdivision of the state pursuant to an executive order issued by the governor pursuant to K.S.A. 48-925, and amendments thereto, or any action taken by a county, city or other political subdivision of the state related to a state of disaster emergency declared pursuant to K.S.A. 48-924, and amendments thereto, or state of local disaster emergency declared pursuant to K.S.A. 48-932, and amendments thereto, may make application to the board of county commissioners of the county in which such property is located for the reimbursement of the property taxes levied upon such property during the shutdown or capacity limitation. The county treasurer shall reimburse from the county general fund any owner who makes an application or operator that joins in an application that is determined to be valid for the period of time that the shutdown or capacity limitation remained in effect. For shutdowns, the reimbursement shall be calculated as a ¹/₃₆₅ amount of the total ad valorem real property taxes levied by the state, county and all other taxing subdivisions due for the property for the year multiplied by the number of calendar days the shutdown was in effect. For capacity limitations, the reimbursement shall be calculated as a $\frac{1}{365}$ amount of the total ad valorem real property taxes levied by the state, county and all other taxing subdivisions due for the property for the year multiplied by the percentage of the capacity limitation and further multiplied by the number of calendar days the capacity limitation was in effect.

(b) If the owner is the operator of the business on the property that was shut down or limited in any capacity from conducting operations, the owner shall be entitled to 100% of such reimbursement amount. If the owner is not the operator of such business that was shut down or limited in any capacity from conducting operations: (1) The owner shall disclose and attest to the identity of the operator of such business on the application form; (2) the owner shall be entitled to 50% of such reimbursement amount; (3) the operator of such business shall be entitled to 50% of such reimbursement amount if such operator joins in the owner's application;

 and (4) such operator that joins in the owner's application may elect to assign such operator's share of the reimbursement amount to the owner to be credited against any delinquent rent due to the owner.

- (c) If the state, a city or other political subdivision of the state was the governmental entity that shut down or limited the capacity of the business resulting in a reimbursement to an owner or operator pursuant to this section, such governmental entity that shut down or limited the capacity of the business shall reimburse the county for the cost of such reimbursement.
- (d) The provisions of this section shall be applicable on and after January 1, 2022.

New Sec. 16. The legislative post audit committee shall direct the legislative division of post audit to conduct a study of the economic impact of taxation and exemption issues relating to non-profit organizations and governmental entities competing against for-profit businesses. The study shall be conducted during calendar year 2021, and the final study report shall be submitted to the legislature on or before January 15, 2022.

{New Sec. 17. The provisions of sections 17 through 33, and amendments thereto, shall be known as and may be cited as the golden years homestead property tax freeze act. The purpose of this act shall be to provide refunds arising from increased ad valorem tax assessments to:
(a) Certain persons who are of qualifying age and who own their homesteads; or (b) certain persons who have a disability as a result of military service and who own their homesteads.

New Sec. 18. As used in sections 17 through 33, and amendments thereto:

- (a) "Act" means the golden years homestead property tax freeze act.
- (b) "Base year" means the earliest year in which: (1) An individual was, during the entire calendar year, both domiciled in this state and was: (A) A person who is 65 years of age or older; or (B) a disabled veteran; and (2) the appraised value of the homestead is \$395,000 or less. A claimant shall only be eligible for a claim for refund under this act if the appraised value of the homestead in the base year is \$395,000 or less. For any individual who satisfies paragraph (1) prior to 2020, such base year shall be deemed to be 2020 for purposes of this act if the appraised value of the homestead for tax year 2020 is \$395,000 or less. No year prior to 2020 shall be established as a base year. Once established for a claimant, the base year for the homestead shall not change if such claimant fails to satisfy the household income requirement to be eligible for a refund claim for any particular year or years. In the case of all tax years commencing after December 31, 2020, the upper limit homestead appraised value threshold amount prescribed

 in this section shall be increased by an amount equal to such threshold amount multiplied by a cost-of-living adjustment determined by the department of revenue by averaging the percent change in statewide residential valuation of existing residential property for the preceding 10 years.

