Statement of Estimated Local Revenue Impact

Date: January 11, 2013

Bill Number: S. 7

Authors: Courson, McGill, Williams, et al.

Committee Requesting Impact: Senate Finance

Bill Summary
A bill to amend Section 12-4-520, relating to county tax officials, to reduce the obligation that the Department of Revenue shall annually examine records of assessors, auditors, treasurers, and tax collectors to a permissive authority to annually examine these records; to amend Section 12-4-530, relating to investigation and prosecution of violations, to reduce the obligation that the department shall initiate complaints, investigations, and prosecutions of violations to a permissive authority; to amend Section 12-37-30, relating to the assessment of multiple taxes to be levied on the same assessment, to change the designation of State taxes to county taxes; to amend Section 21-37-266, relating to the homestead exemption for dwellings held in trust, to require a copy of the trust agreement be provided...(see printed bill text for full summary).

REVENUE IMPACT
This bill is not expected to impact State revenues. The impact, if any, on local revenues is expected to be minimal with a reduction of less than $100,000 statewide due to a simplification of the refund process.

Explanation of Bill
The bill makes numerous changes to sections in Title 12 relating to property taxes to conform the Code to current practices, to remove outdated references, and to update sections of the Code to reflect recent legislative amendments. Section 19 of the bill amends Section 12-37-2725 to allow form 5051 issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles to substitute for the license plate and registration certificate when applying for a prorated property tax refund on a car when the owner moves out of state. The impact, if any, on local revenues is expected to be a reduction of less than $100,000 statewide due to simplification of the refund process. We do not anticipate a local revenue impact from the other technical changes in the bill.

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Chief Economist

Analyst: Jolliff

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1/ This statement meets the requirement of Section 2-7-71 for a state revenue impact by the BEA, or Section 2-7-76 for a local revenue impact or Section 6-1-85(B) for an estimate of the shift in local property tax incidence by the Office of Economic Research.