



State of Wisconsin • DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

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Scott Walker
Governor

Richard G. Chandler
Secretary of Revenue

October 16, 2018

Kristie Kasbohm, Executive Director
Wisconsin Alliance of Forest Owners
PO Box 7423
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Ms. Kasbohm,

Thank you for contacting me to request an update on making changes to the Wisconsin property tax bill.

As you know, the Department of Revenue's Division of State and Local Finance (SLF) has been working with members of your association, specifically you and Richard Wedepohl, regarding your request.

Your concerns were placed on the agenda of the July 19, 2018 SLF Roundtable meeting, where Department staff met with representatives from various Wisconsin associations to discuss property assessment and taxation-related issues. Mr. Wedepohl was in attendance. During that meeting, attendees provided feedback and concerns regarding their procedures and possible restrictions related to adding additional information to the property tax bill.

On that day, SLF provided feedback that your proposed property tax bill added the information you were seeking, but removed other critical information from the property tax bill, such as prior year data and current year referendum information which is required by state law.

On October 1, 2018, SLF staff met with you, Mr. Wedepohl and Ms. Nielsen and agreed that DOR would provide guidance to local officials regarding their responsibility to show estimated fair market value for all classifications of property except agricultural land. It was also mentioned that your association may be pursuing a law change to require a breakdown of assessed value by classification be shown on the property tax bill, as well as, the underlying classification of lands enrolled in the managed forest land/private forest crop programs.

The Department of Revenue is committed to providing a transparent Wisconsin property tax bill template for local governments, in coordination with the requirements of state law. If you have additional suggestions on the property tax bill, please feel to contact Valeah Foy directly at (608) 261-5360 or Valeah.Foy@wisconsin.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard G. Chandler".

Richard G. Chandler
Secretary of Revenue