1	A bill to be entitled				
2	An act relating to property tax administration;				
3	providing a short title; amending s. 193.122, F.S.;				
4	revising the timeframe under which certain appeals of				
5	value adjustment board decisions must be filed by a				
6	property appraiser; amending s. 193.155, F.S.;				
7	specifying when and how erroneous assessments of				
8	property must be corrected; removing a calculation of				
9	back taxes; amending s. 193.1554, F.S.; specifying				
10	when and how erroneous assessments of certain property				
11	must be corrected; removing a calculation of back				
12	taxes; amending s. 193.1555, F.S.; specifying when and				
13	how erroneous assessments of homestead property must				
14	be corrected; removing a calculation of back taxes;				
15	amending s. 194.032, F.S.; adding appeals for which a				
16	value adjustment board must meet to hear specified				
17	appeals; amending s. 196.011, F.S.; providing that				
18	taxpayers are not responsible for specified payments				
19	in certain circumstances; providing an effective date.				
20					
21	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:				
22					
23	Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Taxpayer				
24	Empowerment Act."				
25	Section 2. Subsection (4) of section 193.122, Florida				
ļ	Page 1 of 12				

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

26	Statutes, i	İs	amended	to	rea	ad:				
27	193.12	22	Certifi	Lcat	ces	of	value	adjustment	board	and

28 property appraiser; extensions on the assessment rolls.-29 (4) An appeal of a value adjustment board decision 30 pursuant to s. 194.036(1)(a) or (b) by the property appraiser shall be filed prior to extension of the tax roll under 31 32 subsection (2) or, if the roll was extended pursuant to s. 33 197.323, within 30 days after the date a decision is rendered 34 concerning such assessment by the value adjustment board of recertification under subsection (3). The roll may be certified 35 36 by the property appraiser prior to an appeal being filed pursuant to s. 194.036(1)(c), but such appeal shall be filed 37 38 within 20 days after receipt of the decision of the department 39 relative to further judicial proceedings.

Section 3. Subsections (9) and (10) of section 193.155,
Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

42 193.155 Homestead assessments.-Homestead property shall be 43 assessed at just value as of January 1, 1994. Property receiving 44 the homestead exemption after January 1, 1994, shall be assessed 45 at just value as of January 1 of the year in which the property 46 receives the exemption unless the provisions of subsection (8) 47 apply.

48 (9) Erroneous assessments of homestead property assessed
49 under this section may be corrected in the following manner:
50 (a) If errors are made in arriving at any assessment under

### Page 2 of 12

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

51 this section due to a material mistake of fact concerning an 52 essential characteristic of the property, the just value and 53 assessed value must be recalculated for every such year, 54 including the year in which the mistake occurred, but the 55 recalculated values shall be first applied to the tax roll in 56 the year the mistake is discovered. Back taxes shall not be due 57 for any year as a result of recalculations under this paragraph.

If changes, additions, or improvements are not 58 (b) 59 assessed at just value as of the first January 1 after they were substantially completed, the property appraiser shall determine 60 the just value for such changes, additions, or improvements for 61 the year they were substantially completed. Assessments for 62 63 subsequent years shall be corrected, applying this section if 64 applicable; provided, however, that if a building permit was 65 required and has not been issued by the county, the assessment 66 may be corrected from the later of the year following 67 substantial completion or 10 years prior. The recalculated values shall be first applied to the tax roll in the year the 68 69 mistake is discovered. Back taxes shall not be due for any year 70 as a result of recalculations under this paragraph. 71 (c) If back taxes are due pursuant to s. 193.092, the 72 corrections made pursuant to this subsection shall be used to

- 73 calculate such back taxes.
- (10) If the property appraiser determines that for anyyear or years within the prior 10 years a person who was not

Page 3 of 12

2024

76 entitled to the homestead property assessment limitation granted 77 under this section was granted the homestead property assessment 78 limitation, the property appraiser making such determination shall serve upon the owner a notice of intent to record in the 79 80 public records of the county a notice of tax lien against any property owned by that person in the county, and such property 81 82 must be identified in the notice of tax lien. Such property that is situated in this state is subject to the unpaid taxes, plus a 83 84 penalty of 50 percent of the unpaid taxes for each year and 15 85 percent interest per annum. However, when a person entitled to 86 exemption pursuant to s. 196.031 inadvertently receives the 87 limitation pursuant to this section following a change of 88 ownership, or if the property appraiser improperly grants the 89 property assessment limitation as a result of a clerical mistake 90 or an omission, the assessment of such property may must be 91 corrected as provided in paragraph (9)(a), and the person need 92 not pay the unpaid taxes, penalties, or interest. Before a lien 93 may be filed, the person or entity so notified must be given 30 94 days to pay the taxes and any applicable penalties and interest. 95 If the property appraiser improperly grants the property 96 assessment limitation as a result of a clerical mistake or an 97 omission, the person or entity improperly receiving the property 98 assessment limitation may not be assessed a penalty or interest. 99 Section 4. Subsections (9) and (10) of section 193.1554, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 100

