

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 183

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR CRAWFORD.

0482S.01H

KRISTINA MARTIN, Secretary

AN ACT

To repeal section 137.115, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to the assessment of motor vehicles.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 137.115, RSMo, is repealed and one new
2 section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 137.115,
3 to read as follows:

137.115. 1. All other laws to the contrary
2 notwithstanding, the assessor or the assessor's deputies in
3 all counties of this state including the City of St. Louis
4 shall annually make a list of all real and tangible personal
5 property taxable in the assessor's city, county, town or
6 district. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3 of
7 this section and section 137.078, the assessor shall
8 annually assess all personal property at thirty-three and
9 one-third percent of its true value in money as of January
10 first of each calendar year. The assessor shall annually
11 assess all real property, including any new construction and
12 improvements to real property, and possessory interests in
13 real property at the percent of its true value in money set
14 in subsection 5 of this section. The true value in money of
15 any possessory interest in real property in subclass (3),
16 where such real property is on or lies within the ultimate
17 airport boundary as shown by a federal airport layout plan,
18 as defined by 14 CFR 151.5, of a commercial airport having a

EXPLANATION-Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

19 FAR Part 139 certification and owned by a political
20 subdivision, shall be the otherwise applicable true value in
21 money of any such possessory interest in real property, less
22 the total dollar amount of costs paid by a party, other than
23 the political subdivision, towards any new construction or
24 improvements on such real property completed after January
25 1, 2008, and which are included in the above-mentioned
26 possessory interest, regardless of the year in which such
27 costs were incurred or whether such costs were considered in
28 any prior year. The assessor shall annually assess all real
29 property in the following manner: new assessed values shall
30 be determined as of January first of each odd-numbered year
31 and shall be entered in the assessor's books; those same
32 assessed values shall apply in the following even-numbered
33 year, except for new construction and property improvements
34 which shall be valued as though they had been completed as
35 of January first of the preceding odd-numbered year. The
36 assessor may call at the office, place of doing business, or
37 residence of each person required by this chapter to list
38 property, and require the person to make a correct statement
39 of all taxable tangible personal property owned by the
40 person or under his or her care, charge or management,
41 taxable in the county. On or before January first of each
42 even-numbered year, the assessor shall prepare and submit a
43 two-year assessment maintenance plan to the county governing
44 body and the state tax commission for their respective
45 approval or modification. The county governing body shall
46 approve and forward such plan or its alternative to the plan
47 to the state tax commission by February first. If the
48 county governing body fails to forward the plan or its
49 alternative to the plan to the state tax commission by
50 February first, the assessor's plan shall be considered

51 approved by the county governing body. If the state tax
52 commission fails to approve a plan and if the state tax
53 commission and the assessor and the governing body of the
54 county involved are unable to resolve the differences, in
55 order to receive state cost-share funds outlined in section
56 137.750, the county or the assessor shall petition the
57 administrative hearing commission, by May first, to decide
58 all matters in dispute regarding the assessment maintenance
59 plan. Upon agreement of the parties, the matter may be
60 stayed while the parties proceed with mediation or
61 arbitration upon terms agreed to by the parties. The final
62 decision of the administrative hearing commission shall be
63 subject to judicial review in the circuit court of the
64 county involved. In the event a valuation of subclass (1)
65 real property within any county with a charter form of
66 government, or within a city not within a county, is made by
67 a computer, computer-assisted method or a computer program,
68 the burden of proof, supported by clear, convincing and
69 cogent evidence to sustain such valuation, shall be on the
70 assessor at any hearing or appeal. In any such county,
71 unless the assessor proves otherwise, there shall be a
72 presumption that the assessment was made by a computer,
73 computer-assisted method or a computer program. Such
74 evidence shall include, but shall not be limited to, the
75 following:

76 (1) The findings of the assessor based on an appraisal
77 of the property by generally accepted appraisal techniques;
78 and

79 (2) The purchase prices from sales of at least three
80 comparable properties and the address or location thereof.
81 As used in this subdivision, the word "comparable" means
82 that:

83 (a) Such sale was closed at a date relevant to the
84 property valuation; and

85 (b) Such properties are not more than one mile from
86 the site of the disputed property, except where no similar
87 properties exist within one mile of the disputed property,
88 the nearest comparable property shall be used. Such
89 property shall be within five hundred square feet in size of
90 the disputed property, and resemble the disputed property in
91 age, floor plan, number of rooms, and other relevant
92 characteristics.

