TAX: Low-Income Housing Exemption Amendment (Public

Member Mohs)

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LR:ksm; 02/28/2005

WLC: 0139/1

## AMENDMENT,

## TO WLC: 0090/2

1	At the locations indicated, amend the draft as follows:
2	1. Page 3, line 12: delete "9" and substitute "7".
3	<b>2.</b> Page 3, lines 15 to 18: delete the underscored material in those lines.
4	<b>3.</b> Page 5, line 20: delete the material beginning with that line and ending on page 6,
5	line 2 and substitute:
6	"7. Units of housing that are occupied by low-income persons. A low-income person
7	is a person whose household income does not exceed the maximum household income eligible
8	for the homestead credit under s. 71.54 (1), for the current year.".
9	<b>4.</b> Page 6, line 5: delete lines 5 to 17.
10	<b>5.</b> Page 7, line 6: after that line, insert the following:
11	"Section 2m. 70.1103 of the statutes is created to read:
12	<b>70.1103 Request for exemption: units of low-income housing. (1)</b> By March 1 of
13	each year, the owner of each unit of housing for which the owner wishes to claim an exemption

- **70.1103** Request for exemption: units of low–income housing. (1) By March 1 of each year, the owner of each unit of housing for which the owner wishes to claim an exemption as a benevolent association under s. 70.11 (4) (c) 7. shall file with the assessor of the taxation district in which the property is located a request, on a form prepared and approved by the department of revenue, that the units of housing be exempt from property taxes and the basis for that request. Along with the request for exemption, the owner shall provide all of the following:
  - (a) The name and address of the owner of the property.

- (b) The acreage, legal description, and tax identification number of the property.
- (c) The date of acquisition of the property.

- (d) An appraisal of the fair market value of the property as of a date within 3 years of the request for exemption, performed by an appraiser certified under ch. 458.
- (e) A statement indicating the amount of casualty insurance held on any improvements to the property.
- (f) An affidavit verifying that each unit of housing for which the exemption is claimed is occupied by a person whose household income does not exceed the maximum household income eligible for the homestead credit under s. 71.54 (1), for the current year.
- (2) Upon receipt of a request for exemption under this section, the assessor of the taxation district shall determine whether the request includes all the information required under this section. The assessor of the taxation district may not exempt any unit of housing from the property tax under s. 70.11 (4) (c) unless all of the information required under this section is provided by the entity requesting the exemption with respect to that unit.
- (3) For every unit exempt under s. 70.11 (4) (c) 7., the clerk of the taxation district shall calculate the amount of property tax that would have been levied on the unit if the unit were not exempt. This information shall be made available to the public and shall be provided to the department of revenue under s. 70.337 (2). The department of revenue shall include a statewide compilation of this information in the summary of tax exemption devices prepared under s. 16.425.
- (4) For each unit exempt under s. 70.11 (4) (c) 7., the assessor of the taxation district shall forward the information under sub. (1) (d) and (e) to the clerk of the taxation district.

(5) Each entity requesting an exemption under this section shall pay a reasonable application fee to the taxation district. The amount of the fee shall be established by the governing body of the taxation district.

70.337 (1) (intro.) and (2) of the statutes are amended to read:

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70.337 (1) (intro.) By March 31 of each even–numbered year, the owner of each parcel of property that is exempt under s. 70.11, except property that is described under s. 70.11 (4) (c) 7., shall file with the clerk of the taxation district in which the property is located a form containing the following information:(2) By July 1 of each even–numbered year, the clerk of each taxation district shall complete and deliver to the department of revenue a form on which the clerk estimates the value of tax–exempt property classified by type of owner, within the taxation district. For property that is exempt under s. 70.11 (4) (c) 7., the clerk shall utilize property value information received in the request for exemption for the property under s. 70.1103. At the same time, the clerk shall also deliver to the department of revenue the information under s. 70.1103 (3).".

**Note:** This amendment does the following:

- 1. Retains current law regarding the use of leasehold income. Therefore, under the amendment, if property that is exempt from taxation is leased, the property retains its tax exemption only if the owner uses all of the leasehold income for maintenance of the leased property, or construction debt retirement of the leased property, or both.
- 2. Changes the tax exemption for low-income housing owned by a benevolent association. Under this amendment, only the *units* of housing that are occupied by low-income persons, rather than the entire parcel of property, are eligible for the property tax exemption.
- 3. Changes the definition of low-income person. Under this amendment, a low-income person is a person whose household income does not exceed the maximum household income eligible for the homestead credit under s. 71.54 (1), for the current year.
- 4. Requires the owner of low–income housing to file a request for the exemption.

5. Deletes the exemption for other types of residential housing owned by a benevolent association, if that housing that has an equalized value that does not exceed a certain percentage of the average equalized value of a residential parcel in the county in the previous year. Also, since the exemption is deleted, the amendment deletes the requirements that owners of such housing file a request for the exemption and make payments for municipal services.

1 (END)