

**SUBSTITUTE FOR**

**SENATE BILL NO. 1203**

(As passed the Senate, December 4, 2002)

A bill to amend 1893 PA 206, entitled  
"The general property tax act,"  
by amending section 27 (MCL 211.27), as amended by 1994 PA 415.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1       Sec. 27. (1) As used in this act, "TRUE cash value" means  
2 the usual selling price at the place where the property to which  
3 the term is applied is at the time of assessment, being the price  
4 that could be obtained for the property at private sale, and not  
5 at auction sale except as otherwise provided in this section, or  
6 at forced sale. The usual selling price may include sales at  
7 public auction held by a nongovernmental agency or person ~~when~~  
8 IF those sales have become a common method of acquisition in the  
9 jurisdiction for the class of property being valued. The usual  
10 selling price does not include sales at public auction ~~where~~ IF  
11 the sale is part of a liquidation of the seller's assets in a

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1 bankruptcy proceeding or ~~where~~ IF the seller is unable to use  
2 common marketing techniques to obtain the usual selling price for  
3 the property. A sale or other disposition by ~~the~~ THIS state or  
4 an agency or political subdivision of ~~the~~ THIS state of land  
5 acquired for delinquent taxes or an appraisal made in connection  
6 with the sale or other disposition or the value attributed to the  
7 property of regulated public utilities by a governmental regula-  
8 tory agency for rate-making purposes ~~shall~~ IS not ~~be~~  
9 ~~considered~~ controlling evidence of true cash value for assess-  
10 ment purposes. In determining the TRUE CASH value, the assessor  
11 shall also consider the advantages and disadvantages of location;  
12 quality of soil; zoning; existing use; present economic income of  
13 structures, including farm structures; present economic income of  
14 land if the land is being farmed or otherwise put to income  
15 producing use; quantity and value of standing timber; water power  
16 and privileges; and mines, minerals, quarries, or other valuable  
17 deposits known to be available in the land and their value. IN  
18 DETERMINING THE TRUE CASH VALUE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY OWNED BY AN  
19 ELECTRIC UTILITY COOPERATIVE, THE ASSESSOR SHALL CONSIDER THE  
20 NUMBER OF KILOWATT HOURS OF ELECTRICITY SOLD PER MILE OF DISTRI-  
21 BUTION LINE COMPARED TO THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF KILOWATT HOURS OF  
22 ELECTRICITY SOLD PER MILE OF DISTRIBUTION LINE FOR ALL ELECTRIC  
23 UTILITIES.

24 (2) The assessor shall not consider the increase in true  
25 cash value that is a result of expenditures for normal repairs,  
26 replacement, and maintenance in determining the true cash value  
27 of property for assessment purposes until the property is sold.

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1 For the purpose of implementing this subsection, the assessor  
2 shall not increase the construction quality classification or  
3 reduce the effective age for depreciation purposes, except if the  
4 appraisal of the property was erroneous before nonconsideration  
5 of the normal repair, replacement, or maintenance, and shall not  
6 assign an economic condition factor to the property that differs  
7 from the economic condition factor assigned to similar properties  
8 as defined by appraisal procedures applied in the jurisdiction.  
9 The increase in value attributable to the items included in sub-  
10 divisions (a) to (o) that is known to the assessor and excluded  
11 from true cash value shall be indicated on the assessment roll.  
12 This subsection applies only to residential property. The fol-  
13 lowing repairs ~~shall be~~ ARE considered normal maintenance if  
14 they are not part of a structural addition or completion:  
15 (a) Outside painting.  
16 (b) Repairing or replacing siding, roof, porches, steps,  
17 sidewalks, ~~and~~ OR drives.  
18 (c) Repainting, repairing, or replacing existing masonry.  
19 (d) ~~Replacement of~~ REPLACING awnings.  
20 (e) Adding or replacing gutters and downspouts.  
21 (f) Replacing storm windows or doors.  
22 (g) ~~Insulation~~ INSULATING or weatherstripping.  
23 (h) Complete rewiring.  
24 (i) Replacing plumbing and light fixtures.  
25 (j) ~~New furnace replacing~~ REPLACING a furnace WITH A NEW  
26 FURNACE of the same type or replacing AN oil or gas burner.