93 2. Assessors in each county of this state and the City
94 of St. Louis may send personal property assessment forms
95 through the mail.

96 3. The following items of personal property shall each
97 constitute separate subclasses of tangible personal property
98 and shall be assessed and valued for the purposes of
99 taxation at the following percentages of their true value in
100 money:

101 (1) Grain and other agricultural crops in an
102 unmanufactured condition, one-half of one percent;

103 (2) Livestock, twelve percent;

104 (3) Farm machinery, twelve percent;

105 (4) Motor vehicles which are eligible for registration
106 as and are registered as historic motor vehicles pursuant to
107 section 301.131 and aircraft which are at least twenty-five
108 years old and which are used solely for noncommercial
109 purposes and are operated less than two hundred hours per
110 year or aircraft that are home built from a kit, five
111 percent;

112 (5) Poultry, twelve percent; and

113 (6) Tools and equipment used for pollution control and
114 tools and equipment used in retooling for the purpose of

115 introducing new product lines or used for making
116 improvements to existing products by any company which is
117 located in a state enterprise zone and which is identified
118 by any standard industrial classification number cited in
119 subdivision (7) of section 135.200, twenty-five percent.

120 4. The person listing the property shall enter a true
121 and correct statement of the property, in a printed blank
122 prepared for that purpose. The statement, after being
123 filled out, shall be signed and either affirmed or sworn to
124 as provided in section 137.155. The list shall then be
125 delivered to the assessor.

126 5. (1) All subclasses of real property, as such
127 subclasses are established in Section 4(b) of Article X of
128 the Missouri Constitution and defined in section 137.016,
129 shall be assessed at the following percentages of true value:

130 (a) For real property in subclass (1), nineteen
131 percent;

132 (b) For real property in subclass (2), twelve percent;
133 and

134 (c) For real property in subclass (3), thirty-two
135 percent.

136 (2) A taxpayer may apply to the county assessor, or,
137 if not located within a county, then the assessor of such
138 city, for the reclassification of such taxpayer's real
139 property if the use or purpose of such real property is
140 changed after such property is assessed under the provisions
141 of this chapter. If the assessor determines that such
142 property shall be reclassified, he or she shall determine
143 the assessment under this subsection based on the percentage
144 of the tax year that such property was classified in each
145 subclassification.

146 6. Manufactured homes, as defined in section 700.010,
147 which are actually used as dwelling units shall be assessed
148 at the same percentage of true value as residential real
149 property for the purpose of taxation. The percentage of
150 assessment of true value for such manufactured homes shall
151 be the same as for residential real property. If the county
152 collector cannot identify or find the manufactured home when
153 attempting to attach the manufactured home for payment of
154 taxes owed by the manufactured home owner, the county
155 collector may request the county commission to have the
156 manufactured home removed from the tax books, and such
157 request shall be granted within thirty days after the
158 request is made; however, the removal from the tax books
159 does not remove the tax lien on the manufactured home if it
160 is later identified or found. For purposes of this section,
161 a manufactured home located in a manufactured home rental
162 park, rental community or on real estate not owned by the
163 manufactured home owner shall be considered personal
164 property. For purposes of this section, a manufactured home
165 located on real estate owned by the manufactured home owner
166 may be considered real property.

167 7. Each manufactured home assessed shall be considered
168 a parcel for the purpose of reimbursement pursuant to
169 section 137.750, unless the manufactured home is deemed to
170 be real estate as defined in subsection 7 of section 442.015
171 and assessed as a realty improvement to the existing real
172 estate parcel.

