1	PROPERTY TAX MODIFICATIONS
2	2002 GENERAL SESSION
3	STATE OF UTAH
4	Sponsor: Curtis S. Bramble
5	This act modifies the Property Tax Act to amend provisions relating to payments to a
6	taxpayer, including the payment of interest and penalties, if the taxpayer's taxes on the
7	property are reduced. The act addresses the payment of penalties and interest by a taxpayer
8	objecting to the assessment of property assessed by the State Tax Commission. This act
9	makes technical changes. The act takes effect on January 1, 2003.
10	This act affects sections of Utah Code Annotated 1953 as follows:
11	AMENDS:
12	59-2-1330, as last amended by Chapter 61, Laws of Utah 2000
13	Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:
14	Section 1. Section <b>59-2-1330</b> is amended to read:
15	59-2-1330. Payment of property taxes Taxpayer payments Interest Judgment
16	levy Objections to assessments by the commission Time periods for making
17	reimbursements.
18	(1) Unless otherwise specifically provided by statute, property taxes shall be paid directly
19	to the county assessor or the <u>county</u> treasurer [when]:
20	(a) on the date that the property taxes are due[-]; and
21	(b) as provided in this chapter.
22	(2) [If the commission or a court of competent jurisdiction orders] A taxpayer shall receive
23	payment as provided in this section if a reduction in the amount of any tax levied against any
24	property [for tax purposes, the taxpayer shall be reimbursed under Subsection (3).] for which the
25	taxpayer paid a tax or any portion of a tax under this chapter for the calendar year is required by
26	a judgment or final order described in Subsection (3) issued by:
27	(a) a county board of equalization;



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28	(b) the commission; or
29	(c) a court of competent jurisdiction.
30	(3) (a) [The] For purposes of Subsection (2), the state [and] or any taxing entity [which]
31	that has received property taxes or any portion of property taxes [is liable to a judgment debtor for
32	the amount the state or the taxing entity received plus interest as provided in Subsection (3)(b)]
33	from a taxpayer described in Subsection (2) shall pay the taxpayer if:
34	(i) the taxes the taxpayer paid in accordance with Subsection (2) are collected by [the] an
35	authorized officer of [any] the:
36	(A) county; or
37	(B) state;
38	(ii) a taxpayer obtains a judgment or final order:
39	(A) from:
40	(I) [the] a county board of equalization [or];
41	(II) the commission; or
12	(III) a court of competent jurisdiction;
13	(B) against:
14	(I) the [county] taxing entity or an authorized officer of the [county establishing that the
<b>4</b> 5	taxes have been unlawfully collected; and] taxing entity; or
46	[(iii) any portion of the taxes has been paid to the state or to any taxing entity by the county
17	or its authorized officer.]
48	(II) the state or an authorized officer of the state; and
19	(C) ordering a reduction in the amount of any tax levied against any property for which
50	a taxpayer paid a tax or any portion of a tax under this chapter for the calendar year.
51	(b) The amount that the state or a taxing entity shall pay a taxpayer shall be determined
52	in accordance with Subsections (4) through (7).
53	(4) For purposes of Subsections (2) and (3), the amount the state shall pay to a taxpayer
54	is equal to the sum of:
55	(a) if the difference described in this Subsection (4)(a) is greater than \$0, the difference
56	between:
57	(i) the tax the taxpayer paid to the state in accordance with Subsection (2); and
58	(ii) the amount of the taxpayer's tax liability to the state after the reduction in the amount

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59	of tax levied against the property in accordance with the judgment or final order described in
60	Subsection (3):
61	(b) interest on the difference described in Subsection (4)(a) as provided in Subsection (6);
62	<u>and</u>
63	(c) if the difference described in this Subsection (4)(c) is greater than \$0, the difference
64	between:
65	(i) any penalties the taxpayer paid to the state in accordance with Section 59-2-1331; and
66	(ii) the amount of penalties the taxpayer is liable to pay to the state in accordance with
67	Section 59-2-1331 after the reduction in the amount of tax levied against the property in
68	accordance with the judgment or final order described in Subsection (3).
69	(5) For purposes of Subsections (2) and (3), the amount a taxing entity shall pay to a
70	taxpayer is equal to the sum of:
71	(a) if the difference described in this Subsection (5)(a) is greater than \$0, the difference
72	between:
73	(i) the tax the taxpayer paid to the taxing entity in accordance with Subsection (2); and
74	(ii) the amount of the taxpayer's tax liability to the taxing entity after the reduction in the
75	amount of tax levied against the property in accordance with the judgment or final order described
76	in Subsection (3);
77	(b) interest on the difference described in Subsection (5)(a) as provided in Subsection (6);
78	<u>and</u>
79	(c) if the difference described in this Subsection (5)(c) is greater than \$0, the difference
80	between:
81	(i) any penalties the taxpayer paid to the taxing entity in accordance with Section
82	<u>59-2-1331; and</u>
83	(ii) the amount of penalties the taxpayer is liable to pay to the taxing entity in accordance
84	with Section 59-2-1331 after the reduction in the amount of tax levied against the property in
85	accordance with the judgment or final order described in Subsection (3).
86	[(b) Interest] (6) Except as provided in Subsection (7), interest under [Subsection (3)(a)]
87	Subsection (4) or (5) shall [accrue] be paid to a taxpayer:
88	[(i) at a rate equal to the rate earned by the county;]
89	[(ii) (A) on the amount of taxes received from the time the state or a taxing entity

