

  
*Colorado Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note*  
**LOCAL**  
**REVISED FISCAL IMPACT**  
(replaces fiscal note dated January 25, 2013)

<b>Drafting Number:</b> LLS 13-0090	<b>Date:</b> February 12, 2013
<b>Prime Sponsor(s):</b> Rep. Court Sen. Johnston	<b>Bill Status:</b> House Appropriations
	<b>Fiscal Analyst:</b> Alex Schatz (303-866-4375)

**TITLE:** CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR QUALIFYING SENIORS AND DISABLED VETERANS.

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2013-2014	FY 2014-2015
State Revenue		
State Expenditures		
FTE Position Change		
<b>Effective Date:</b> Upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.		
<b>Appropriation Summary for FY 2013-2014:</b> None required.		
<b>Local Government Impact:</b> See Local Government Impact section.		

**Summary of Legislation**

Under current law, county assessors send notice of senior property tax exemptions to all residential addresses in the county. Applicants for these exemptions who receive a waiver from the initial filing deadline at the discretion of the reviewing agency may file after the late filing deadline for good cause.

This bill authorizes county treasurers to notify taxpayers of the senior property tax exemptions in a mailing or electronic distribution that coincides with the annual mailing of tax bills. House Bill 13-1145 also eliminates the discretion of assessors to reject late applications prior to the late filing deadline or to accept late applications after that date.

The bill affects property tax years commencing on January 1, 2013, and tax notifications commencing with January 1, 2014.

**Background**

In 2000, Colorado voters approved a constitutional property tax exemption, also referred to as the "senior homestead exemption," for qualifying seniors. Applications for the senior exemption are filed with and reviewed by county assessors. In current practice, county treasurers send the required statutory notice concerning these exemptions with annual tax bills.

**Local Government Impact**

Overall, the bill has minimal impact on county governments, as it does not affect the number of tax-related notifications. Allowing senior homestead exemption notices to be sent with tax bills generally codifies current practice. Creating a nondiscretionary process for late applications may reduce the workload of reviewing waiver requests, but it may also increase the number of cases filed after the initial deadline. These effects are assumed to be offsetting.

**Departments Contacted**

Counties

Military and Veterans Affairs

Local Affairs