WAYS AND MEANS

HOUSE FILE 2329

BY COMMITTEE ON LOCAL

GOVERNMENT

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 2183)

| Passed | House, | Date | Passed | Senate, | Date | |
|--------|--------|-----------------|--------|---------|------|--|
| Vote: | Ayes | Nays | Vote: | Ayes | Nays | |
| | А | pprov ed | | | _ | |

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act requiring identification numbers for all parcels of real
 2 estate, additional real estate transaction recordings, and
 3 making a fee applicable.
 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
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- Section 1. Section 331.507, subsection 2, paragraph a,
- 2 Code 2003, is amended to read as follows:
- 3 a. For a transfer of property made in the transfer
- 4 records, five dollars for each separate parcel-of real estate
- 5 described-in-a-deed transaction described in section 558.57,
- 6 or transfer of title certified by the clerk of the district
- 7 court. However, the fee shall not exceed fifty dollars for a
- 8 transfer of property which is described in one instrument of
- 9 transfer.
- 10 Sec. 2. Section 441.29, Code 2003, is amended to read as
- 11 follows:
- 12 441.29 PLAT BOOK -- INDEX SYSTEM.
- 13 The county auditor shall furnish to each assessor a plat
- 14 book on which shall be platted the lands and lots in the
- 15 assessor's assessment district, showing on each subdivision or
- 16 part thereof, written in ink or pencil, the name of the owner,
- 17 the number of acres, or the boundary lines and distances in
- 18 each, and showing as to each tract the number of acres to be
- 19 deducted for railway right of way and for roads and for rights
- 20 of way for public levees and open public drainage
- 21 improvements.
- The auditor, or the auditor's designee, of any county with
- 23 the-approval-of-the-board-of-supervisors-may shall establish a
- 24 permanent real estate index number system with related tax
- 25 maps for all real estate tax administration purposes,
- 26 including the assessment, levy and collection of such taxes.
- 27 Wherever in real property tax administration the legal
- 28 description of tax parcels is required, such permanent number
- 29 system may shall be adopted in addition thereto or in lieu
- 30 thereof. If-established,-the-permanent-real-estate-index
- 31 number-system-shall-describe-real-estate-by-township;-section;
- 32 quarter-section,-block-series-and-parcel;-and-the-auditor
- 33 shall-prepare-and-maintain-permanent-real-estate-index-number
- 34 tax-maps,-which-shall-carry-such-numbers-and-reflect-the-legal
- 35 description-of-each-parcel-of-real-estate-and-delineate-it

- 1 graphically; -and-the-auditor-shall-prepare-and-maintain-cross
- 2 indexes-of-the-numbers-assigned-under-said-system7-with-legal
- 3 description-of-the-real-estate-to-which-such-numbers-relate-
- 4 The permanent real estate index numbers shall begin with the
- 5 two-digit county number and be a unique identifying number for
- 6 each parcel within the county. These numbers shall follow the
- 7 property, not the owner, and can be an alphanumeric system.
- 8 In the event of a division of an existing parcel, the original
- 9 permanent parcel index number shall be retired and new numbers
- 10 assigned. The auditor shall prepare and maintain permanent
- 11 real estate index number tax maps, which shall carry such
- 12 numbers. The auditor shall prepare and maintain cross indexes
- 13 of the numbers assigned under this system, with legal
- 14 description of the real estate to which such numbers relate.
- 15 Indexes and tax maps established as provided herein shall be
- 16 open to public inspection.
- 17 Sec. 3. Section 558.41, Code 2003, is amended to read as
- 18 follows:
- 19 558.41 RECORDING.
- 20 l. EFFECT OF RECORDING. An instrument affecting real
- 21 estate is of no validity against subsequent purchasers for a
- 22 valuable consideration, without notice, or against the state
- 23 or any of its political subdivisions during and after
- 24 condemnation proceedings against the real estate, unless the
- 25 instrument is filed and recorded in the county in which the
- 26 real estate is located, as provided in this chapter.
- 27 2. PRIORITY. An interest in real estate evidenced by an
- 28 instrument so filed shall have priority over any lien that is
- 29 given equal precedence with ordinary taxes under chapter 260E
- 30 or 260F, or its successor provisions, except for a lien under
- 31 chapter 260E or 260F upon the real estate described in an
- 32 instrument or job training agreement filed in the office of
- 33 the recorder of the county in which the real estate is located
- 34 prior to the filing of a conflicting instrument affecting the
- 35 real estate, and a subordinate lien under chapter 260E or 260F

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- 1 may be divested or discharged by judicial sale or by other
- 2 available legal remedy notwithstanding any provision to the
- 3 contrary contained in chapter 260E or 260F, or its successor
- 4 provisions. Nothing in this section shall abrogate the
- 5 collection of, or any lien for, unpaid property taxes which
- 6 have attached to real estate pursuant to chapter 445,
- 7 including taxes levied against tangible property that is
- 8 assessed and taxed as real property pursuant to chapter 427A,
- 9 or the collection of, or any lien for, unpaid taxes for which
- 10 notice of lien has been properly recorded pursuant to section
- 11 422.26.
- 3. PROHIBITIONS AGAINST RECORDING UNENFORCEABLE. A
- 13 provision contained in a residential real estate installment
- 14 sales contract which prohibits the recording of the contract,
- 15 or the recording of a memorandum of the contract, is
- 16 unenforceable by any party to the contract.
- 17 4. TERMINATION OF LIFE ESTATE. Upon the termination of a
- 18 life estate interest through the death of the holder of the
- 19 life estate, any surviving holder or successor in interest
- 20 shall prepare a change of title for tax purposes and delivery
- 21 of the deed or change of title to the county recorder of the
- 22 county in which each parcel of real estate is located.
- Sec. 4. Section 558.57, Code 2003, is amended to read as
- 24 follows:
- 25 558.57 ENTRY ON AUDITOR'S TRANSFER BOOKS.
- 26 The recorder shall not record any deed, real estate
- 27 installment contract, or other instrument unconditionally
- 28 conveying real estate or altering a real estate contract by
- 29 assigning the buyer's or seller's interest, changing the name
- 30 of the buyer or seller, changing the legal description of the
- 31 property, forfeiting or canceling the contract, or making
- 32 other significant changes until the proper entries have been
- 33 made upon the transfer books in the auditor's office, and
- 34 endorsement made upon the deed, real estate installment
- 35 contract, or other instrument properly dated and officially

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1 signed, in substantially the following form:
      Entered upon transfer books and for taxation this .. day of
 3 .... (month), .. (year). My fee $.... collected by recorder.
                            . . . . . . . . .
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                           Auditor.
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                              EXPLANATION
      Current law authorizes the county auditor to collect a $5
 8 fee for each property transfer described in a deed. This bill
 9 expands this fee to cover any instrument that unconditionally
10 conveys real estate. The bill also requires that each county
11 adopt a numbering and indexing system for each parcel of real
12 property located in that county that assigns a unique number
13 for each parcel within the county. This number will follow
14 the parcel, not the owner. The bill also requires that in the
15 situation where a life estate is terminated, a change of title
16 shall be provided to the county recorder where the parcel of
17 real estate is located.
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