173 8. Any amount of tax due and owing based on the
174 assessment of a manufactured home shall be included on the
175 personal property tax statement of the manufactured home
176 owner unless the manufactured home is deemed to be real
177 estate as defined in subsection 7 of section 442.015, in

178 which case the amount of tax due and owing on the assessment
179 of the manufactured home as a realty improvement to the
180 existing real estate parcel shall be included on the real
181 property tax statement of the real estate owner.

182 9. (1) **To determine the true value in money for motor**
183 **vehicles**, the assessor of each county and each city not
184 within a county shall use the [trade-in value]
185 **manufacturer's suggested retail price** published in the
186 October issue of [the National Automobile Dealers'
187 Association Official Used Car Guide, or its successor
188 publication, as the recommended guide of information for
189 determining the true value of motor vehicles described in
190 such publication] **a nationally recognized automotive trade**
191 **publication secured by the state tax commission.** The
192 assessor shall not use a value that is greater than the
193 [average trade-in value] **manufacturer's suggested retail**
194 **price** in determining the true value of the motor vehicle
195 without performing a physical inspection of the motor
196 vehicle. [For vehicles two years old or newer from a
197 vehicle's model year, the assessor may use a value other
198 than average without performing a physical inspection of the
199 motor vehicle.] In the absence of a listing for a
200 particular motor vehicle in such publication, the assessor
201 shall use such information or publications [which] **that**, in
202 the assessor's judgment, will fairly estimate the true value
203 in money of the motor vehicle.

204 (2) (a) **For all tax years beginning on or after**
205 **January 1, 2026, the assessor shall apply the following**
206 **depreciation schedule to the manufacturer's suggested retail**
207 **price of the motor vehicle, as determined pursuant to**
208 **subdivision (1) of this subsection:**

209	Year since manufacture	Percent depreciation
210	Current	15
211	1	19.4
212	2	23.5
213	3	27.8
214	4	31.8
215	5	35.7
216	6	39.5
217	7	43.2
218	8	46.8
219	9	50.3
220	10	53.6
221	11	56.8
222	12	59.9
223	13	62.9
224	14	65.8
225	15	68.6
226	16	71.3
227	17	73.8
228	18	76.2
229	19	78.5
230	20	80.7
231	21	82.8
232	22	84.8
233	23	86.6
234	24	88.4
235	25	90

236 Greater than 25 Minimum assessed value of
237 \$100

238 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the
239 contrary, in no case shall the assessed value of a motor
240 vehicle, as depreciated pursuant to this subdivision, be
241 less than one hundred dollars.

242 (3) To implement the provisions of this subsection
243 without large variations from the method in effect prior to
244 January 1, 2025, the assessor shall assume that the last
245 valuation tables used prior to October 1, 2025, are fair
246 valuations and such valuations shall be depreciated using
247 the table provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection
248 until the end of their useful life. The state tax
249 commission shall secure an annual appropriation from the
250 general assembly for the publication used pursuant to
251 subdivision (1) of this subsection. Such publication shall
252 be used for a period of not less than three years, at which
253 time the state tax commission may reauthorize the use of the
254 publication for an additional period of three years or
255 secure another nationally accredited automotive trade
256 publication. The state tax commission or the state of
257 Missouri shall be the registered user of the publication
258 with rights to allow all assessors access to the
259 publication. The publication shall be available to all
260 assessors by October fifteenth of each year.

261 10. Before the assessor may increase the assessed
262 valuation of any parcel of subclass (1) real property by
263 more than fifteen percent since the last assessment,
264 excluding increases due to new construction or improvements,
265 the assessor shall conduct a physical inspection of such
266 property.

267 11. If a physical inspection is required, pursuant to
268 subsection 10 of this section, the assessor shall notify the
269 property owner of that fact in writing and shall provide the
270 owner clear written notice of the owner's rights relating to
271 the physical inspection. If a physical inspection is
272 required, the property owner may request that an interior
273 inspection be performed during the physical inspection. The
274 owner shall have no less than thirty days to notify the
275 assessor of a request for an interior physical inspection.