- (c) "Claimant" means a person who has filed a claim under the provisions of this act and was, during the entire calendar year preceding the year in which such claim was filed for refund under this act, except as provided in section 19, and amendments thereto, both domiciled in this state and was: (1) A person who is 65 years of age or older; or (2) a disabled veteran. The surviving spouse of a person 65 years of age or older or a disabled veteran who was receiving benefits pursuant to this section at the time of the claimant's death, shall be eligible to continue to receive benefits until such time the surviving spouse remarries.
- (d) "Disabled veteran" means a person who is a resident of Kansas and has been honorably discharged from active service in any branch of the armed forces of the United States or the Kansas national guard and who has been certified by the United States department of veterans affairs or its successor to have a 50% or greater permanent disability sustained through military action or accident or resulting from a disease contracted while in such active service.
- (e) "Homestead" means the dwelling, or any part thereof, owned and occupied as a residence by the household and so much of the land surrounding it, as defined as a home site for ad valorem tax purposes, and may consist of a part of a multi-dwelling or multi-purpose building and a part of the land upon which it is built or a manufactured home or mobile home and the land upon which it is situated. "Owned" includes one or more joint tenants or tenants in common.

When a homestead is occupied by two or more individuals and more than one of the individuals is able to qualify as a claimant, the individuals may determine between them as to who the claimant will be. If they are unable to agree, the matter shall be referred to the secretary of revenue, whose decision shall be final.

- (f) "Household" means a claimant, a claimant and spouse who occupy the homestead or a claimant and one or more individuals not related as married individuals who together occupy a homestead.
- (g) "Household income" means all income received by all persons of a household in a calendar year while members of such household.
- (h) "Income" means the sum of adjusted gross income under the Kansas income tax act effective for tax year 2021, and tax years thereafter, without regard to any maintenance, support money, cash public assistance and relief, not including any refund granted under this act, the gross amount of any pension or annuity, including all monetary

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retirement benefits from whatever source derived, including, but not limited to, all payments received under the railroad retirement act, except disability payments, payments received under the federal social security act, except that for determination of what constitutes income, such amount shall not exceed 50% of any such social security payments and shall not include any social security payments to a claimant who, prior to attaining full retirement age, had been receiving disability payments under the federal social security act in an amount not to exceed the amount of such disability payments or 50% of any such social security payments, whichever is greater, all dividends and interest from whatever source derived not included in adjusted gross income, workers compensation and the gross amount of loss of time insurance. Income does not include gifts from nongovernmental sources or surplus food or other relief in kind supplied by a governmental agency, nor shall net operating losses and net capital losses be considered in the determination of income. Income does not include veterans disability pensions or disability payments received under the federal social security act.

"Property taxes accrued" means property taxes, exclusive of (i) special assessments, delinquent interest and charges for service, levied on a claimant's homestead in 2020 or any calendar year thereafter by the state of Kansas and the political and taxing subdivisions of the state. When a homestead is owned by two or more persons or entities as joint tenants or tenants in common and one or more of the persons or entities is not a member of the claimant's household, "property taxes accrued" is that part of property taxes levied on the homestead that reflects the ownership percentage of the claimant's household. For purposes of this act, property taxes are levied when the tax roll is delivered to the local treasurer with the treasurer's warrant for collection. When a claimant and household own their homestead for only a part of a calendar year, "property taxes accrued" means only taxes levied on the homestead when both owned and occupied as a homestead by the claimant's household at the time of the levy, multiplied by the percentage of 12 months that the property was owned and occupied by the household as its homestead in that year. When a household owns and occupies two or more different homesteads in the same calendar year, property taxes accrued shall be the sum of the taxes allocable to those several properties while occupied by the household as its homesteads during the year. Whenever a homestead is an integral part of a larger unit such as a multi-purpose or multi-dwelling building, property taxes accrued shall be that percentage of the total property taxes that is equal to the percentage of the value of the homestead compared to the total unit's value. For the purpose of this act, the word "unit" refers to that parcel

