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**TITLE 50 DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL
GOVERNMENT FINANCE**

LSA Document #02-297

June 6, 2003

The Honorable Jerry Denbo, Chair
Administrative Rules Oversight Committee

Re: Notice of Delay in Adoption of Rule providing for a uniform and equal assessment by annually adjusting the assessed value of real property during nongeneral assessment years / LSA Document #02-297

Dear Representative Denbo:

Notice of Delay

This is to notify you that pursuant to IC 4-22-2-25, the Department of Local Government Finance has determined that it may not be able to adopt, and obtain the Governor's approval of, the proposed rule governing standards for determining uniform procedures necessary to review and assess the real property values of real property during nongeneral assessment years, IC 6-1.1-4-4.5 (LSA Document #02-297) within one (1) year of the date of notice of intent to adopt the rule as published under IC 4-22-2-23.

Reasons for Delay

This rule requires the Department to prescribe an annual adjustment by such categories that the DLGF deems necessary. The Department did not feel it would be able to make such a determination till the 2002 reassessment was complete. While the reassessment is still ongoing, HEA 1714 amended the date that the adjustment must be applied. The system now must be used to adjust assessed values beginning with the 2005 assessment. The Department is now in a better position to address this issue given the events of the 2002 reassessment.

The Department must also prescribe procedures regarding computer programs that support the application of such adjustment percentages that are both efficient and effective for the local assessing officials. The Department has started to review equalization studies and now has a better understanding of what certain software systems are capable of.

Expected Adoption Date

The Department of Local Government Finance expects to forward the promulgation of LSA Document #02-297 in the near future. It is anticipated that we will be able to adopt the rule and obtain the Governor's approval, before the end of 2004. Because the stated "expected date" will control the validity of the rule, we present this notice and state that we now expect to adopt and obtain the Governor's approval of the rules governing annual adjustments of the assessed value of real property beginning 2005 (LSA Doc. #02-297), before December 31, 2004.

Your understanding of these circumstances is greatly appreciated. If you need additional information please do not hesitate to contact me at 232-5895. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Heather A. Scheel
General Counsel

Copy to:

Sen. Luke Kenley

Susan Kennell, Attorney for the Committee

Chuck Mayfield, Fiscal Analyst for Committee