



---

# **Catalog of Budget Activities**

## **Tax Aids & Credits**

**January 26, 2011**

**Fiscal Analysis Department  
Minnesota House of Representatives**

***The House Fiscal Analysis Department*** is a team of twelve analysts who provide professional, non-partisan, and confidential services for all members of the House of Representatives, as well as providing legislative support services to the House finance and tax committees on fiscal issues. The Department researches, prepares and distributes publications providing information on state budget issues and government finance.

This document was compiled by ***Katherine Schill***, who works with tax expenditures including property tax refunds, aids and credits, motor vehicle taxes and other taxes. She is available at [katherine.schill@house.mn](mailto:katherine.schill@house.mn).

# Table of Contents

<b>i</b>	<b>Purpose, Format and Definitions . . . . .</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Overview: House Tax Committee . . . . .</b>	<b>6</b>
	<b>    List of Accounts . . . . .</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Tax Refunds . . . . .</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Local Aids . . . . .</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Property Tax Credits . . . . .</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Taconite Tax Relief Area Aids &amp; Credits</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Local Pension Aids . . . . .</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>6.</b>	<b>Other Expenditures . . . . .</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>7.</b>	<b>Tax Relief Area Revenue Distribution - Local Revenues . . . . .</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>8.</b>	<b>Budget Activities Reported in Previous Years</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>9.</b>	<b>Appendices - Tables . . . . .</b>	<b>27</b>

**Purpose** This catalog seeks to provide a quick reference for specific budget activity—past expenditures, current appropriations and projected spending—in the area of Tax Aids & Credits, under the purview of the Tax Committee. Bills that seek to make changes in spending or changes to related tax program parameters would be referred to the Tax Committee.

## Format and Definitions

Each budget activity entry includes the following information

- Title and Legal citation
- An eight-year fiscal summary (dollars in thousands) for FYs 2008-2015, updated from the November 2010 Forecast Consolidated Fund report
- Annual percentage change in spending
- Appropriation type, Fund type
- Brief description of how the budget activity functions

### Example:

**Title of Budget Activity** [*Minnesota Statutes or Session Law citation*]

#### Dollars in Thousands

FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
171,488	\$214,100	\$222,500	\$234,100	\$245,200	\$256,100	\$256,100	\$256,100
% Chg	24.8%	3.9%	5.2%	4.7%	4.4%	4.4%	4.4%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Direct, Open or Standing      **Fund:** General or Special

**Description:** The description includes one or more of the following bits of information: what the activity does, which agency administers it, who receives it, how the program or activity is managed, or program statistics (when available).

## Types of Appropriations

The following definitions are commonly used in the Governor's Biennial Budget documents and in current accounting practices.

A. **"Statutory Appropriation"** refers to the spending authority that is codified in state statute, rather than session laws. This authority to spend state resources is ongoing and independent from the passage of an appropriations bill each biennium. Typically, statutory appropriations are made in dedicated receipt activities, but they are also applicable to situations where state resources are perpetually made available for spending.

The Governor's biennial budget document specifically highlights a section for "Statutory Appropriations" and the figures contained within are generally based upon anticipated receipts within an agency's budget. These codified appropriations are processed in the accounting system annually based on agency estimates -- without legislative action.

B. **"Direct Appropriation"** is an appropriation made in biennial or annual budget bills and is valid for a limited period of time, usually within the biennium.

C. **"Open Appropriation"** refers to the authority to spend an unspecified amount of resources to meet a program's objective or a constitutional requirement. These resources are typically made available when an agency provides a forecast of the estimated need. (An example would be the Property Tax Refund for Homeowners, page 10.)

The Governor's biennial budget document specifically identifies "Open Appropriations". Approved funding uses agency estimates and documentation that establishes the funds in the accounting system. Rather than canceling at year-end, any excess dollars are processed as a reduction in the appropriation.

D. **"Standing Appropriation"** is the authority to spend a pre-determined dollar annual amount for an activity for a specific period of time or indefinitely. (Example: MS 477A.03, Subd. 2b., " For aids payable in 2011 and thereafter, the total aid payable under section [477A.0124, subdivision 3](#), is \$96,395,000.")

## TAX EXPENDITURE TYPES

***Tax refunds*** are direct payments from the state to taxpayers to lessen their personal tax burden. ***Property tax refunds*** are direct payments from the state to certain homeowners and renters to offset their property tax liabilities.

