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HOUSE BILL NO. 1694

House Amendments in [] — February 4, 1995

A BILL to amend and reenact § 58.1-3981 of the Code of Virginia, relating to correction of tax assessments.

Patrons—Grayson; Senator: Norment

Referred to Committee on Finance

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 58.1-3981 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 58.1-3981. Correction by commissioner or other official performing his duties.

If such commissioner of the revenue, or other official performing the duties imposed on commissioners of the revenue under this title, is satisfied that he has erroneously assessed such applicant with any such tax he shall correct such assessment. If the assessment exceeds the proper amount, he shall exonerate the applicant from the payment of so much as is erroneously charged if not paid into the treasury of the county or city. If the assessment has been paid, the governing body of the county or city shall, upon the certificate of the commissioner with consent of the town, city or county attorney, or if none, the attorney for the Commonwealth, that such assessment was erroneous, direct the treasurer of the county, city or town to refund the excess to the taxpayer, with interest if authorized pursuant to § 58.1-3991. However, the governing body of the [county or city county, city or town] may appoint administrative officials who shall approve any refund up to \$2,500 as a result of an erroneous assessment [and direct the treasurer to issue such refund].

If the assessment is less than the proper amount, the commissioner shall assess such applicant with the proper amount. If any assessment is erroneous because of a mere clerical error or calculation the same may be corrected as herein provided and with or without petition from the taxpayer. If such error or calculation was made in work performed by others in connection with conducting general assessments, such mistake may be corrected by the commissioner of the revenue. An error in the valuation of property subject to the rollback tax imposed under § 58.1-3237 for those years to which such tax is applicable may be corrected within three years of the assessment of the rollback tax.

A copy of any correction made under this section shall be certified by the commissioner or such other official to the treasurer of his county, city or town. When an unpaid erroneous assessment of real estate is corrected under this section and such real estate has been sold at a delinquent land sale, the commissioner or such other official making such correction shall certify a copy of such correction to the clerk of the circuit court of his county or city; and such clerk shall note such correction in the delinquent land book opposite the entry of the tract or lot for the year or years for which such correction is made.