HB 493 Reengrossed   2019 Regular Session   Abramson

Abstract: Authorizes the city of New Orleans to establish a homestead exemption audit program for property located in the city to examine homestead exemption eligibility.

Present constitution authorizes the imposition of ad valorem property taxes on property within La. Further establishes an exemption from state, parish, and special ad valorem property taxes for the bona fide homestead of the property owner for the first $7,500 of the property's assessed value.

Proposed law authorizes the city of New Orleans to establish a homestead exemption audit program for property located in the city to determine if the property is subject to more than one homestead exemption or if property owners are claiming a homestead exemption on more than one property.

Proposed law requires provisions governing the execution, administration, and enforcement of the audit program and collections made pursuant to the program to be established through the promulgation of rules.

Proposed law authorizes the city to impose a fee not to exceed 10% of the total amount of taxes, penalties, and interest owed by a taxpayer through collections made pursuant to the program to be collected by the tax collector, and remitted to the city. Further authorizes the city to employ and enter into contracts with experts to assist in program execution and enforcement; however, the total fees paid pursuant to the contracts cannot exceed the total fees collected by the city.

(Adds R.S. 47:1704)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

    The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

    1.   Clarify that the rules shall provide for the execution, administration, and enforcement of the audit program and collections made pursuant to the program.