***Local aids*** are state payments to local jurisdictions, including school districts, intended to replace tax levy income. ***Property tax aids*** are state payments to local taxing jurisdictions intended to replace property tax levy income.

***Tax credits*** directly reduce a taxpayer's tax liability. ***Property tax credits*** reduce property tax liabilities for individual taxpayers; local taxing jurisdictions receive state payment for these credits.

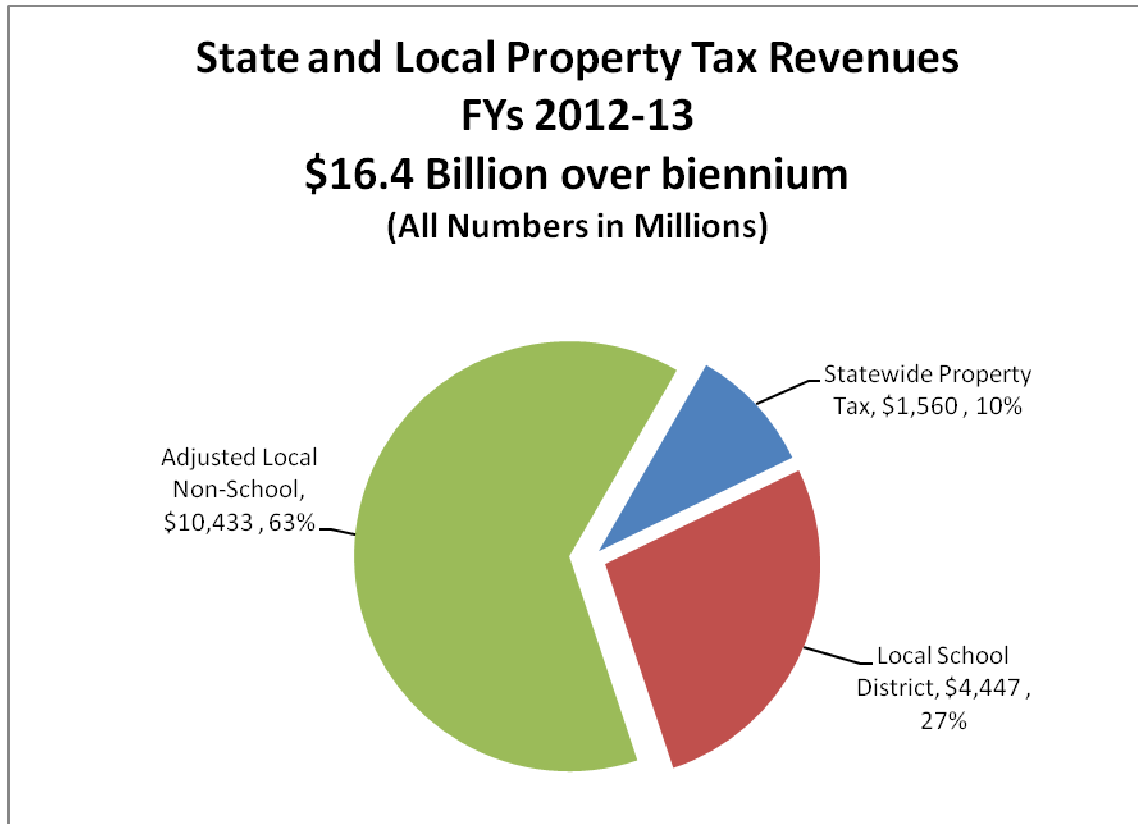
**In all cases**, whether using a tax refund, a tax aid or a tax credit, the effect is that property taxpayers pay less than what the taxes would be otherwise, and the state makes up the difference.

***Other expenditures*** are direct appropriations with a tax-related purpose, usually to a state agency or local government, and usually administrative in nature.

