211.24d Structures or improvements approved for acquisition by governmental units; exemption; affidavit; false statement; notice of reoccupancy; noncompliance; condition for exemption.

Sec. 24d. (1) When the occupancy of a structure or improvement approved for acquisition by the appropriate units of local and federal government is subsequently vacated, the real property shall be exempt from ad valorem taxation on the tax day next following the vacation and until the property is acquired by the local public agency, the plan of acquisition is abandoned or the property is reinhabited.

(2) To obtain the exemption, each year the property owner shall file with the local assessing officer an affidavit showing that the property possesses the qualifications for exemption and including his sworn statement that the property is vacant and shall remain vacant during the total tax year. The claim for exemption shall thereafter be open to public inspection.

(3) A person shall not claim or be allowed more than 1 exemption for each such property under this section. The claim for exemption shall thereafter be open to public inspection.

(4) If the owner knowingly makes a false statement on his affidavit he shall be subject to a civil penalty equal to 2 times the taxes the owner would have paid on the property but for the exemption plus interest compounded annually at a rate of 6%.

(5) If the property is reoccupied for any purpose or any period during the tax year for which the exemption is applicable, the owner within 10 days following the date of reoccupancy shall so notify the local assessing officer in writing and shall pay to the treasurer of the local unit an amount equal to the amount of taxes that would have been paid on the property but for the exemption. If the owner fails to comply with this subsection or subsection (6) he shall be subject to the penalty prescribed in subsection (4).

(6) As a condition for the exemption provided in this section, the owner shall render and maintain the property safe from vandalism and from becoming a public nuisance as may reasonably be required by the local assessing officer.


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