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New Sec. 19. The right to file a claim under this act may be exercised on behalf of a claimant by such person's legal guardian, conservator or attorney-in-fact. When a claimant dies after having filed a timely claim, the amount thereof shall be disbursed to another member of the household as determined by the director of taxation. If the claimant was the only member of such person's household, the claim may be paid to such person's executor or administrator, but if neither is appointed and qualified, the amount of the claim may be paid upon a claim duly made to any heir at law. In the absence of any such claim within two years of the filing of the claim, the amount of the claim shall escheat to the state. When a person who would otherwise be entitled to file a claim under the provisions of this act dies prior to filing such claim, another member of such person's household may file such claim in the name of such decedent, subject to the deadline prescribed by section 21, and amendments thereto, and the director shall pay the amount to which the decedent would have been entitled to such person filing the claim. If the decedent was the only member of such person's household, the decedent's executor or administrator may file such claim in the name of the decedent, and the claim shall be paid to the executor or administrator. In the event that neither an executor or administrator is appointed and qualified, such claim may be made by any heir at law and the claim shall be payable to such heir at law. Any of the foregoing provisions shall be applicable in any case where the decedent dies in the calendar year preceding the year in which a claim may be made under the provisions of this act, if such decedent was a resident of or domiciled in this state during the entire part of such year that such decedent was living. Where the decedent's death occurs during the calendar year preceding the year in which a claim may be made, the amount of the claim that would have been allowable if the decedent had been a resident of or domiciled in this state the entire calendar year of such person's death shall be reduced in a proportionate amount equal to a fraction of the claim otherwise allowable, the numerator of which fraction is the number of months in such calendar year following the month of the decedent's death, and the denominator of which is 12.

New Sec. 20. A claimant may claim property tax relief under this act with respect to property taxes accrued and, after audit by the director of taxation with respect to this act, the allowable amount of such claim shall be paid, except as otherwise provided in sections 22, 31 and 33, and amendments thereto, to the claimant from the income tax refund fund upon warrants of the director of accounts and reports pursuant to vouchers approved by the director of taxation or by any person

 designated by the claimant, but no warrant issued shall be drawn in an amount of less than \$5. No interest shall be allowed on any payment made to a claimant pursuant to this act.

New Sec. 21. Except as provided in section 30, and amendments thereto, no claim in respect of property taxes levied in any year shall be paid or allowed unless such claim is filed with and in the possession of the department of revenue on or before April 15 of the year next succeeding the year in which such taxes were levied.

New Sec. 22. The amount of any claim otherwise payable under this act may be applied by the director of taxation against any liability outstanding on the books of the department of revenue against the claimant, or against any other individual who was a member of such person's household in the year that the claim relates.

New Sec. 23. Only one claimant per household per year shall be entitled to relief under this act.

New Sec. 24. (a) Commencing in tax year 2021, and all tax years thereafter, the amount of any claim pursuant to this act shall be computed by deducting the homestead ad valorem tax amount in the tax year the refund is sought from the amount of a claimant's base year homestead ad valorem tax amount.

- (b) The amount of claim shall be computed only to the nearest \$1.
- (c) A taxpayer shall not be eligible for a claim pursuant to this act if such taxpayer has received for such property for such tax year a homestead property tax refund pursuant to K.S.A. 79-4501 et seq., and amendments thereto.
- (d) The maximum amount of a claim that may be claimed by a claimant in any one tax year pursuant to this act shall be \$5,000.

New Sec. 25. (a) In administering this act, the director of taxation shall make available suitable forms with instructions for claimants. Copies of such forms shall also be made available to all county clerks and county treasurers in sufficient numbers to supply claimants residing in their respective counties. It shall be the duty of the county clerk to assist any claimant seeking assistance in the filing of a claim under the provisions of this act. The county treasurer of each county shall mail to each taxpayer, with the property tax statement of such taxpayer, information on eligibility for relief under this act to be provided by the secretary of revenue.

