First Regular Session Sixty-ninth General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 13-0658.01 Nicole Myers x4326

HOUSE BILL 13-1113

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Court,

(None),

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

House Committees

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A PILOT ALTERNATE PROPERTY TAX**

102 VALUATION PROTEST AND APPEAL PROCEDURE FOR THE CITY

103 AND COUNTY OF DENVER.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries.)

Currently, the county board of equalization receives and hears petitions for appeal regarding the valuation for assessment of taxable property. The county board of equalization process has multiple filing deadlines and addresses valuation appeals in a single year. The board of county commissioners also receives and hears petitions for appeal and has jurisdiction over petitions for abatement or refund of taxes, including assessment of taxable property overvaluation. The board of county commissioners process has one filing deadline and can address valuation appeals, abatements, and refunds over multiple years.

The bill creates a pilot program that authorizes the governing body of the city and county of Denver, at the request of the assessor, to elect to use an alternate protest and appeal procedure that combines the multiple steps in the annual valuation dispute process through the county board of equalization into the single hearing and appeal process conducted by the board of county commissioners. The filing deadlines for tax petitions and for resolving valuation disputes are specified for the city and county of Denver to use the alternate protest and appeal procedure.

The bill also authorizes the city and county of Denver board of equalization and the board of county commissioners to request that the taxpayer that filed a petition, or the taxpayer's representative, be present at the hearing and requires each board to dismiss the petition with no right to appeal if the taxpayer or the taxpayer's representative fails to be present at the hearing absent good cause.

1 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-5-121, **amend** (1)

3 (a) and (1.5) (a) as follows:

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39-5-121. Notice of valuation - legislative declaration.

5 (1) (a) (I) No later than May 1 in each year, the assessor shall mail to 6 each person who owns land or improvements a notice setting forth the 7 valuation of such land or improvements. For agricultural property, the 8 notice shall separately state the actual value of such land or improvements 9 in the previous year, the actual value in the current year, and the amount 10 of any adjustment in actual value. For all other property, the notice shall 11 state the total actual value of such land and improvements together in the 12 previous year, the total actual value in the current year, and the amount 13 of any adjustment in total actual value. The notice shall not state the 14 valuation for assessment of such land or improvements or combination of

1 land and improvements. Based upon the classification of such taxable 2 property, the notice shall also set forth either the ratio of valuation for 3 assessment to be applied to said actual value of all taxable real property 4 other than residential real property prior to the calculation of property 5 taxes for the current year or the projected ratio of valuation for 6 assessment to be applied to said actual value of residential real property 7 prior to the calculation of property taxes for the current year and that any 8 change or adjustment of the projected ratio of valuation for assessment 9 for residential real property shall not constitute grounds for the protest or 10 abatement of taxes. With the approval of the board of county 11 commissioners, the assessor may include in the notice an estimate of the 12 taxes that shall be owed for the current property tax year. If such estimate 13 is included, the notice shall clearly state that the tax amount is merely an 14 estimate based upon the best available information. The notice shall state, 15 in bold-faced type, that the taxpayer has the right to protest any 16 adjustment in valuation but not the estimate of taxes if such an estimate 17 is included in the notice, the classification of the property that determines 18 the assessment percentage to be applied, and the dates and places at 19 which the assessor will hear such protest. EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE 20 PROVIDED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH (a), such notice 21 shall also set forth the following: That, to preserve the taxpayer's right to 22 protest, the taxpayer must notify the assessor either in writing or in person 23 of the taxpayer's objection and protest; that such notice must be delivered, 24 postmarked, or given in person no later than June 1; and that, after such 25 date, the taxpayer's right to object and protest the adjustment in valuation 26 is lost. The notice shall be mailed together with a form that, if completed 27 by the taxpayer, allows the taxpayer to explain the basis for the taxpayer's

1 valuation of the property. Such form may be completed by the taxpayer 2 to initiate an appeal of the assessor's valuation. However, in accordance 3 with section 39-5-122 (2), completion of this form shall not constitute the 4 exclusive means of appealing the assessor's valuation. For the years that 5 intervene between changes in the level of value, if the difference between 6 the actual value of such land or improvements in the previous year and 7 the actual value of such land or improvements in the intervening year as 8 set forth in such notice constitutes an increase in actual value of more 9 than seventy-five percent, the assessor shall mail together with the notice 10 an explanation of the reasons for such increase in actual value.