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1           (k) ~~Plaster repairs~~ REPAIRING PLASTER, inside painting, or  
2 other redecorating.

3           (l) New ceiling, wall, or floor surfacing.

4           (m) Removing partitions to enlarge rooms.

5           (n) Replacing AN automatic hot water heater.

6           (o) Replacing dated interior woodwork.

7           (3) A city or township assessor, a county equalization  
8 department, or the state tax commission before utilizing real  
9 estate sales data on real property purchases, including purchases  
10 by land contract, ~~for the purpose of determining~~ TO DETERMINE  
11 assessments or in making sales ratio studies ~~for the purpose of~~  
12 ~~assessing or equalizing~~ TO ASSESS PROPERTY OR EQUALIZE assess-  
13 ments shall exclude from the sales data the following amounts  
14 allowed by subdivisions (a), (b), and (c) to the extent that the  
15 amounts are included in the real property purchase price and are  
16 so identified in the real estate sales data or certified to the  
17 assessor as provided in subdivision (d):

18           (a) Amounts paid for obtaining financing of the purchase  
19 price of the property or the last conveyance of the property.

20           (b) Amounts attributable to personal property that were  
21 included in the purchase price of the property in the last con-  
22 veyance of the property.

23           (c) Amounts paid for surveying the property pursuant to the  
24 last conveyance of the property. The legislature may require  
25 local units of government, including school districts, to submit  
26 reports of revenue lost under subdivisions (a) and (b) and this

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1 subdivision so that the state may reimburse those units for that  
2 lost revenue.

3 (d) The purchaser of real property, including a purchaser by  
4 land contract, may file with the assessor of the city or township  
5 in which the property is located 2 copies of the purchase agree-  
6 ment or of an affidavit that ~~shall identify~~ IDENTIFIES the  
7 amount, if any, for each item listed in subdivisions (a) to (c).  
8 One copy shall be forwarded by the assessor to the county equali-  
9 zation department. The affidavit shall be prescribed by the  
10 state tax commission.

11 (4) As used in subsection (1), "present economic income"  
12 means for leased or rented property the ordinary, general, and  
13 usual economic return realized from the lease or rental of prop-  
14 erty negotiated under current, contemporary conditions between  
15 parties equally knowledgeable and familiar with real estate  
16 values. The actual income generated by the lease or rental of  
17 property is not the controlling indicator of its TRUE cash value  
18 in all cases. This subsection does not apply to property subject  
19 to a lease entered into before January 1, 1984 for which the  
20 terms of the lease governing the rental rate or tax liability  
21 have not been renegotiated after December 31, 1983. This subsec-  
22 tion does not apply to a nonprofit housing cooperative subject to  
23 regulatory agreements between the state or federal government  
24 entered into before January 1, 1984. As used in this subsection,  
25 "nonprofit cooperative housing corporation" means a nonprofit  
26 cooperative housing corporation that is engaged in providing  
27 housing services to its stockholders and members and that does

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1 not pay dividends or interest upon stock or membership investment  
2 but that does distribute all earnings to its stockholders or  
3 members.

4 (5) Beginning December 31, 1994, the purchase price paid in  
5 a transfer of property is not the presumptive true cash value of  
6 the property transferred. In determining the true cash value of  
7 transferred property, an assessing officer shall assess that  
8 property using the same valuation method used to value all other  
9 property of that same classification in the assessing  
10 jurisdiction. As used in this subsection, "purchase price" means  
11 the total consideration agreed to in an arms-length transaction  
12 and not at a forced sale paid by the purchaser of the property,  
13 stated in dollars, whether or not paid in dollars.