Session of 2023

SENATE BILL No. 8

By Senator Steffen

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AN ACT concerning property taxation; relating to personal property;
 reducing penalties for the late filing of or the failure to file statements
 listing property for assessment and the discovery of escaped property;
 reporting changes after initial statement; amending K.S.A. *79-306*,
 79-332a, 79-1422 and 79-1427a and repealing the existing sections.

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

8 Section 1. K.S.A. 79-306 is hereby amended to read as follows: 79-9 306. On or before March 15 of each year, or the next following business day if such date falls on a day other than a regular business day, every 10 11 person, association, company or corporation required by this act to list 12 property shall make and personally sign a statement listing all tangible 13 personal property which by this act such person is required to list, either as the owner thereof, or as parent, guardian, trustee, executor, 14 administrator, receiver, accounting officer, partner or agent, as the case 15 16 may be, and deliver the same to the county appraiser of the county where such property has its situs for the purpose of taxation. In addition to the 17 18 foregoing requirements, any such statement prepared by a personal property tax rendition form preparer shall be certified as true and 19 20 correct by such preparer's signature. On and after January 1, 2024, after 21 a person has filed an initial statement listing property with the county 22 appraiser pursuant to this section, no subsequent annual statement shall 23 be required to be filed with the county appraiser regarding such property 24 unless there is a change to report relating to the property previously listed 25 or the statement.

26 Section 1. Sec. 2. K.S.A. 79-332a is hereby amended to read as 27 follows: 79-332a. (a) Any person, corporation or association owning oil 28 and gas leases or engaged in operating for oil or gas who fails to make and 29 file a statement of assessment on or before April 1 shall be subject to a 30 penalty as follows:

(1) The appraiser shall, after having ascertained the assessed value of
the property of such taxpayer, add-5% 2% thereto as a penalty for late
filing if the failure is not for more than one month, with an additional-5%
2% for each additional month or fraction thereof during which such failure
continues, not exceeding-25% 10% in the aggregate.

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(2) If the statement of assessment is filed more than one year from

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April 1, the appraiser shall, after having ascertained the assessed value of
 the property of such taxpayer, add 50% 12.5% thereto as a penalty for late
 filing. The county treasurer may not distribute any taxes assessed under
 this section and paid under protest by the taxpayer pursuant to K.S.A. 79 2005, and amendments thereto, until such time as the appeal is final.

6 (b) For good cause shown the county appraiser may extend the time 7 in which to make and file such statement. Such request for extension of 8 time shall be in writing and shall be received by the county appraiser prior 9 to the due date of the statement of assessment.

10 (c) Whenever any person, corporation or association owning oil and gas leases or engaged in operating for oil or gas shall fail to make and 11 deliver to the county appraiser of every county wherein the property to be 12 13 assessed is located, a full and complete statement of assessment relative to such property as required by blank forms prepared or approved for the 14 purpose by the director of property valuation to elicit the information 15 16 necessary to fix the valuation of the property, the appraiser shall ascertain 17 the assessed value of the property of such taxpayer, and shall add-50% 12.5% thereto as a penalty for failing to file such statement. 18

19 (d) The state board of tax appeals shall have the authority to abate 20 any penalty imposed under the provisions of this section and order the 21 refund of the abated penalty, whenever excusable neglect on the part of the 22 person, corporation or association required to make and file the statement 23 of assessment is shown, or whenever the property for which a statement of 24 assessment was not filed as required by law is repossessed, judicially or otherwise, by a secured creditor and such secured creditor pays the taxes 25 26 and interest due.

Sec.-2. 3. K.S.A. 79-1422 is hereby amended to read as follows: 79-1422. (a) Any person required to file a statement listing property for assessment and taxation purposes under the provisions of this act who fails to make and file such statement on or before the date prescribed by K.S.A.
79-306, and amendments thereto, shall be subject to a penalty as follows:

The appraiser shall, after having ascertained the assessed value of the property of such taxpayer, add-5% 2% thereto as a penalty for late filing if the failure is not for more than one month, with an additional-5% 2% for each additional month or fraction thereof during which such failure continues, not exceeding-25% 10% in the aggregate.

For good cause shown the appraiser-may shall extend-the a reasonable amount of time in which to make and file such statement. Such request for extension of time must be in writing and shall state just and adequate reasons on which the request-may shall be granted. The request must be received by the appraiser prior to the due date of the statement. For purposes of this section, on and after January 1, 2022, good cause for granting an extension of time in which to make and file a statement 1 listing property for assessment and taxation purposes shall include, but not be limited to, the previous classification of the property as real property or as a fixture to real property. Such previous classification shall specifically include, but not be limited to, machinery and equipment used in the grain storage and processing industry, ethanol processing industry or other biofuels processing industry that had been previously classified as real property or fixtures to real property.

8 (b) If, within one year following the date prescribed by K.S.A. 79-9 306, and amendments thereto, any person shall fail to make and file the statement listing property for assessment and taxation purposes or shall 10 fail to make and file a full and complete statement listing property for such 11 12 purposes, the appraiser shall proceed to ascertain the assessed value of the property of such taxpayer, and for this purpose the appraiser may examine 13 14 under oath any person or persons whom the appraiser deems to have 15 knowledge thereof. The appraiser shall, after having ascertained the 16 assessed value of such property, add-50% 12.5% thereto as a penalty for 17 failure to file such statement or for failure to file a full and complete 18 statement.

