

## **UPDATED ACTION ALERT! STOP SB 191 – Protect Fair Property Taxation in South Dakota**

Please contact your State Representative!! We need your help to stop property tax bill **SB 191** from passing the State House of Representatives. Even though the bill has been amended, SB 191 remains unworkable. In red below are the updated points related to the amendment to the bill that was added this week.

### **What SB 191 As Amended Does:**

- Resets the taxable valuation of owner-occupied homes back to 2021 levels.
- Limits annual valuation increases to **3%**.
- When a change in ownership occurs, the property will be assessed at its fair market value.
- Imposes a known **\$42 million** loss in local effort for school districts.
- **Removes maximum levies for all taxing districts.**

### **Why SB 191 is Harmful to South Dakota:**

#### **\* It Creates Inequities in the Property Tax System**

South Dakota's tax system is built on the principle of **fair and uniform assessments** within property classes. SB 191 would **break this principle** by allowing two nearly identical homes in the same neighborhood to be taxed differently.

#### **\* It Shifts the Tax Burden onto Others**

Rather than reducing property taxes for all, SB 191 simply **redistributes the tax burden**.

**The amendment that was added this week tries to prevent shifting taxes onto nonagricultural property or agricultural property; however, it reflects a basic misunderstanding of the zero-sum nature of our state's property tax system. If you give one taxpayer a break, another taxpayer must pay more.**

#### **\* It Violates South Dakota's Constitution**

The state **constitution mandates uniform taxation within property classes**. By applying different tax treatment, SB 191 **clearly violates this requirement** and would likely face legal challenges.

#### **\* It Opens the Door to More Property Tax Increases**

The amendment states that regardless of any other statutes, if a district is at the maximum levy, they can still continue to increase their taxes annually. This is unbridled growth that South Dakota does not want!

## **Property Tax Relief is Needed – But SB 191 is NOT the Solution**

While addressing rising property taxes is important, **SB 191 is not the right approach.** South Dakota must find a fair, sustainable way to provide relief without creating tax inequities, shifting burdens, or undermining constitutional principles.

**Take Action Now:** [Contact Your Representative](#) to VOTE NO on SB 191!