

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 46th Legislature (1998)

HOUSE BILL NO. 2689

By: Webb

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to revenue and taxation; amending 68 O.S. 1991, Section 2875, which relates to the Ad Valorem Division of the Oklahoma Tax Commission; requiring Ad Valorem Division to mail copies of new laws to county boards of equalization; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 68 O.S. 1991, Section 2875, is amended to read as follows:

Section 2875. A. There is hereby created within the Oklahoma Tax Commission the Ad Valorem Division which shall be administered by a Director. References to the Oklahoma Tax Commission in any provision of the Oklahoma Statutes in relation to ad valorem taxation shall be construed to mean the Ad Valorem Division of the Oklahoma Tax Commission unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

B. The Director of the Ad Valorem Division shall be a citizen of the United States, at least thirty (30) years of age, and shall have three (3) years of experience in ad valorem assessment administration including employment by a state governmental agency

or entity responsible for annual valuation of taxable property pursuant to a computerized or computer-assisted mass appraisal system. The Director shall also possess an official professional appraiser designation from at least one of the following organizations: American Institute of Real Estate Appraisers, American Society of Appraisers, American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers, International Association of Assessing Officers, International Right-of-Way Association, National Association of Independent Fee Appraisers, National Society of Real Estate Appraisers, and the Society of Real Estate Appraisers.

C. The Director of the Ad Valorem Division shall organize the Division in such manner as the Director deems advisable to discharge the duties and responsibilities of the Ad Valorem Division.

D. The Ad Valorem Division shall have the authority and it shall be its duty to:

1. Confer with and assist county assessors and county boards of equalization in the performance of their duties, to the end that all assessments of property be made relative, just and uniform and that real property and tangible personal property may be assessed at its fair cash value estimated at the price it would bring at a fair voluntary sale;

2. Prescribe forms with numbers ascribed thereto for the county assessors' use in assessment procedure, including property classification and appraisal forms;

3. Provide technical assistance to county assessors and county boards of equalization in the services of appraisal engineers;

4. Provide from year to year schedules of values of personal property to aid county assessors in the assessment of personal property;

5. Conduct training schools, institutes, conferences and meetings for the purpose of improving the qualifications of county assessors and their deputies as required by law;

6. Prepare and furnish from time to time to county assessors an assessors' manual. Such manual shall include, but not be limited to, valuation methodologies for property in a county for which no comparable property exists in order for a county assessor to establish a value for ad valorem tax purposes. The manual shall include information concerning valuation of hazardous waste disposal facilities and such other types of facilities as may be requested by the county assessor for which the assessor does not have adequate data to value such property;

7. Render such other assistance as may be conducive to the proper assessment of property for ad valorem taxation;

8. Adopt regulations establishing uniform procedures and standards for the appraisal of real property by county assessors; and

9. Develop assessment manuals for the valuation of manufactured homes and periodic updates for such manuals for use by county assessors.

E. The county assessors shall not use any form not prescribed or approved by the Ad Valorem Division.

F. Each county assessor shall comply with the rules, regulations, and guides adopted by the Ad Valorem Division.

G. The Ad Valorem Division, upon request of any county assessor, shall furnish to the county assessor any information shown by its files and records as to any real and personal property, subject to taxation, including income and expense data as shown by income tax returns, to the end that no property shall escape taxation, and this information is to be furnished notwithstanding any statute that such files and records shall be confidential and privileged.

H. The Ad Valorem Division shall be authorized to obtain information relating to the ownership, location, taxable status or valuation for purposes of ad valorem taxation of real or personal

property from any state agency, board, commission, department, authority or other division of state government if necessary to respond to a request by a county assessor as provided by subsection G of this section. Such information shall be confidential and privileged and shall only be released to a county assessor in order to locate, discover and correctly value taxable property as required by law.

I. The Ad Valorem Division shall be required to mail copies of any new laws or amendments to existing laws regarding ad valorem taxation to all county boards of equalization within sixty (60) days of the official passage of such law.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 1998.

46-2-8105

JAF