Substitute Senate Bill No. 190

Public Act No. 22-122

AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL ASSESSMENT, TAX COLLECTION AND FINANCE PERSONNEL.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Section 12-2b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage):

The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall: (1) In consultation with the Commissioner of Agriculture, develop schedules of unit prices for property classified under sections 12-107a to 12-107e, inclusive, update such schedules by October 1, 1990, and every five years thereafter, and make such data, studies and schedules available to municipalities and the public; (2) develop regulations setting forth standards and tests for: Certifying revaluation companies and their employees, which regulations shall ensure that a revaluation company is competent in appraising and valuing property, certifying revaluation companies and their employees, requiring that a certified employee supervise all valuations performed by a revaluation company for municipalities, maintaining lists of certified revaluation companies and upon request, advising municipalities in drafting contracts with revaluation companies, and conducting investigations and withdrawing the certification of any revaluation company or employee found not to be conforming to such regulations. The regulations shall
provide for the imposition of a fee payable to a testing service designated by the secretary to administer certification examinations; and (3) by [himself] the secretary, or by an agent whom [he] the secretary may appoint, inquire if all property taxes which are due and collectible by each town or city not consolidated with a town, are in fact collected and paid to the treasurer thereof in the manner prescribed by law, and if accounts and records of the tax collectors and treasurers of such entities are adequate and properly kept. The secretary may hold meetings, conferences or schools for assessors, tax collectors or municipal finance officers and make recommendations concerning assessor, tax collector or municipal finance officer training, including, but not limited to, online or in-person training programs to be offered by public institutions of higher education for the purpose of supporting a career pathway for assessors, tax collectors and municipal finance officers.

Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 12-40a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage):

(a) There shall be a committee for the purpose of establishing a program and procedures for the training, examination and certification of assessment personnel, appointed by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and consisting of seven members, six of whom shall serve without pay and shall be appointed initially as follows: Two members for two-year terms; two members for four-year terms; and two members for six-year terms. No less than one member shall be from a municipality with a population over fifty thousand, and no less than one member shall be from a municipality with a population under five thousand. The seventh member shall be an employee of the Office of Policy and Management, who shall have demonstrated competence in Connecticut assessment practices. The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall thereafter appoint two members every two years
for six-year terms. Each member of the committee, other than the representative from the Office of Policy and Management, shall, on and after July 1, 1984, be a person certified pursuant to subsection (b) of this section and shall have demonstrated competence in Connecticut assessment practices. Each member of the committee, other than the representative from the Office of Policy and Management, appointed on or after July 1, 1984, shall be employed by a municipality in the state in a position relating to the assessment of property for the purposes of the property tax. Any member of the committee who ceases to be an employee of the Office of Policy and Management, or to be certified pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, as the case may be, shall cease to be a member of the committee and the secretary shall appoint a replacement to fill the remainder of the term. Said committee shall (1) elect its own chairman, [and] (2) adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, for the training, fees and examination of assessment personnel, including but not limited to, standards for the certification and recertification of assessors, and (3) on or after the effective date of this section, amend such regulations to ensure that such training and examination is readily available online or at various locations throughout this state. Such regulations may include requirements for any type of training or experience, or combination thereof, the committee deems appropriate.

Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 12-130a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage):

(a) There shall be established a committee for the purpose of developing and maintaining a program and procedures for the training, examination and certification of tax collection personnel, appointed by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and consisting of seven members, six of whom shall be voting members who shall serve without pay and shall be appointed initially as follows: Two members
for two-year terms; two members for four-year terms; and two members for six-year terms. At least one member shall be from a municipality with a population of more than fifty thousand, and at least one member shall be from a municipality with a population under ten thousand. The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall thereafter appoint two members every two years for six-year terms. The seventh member shall be an employee of the Office of Policy and Management, who shall serve as a nonvoting member of the committee. The seven voting members of the committee shall have demonstrated competence in tax collection practices in Connecticut. Said committee shall elect its own chairman, and recommend standards to said secretary for the training, fees and examination of tax collection personnel, including standards for the certification and recertification of tax collectors. Such recommended standards may include requirements for any type of training or experience, or combination thereof, the committee deems appropriate. The secretary shall review the recommended standards and shall adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, implementing any of such standards the secretary approves. The secretary shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, for the training, fees and examination of tax collection personnel, including, but not limited to, standards for the certification and recertification of tax collectors, and on or after the effective date of this section, amend such regulations to ensure that such training and examination is readily available online or at various locations throughout the state. Such regulations may include requirements for any type of training or experience, or combination thereof, the committee deems appropriate.

Approved May 27, 2022