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90	received the taxes; and]
91	[(B) for an equitable portion of the costs of action.]
92	(a) if the tax the taxpayer paid in accordance with Subsection (2) was paid on or before
93	January 15 of the calendar year immediately following the calendar year for which the tax was due:
94	(i) beginning on the later of:
95	(A) the day on which the taxpayer paid the tax in accordance with Subsection (2); or
96	(B) January 1 of the calendar year immediately following the calendar year for which the
97	tax was due;
98	(ii) ending on the day on which the state or a taxing entity pays to the taxpayer the amount
99	required by Subsection (4) or (5); and
100	(iii) at the interest rate in effect under Section 59-2-1331 on January 1 of the calendar year
101	immediately following the calendar year for which the tax was due; or
102	(b) if the tax the taxpayer paid in accordance with Subsection (2) was paid on or after
103	January 16 of the calendar year immediately following the calendar year for which the tax was due:
104	(i) beginning on January 1 of the calendar year immediately following the calendar year
105	for which the tax was due;
106	(ii) ending on the day on which the state or a taxing entity pays to the taxpayer the amount
107	required by Subsection (4) or (5); and
108	(iii) at the interest rate in effect under Section 59-2-1331 on January 1 of the calendar year
109	immediately following the calendar year for which the tax was due.
110	(7) Notwithstanding Subsection (6):
111	(a) the state may not pay interest to a taxpayer:
112	(i) under Subsection (6) on any tax the taxpayer paid in accordance with Subsection (2)
113	that exceeds the amount of tax levied by the state for that calendar year as stated on the notice
114	required by Section 59-2-1317; or
115	(ii) under Subsection (6)(a) if the state pays to the taxpayer the difference described in
116	Subsections (4)(a) and (4)(c) within 30 days after the day on which the judgment or final order is
117	issued in accordance with Subsection (3); and
118	(b) a taxing entity may not pay interest to a taxpayer:
119	(i) under Subsection (6) on any tax the taxpayer paid in accordance with Subsection (2)
120	that exceeds the amount of tax levied by the taxing entity for that calendar year as stated on the

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121	notice required by Section 59-2-1317; or
122	(ii) under Subsection (6)(a) if the taxing entity pays to the taxpayer the difference
123	described in Subsections (5)(a) and (5)(c) within 30 days after the day on which the judgment or
124	final order is issued in accordance with Subsection (3).
125	[(4)] (8) (a) Each taxing entity may levy a tax to pay its share of the judgment or final
126	order [under] described in Subsection (3) if:
127	(i) the judgment or final order is issued no later than 15 days prior to the date the levy is
128	set under Subsection 59-2-924(2)(a);
129	(ii) the amount of the judgment levy is included on the notice under Section 59-2-919; and
130	(iii) the judgment or final order is an eligible judgment, as defined in Section 59-2-102.
131	(b) The levy under Subsection [(4)] (8)(a) is in addition to, and exempt from, the
132	maximum levy established for the taxing entity.
133	[(5) (a) An owner of property assessed by the commission that has filed a valuation protest
134	pursuant to Section 59-2-1007 and has not received a final decision on that protest]
135	(9) (a) A taxpayer that objects to the assessment of property assessed by the commission
136	shall pay, on or before the date of delinquency established under Subsection 59-2-1331(1) or
137	Section 59-2-1332, the full amount of taxes [due.] stated on the notice required by Section
138	<u>59-2-1317 if:</u>
139	(i) the taxpayer has applied to the commission for a hearing in accordance with Section
140	59-2-1007 on the objection to the assessment; and
141	(ii) the commission has not issued a written decision on the objection to the assessment
142	in accordance with Section 59-2-1007.
143	(b) A [property owner] taxpayer that pays the full amount of taxes due under Subsection
144	[(5)] (9)(a) is not required to pay penalties or interest on [a disputed tax] an assessment described
145	in Subsection (9)(a) unless:
146	(i) [a final decision is entered] a final judgment or order establishing that the property
147	described in Subsection (9)(a) has a value greater than the value stated on the [disclosure] notice
148	[under] required by Section 59-2-1317[; and] is issued by:
149	(A) the commission; or
150	(B) a court of competent jurisdiction; and
151	(ii) the [property owner] taxpayer fails to pay the additional tax liability resulting from the

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152	final judgment or order described in Subsection (9)(b)(i) within a 45-day period after the county
153	bills the [property owner] taxpayer for the additional tax liability.
154	[(6) Unless otherwise agreed to by a taxing entity and a taxpayer, all refunds and interest
155	ordered under]
156	(10) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (10)(b), a payment that is required by this
157	section shall be paid [by taxing entities to taxpayers] to a taxpayer:
158	[(a)] (i) within 60 days [of the date the refund is ordered] after the day on which the final
159	judgment or order is issued in accordance with Subsection (3); or
160	[(b)] (ii) if a judgment levy is imposed [by the taxing entity relating to the refund] in
161	accordance with Subsection (8), no later than December 31 of the year in which the judgment levy
162	is imposed.
163	(b) Notwithstanding Subsection (10)(a), a taxpayer may enter into an agreement:
164	(i) that establishes a time period other than a time period described in Subsection (10)(a)
165	for making a payment to the taxpayer that is required by this section; and
166	(ii) with:
167	(A) an authorized officer of a taxing entity; or
168	(B) an authorized officer of the state.
169	Section 2. Effective date.

## Legislative Review Note as of 2-25-02 5:29 PM

This act takes effect on January 1, 2003.

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A limited legal review of this legislation raises no obvious constitutional or statutory concerns.

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel

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