11 (II) FOR THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER ONLY, IF THE CITY AND 12 COUNTY OF DENVER ELECTS TO USE THE PILOT ALTERNATE PROTEST 13 PROCEDURE ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 39-5-122.8, THE NOTICE MAILED 14 PURSUANT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH (a) SHALL STATE 15 THAT, TO PRESERVE THE TAXPAYER'S RIGHT TO OBJECT AND PROTEST, THE 16 TAXPAYER MUST NOTIFY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IN 17 WRITING OF THE TAXPAYER'S OBJECTION AND PROTEST; THAT SUCH NOTICE 18 MUST BE DELIVERED OR POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 15 OF 19 THE YEAR IN WHICH THE NOTICE OF VALUATION WAS MAILED; AND THAT 20 AFTER SUCH DATE, THE TAXPAYER'S RIGHT TO OBJECT AND PROTEST THE 21 ADJUSTMENT IN VALUATION IS LOST.

(1.5) (a) (I) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN
SUB-SUBPARAGRAPH (A) OF SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH (a),
no later than June 15 in each year, the assessor shall mail to each person
who owns taxable personal property a notice setting forth the valuation
of the personal property. The notice shall state the actual value of such
personal property in the previous year, the actual value in the current year,

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1 and the amount of any adjustment in actual value. The notice shall not 2 state the valuation for assessment of the personal property. The notice 3 shall also set forth the ratio of valuation for assessment to be applied to 4 said actual value prior to the calculation of property taxes for the current 5 year. With the approval of the board of county commissioners, the 6 assessor may include in the notice an estimate of the taxes that shall be 7 owed for the current property tax year. If such an estimate is included, the 8 notice shall clearly state that the tax amount is merely an estimate based 9 upon the best available information. The notice shall state, in **bold-faced** 10 type, that the taxpayer has the right to protest any adjustment in valuation 11 but not the estimate of taxes if such an estimate is included in the notice, 12 and the dates and places at which the assessor will hear protests. EXCEPT 13 AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH (a), the 14 notice shall also set forth the following: To preserve the taxpayer's right 15 to protest, the taxpayer must notify the assessor either by mail or in 16 person of the taxpayer's objection and protest; that the notice must be 17 postmarked or physically delivered no later than June 30; and that, after 18 such date, the taxpayer's right to object and protest the adjustment in 19 valuation is lost. The notice shall be mailed together with a form that, if 20 completed by the taxpayer, allows the taxpayer to explain the basis for the 21 taxpayer's valuation of the property. The form may be completed by the 22 taxpayer to initiate an appeal of the assessor's valuation. However, in 23 accordance with section 39-5-122 (2), completion of this form shall not 24 constitute the exclusive means of appealing the assessor's valuation.

(II) FOR THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER ONLY, IF THE CITY AND
COUNTY OF DENVER ELECTS TO USE THE PILOT ALTERNATE PROTEST
PROCEDURE ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 39-5-122.8, THE NOTICE REQUIRED

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PURSUANT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH (a) SHALL BE
 MODIFIED AS FOLLOWS:

3 (A) THE ASSESSOR SHALL MAIL TO EACH PERSON WHO OWNS
4 TAXABLE PERSONAL PROPERTY THE NOTICE SETTING FORTH THE
5 VALUATION OF THE PERSONAL PROPERTY NO LATER THAN JULY 15 EACH
6 YEAR; AND

