

100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY State of Illinois 2017 and 2018 HB3270

by Rep. Sheri Jesiel

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

35 ILCS 200/22-15 35 ILCS 200/22-20

Amends the Property Tax Code. Provides that, in the case of vacant property, notice of sale of tax liens can be given by registered or certified mail (currently, notice is given by publication in a newspaper and registered or certified mail). Effective immediately.

LRB100 08280 HLH 18382 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT MAY APPLY

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY IMPACT NOTE ACT MAY APPLY

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1 AN ACT concerning revenue.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The Property Tax Code is amended by changing

Sections 22-15 and 22-20 as follows:

(35 ILCS 200/22-15)

Sec. 22-15. Service of notice. The purchaser or his or her assignee shall give the notice required by Section 22-10 by causing it to be published in a newspaper as set forth in Section 22-20, except in the case of a vacant property. In addition, the notice shall be served by a sheriff (or if he or she is disqualified, by a coroner) of the county in which the property, or any part thereof, is located or, except in Cook County, by a person who is licensed or registered as a private detective under the Private Detective, Private Alarm, Private Security, Fingerprint Vendor, and Locksmith Act of 2004 upon owners who reside on any part of the property sold by leaving a copy of the notice with those owners personally. In the case of a vacant property, the person making the service shall cause a copy of the notice to be sent by registered or certified mail before having to serve any owner or party interested in-person. In counties of 3,000,000 or more inhabitants where a taxing

In counties of 3,000,000 or more inhabitants where a taxing district is a petitioner for tax deed pursuant to Section

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21-90, in lieu of service by the sheriff or coroner the notice may be served by a special process server appointed by the circuit court as provided in this Section. The taxing district may move prior to filing one or more petitions for tax deed for appointment of such a special process server. The court, upon being satisfied that the person named in the motion is at least 18 years of age and is capable of serving notice as required under this Code, shall enter an order appointing such person as a special process server for a period of one year. The appointment may be renewed for successive periods of one year each by motion and order, and a copy of the original and any subsequent order shall be filed in each tax deed case in which a notice is served by the appointed person. Delivery of the notice to and service of the notice by the special process server shall have the same force and effect as its delivery to and service by the sheriff or coroner.

The same form of notice shall also be served, in the manner set forth under Sections 2-203, 2-204, 2-205, 2-205.1, and 2-211 of the Code of Civil Procedure, upon all other owners and parties interested in the property, if upon diligent inquiry they can be found in the county, and upon the occupants of the property.

If the property sold has more than 4 dwellings or other rental units, and has a managing agent or party who collects rents, that person shall be deemed the occupant and shall be served with notice instead of the occupants of the individual

- 1 units. If the property has no dwellings or rental units, but
- 2 economic or recreational activities are carried on therein, the
- 3 person directing such activities shall be deemed the occupant.
- 4 Holders of rights of entry and possibilities of reverter shall
- 5 not be deemed parties interested in the property.
- 6 When a party interested in the property is a trustee,
- 7 notice served upon the trustee shall be deemed to have been
- 8 served upon any beneficiary or note holder thereunder unless
- 9 the holder of the note is disclosed of record.
- 10 When a judgment is a lien upon the property sold, the
- 11 holder of the lien shall be served with notice if the name of
- 12 the judgment debtor as shown in the transcript, certified copy
- or memorandum of judgment filed of record is identical, as to
- 14 given name and surname, with the name of the party interested
- as it appears of record.
- 16 If any owner or party interested, upon diligent inquiry and
- 17 effort, cannot be found or served with notice in the county as
- 18 provided in this Section, and the person in actual occupancy
- and possession is tenant to, or in possession under the owners
- 20 or the parties interested in the property, then service of
- 21 notice upon the tenant, occupant or person in possession shall
- 22 be deemed service upon the owners or parties interested.
- 23 If any owner or party interested, upon diligent inquiry and
- 24 effort cannot be found or served with notice in the county,
- 25 then the person making the service shall cause a copy of the
- 26 notice to be sent by registered or certified mail, return

- receipt requested, to that party at his or her residence, if ascertainable.
- 3 The changes to this Section made by Public Act 95-477 apply
- 4 only to matters in which a petition for tax deed is filed on or
- 5 after June 1, 2008 (the effective date of Public Act 95-477).
- 6 (Source: P.A. 95-195, eff. 1-1-08; 95-477, eff. 6-1-08; 95-876,
- 7 eff. 8-21-08.)

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8 (35 ILCS 200/22-20)

Sec. 22-20. Proof of service of notice; publication of notice. The sheriff or coroner serving notice under Section 22-15 shall endorse his or her return thereon and file it with the Clerk of the Circuit Court and it shall be a part of the court record. A private detective or a special process server appointed under Section 22-15 shall make his or her return by affidavit and shall file it with the Clerk of the Circuit Court, where it shall be a part of the court record. If a sheriff, private detective, special process server, or coroner to whom any notice is delivered for service, neglects or refuses to make the return, the purchaser or his or her assignee may petition the court to enter a rule requiring the sheriff, private detective, special process server, or coroner to make return of the notice on a day to be fixed by the court, or to show cause on that day why he or she should not be attached for contempt of the court. The purchaser or assignee shall cause a written notice of the rule to be served upon the

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sheriff, private detective, special process server, or coroner. If good and sufficient cause to excuse the sheriff, private detective, special process server, or coroner is not shown, the court shall adjudge him or her guilty of a contempt, and shall proceed to punish him as in other cases of contempt.

If the property is located in a municipality in a county with less than 3,000,000 inhabitants, the purchaser or his or her assignee shall also publish a notice as to the owner or party interested, in some newspaper published in municipality, except in the case of a vacant property. If the property is not in a municipality in a county with less than 3,000,000 inhabitants, or if no newspaper is published therein, or if the property is in a county with 3,000,000 or more inhabitants, the notice shall be published in some newspaper in the county. If no newspaper is published in the county, then the notice shall be published in the newspaper that is published nearest the county seat of the county in which the property is located. If the owners and parties interested in the property upon diligent inquiry are unknown to the purchaser or his or her assignee, the publication as to such owner or party interested, may be made to unknown owners or parties interested. Any notice by publication given under this Section shall be given 3 times at any time after filing a petition for tax deed, but not less than 3 months nor more than 6 months prior to the expiration of the period of redemption. The publication shall contain (a) notice of the filing of the

petition for tax deed, (b) the date on which the petitioner intends to make application for an order on the petition that a tax deed issue, (c) a description of the property, (d) the date upon which the property was sold, (e) the taxes or special assessments for which it was sold and (f) the date on which the period of redemption will expire. The publication shall not include more than one property listed and sold in one description, except as provided in Section 21-90, and except that when more than one property is owned by one person, all of the parcels owned by that person may be included in one notice.

- The changes to this Section made by Public Act 95-477 apply only to matters in which a petition for tax deed is filed on or after June 1, 2008 (the effective date of Public Act 95-477).
- 14 (Source: P.A. 95-195, eff. 1-1-08; 95-477, eff. 6-1-08; 95-876, eff. 8-21-08.)
- Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon becoming law.