19 (c) The state board of tax appeals *or the county appraiser* shall-have 20 the authority to abate any penalty imposed under the provisions of this 21 section and order the refund of the abated penalty, whenever excusable 22 neglect on the part of the person required to make and file the statement listing property for assessment and taxation purposes is shown, or 23 24 whenever the property for which a statement of assessment was not filed 25 as required by law is repossessed, judicially or otherwise, by a secured 26 creditor and such secured creditor pays the taxes and interest due. For 27 purposes of this section, on and after January 1, 2022, excusable neglect 28 for the failure to make and file a statement listing property for 29 assessment and taxation purposes shall include, but not be limited to, the 30 previous classification of the property as real property or as a fixture to 31 real property. Such previous classification shall specifically include, but 32 not be limited to, machinery and equipment used in the grain storage 33 and processing industry, ethanol processing industry or other biofuels processing industry that had been previously classified as real property 34 35 or fixtures to real property.

36 Sec. 3. 4. K.S.A. 79-1427a is hereby amended to read as follows: 79-37 1427a. (a) If, the county appraiser discovers, after the tax roll has been 38 certified to the county clerk, that any tangible personal property subject to 39 taxation has been omitted from the tax rolls, the county clerk shall place 40 such property on the tax roll as an added tax, or if, after one year from the date prescribed by K.S.A. 79-306, and amendments thereto, for the listing 41 42 of tangible personal property, the county appraiser discovers that any 43 tangible personal property-which that was subject to taxation in any year

1 or years within two years next preceding January 1 of the calendar year in 2 which it was discovered has not been listed or has been underreported for 3 whatever reason, such property shall be deemed to have escaped taxation. 4 In the case of property-which that has not been listed, it shall be the duty 5 of the county appraiser to list and appraise such property and, for an added 6 tax, add penalties as prescribed in K.S.A. 79-1422, and amendments 7 thereto, and which that shall be designated on the appraisal roll as an 8 added appraisal for that year. In the case of property-which that has 9 escaped taxation, it shall be the duty of the county appraiser to list and appraise such property and add-50% 12.5% thereto as a penalty for 10 escaping taxation for each such year during which such property was not 11 12 listed, and it shall be designated on the appraisal roll as "escaped 13 appraisal" for each such preceding year or years. In the case of property 14 which that has been listed but underreported, it shall be the duty of the 15 county appraiser to list and appraise the underreported portion of such 16 property and add-50% 12.5% thereto as a penalty for escaping taxation for 17 each such year during which such property was underreported, and it shall 18 be designated on the appraisal roll as "escaped appraisal" for each such preceding year or years. The county clerk, upon receipt of the valuation for 19 20 such property in either of the aforementioned cases, shall place such 21 property on the tax rolls and compute the amount of tax due based upon 22 the mill levy for the year or years in which such tax should have been 23 levied, and shall certify such amount to the county treasurer as an added or 24 escaped appraisal. The amount of such tax shall be due immediately and 25 payable within 45 days after the issuance of an additional or escaped 26 property tax bill by the county treasurer. The county treasurer may not 27 distribute any taxes assessed under this section and paid under protest by 28 the taxpayer pursuant to K.S.A. 79-2005, and amendments thereto, until 29 such time as the appeal is final. No interest shall be imposed unless the tax 30 remains unpaid after such 45-day period. Taxes levied pursuant to this 31 section-which that remain unpaid after such 45-day period shall be deemed 32 delinquent and the county treasurer shall collect and distribute such tax in 33 the same manner as prescribed by law for the collection and distribution of 34 other taxes levied upon property-which that are delinquent. If the owner of 35 such property is deceased, taxes charged as herein provided shall be levied 36 against the estate of such deceased person for only two calendar years 37 preceding death and shall be paid by the legal representative or 38 representatives of such estate. In the event that such escaped appraisal is 39 due to any willful or clerical error of the county appraiser, such property 40 shall be appraised at its fair market value and no penalty shall be added.

(b) A taxpayer with a grievance as to any penalty applied pursuant to
the provisions of this section, may appeal to the state board of tax appeals
on forms prepared by the state board of tax appeals and provided by the

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county appraiser. The state board of tax appeals shall have the authority to 1 2 abate any penalty imposed under the provisions of this section and order the refund of the abated penalty, whenever excusable neglect on the part of 3 the person required to make and file the statement listing property for 4 assessment and taxation purposes is shown, or whenever the property 5 6 which that has been deemed to have escaped taxation is repossessed, 7 judicially or otherwise, by a secured creditor and such creditor pays the 8 taxes and interest due. No interest shall be assessed during the pendency of 9 this appeal.

(c) The provisions of this section shall apply to any tangible personal
 property discovered during the calendar years 1982, 1983, 1984 and any
 year thereafter to have escaped appraisal and taxation during any such year
 or any year within two years next preceding any such year.

14 Sec. 4. 5. K.S.A. 79-306, 79-332a, 79-1422 and 79-1427a are hereby 15 repealed.

16 Sec.-5. 6. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its 17 publication in the statute book.