HB 3492-1 (LC 1826) 4/15/15 (ASD/ps)

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 3492

1 On <u>page 1</u> of the printed bill, delete lines 4 through 29 and delete <u>page</u> 2 <u>2</u> and insert:

SECTION 1. (1) Upon request of the owner or person in possession or control of a solar project located in the county, the governing body of the county shall enter into an agreement with the owner or person in possession or control that exempts from property taxes the property constituting the solar project and allows the payment of a fee in lieu of property taxes imposed on the property. An agreement may not be entered into for a period longer than 20 consecutive years.

"(2) The fee in lieu of property taxes shall be computed at the rate
 of \$7,000 per megawatt of nameplate capacity of the project for each
 property tax year. Megawatt of nameplate capacity shall be carried to
 the third decimal place.

"(3)(a) On or before December 31 preceding the first property tax 14 year to which an agreement entered into under this section relates, 15the owner or person in possession or control of the solar project shall 16 file with the county assessor a copy of the agreement entered into 17 under subsection (1) of this section and a request for computation of 18 the fee in lieu of property taxes for the property constituting the solar 19 project. The request shall include any information required by the 20assessor to compute the fee. 21

²² "(b) On or before December 31 preceding each subsequent property

tax year to which an agreement entered into under this section relates, the owner or person in possession or control of the solar project shall file with the county assessor a request for computation of the fee in lieu of property taxes for the property constituting the solar project. If the identity of the owner or person in possession or control, or the nameplate capacity, of the solar project has changed, the request for computation of the fee must include the new information.

"(c) A request for computation that is not filed on or before December 31 must be accompanied by a late fee of \$200.

10 "(4)(a) On or before February 1 of each year to which the agreement 11 relates, the county assessor shall compute the fee in lieu of property 12 taxes for the property constituting the solar project and shall notify 13 the owner or person in possession or control:

14 "(A) That the fee in lieu of property taxes must be paid to the 15 county treasurer on or before March 1; and

"(B) Of the amount due and of the consequences of late payment
 or nonpayment.

"(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this subsection, payment of
 the fee in lieu of property taxes is not due until after the notice re quired under paragraph (a) of this subsection has been sent.

"(c) On or before July 15 of each year, the county treasurer shall distribute fee revenue collected under this section to each taxing district in which a solar project is located on the basis of the ratio that the taxing district's permanent limit on the rate of ad valorem property taxes bears to the total permanent rate limit on the rate of ad valorem property taxes applicable to all taxing districts in which the solar project is located.

"(5)(a) If the owner or person in possession or control of a solar
 project who has entered into an agreement under this section fails to
 pay the fee as required under this section, the property constituting

the solar project shall not be exempt for the following property tax year and shall be assessed and taxed as other similar property is assessed and taxed.

"(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this subsection, the property shall be exempt for the following property tax year upon payment, within one year of the date of delinquency, of the delinquent fee plus interest at the rate prescribed in ORS 311.505 (2). Delinquent fees and interest shall be collected in the manner provided for collection of delinquent property taxes on personal property.

"(6)(a) If the owner or person in possession or control of the solar project fails to pay the fee in lieu of property taxes for more than one year during the term of an agreement entered into under subsection (1) of this section, notwithstanding the agreement, the property constituting the solar project shall be disqualified for the exemption and payment of the fee in lieu of property taxes.

16 "(b) Property that is disqualified under this subsection shall:

"(A) Be assessed and taxed as other similar property is assessed and
taxed.

"(B) In addition, be assessed a penalty in an amount equal to one year of the fee in lieu of property taxes for the property. The penalty assessed under this subparagraph shall be credited to the general fund of the county in which the property is located.

"(7)(a) Property constituting a solar project that has received an
 exemption under ORS 285C.350 to 285C.370 for any property tax year is
 not eligible to pay a fee in lieu of property taxes under this section.

"(b) Paragraph (a) of this subsection does not apply to property constituting a solar project that was the subject of an application filed pursuant to ORS 285C.350 to 285C.370 if the property did not receive the exemption for any property tax year. The election to pay the fee in lieu of property taxes for property described in this paragraph is not 1 a disqualifying event requiring assessment of additional taxes under

2 ORS 285C.240 (3).

"SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2015 Act applies to property tax years
beginning on or after July 1, 2016.

<u>"SECTION 3.</u> This 2015 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the
 date on which the 2015 regular session of the Seventy-eighth Legisla tive Assembly adjourns sine die.".

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