## Overview: House Committee on Taxes

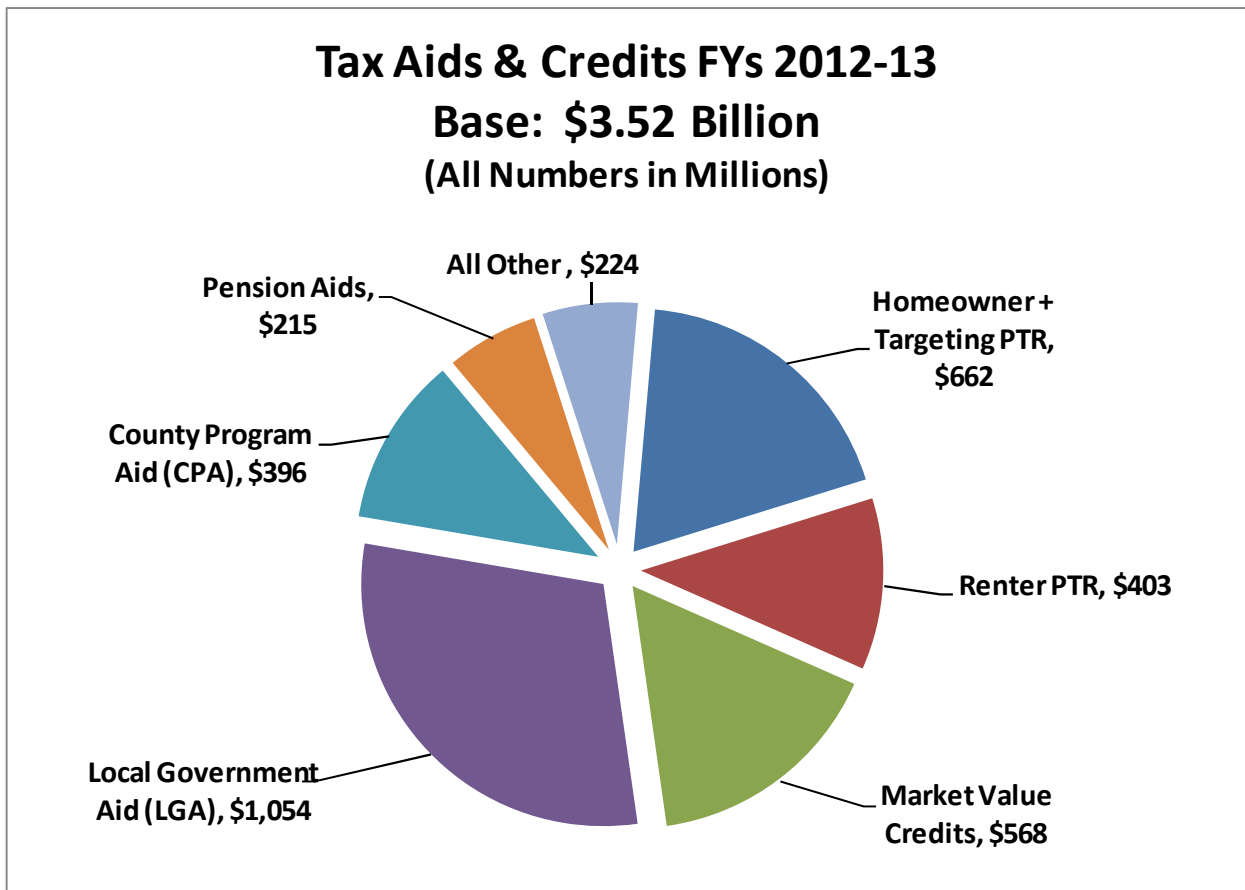
The House Committee on Taxes has the dual responsibility of overseeing state revenues and certain state appropriations from the general fund that support state aids and credits. Because most of these expenditures seek to mitigate the impact of local property taxes, a review of all property tax revenue is helpful.

For the FY 2012-2013 biennium, Minnesota's state and local property tax revenues are projected to be \$16.44 billion. Of this amount, local government revenues (counties, cities, towns, special districts) are estimated at \$10.43 billion or 63.46%, school district revenues at \$4.45 billion or 27.05%, and statewide property tax revenues at \$1.56 billion or 9.49%.



### **November 2010 Forecast, Price of Government report**

Likewise, projected FY 2012-2013 expenditures for Tax Aids and Credits total \$3.52 billion, with \$1.67 billion in property tax aids, \$1.07 billion in property tax refunds, \$568 million in property tax credits and \$224 million in other appropriations.



