

701—78.6 (437B) Billings.**78.6(1) Notice of adjustments.**

a. Authorization to send notice of adjustments. An agent, auditor, clerk, or employee of the department, designated by the director to examine returns and make audits, who discovers discrepancies in returns or learns that items subject to tax may not have been listed or included as taxable, in whole or in part, or that no return was filed when one was due is authorized to notify the taxpayer of this discovery by ordinary mail. This notice is not an assessment. It informs the taxpayer what amount would be due if the information discovered is correct. A copy of such notice shall also be sent to the appropriate county treasurer.

b. Right of taxpayer upon receipt of notice of adjustment. A taxpayer who has received notice of an adjustment in connection with a return may pay the additional amount stated to be due to the appropriate county treasurer. If payment is made, and the taxpayer wishes to contest the matter, the taxpayer should file a timely claim for refund. However, payment will not be required until an assessment has been made, although interest will continue to accrue if timely payment is not made. If no payment has been made, the taxpayer may discuss with the agent, auditor, clerk, or employee who notified the taxpayer of the discrepancy, either in person or through correspondence, all matters of fact and law which may be relevant to the situation. The taxpayer may also ask for a conference with the Department of Revenue, Property Tax Division, Hoover State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa. Documents and records supporting the taxpayer's position may be required.

c. Power of agent, auditor, or employee to compromise tax claim. No employee of the department has the power to compromise any tax claims. The power of the agent, auditor, clerk, or employee who notified the taxpayer of the discrepancy is limited to the determination of the correct amount of tax.

78.6(2) Notice of assessment. If, after following the procedure outlined in paragraph 78.6(1) "b," no agreement is reached and the taxpayer does not pay the amount determined to be correct to the appropriate county treasurer, a notice of the amount of tax due shall be sent to the taxpayer. This notice of assessment shall bear the signature of the director and will be sent by ordinary mail to the taxpayer with a copy sent to the appropriate county treasurer.

A taxpayer has 60 days from the date of the notice of assessment to file a protest according to the provisions of rule 701—7.8(17A), or if the taxpayer fails to timely appeal a notice of assessment, the taxpayer may make payment pursuant to rule 701—7.8(17A) to the appropriate county treasurer and file a refund claim with the director within the applicable period provided in Iowa Code section 437B.10(1) "b" for filing such claims.

78.6(3) Supplemental assessments and refund adjustments. The director may, at any time within the period prescribed for assessment or refund adjustment, make a supplemental assessment or refund adjustment whenever it is ascertained that any assessment or refund adjustment is imperfect or incomplete in any respect.

If an assessment or refund adjustment is appealed (protested under rule 701—7.8(17A)) and is resolved whether by informal proceedings or by adjudication, the director shall notify the appropriate county treasurer. Such resolution shall preclude the director and the taxpayer from making a supplemental assessment or refund adjustment concerning the same issue involved in the appeal for the same tax year unless there is a showing of mathematical or clerical error or showing of fraud or misrepresentation.