

**House File 202 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 202

BY ISENHART, HANSON, and  
MURPHY

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the property tax exemption for property  
2 owned by certain municipalities and the Iowa national guard  
3 and including applicability provisions.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 427.1, subsection 2, Code 2011, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 2. *Municipal and military property.*

4 a. The property of a county, township, city, school  
5 corporation, levee district, drainage district, or the Iowa  
6 national guard, when devoted to public use and not held for  
7 pecuniary profit, except property as provided in paragraph "e".

8 b. The exemption under paragraph "a" shall not apply to any  
9 of the following:

10 (1) Property of a municipally owned electric utility  
11 held under joint ownership and property of an electric power  
12 facility financed under chapter 28F or 476A that shall be  
13 subject to taxation under chapter 437A and facilities.

14 (2) Facilities of a municipal utility that are used for the  
15 provision of local exchange services pursuant to chapter 476,  
16 but only to the extent such facilities are used to provide such  
17 services, which shall be subject to taxation under chapter 433,  
18 except that section 433.11 shall not apply.

19 c. The exemption for property owned by a city or county also  
20 applies to property which is operated by a city or county as a  
21 library, art gallery or museum, conservatory, botanical garden  
22 or display, observatory or science museum, or as a location  
23 for holding athletic contests, sports or entertainment events,  
24 expositions, meetings, or conventions, or leased from the city  
25 or county for any such purposes, or leased from the city or  
26 county by the Iowa national guard or by a federal agency for  
27 the benefit of the Iowa national guard when the property owned  
28 by the city or county is devoted for public use and not for  
29 pecuniary profit, except as provided in paragraph "e".

30 d. Food and beverages may be served at the events or  
31 locations without affecting the exemptions, provided the city  
32 has approved the serving of food and beverages on the property  
33 if the property is owned by the city or the county has approved  
34 the serving of food and beverages on the property if the  
35 property is owned by the county. The exemption for property

1 owned by a city or county also applies to property which is  
2 located at an airport and leased to a fixed base operator  
3 providing aeronautical services to the public.

4 e. The exemption for property owned by a county, township,  
5 city, school corporation, levee district, drainage district, or  
6 the Iowa national guard under paragraph "a" shall also include  
7 property held by such entities for pecuniary profit if such  
8 property is leased to and used by a person who, if the person  
9 owned the property, would qualify for an exemption authorized  
10 by law. An exemption under this paragraph shall be limited  
11 to the proportion of the exemption that the lessee would be  
12 entitled to if the lessee owned the property.

13 Sec. 2. APPLICABILITY. This Act applies to assessment years  
14 beginning on or after January 1, 2012.

15 EXPLANATION

16 Current Code section 427.1, subsection 2, provides a general  
17 property tax exemption for the property of a county, township,  
18 city, school corporation, levee district, drainage district,  
19 or the Iowa national guard, when devoted to public use and not  
20 held for pecuniary profit. This bill applies the exemption to  
21 property held by such entities for pecuniary profit if such  
22 property is leased to and used by a person who, if the person  
23 owned the property, would qualify for an exemption authorized  
24 by law. An exemption allowed under the bill is limited to the  
25 proportion of the exemption that the lessee would be entitled  
26 to if the lessee owned the property.

27 The bill applies to assessment years beginning on or after  
28 January 1, 2012.