Page 4 of 12

101 193.1554 Assessment of nonhomestead residential property.102 (9) Erroneous assessments of nonhomestead residential
103 property assessed under this section may be corrected in the
104 following manner:

105 If errors are made in arriving at any assessment under (a) 106 this section due to a material mistake of fact concerning an 107 essential characteristic of the property, the just value and assessed value must be recalculated for every such year, 108 109 including the year in which the mistake occurred, but the recalculated values shall be first applied to the tax roll in 110 the year the mistake is discovered. Back taxes shall not be due 111 112 for any year as a result of recalculations under this paragraph.

(b) If changes, additions, or improvements are not 113 114 assessed at just value as of the first January 1 after they were 115 substantially completed, the property appraiser shall determine 116 the just value for such changes, additions, or improvements for 117 the year they were substantially completed. Assessments for 118 subsequent years shall be corrected, applying this section if 119 applicable; provided, however, that if a building permit was 120 required and has not been issued by the county, the assessment may be corrected from the later of the year following 121 substantial completion or 10 years prior. The recalculated 122 123 values shall be first applied to the tax roll in the year the mistake is discovered. Back taxes shall not be due for any year 124 125 as a result of recalculations under this paragraph.

## Page 5 of 12

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

	Dage 6 of 10
150	interest.
149	property assessment limitation may not be assessed a penalty or
148	or an omission, the person or entity improperly receiving the
147	property assessment limitation as a result of a clerical mistake
146	interest. If the property appraiser improperly grants the
145	given 30 days to pay the taxes and any applicable penalties and
144	lien may be filed, the person or entity so notified must be
143	need not pay the unpaid taxes, penalties, or interest. Before a
142	mistake or an omission by the property appraiser, the taxpayer
141	assessment limitation is granted as a result of a clerical
140	year and 15 percent interest per annum. <u>However, if the property</u>
139	taxes, plus a penalty of 50 percent of the unpaid taxes for each
138	property that is situated in this state is subject to the unpaid
137	property must be identified in the notice of tax lien. Such
136	property owned by that person or entity in the county, and such
135	public records of the county a notice of tax lien against any
134	shall serve upon the owner a notice of intent to record in the
133	limitation, the property appraiser making such determination
132	under this section was granted the property assessment
131	was not entitled to the property assessment limitation granted
130	year or years within the prior 10 years a person or entity who
129	(10) If the property appraiser determines that for any
128	calculate such back taxes.
127	corrections made pursuant to this subsection shall be used to
126	(c) If back taxes are due pursuant to s. 193.092, the

# Page 6 of 12

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

151 Section 5. Subsections (9) and (10) of section 193.1555, 152 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

153 193.1555 Assessment of certain residential and 154 nonresidential real property.—

(9) Erroneous assessments of nonresidential real property assessed under this section may be corrected in the following manner:

158 (a) If errors are made in arriving at any assessment under 159 this section due to a material mistake of fact concerning an 160 essential characteristic of the property, the just value and 161 assessed value must be recalculated for every such year, including the year in which the mistake occurred, but the 162 recalculated values shall be first applied to the tax roll in 163 164 the year the mistake is discovered. Back taxes shall not be due 165 for any year as a result of recalculations under this paragraph.

166 (b) If changes, additions, or improvements are not 167 assessed at just value as of the first January 1 after they were 168 substantially completed, the property appraiser shall determine 169 the just value for such changes, additions, or improvements for 170 the year they were substantially completed. Assessments for subsequent years shall be corrected, applying this section if 171 applicable; provided, however, that if a building permit was 172 173 required and has not been issued by the county, the assessment 174 may be corrected from the later of the year following 175 substantial completion or 10 years prior. The recalculated

Page 7 of 12

2024

176	values shall be first applied to the tax roll in the year the
177	mistake is discovered. Back taxes shall not be due for any year
178	as a result of recalculations under this paragraph.
179	(c) If back taxes are due pursuant to s. 193.092, the
180	corrections made pursuant to this subsection shall be used to
181	calculate such back taxes.
182	(10) If the property appraiser determines that for any
183	year or years within the prior 10 years a person or entity who
184	was not entitled to the property assessment limitation granted
185	under this section was granted the property assessment
186	limitation, the property appraiser making such determination
187	shall serve upon the owner a notice of intent to record in the
188	public records of the county a notice of tax lien against any
189	property owned by that person or entity in the county, and such
190	property must be identified in the notice of tax lien. Such
191	property that is situated in this state is subject to the unpaid
192	taxes, plus a penalty of 50 percent of the unpaid taxes for each
193	year and 15 percent interest per annum. However, if the property
194	assessment limitation is granted as a result of a clerical
195	mistake or an omission by the property appraiser, the taxpayer
196	need not pay the unpaid taxes, penalties, or interest. Before a
197	lien may be filed, the person or entity so notified must be
198	given 30 days to pay the taxes and any applicable penalties and
199	interest. <del>If the property appraiser improperly grants the</del>
200	property assessment limitation as a result of a clerical mistake
	Page 8 of 12