(b) The secretary of revenue is hereby authorized to adopt such rules and regulations as may be necessary for the administration of the provisions of this act.

New Sec. 26. (a) Every claimant under this act shall supply to the director of taxation, in support of a claim, reasonable proof of age and changes of homestead, household membership, household income,

 household assets and size and nature of property claimed as the homestead.

- (b) Every claimant who is a homestead owner, or whose claim is based wholly or partly upon homestead ownership at some time during the calendar year, shall supply to the director of taxation, in support of a claim, the amount of property taxes levied upon the property claimed as a homestead and a statement that the property taxes accrued used for purposes of this act have been or will be paid by the claimant. Upon request by the director, such claimant shall provide a copy of the statement of property taxes levied upon the property claimed as a homestead. The amount of personal property taxes levied on a manufactured home or mobile home shall be set out on the personal property tax statement showing the amount of such tax as a separate item.
- (c) The information required to be furnished under subsection (b) shall be in addition to that required under subsection (a).

In any case in which it is determined that a claim is or was excessive and was filed with fraudulent intent, the claim shall be disallowed in full, and, if the claim has been paid, the amount paid may be recovered by assessment as income taxes are assessed, and such assessment shall bear interest from the date of payment or credit of the claim, until recovered, at the rate of 1% per month. The claimant in such case and any person who assisted in the preparation or filing of such excessive claim, or supplied information upon which such excessive claim was prepared, with fraudulent intent, shall be guilty of a class B misdemeanor. In any case in which it is determined that a claim is or was excessive and was negligently prepared, 10% of the corrected claim shall be disallowed, and, if the claim has been paid, the proper portion of any amount paid shall be similarly recovered by assessment as income taxes are assessed, and such assessment shall bear interest at the rate of 1% per month from the date of payment until recovered. In any case in which it is determined that a claim is or was excessive due to the fact that the claimant neglected to include certain income received during the year, the claim shall be corrected and the excess disallowed, and, if the claim has been paid, the proper portion of any amount paid shall be similarly recovered by assessment as income taxes are assessed.}

New Sec. 28. No claim for relief under the provisions of this act shall be allowed to any claimant who is a recipient of public funds specifically designated for the payment of taxes during the period for which the claim is filed.

New Sec. 29. A claim shall be disallowed if the director of taxation finds that the claimant received title to such person's homestead primarily for the purpose of receiving benefits under this act.

 New Sec. 30. For claims in respect to property taxes levied in any year, the director of taxation may extend the time for filing any claim or accept a claim filed after the filing deadline when good cause exists, if the claim has been filed within four years of the deadline.

New Sec. 31. (a) The director of taxation shall issue to the county clerk by October 1 of each year an electronic record containing the name of each eligible claimant who received a refund of property taxes under this act for the prior year.

- (b) When initially filing a claim under this act, the claimant shall be given an election to receive such refund directly from the director of taxation or have such refund applied to the claimant's ad valorem taxes in the county. The claimant shall make the election on a form supplied by the director of taxation. Such refund shall not be applied to any special assessment.
- (c) After the electronic record under subsection (a) has been received from the director of taxation, the county clerk of the county in which the property is located shall make any corrections needed, if any, based upon information known by the county clerk concerning any change in eligibility of any claimant listed in such record. After any needed corrections have been made to the electronic record, the county clerk, on behalf of each claimant listed in such record, shall certify the information contained in such record to the county treasurer in lieu of paying that portion of the first half of taxes on the claimant's homestead in the current year, which equals the amount of the golden years homestead property tax freeze refund received by the claimant for taxes levied in the preceding year up to the amount of the first half of the property taxes due.
- (d) The county treasurer shall certify and return the electronic record referred to in subsection (a), including any changes made by the county clerk pursuant to subsection (c), to the director of taxation by December 31 of each year. After receiving a claim of any claimant who is listed in the electronic record submitted by the county treasurer, the director shall examine the same, and, if the claim is valid, the director of accounts and reports shall draw a warrant in favor of the county in which the claimant's homestead is located upon a voucher approved by the director of taxation in the amount of the allowable claim for refund. Sufficient information to identify the claimant shall be directed to the county treasurer with each warrant. Any taxes levied in any year on the homestead of any claimant who has obtained the eligibility herein provided for in excess of the amount paid to the county by the state and by the claimant on or before December 20 of such year shall be paid by the claimant on or before May 10 of the succeeding year.
 - (e) For the purposes of this section, "electronic record" means the

same as defined in K.S.A. 16-1602, and amendments thereto.