276 12. A physical inspection, as required by subsection
277 10 of this section, shall include, but not be limited to, an
278 on-site personal observation and review of all exterior
279 portions of the land and any buildings and improvements to
280 which the inspector has or may reasonably and lawfully gain
281 external access, and shall include an observation and review
282 of the interior of any buildings or improvements on the
283 property upon the timely request of the owner pursuant to
284 subsection 11 of this section. Mere observation of the
285 property via a drive-by inspection or the like shall not be
286 considered sufficient to constitute a physical inspection as
287 required by this section.

288 13. A county or city collector may accept credit cards
289 as proper form of payment of outstanding property tax or
290 license due. No county or city collector may charge
291 surcharge for payment by credit card which exceeds the fee
292 or surcharge charged by the credit card bank, processor, or
293 issuer for its service. A county or city collector may
294 accept payment by electronic transfers of funds in payment
295 of any tax or license and charge the person making such
296 payment a fee equal to the fee charged the county by the
297 bank, processor, or issuer of such electronic payment.

298 14. Any county or city not within a county in this
299 state may, by an affirmative vote of the governing body of
300 such county, opt out of the provisions of this section and
301 sections 137.073, 138.060, and 138.100 as enacted by house
302 bill no. 1150 of the ninety-first general assembly, second
303 regular session and section 137.073 as modified by house
304 committee substitute for senate substitute for senate
305 committee substitute for senate bill no. 960, ninety-second
306 general assembly, second regular session, for the next year
307 of the general reassessment, prior to January first of any
308 year. No county or city not within a county shall exercise
309 this opt-out provision after implementing the provisions of
310 this section and sections 137.073, 138.060, and 138.100 as
311 enacted by house bill no. 1150 of the ninety-first general
312 assembly, second regular session and section 137.073 as
313 modified by house committee substitute for senate substitute
314 for senate committee substitute for senate bill no. 960,
315 ninety-second general assembly, second regular session, in a
316 year of general reassessment. For the purposes of applying
317 the provisions of this subsection, a political subdivision
318 contained within two or more counties where at least one of
319 such counties has opted out and at least one of such
320 counties has not opted out shall calculate a single tax rate
321 as in effect prior to the enactment of house bill no. 1150
322 of the ninety-first general assembly, second regular
323 session. A governing body of a city not within a county or
324 a county that has opted out under the provisions of this
325 subsection may choose to implement the provisions of this
326 section and sections 137.073, 138.060, and 138.100 as
327 enacted by house bill no. 1150 of the ninety-first general
328 assembly, second regular session, and section 137.073 as
329 modified by house committee substitute for senate substitute

330 for senate committee substitute for senate bill no. 960,
331 ninety-second general assembly, second regular session, for
332 the next year of general reassessment, by an affirmative
333 vote of the governing body prior to December thirty-first of
334 any year.

335 15. The governing body of any city of the third
336 classification with more than twenty-six thousand three
337 hundred but fewer than twenty-six thousand seven hundred
338 inhabitants located in any county that has exercised its
339 authority to opt out under subsection 14 of this section may
340 levy separate and differing tax rates for real and personal
341 property only if such city bills and collects its own
342 property taxes or satisfies the entire cost of the billing
343 and collection of such separate and differing tax rates.
344 Such separate and differing rates shall not exceed such
345 city's tax rate ceiling.

346 16. Any portion of real property that is available as
347 reserve for strip, surface, or coal mining for minerals for
348 purposes of excavation for future use or sale to others that
349 has not been bonded and permitted under chapter 444 shall be
350 assessed based upon how the real property is currently being
351 used. Any information provided to a county assessor, state
352 tax commission, state agency, or political subdivision
353 responsible for the administration of tax policies shall, in
354 the performance of its duties, make available all books,
355 records, and information requested, except such books,
356 records, and information as are by law declared confidential
357 in nature, including individually identifiable information
358 regarding a specific taxpayer or taxpayer's mine property.
359 For purposes of this subsection, "mine property" shall mean
360 all real property that is in use or readily available as a
361 reserve for strip, surface, or coal mining for minerals for

362 purposes of excavation for current or future use or sale to
363 others that has been bonded and permitted under chapter 444.

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