7 (B) THE NOTICE SHALL STATE THAT, TO PRESERVE THE TAXPAYER'S 8 RIGHT TO OBJECT AND PROTEST, THE TAXPAYER MUST NOTIFY THE BOARD 9 OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IN WRITING OF THE TAXPAYER'S OBJECTION 10 AND PROTEST: THAT SUCH NOTICE MUST BE DELIVERED OR POSTMARKED 11 NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 15 OF THE YEAR IN WHICH THE NOTICE OF 12 VALUATION WAS MAILED; AND THAT AFTER SUCH DATE, THE TAXPAYER'S 13 RIGHT TO OBJECT AND PROTEST THE ADJUSTMENT IN VALUATION IS LOST. 14 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-5-122, **amend** (1)

15 as follows:

16 39-5-122. Taxpayer's remedies to correct errors. 17 (1) (a) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (b) OF THIS 18 SUBSECTION (1), on or before May 1 of each year, the assessor shall give 19 public notice in at least one issue of a newspaper published in his or her 20 county that, beginning on the first working day after notices of adjusted 21 valuation are mailed to taxpayers, the assessor will sit to hear all 22 objections and protests concerning valuations of taxable real property 23 determined by the assessor for the current year; that, for a taxpayer's 24 objection and protest to be heard, notice must be given to the assessor; 25 and that such notice must be postmarked, delivered, or given in person by 26 June 1. The notice shall also state that objections and protests concerning 27 valuations of taxable personal property determined by the assessor for the

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1 current year will be heard commencing June 15; that, for a taxpayer's 2 objection and protest to be heard, notice must be given to the assessor; 3 and that such notice must be postmarked or physically delivered by June 4 30. If there is no such newspaper, then such notice shall be conspicuously 5 posted in the offices of the assessor, the treasurer, and the county clerk 6 and recorder and in at least two other public places in the county seat. The 7 assessor shall send news releases containing such notice to radio stations, 8 television stations, and newspapers of general circulation in the county. 9 (b) FOR THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER ONLY, IF THE CITY AND 10 COUNTY OF DENVER ELECTS TO USE THE PILOT ALTERNATE PROTEST 11 PROCEDURE ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 39-5-122.8, THE NOTICE REQUIRED

12 PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH (a) OF THIS SUBSECTION (1) SHALL BE MODIFIED 13 TO STATE THAT THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER HAS ELECTED TO USE 14 THE PILOT ALTERNATE PROTEST PROCEDURE ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 15 39-5-122.8; THAT ALL OBJECTIONS AND PROTESTS WILL BE DETERMINED 16 BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 17 PROTEST PROCEDURES SET FORTH IN SECTION 39-5-122.8; THAT, TO 18 PRESERVE THE TAXPAYER'S RIGHT TO OBJECT AND PROTEST, THE 19 TAXPAYER MUST NOTIFY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IN 20 WRITING OF THE TAXPAYER'S OBJECTION AND PROTEST; THAT SUCH NOTICE 21 MUST BE DELIVERED OR POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 15 OF 22 THE YEAR IN WHICH THE NOTICE OF VALUATION WAS MAILED; AND THAT 23 AFTER SUCH DATE, THE TAXPAYER'S RIGHT TO OBJECT AND PROTEST THE 24 ADJUSTMENT IN VALUATION IS LOST.