New Sec. 32. A claimant shall only be eligible for a claim for refund under this act if the household income for the year in which the claim is filed is \$50,000 or less. In the case of all tax years commencing after December 31, 2021, the upper limit household income threshold amount prescribed in this section shall be increased by an amount equal to such threshold amount multiplied by the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) of the federal internal revenue code for the calendar year in which the taxable year commences.

New Sec. 33. If there are delinquent property taxes on the claimant's homestead, the refund shall be paid to the county treasurer of the county in which such homestead is located and applied first to the oldest of such delinquent property taxes and applied forward to the most recent delinquent property taxes and then to any other property taxes due on the claimant's homestead.}

Sec. <u>17.</u> {34.} K.S.A. 2020 Supp. 72-5142 is hereby amended to read as follows: 72-5142. (a) The board of education of each school district shall levy an ad valorem tax upon the taxable tangible property of the school district in the school years specified in subsection (b) for the purpose of:

- (1) Financing that portion of the school district's general fund budget that is not financed from any other source provided by law;
- (2) paying a portion of the costs of operating and maintaining public schools in partial fulfillment of the constitutional obligation of the legislature to finance the educational interests of the state; and
- (3) with respect to any redevelopment school district established prior to July 1, 1997, pursuant to K.S.A. 12-1771, and amendments thereto, paying a portion of the principal and interest on bonds issued by cities under authority of K.S.A. 12-1774, and amendments thereto, for the financing of redevelopment projects upon property located within the school district.
- (b) The tax required under subsection (a) shall be levied at a rate of 20 mills in the school years 2019-2020 2021-2022 and 2020-2021 2022-2023.
- (c) The proceeds from the tax levied by a district under authority of this section, except the proceeds of such tax levied for the purpose described in subsection (a)(3), shall be remitted to the state treasurer in accordance with the provisions of K.S.A. 75-4215, and amendments thereto. Upon receipt of each such remittance, the state treasurer shall deposit the entire amount in the state treasury to the credit of the state school district finance fund
- (d) No school district shall proceed under K.S.A. 79-1964, 79-1964a or 79-1964b, and amendments thereto.

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Sec.—18. {35.} K.S.A. 74-2433, as amended by section 5 of 2021 House Bill No. 2104, is hereby amended to read as follows: 74-2433. (a) There is hereby created a state board of tax appeals, referred to in this act as the board. The board shall be composed of three members who shall be appointed by the governor, subject to confirmation by the senate as provided in K.S.A. 75-4315b, and amendments thereto. For members appointed after June 30, 2014, one of such members shall have been regularly admitted to practice law in the state of Kansas and for a period of at least five years, have engaged in the active practice of law as a lawyer, judge of a court of record or any other court in this state; one of such members shall have engaged in active practice as a certified public accountant for a period of at least five years and one such member shall be a licensed certified general real property appraiser. In addition, the governor shall also appoint a chief hearing officer, subject to confirmation by the senate as provided in K.S.A. 75-4315b, and amendments thereto, who, in addition to other duties prescribed by this act, shall serve as a member pro tempore of the board. No successor shall be appointed for any judge of the court of tax appeals appointed before July 1, 2014. Such persons shall continue to serve as members on the board of tax appeals until their terms expire. Except as provided by K.S.A. 46-2601, and amendments thereto, no person appointed to the board, including the chief hearing officer, shall exercise any power, duty or function as a member of the board until confirmed by the senate. Not more than two members of the board shall be of the same political party. Members of the board, including the chief hearing officer, shall be residents of the state. Subject to the provisions of K.S.A. 75-4315c, and amendments thereto, no more than one member shall be appointed from any one of the congressional districts of Kansas unless, after having exercised due diligence, the governor is unable to find a qualified replacement within 90 days after any vacancy on the board occurs. The members of the board, including the chief hearing officer, shall be selected with special reference to training and experience for duties imposed by this act and shall be individuals with legal, tax, accounting or appraisal training and experience. State board of tax appeals members shall be subject to the supreme court rules of judicial conduct applicable to all judges of the district court. The board shall be bound by the doctrine of stare decisis limited to published decisions of an appellate court. Members of the board, including the chief hearing officer, shall hold office for terms of four years. A member may continue to serve for a period of 180 days after the expiration of the member's term, or until a successor has been appointed and confirmed, whichever is shorter. Except as otherwise provided, such terms of office shall expire on January 15 of the last year of such term. If a vacancy occurs on the board, or in the position for chief hearing officer, the governor shall appoint a successor to

