HOUSE BILL No. 2621

By Representative Otto

1-17

AN ACT concerning property taxation; relating to unpaid property taxes; publishing notice thereof; amending K.S.A. 19-547, 79-2001 and 79-2303 and repealing the existing sections.

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 19-547 is hereby amended to read as follows: 19-547. In addition to the duties required by K.S.A. 79-2101, and amendments thereto, each county treasurer, within 10 days after October 1 of each year, shall cause a statement to be published with respect to unpaid or partially unpaid delinquent personal property tax returns made by the sheriff as of October 1. Such statement shall be published once each week for three consecutive weeks in the official county newspaper or in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in accordance with the provisions of K.S.A. 64-101, and amendments thereto, or in lieu thereof, such statement shall be required to be published only once in such newspaper as provided in this section if the county treasurer publishes continuously such statement electronically on the internet at the website of the county for a minimum of three consecutive weeks. The statement shall show the name of each delinquent or partially delinquent taxpayer, listed alphabetically, appearing on such returns, followed by the taxpayer's last known address and by the total amount of unpaid taxes, penalties and costs. The cost of such publication shall be paid from the general fund of such county, and \$15 shall be added to the tax due as part of the costs of collection, to be collected in the same manner as provided by law for the collection of the delinquent tax.

Sec. 2. K.S.A. 79-2001 is hereby amended to read as follows: 79-2001. (a) As soon as the county treasurer receives the tax roll of the county, the treasurer shall enter in a column opposite the description of each tract or parcel of land the amount of unpaid taxes and the date of unredeemed sales, if any, for previous years on such land. The treasurer shall cause a notice to be published in the official county paper once each week for three consecutive weeks, stating in the notice or in lieu thereof, such notice shall be required to be published only once in the official county paper if the treasurer publishes continuously such notice electronically on the internet at the website of the county for a minimum of three

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consecutive weeks. Such notice shall state the amount of taxes charged for state, county, township, school, city or other purposes for that year, on each \$1,000 of valuation.

- Each year after receipt of the tax roll from the county clerk and before December 15, the treasurer shall mail to each taxpayer, as shown by the rolls, a tax statement which indicates the taxing unit, assessed value of real and personal property, the mill levy and tax due. In addition, with respect to land devoted to agricultural use, such statement shall indicate the acreage and description of each parcel of such land. The tax statement shall also indicate separately each parcel of real property which is separately classified for property tax purposes. The county appraiser shall provide the information necessary for the county treasurer to comply with the provisions of this section. The tax statement also may include the intangible tax due the county. All items may be on one statement or may be shown on separate statements and may be on a form prescribed by the county treasurer. The statement shall be mailed to the last known address of the taxpayer or to a designee authorized by the taxpayer to accept the tax statement, if the designee has an interest in receiving the statement. When any statement is returned to the county treasurer for failure to find the addressee, the treasurer shall make a diligent effort to find a forwarding address of the taxpayer and mail the statement to the new address. All tax statements mailed pursuant to this section shall be mailed by first-class mail. The requirement for mailing a tax statement shall extend only to the initial statement required to be mailed in each year and to any follow-up required by this section.
- (c) For tax year 1998, and all tax years thereafter, after receipt of the tax roll from the county clerk and before December 15, the treasurer shall mail to each taxpayer, as shown by the tax rolls, a tax information form which indicates the taxing unit, assessed value of real property for the current and next preceding taxable year, the mill levy for the current and next preceding taxable year and, in the case of unified school districts, the mill levy required by K.S.A. 72-6431, and amendments thereto, shall be separately indicated, the tax due and an itemization of each taxing unit's mill levy for the current and next preceding taxable year and the percentage change in the amount of revenue produced therefrom, if any. In addition, with respect to land devoted to agricultural use, such form shall indicate the acreage and description of each parcel of such land. The tax information form shall also indicate separately each parcel of real property which is separately classified for property tax purposes. The county appraiser shall provide the information necessary for the county treasurer to comply with the provisions of this section. The tax information form may be separate from the tax statement or a part of the tax statement. The tax information form shall be in a format prescribed by

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the director of property valuation. The tax information form shall be mailed to the last known address of the taxpayer. When a tax information form is returned to the county treasurer for failure to find the addressee, the treasurer shall make a diligent effort to find a forwarding address of the taxpayer and mail the tax information form to the new address. All tax information forms mailed pursuant to this section shall be mailed by first class mail.

Sec. 3. K.S.A. 79-2303 is hereby amended to read as follows: 79-2303. (a) The county treasurer shall cause the notice and list prepared under K.S.A. 79-2302, and amendments thereto, to be published in the official county newspaper or in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in accordance with the provisions of K.S.A. 64-101, and amendments thereto. The notice and list shall be submitted to the newspaper on or before August 1 of each year and shall be published once each week for three consecutive weeks immediately prior to the week when the day of sale will occur, or in lieu thereof, such notice and list shall be required to be published only once in such newspaper if the county treasurer publishes continuously such notice and list electronically on the internet at the website of the county for a minimum of three consecutive weeks immediately prior to the week when the date of sale will occur. The county treasurer also shall cause a copy of the list and notice to be posted in some conspicuous place in the county treasurer's office. The cost of publication of the notice and list shall be paid from the general fund of the county, and a \$15 fee for each tract or lot shall be added to the tax due for the tract or lot as part of the costs of collection. The fee shall be collected in the manner provided for the collection of the unpaid taxes.

Sec. 4. K.S.A. 19-547, 79-2001 and 79-2303 are hereby repealed. Sec. 5. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its

29 publication in the statute book.