25 SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 39-5-122.8 as
26 follows:

27 **39-5-122.8.** Pilot alternate protest procedure - city and county

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1 of Denver - repeal. (1) AT THE REQUEST OF THE ASSESSOR, THE 2 GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER MAY ELECT TO 3 USE THE PILOT ALTERNATE PROTEST PROCEDURE DESCRIBED IN 4 SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION TO DETERMINE OBJECTIONS AND 5 PROTESTS CONCERNING VALUATIONS OF TAXABLE PROPERTY RATHER 6 THAN USE OTHER PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE. THE ELECTION SHALL NOT 7 BE MADE UNLESS THE ASSESSOR HAS REQUESTED THE USE OF AN 8 ALTERNATE PROTEST PROCEDURE. THE ELECTION SHALL BE MADE ON OR 9 BEFORE MAY 1 AND SHALL BE EFFECTIVE FOR ALL OBJECTIONS AND 10 PROTESTS CONCERNING VALUATIONS OF TAXABLE PROPERTY FOR THAT 11 YEAR AND FOR ALL FUTURE YEARS UNTIL THE GOVERNING BODY ELECTS 12 NOT TO FOLLOW THE PILOT ALTERNATE PROTEST PROCEDURE OR THIS 13 SECTION IS REPEALED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION. A 14 GOVERNING BODY THAT ELECTS NOT TO FOLLOW THE PILOT ALTERNATE 15 PROTEST PROCEDURE, AFTER PREVIOUSLY ELECTING TO FOLLOW SUCH 16 PROCEDURE, MUST DO SO ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1. THE GOVERNING BODY 17 OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER SHALL PROVIDE NOTICE OF AN 18 ELECTION PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (1) TO THE BOARD OF 19 ASSESSMENT APPEALS AND TO THE DISTRICT COURT IN SUCH COUNTY.

(2) (a) THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER SHALL AMEND THE
NOTICES REQUIRED BY SECTIONS 39-5-121 AND 39-5-122 TO PROVIDE
NOTICE THAT ALL OBJECTIONS AND PROTESTS CONCERNING VALUATION OF
TAXABLE PROPERTY SHALL BE DETERMINED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS
SECTION.

(b) IF ANY TAXPAYER IS OF THE OPINION THAT HIS OR HER
PROPERTY HAS BEEN VALUED TOO HIGH, HAS BEEN TWICE VALUED, OR IS
EXEMPT BY LAW FROM TAXATION OR THAT THE PROPERTY HAS BEEN

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ERRONEOUSLY ASSESSED TO SUCH PERSON, THE TAXPAYER MAY FILE A
 WRITTEN OBJECTION AND PROTEST WITH THE BOARD OF COUNTY
 COMMISSIONERS BY DELIVERING OR MAILING THE WRITTEN OBJECTION
 AND PROTEST NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 15 OF THE YEAR IN WHICH THE
 NOTICE OF VALUATION WAS MAILED.

6 (c) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (d) OF THIS 7 SUBSECTION (2), NO DECISION ON ANY WRITTEN OBJECTION AND PROTEST 8 CONCERNING VALUATION OF TAXABLE PROPERTY SHALL BE MADE BY THE 9 BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS UNLESS A HEARING IS HELD THEREON, 10 AT WHICH HEARING THE ASSESSOR AND THE TAXPAYER OR THE 11 TAXPAYER'S AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE SHALL HAVE THE 12 OPPORTUNITY TO BE PRESENT. THE BOARD MAY APPOINT INDEPENDENT 13 REFEREES WHO ARE EXPERIENCED IN PROPERTY VALUATION TO CONDUCT 14 THE HEARING ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD, TO MAKE FINDINGS, AND TO 15 SUBMIT RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE BOARD FOR ITS FINAL DECISION. ALL 16 DECISIONS SHALL BE MAILED TO THE TAXPAYER OR THE TAXPAYER'S 17 AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE WITHIN FIVE BUSINESS DAYS AFTER THE 18 DATE ON WHICH SUCH DECISION IS RENDERED. IF REQUESTED BY THE 19 BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, THE TAXPAYER OR THE TAXPAYER'S 20 AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE SHALL BE PRESENT AT A HEARING HELD 21 PURSUANT TO THIS PARAGRAPH (c) AND SHALL PRODUCE INFORMATION TO 22 SUPPORT THE WRITTEN OBJECTION AND PROTEST. IN THE EVENT THE 23 BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REQUESTS THE TAXPAYER OR THE 24 TAXPAYER'S AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE TO BE PRESENT AT A HEARING, 25 THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL PROVIDE AT LEAST THIRTY 26 DAYS' NOTICE OF THE HEARING, UNLESS THE TAXPAYER OR THE 27 TAXPAYER'S AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE REQUESTS A HEARING AT AN