fill the vacancy for the unexpired term. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the governor from reappointing any member of the board, including the chief hearing officer, for additional four-year terms. The governor shall select one of its members to serve as chairperson. The votes of two members shall be required for any final order to be issued by the board. Meetings may be called by the chairperson and shall be called on request of a majority of the members of the board and when otherwise prescribed by statute.

- (b) Any member appointed to the state board of tax appeals and the chief hearing officer may be removed by the governor for cause, after public hearing conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Kansas administrative procedure act.
- (c) The state board of tax appeals shall appoint, subject to approval by the governor, an executive director of the board, to serve at the pleasure of the board. The executive director shall: (1) Be in the unclassified service under the Kansas civil service act; (2) devote full time to the executive director's assigned duties; (3) receive such compensation as determined by the board, subject to the limitations of appropriations thereof; and (4) have familiarity with the tax appeals process sufficient to fulfill the duties of the office of executive director. The executive director shall perform such other duties as directed by the board.
- (d) Appeals decided by the state board of tax appeals shall be made available to the public and shall be published by the board on the board's website within 30 days after the decision has been rendered. The board shall also publish a monthly report that includes all appeals decided that month as well as all appeals which have not yet been decided and are beyond the time limitations as set forth in K.S.A. 74-2426, and amendments thereto. Such report shall be made available to the public and transmitted by the board to the members of the Kansas legislature.
- (e) After appointment, members of the state board of tax appeals that are not otherwise a state certified general real property appraiser shall complete the following course requirements: (1) A tested appraisal course of not less than 30 clock hours of instruction consisting of the fundamentals of real property appraisal with an emphasis on the cost and sales approaches to value; (2) a tested appraisal course of not less than 30 clock hours of instruction consisting of the fundamentals of real property appraisal with an emphasis on the income approach to value; (3) a tested appraisal course of not less than 30 clock hours of instruction with an emphasis on mass appraisal; (4) an appraisal course with an emphasis on Kansas property tax laws; (5) an appraisal course on the techniques and procedures for the valuation of state assessed properties with an emphasis on unit valuation; and (6) a tested appraisal course on the techniques and procedures for the valuation of land devoted to agricultural use pursuant to

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K.S.A. 79-1476, and amendments thereto. Such courses shall be courses 2 approved by the Kansas real estate appraisal board pursuant to K.S.A. 58-3 4105, and amendments thereto. Any member appointed to the board who is 4 a certified real property appraiser shall only be required to take such educational courses as are required to maintain the appraisal license. The 6 executive director shall adopt rules and regulations prescribing a timetable 7 for the completion of the course requirements and prescribing continued 8 education requirements for members of the board.

