

House Study Bill 205 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON JONES)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to cities or counties canceling the sale
2 of property containing abandoned buildings to a tax sale
3 certificate holder.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. Section 448.13, Code 2025, is amended to read as
2 follows:

3 **448.13 Cancellation of tax sale and certificate of purchase**
4 **— refund of purchase money.**

5 If the county treasurer receives a verified statement from a
6 city or county stating that a parcel sold at tax sale contains a
7 building that is abandoned, as those terms are defined in section
8 657A.1, prior to redemption of the parcel under chapter 447 or
9 the issuance of a tax deed for the parcel, and the verified
10 statement is accompanied by a petition filed by the city or
11 county under section 657A.10B for title to the parcel, the county
12 treasurer shall make an entry in the county system canceling the
13 sale of the parcel and shall refund the purchase money to the tax
14 sale certificate holder as provided under section 657.10B.

15 Sec. 2. Section 657A.10B, subsection 7, Code 2025, is amended
16 to read as follows:

17 7. If a city or county files a petition under subsection 2,
18 naming the holder of a tax sale certificate of purchase for the
19 property as a respondent, the city or county shall also file
20 the petition, along with a verified statement declaring that
21 the property identified in the petition contains an abandoned
22 building, with the county treasurer. Upon receiving the petition
23 and verified statement, the county treasurer shall make an entry
24 in the county system canceling the sale of the property and
25 shall refund the purchase money to the tax sale certificate
26 holder, including interest of two percent per month, counting
27 each fraction of a month as an entire month, on the sum of
28 the purchase money and any amounts added to the amount due
29 under section 447.1, calculated from the date of purchase of
30 the property by the holder until the date the purchase money,
31 any added amounts, and the interest calculated pursuant to this
32 subsection are refunded.

33 EXPLANATION

34 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
35 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

1 This bill relates to cities or counties canceling the sale of
2 property containing abandoned buildings to a tax sale certificate
3 holder.

4 Currently, if a city or county files a petition against
5 the holder of a tax sale certificate, and the tax certificate
6 holder's property is verified to contain an abandoned building,
7 the county treasurer is required to cancel the sale of the
8 property and is required to refund the purchase money to the
9 tax sale certificate holder. If the sale of such a property
10 is canceled, the bill requires the city or county to refund the
11 purchase money plus interest of 2 percent per month on the sum of
12 the purchase money and any amounts added to the amount due under
13 Code section 447.1.

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