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1 EARLIER DATE. THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL PROVIDE 2 WRITTEN NOTICE OF THE HEARING BY CERTIFIED MAIL, AND SUCH WRITTEN 3 NOTICE SHALL CONTAIN THE DATE, TIME, AND PLACE OF THE HEARING. 4 UPON REQUEST OF THE TAXPAYER OR THE TAXPAYER'S AUTHORIZED 5 REPRESENTATIVE, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MAY 6 RESCHEDULE THE HEARING. IF THE TAXPAYER OR THE TAXPAYER'S 7 AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE FAILS TO BE PRESENT AT THE HEARING 8 WHEN REQUESTED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, ABSENT 9 GOOD CAUSE, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL DISMISS THE 10 WRITTEN OBJECTION AND PROTEST, AND THE TAXPAYER OR THE 11 TAXPAYER'S AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE SHALL NOT HAVE THE RIGHT 12 TO APPEAL THE DISMISSAL.

(d) UPON AUTHORIZATION BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY
(d) UPON AUTHORIZATION BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY
14 COMMISSIONERS, THE ASSESSOR MAY REVIEW WRITTEN OBJECTIONS AND
15 PROTESTS CONCERNING VALUATION OF TAXABLE PROPERTY AND SETTLE
16 BY WRITTEN MUTUAL AGREEMENT ANY SUCH WRITTEN OBJECTION AND
17 PROTEST. ANY REDUCTION AGREED UPON AND SETTLED PURSUANT TO THIS
18 PARAGRAPH (d) IS NOT SUBJECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF PARAGRAPH (c)
19 OF THIS SUBSECTION (2).

(e) EVERY WRITTEN OBJECTION AND PROTEST CONCERNING THE
VALUATION OF TAXABLE PROPERTY SHALL BE ACTED UPON PURSUANT TO
THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS OR THE ASSESSOR, AS APPROPRIATE, WITHIN SIX MONTHS
OF THE DATE OF FILING SUCH PETITION.

(f) IF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS GRANTS AN
OBJECTION AND PROTEST, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, THE ASSESSOR SHALL
ADJUST THE VALUATION ACCORDINGLY; BUT, IF THE OBJECTION AND

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1 PROTEST IS DENIED, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, THE TAXPAYER OR THE 2 TAXPAYER'S AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE MAY APPEAL THE VALUATION 3 SET BY THE ASSESSOR OR, IF THE VALUATION IS ADJUSTED AS A RESULT OF 4 A DECISION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, MAY APPEAL THE 5 ADJUSTED VALUATION TO THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS OR TO THE 6 DENVER DISTRICT COURT FOR A TRIAL DE NOVO, OR THE TAXPAYER MAY 7 SUBMIT THE CASE TO ARBITRATION PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF 8 SECTION 39-8-108.5. SUCH APPEAL OR SUBMISSION TO ARBITRATION 9 SHALL BE TAKEN NO LATER THAN THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE DATE SUCH 10 DENIAL IS MAILED PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH (c) OF THIS SUBSECTION (2).

11 (g) IF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS DOES NOT ISSUE A 12 WRITTEN DECISION ON AN OBJECTION OR PROTEST FOR VALUATION OF 13 TAXABLE PROPERTY BEFORE DECEMBER 1 OF THE YEAR IN WHICH THE 14 NOTICE OF VALUATION WAS MAILED, THE TAXPAYER'S WRITTEN OBJECTION 15 AND PROTEST SHALL BE DEEMED TO BE A PETITION FOR ABATEMENT OR 16 REFUND AND SHALL BE DETERMINED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 17 39-10-114. IF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, PURSUANT TO 18 SECTION 39-10-114 (1), OR THE PROPERTY TAX ADMINISTRATOR, 19 PURSUANT TO SECTION 39-2-116, DENIES THE PETITION FOR ABATEMENT 20 OR REFUND OF TAXES IN WHOLE OR IN PART, THE TAXPAYER OR THE 21 TAXPAYER'S AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE MAY APPEAL TO THE BOARD 22 OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS OR TO THE DENVER DISTRICT COURT FOR A TRIAL 23 DE NOVO, OR MAY SUBMIT THE CASE TO ARBITRATION PURSUANT TO 24 SECTION 39-8-108.5. SUCH APPEAL OR SUBMISSION TO ARBITRATION 25 SHALL BE TAKEN NO LATER THAN THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE ENTRY OF ANY 26 SUCH DECISION.