- The state board of tax appeals shall have no capacity or power to sue or be sued.
- (g) It is the intent of the legislature that proceedings in front of the board of tax appeals be conducted in a fair and impartial manner and that all taxpayers are entitled to a neutral interpretation of the tax laws of the state of Kansas. The provisions of the tax laws of this state shall be applied impartially to both taxpayers and taxing districts in cases before the board. Valuation appeals before the board shall be decided upon a determination of the fair market value of the fee simple of the property. Nothing in this section shall prohibit a property owner, during a property valuation appeal before the board, from raising arguments regarding classification. Cases before the board shall not be decided upon arguments concerning the shifting of the tax burden or upon any revenue loss or gain which may be experienced by the taxing district.
- (h) Notwithstanding any provisions of subsection (a) to the contrary, the governor may appoint a former member in good standing of the board of tax appeals to serve as a member pro tempore of the board for a period not to exceed one year when, after having exercised due diligence, more than one a vacancy on the board exists. Such member pro tempore may exercise any power, duty or function as is necessary to serve as a member of the board. Such member pro tempore shall serve at the pleasure of the governor and receive compensation for each day of actual attendance or work as a member based on a proration of the annual salary provided in K.S.A. 74-2434, and amendments thereto. The provisions of this subsection shall expire on June 30, 2023.

Sec. <u>19.</u> {36.} K.S.A. 79-201x is hereby amended to read as follows: 79-201x. For taxable years 2019 2021 and 2020 2022, the following described property, to the extent herein specified, shall be and is hereby exempt from the property tax levied pursuant to the provisions of K.S.A. 72-5142, and amendments thereto: Property used for residential purposes to the extent of \$20,000 of its appraised valuation.

{Sec. 37. K.S.A. 79-32,263 is hereby amended to read as follows: 79-32,263. This act shall be known and may be cited as the selective assistance for effective senior relief (SAFESR). There shall be allowed as a credit against the tax liability of a taxpayer imposed under the

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Kansas income tax act, the following: (a) For tax years 2008, 2009 and 2010, an amount equal to 45% of the amount of property and ad valorem taxes actually and timely paid as described in this section; and (b) for tax-year years 2011 and all tax years thereafter through 2020, an amount equal to 75% of the amount of property and ad valorem taxes actually and timely paid by a taxpayer who is 65 years of age or older and who has household income equal to or less than 120% of the federal poverty level for two persons if such taxes were paid upon real or personal property used for residential purposes of such taxpayer which is the taxpayer's principal place of residence for the tax year in which the tax credit is claimed. The amount of any such credit for any such taxpayer shall not exceed the amount of property and ad valorem taxes paid by such taxpayer as specified in this section. A taxpayer shall not take the credit pursuant to this section if such taxpayer has received a homestead property tax refund pursuant to K.S.A. 79-4501 et seq., and amendments thereto, for such property for such tax year. Subject to the provisions of this section, if the amount of such tax credit exceeds the taxpayer's income tax liability for the taxable year, the amount of such excess credit which exceeds such tax liability shall be refunded to the taxpayer. The secretary of revenue shall adopt rules and regulations regarding the filing of documents that support the amount of the credit claimed pursuant to this section. For purposes of this section, "household income" means all income as defined in K.S.A. 79-4502(a), and amendments thereto, including any payments received under the federal social security act, received by persons of a household in a calendar year while members of such household. The provisions of this act shall be part of and supplemental to the homestead property tax refund act.}

Sec. 20. {38.} On and after January 1, 2022, K.S.A. 79-5107 is hereby amended to read as follows: 79-5107. (a) Except as provided in subsection (e), the tax imposed by this act upon any motor vehicle, other than a motor vehicle—which that replaces a motor vehicle previously registered and taxed in this state and to which registration plates are transferred,—which that has been acquired, or brought into the state, or for any other reason becomes subject to registration after the owner's regular annual motor vehicle registration date, shall become due and payable at the time such motor vehicle becomes subject to registration under the laws of this state and the amount of tax to be paid by the owner for the remainder of the tax year shall be an amount—which that is equal to ½ of the tax—which that would have been due upon such motor vehicle for the full registration year, multiplied by the number of full calendar months remaining in the registration year of the owner of such vehicle. Such tax shall be paid at the time of the registration of such motor vehicle.