Page 8 of 12

201 or an omission, the person or entity improperly receiving the 202 property assessment limitation may not be assessed a penalty or 203 interest. 204 Section 6. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 205 194.032, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 206 194.032 Hearing purposes; timetable.-207 (1) (a) The value adjustment board shall meet not earlier than 30 days and not later than 60 days after the mailing of the 208 209 notice provided in s. 194.011(1); however, no board hearing 210 shall be held before approval of all or any part of the 211 assessment rolls by the Department of Revenue. The board shall 212 meet for the following purposes: Hearing petitions relating to assessments filed 213 1. 214 pursuant to s. 194.011(3). 215 Hearing complaints relating to homestead exemptions as 2. 216 provided for under s. 196.151. 217 Hearing appeals from exemptions denied, or disputes 3. 218 arising from exemptions granted, upon the filing of exemption 219 applications under s. 196.011. 220 4. Hearing appeals concerning ad valorem tax deferrals and classifications. 221 5. Hearing appeals from determinations that a change of 222 223 ownership under s. 193.155(3), a change of ownership or control 224 under s. 193.1554(5) or s. 193.1555(5), or a qualifying 225 improvement under s. 193.1555(5) has occurred. Page 9 of 12

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

2024

226	6. Hearing appeals concerning validity or amount, or both,
227	of assessments created under s. 193.092.
228	7. Hearing appeals on the issue of whether a tangible
229	personal property return as required under s. 193.052 was timely
230	filed so as to allow such assessment to be contested at the
231	value adjustment board and to waive penalties imposed under s.
232	<u>193.072.</u>
233	Section 7. Paragraph (a) of subsection (9) of section
234	196.011, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
235	196.011 Annual application required for exemption
236	(9)(a) A county may, at the request of the property
237	appraiser and by a majority vote of its governing body, waive
238	the requirement that an annual application or statement be made
239	for exemption of property within the county after an initial
240	application is made and the exemption granted. The waiver under
241	this subsection of the annual application or statement
242	requirement applies to all exemptions under this chapter except
243	the exemption under s. 196.1995. Notwithstanding such waiver,
244	refiling of an application or statement shall be required when
245	any property granted an exemption is sold or otherwise disposed
246	of, when the ownership changes in any manner, when the applicant
247	for homestead exemption ceases to use the property as his or her
248	homestead, or when the status of the owner changes so as to
249	change the exempt status of the property. In its deliberations
250	on whether to waive the annual application or statement
	Dave 10 of 10

# Page 10 of 12

2024

251 requirement, the governing body shall consider the possibility 252 of fraudulent exemption claims which may occur due to the waiver 253 of the annual application requirement. The owner of any property 254 granted an exemption who is not required to file an annual 255 application or statement shall notify the property appraiser 256 promptly whenever the use of the property or the status or 257 condition of the owner changes so as to change the exempt status 258 of the property. If any property owner fails to so notify the 259 property appraiser and the property appraiser determines that 260 for any year within the prior 10 years the owner was not 261 entitled to receive such exemption, the owner of the property is 262 subject to the taxes exempted as a result of such failure plus 263 15 percent interest per annum and a penalty of 50 percent of the 264 taxes exempted. However, if such exemption is granted as a 265 result of a clerical mistake or an omission by the property 266 appraiser, the taxpayer need not pay the unpaid taxes, 267 penalties, or interest. Except for homestead exemptions 268 controlled by s. 196.161, the property appraiser making such 269 determination shall record in the public records of the county a 270 notice of tax lien against any property owned by that person or entity in the county, and such property must be identified in 271 272 the notice of tax lien. Such property is subject to the payment 273 of all taxes and penalties. Such lien when filed shall attach to 274 any property, identified in the notice of tax lien, owned by the person who illegally or improperly received the exemption. If 275

## Page 11 of 12

276 such person no longer owns property in that county but owns 277 property in some other county or counties in the state, the 278 property appraiser shall record a notice of tax lien in such 279 other county or counties, identifying the property owned by such 280 person or entity in such county or counties, and it shall become 281 a lien against such property in such county or counties. 282

Section 8. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.

Page 12 of 12

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.