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(3) This section is repealed, effective December 31, 2018.

SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-8-104, amend (1);
 and add (2.5) as follows:

3 **39-8-104.** Notice of meeting. (1) Except as provided in 4 subsection (2) SUBSECTION (2) OR (2.5) of this section, prior to July 1 of each year, the county clerk and recorder shall give notice in at least one 5 6 issue of a newspaper published in his or her county that beginning on July 7 1, the county board of equalization will sit in the county's regular public 8 meeting location or other appropriate public meeting place to review the 9 assessment roll of all taxable property located in the county, as prepared 10 by the assessor, and to hear appeals from determinations of the assessor. 11 (2.5) IF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER ELECTS TO USE THE 12 PILOT ALTERNATE PROTEST PROCEDURE ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 13 39-5-122.8, THE COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER SHALL GIVE NOTICE IN AT 14 LEAST ONE ISSUE OF A NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED IN THE CITY AND COUNTY 15 OF DENVER AND ON THE WEB SITE FOR THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER 16 THAT THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER HAS MADE SUCH ELECTION; THAT 17 ALL OBJECTIONS AND PROTESTS WILL BE DETERMINED IN ACCORDANCE 18 WITH THE PROTEST AND APPEAL PROCEDURES SET FORTH IN SECTION 19 39-5-122.8; AND THAT TO PRESERVE THE TAXPAYER'S RIGHT TO PROTEST, 20 THE TAXPAYER MUST NOTIFY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IN 21 WRITING OF THE TAXPAYER'S OBJECTION AND PROTEST; THAT SUCH NOTICE 22 MUST BE DELIVERED OR POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 15 OF 23 THE YEAR IN WHICH THE NOTICE OF VALUATION WAS MAILED; AND THAT 24 AFTER SUCH DATE, THE TAXPAYER'S RIGHT TO OBJECT AND PROTEST THE 25 ADJUSTMENT IN VALUATION IS LOST.

SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-8-106, amend (1)
 introductory portion as follows:

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1 **39-8-106.** Petitions for appeal. (1) The county board of 2 equalization shall receive and hear petitions from any person whose 3 objections or protests have been refused or denied by the assessor; 4 EXCEPT THAT, IF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER ELECTS TO USE THE 5 PILOT ALTERNATE PROTEST PROCEDURE ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 6 39-5-122.8, PETITIONS SHALL BE FILED WITH THE BOARD OF COUNTY 7 COMMISSIONERS. A petition shall be in a form approved by the property 8 tax administrator pursuant to section 39-2-109 (1) (d), the contents of 9 which shall include the following: 10 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-8-107, add (6) as 11 follows: 12 **39-8-107. Hearings on appeal.** (6) IF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF 13 DENVER ELECTS TO USE THE PILOT ALTERNATE PROTEST PROCEDURE 14 ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 39-5-122.8, ALL HEARINGS SHALL BE 15 CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THAT SECTION. 16 **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-10-114, amend 17 (1) (a) (I) (D) as follows: 18 **39-10-114.** Abatement - cancellation of taxes. (1) (a) (I) (D) No 19 abatement or refund of taxes shall be made based upon the ground of 20 overvaluation of property if an objection or protest to such valuation has 21 been made and a notice of determination has been mailed to the taxpayer 22 pursuant to section 39-5-122 OR A WRITTEN DECISION HAS BEEN ISSUED 23 PURSUANT TO SECTION 39-5-122.8; except that this prohibition shall not 24 apply to personal property when a notice of determination has been 25 mailed to the taxpayer, an objection or protest is withdrawn or not 26 pursued, and the county assessor has undertaken an audit of such personal 27 property that shows that a reduction in value is warranted.

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SECTION 8. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds,
 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.