- (b) Except as provided in subsection (e), the tax upon a motor vehicle, which that replaces a motor vehicle previously registered and taxed in this state and to which registration plates are transferred, which that is registered at any time other than the annual registration date prescribed by law for the registration of such motor vehicle, shall be in an amount equal to the amount by which: (1) One-twelfth of the tax—which that would have been due upon such replacement motor vehicle for the full registration year multiplied by the number of full calendar months remaining in the registration year for such motor vehicle, exceeds (2) one-twelfth of the tax—which that would have been due for the full registration year upon the motor vehicle replaced multiplied by the number of full calendar months remaining in such registration year. Such tax shall be paid at the time of registration of such replacement vehicle.
- (c) Whenever the tax imposed under this act has been paid upon any motor vehicle and title to such vehicle is transferred and no replacement vehicle is substituted therefor such taxpayer shall be entitled to a refund in an amount equal to $^{1}/_{12}$ of the tax due upon such motor vehicle for the full registration year, multiplied by the number of full calendar months remaining in such registration year. Whenever the tax imposed under this act upon any replacement motor vehicle for the remainder of the registration year is less than the tax paid on the motor vehicle replaced for the remainder of such registration year, the taxpayer shall be entitled to a refund in the amount by which that the tax paid upon the vehicle replaced exceeds the tax due upon the replacement vehicle. All refunds shall be paid by the county treasurer from the moneys received from taxes upon motor vehicles imposed by this act—which that have not been distributed. No refund shall be made under the authority of this subsection for a sum less than \$5.
- (d) Whenever the tax imposed under this act has been paid upon any motor vehicle and the owner thereof has established residence in another state during such vehicle's registration year, such owner shall be entitled to a refund of such taxes in an amount equal to $^{1}/_{12}$ of the tax paid upon such motor vehicle for the full registration year, multiplied by the number of full calendar months remaining in such registration year after the month of establishing residence in another state. No such refund shall be allowed unless—and until the owner submits—to the county treasurer evidence of a valid driver's license and motor vehicle registration in another state; to the county treasurer and surrenders the Kansas license plate. All refunds shall be paid by the county treasurer from the moneys received from taxes upon motor vehicles—which that have not been distributed. No refund shall be made for a sum less than \$5.
- (e) (1) No tax shall be levied under the provisions of this act upon not more than two motor vehicles—which that are owned by a resident

individual who is:

- (A) Who is—In the full-time military service of the United States, is absent from this state solely by reason of military orders on the date of such individual's application for registration and such motor vehicles are maintained by such individual outside of this state;
- (B) who is a member of the military service of the United States and is mobilized or deployed on the date of such individual's application for registration; or
- (C) who is a full-time member of the military service of the United States, and is stationed in Kansas; or who is a full-time active guard and reservist
- (D) a current member in good standing of the Kansas army or air national guard or a-Kansas unit of the reserve forces of the United States under authority of title 10 or title 32 of the U.S. code, and is stationed or assigned in Kansas military.
- (2) The owner of a motor vehicle not subject to tax pursuant to the provisions of subsection (e) paragraph (1) who has paid the tax levied under the provisions of K.S.A. 79-5101, and amendments thereto, may apply for a refund with the county treasurer not later than one year from the effective date of this act. The county treasurer shall refund any such taxes previously paid by such owner of a motor vehicle.
- 22 (3) The provisions of this subsection shall be applicable on and after December 31, 2013 2021.
- 24 Sec.—21. {39.} K.S.A. 74-2433, as amended by section 5 of 2021 25 House Bill No. 2104,—and 79-201x {and 79-32,263} and K.S.A. 2020 26 Supp. 72-5142 are hereby repealed.
- 27 Sec. <u>22.</u> {40.} On and after January 1, 2022, K.S.A. 79-5107 is hereby repealed.
- Sec. <u>23.</u> {41.} This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.