



STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

.O N STREET, SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA
(P.O. BOX 1799, SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95808)
(916) 445-4982

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No. 81/147

October 27, 1981

TO COUNTY ASSESSORS:

ASSESSMENT RATIO/CANCELLATION FEES, OPEN-SPACE LAND

On July 25, 1981, the Governor signed Senate Bill 241 into law; it is Chapter 261 of the 1981 statutes. A copy of this bill was distributed with Assessors Letter 81/110. The Board sponsored this legislation as a housekeeping bill to correct several minor technical inconsistencies, errors, and problems in existing laws.

A synopsis of the bill was contained in Assessors Letter 81/115 sent out on September 23, 1981. This letter failed to discuss an important part of this legislation - the change in the assessment ratio as it affects the cancellation fees on open space lands.

In addition to the changes noted in Assessors Letter dated September 23, 1981, this bill amends Section 51283 of the Government Code to provide for a change in the assessment ratio from 25 percent to 100 percent. It no longer refers to the "assessment ratio" in part (a). The cancellation fee in part (b) is changed from 50 percent to 12-1/2 percent and the phrase "provided, however . . . change in ratio" is deleted.

Section 51283.5 part (a)(1) is amended by changing "25 percent of the fair market value" to "assessed value."

Revenue and Taxation Code Section 38202 was amended by deleting baled cotton from the second sentence and adding the following final paragraph: "When calculating the yield tax rate for the 1981-82 fiscal year, the 1980-81 average rate of general property taxation should first be divided by four."

We hope that the information is helpful to you. If you have any questions, please contact Bill McKay at (916) 445-4982.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Verne Walton".

Verne Walton, Chief
Assessment Standards Division

VW:hlo
AL-01-0358A