November 2010 Forecast

<i>Property tax aids represent</i>	<i>47.3%</i>
<i>Property tax refunds (PTR) represent</i>	<i>30.2%</i>
<i>Property tax credits represent</i>	<i>16.1%</i>
<i>All Other represent</i>	<i><u>6.3%</u></i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0%</i>



## List of House Tax Committee Budget Items

Currently, thirty-two budget activities are reflected as general fund items on the expenditures portion of the House Taxes Aids and Credits spreadsheet. These programs are administered in whole or in part by the Department of Revenue. Other programs are funded with special revenues or administered locally as noted. Additional detail for each program can be found beginning on page 10 of this catalog.

### Refunds

Homeowners Property Tax Refund  
Renters Property Tax Refund  
Targeting Refund  
Sustainable Forest Land Credits  
Political Contribution Refund  
Tax Refund Interest

### Taconite Tax Relief

#### Aids & Credits

Taconite Reimbursement  
Supplemental Homestead Aid  
Taconite Replacement Aids

### Property Tax Credits

Market Value Homestead Credit  
Agricultural Market Value Credit  
Border City Disparity Credit  
Disaster Credit  
Wetlands Reimbursement Credit  
Senior Deferral Reimbursement  
\*Minnesota Conservation Credit (SR)  
Bovine TB Property Tax Credit

### Local Aids

Local Government Aid (LGA)  
County Program Aid  
County Transition Aid  
Utility Transition Aid  
Public Defender Cost  
Local Impact Notes  
Disparity Reduction Aid  
Tribal Casino Aid  
Mahnomen Reimbursement Aid

### Local Pension Aids

Aid to Police & Fire  
Police/Fire Amortization Aid  
Redistributed Amortization Aid (TRFA)  
Police/Fire Suppl'tl Amortization  
Firefighters Relief Reimbursements  
Public Employees Retirement Assoc.

### Other Tax Expenditures

Payment-in-Lieu of Taxes (PILT) for  
Dept. of Transportation (DOT)  
& Dept. of Natural Resources  
(DNR) Owned Lands

## Local Revenue Sharing - \*Fiscal Disparities

\* Minnesota Conservation Credit is funded with special fund, not general fund, revenues. Fiscal Disparities revenue sharing is enabled by state statute (MS 473F), but revenue distributions are administered locally.

**TAX REFUNDS \*\*\*\*\*****Property Tax - Regular Homeowners Refund** [*Minnesota Statutes*, section 290A.04, subd. 2 and 290A.23]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$239,080	\$252,191	\$290,230	\$304,700	\$318,000	\$334,000	\$347,900	\$361,000
% Chg	5.5%	15.1%	5.0%	4.4%	5.0%	4.2%	3.8%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open**Fund:** General

**Description:** This budget activity provides property tax relief (in the form of direct payments) to homeowners based on their net property taxes relative to income. Claimants household income may not exceed \$99,240 for filers with no dependents, up to \$121,140 for households with five or more dependents, or \$124,790 for senior or disabled homeowners with five or more dependents. The maximum refund amount is \$2,370. Known as the “circuit breaker” program, in calendar year 2009, over 338,600 homeowners received an average refund of \$620. Of this group, 126,700 or 37.4% were senior or disabled filers with an average refund of \$630.

**Property Tax - Regular Renters Refund** [*Minnesota Statutes*, section 290A.04, subd. 2(a), and and 290A.23]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$157,818	\$171,799	\$185,799	\$145,200	\$199,900	\$203,100	\$205,300	\$206,900
% Chg	8.9%	8.2%	(21.9%)	37.7%	1.6%	1.1%	0.8%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open**Fund:** General

**Description:** This budget activity provides property tax relief (in the form of direct payments) to renters whose rent and “implicit property taxes” are high relative to their incomes. Claimants’ household income may not exceed \$53,540 for filers with no dependents, or up to \$75,440 for households with five or more dependents. The maximum refund amount is \$1,520. Known as the “renter's credit” program, in fiscal year 2011 (which reflects property tax as a percentage of rent at a 15% threshold), approximately 296,400 renters will receive an average refund of \$458.

**Property Tax - Targeting Refund** [*Minnesota Statutes*, section 290A.04, subd. 2(h) and 290A.23]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$2,285	\$7,581	\$4,211	\$2,400	\$3,960	\$6,050	\$5,060	\$5,170
% Chg	231.8%	(44.5%)	(43.0%)	65.0%	52.8%	(16.4%)	2.2%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open**Fund:** General

**Description:** This budget activity provides property tax relief to owners of residential homestead property when there is a relatively large, one-year increase (greater than 12 percent and over \$100) in property taxes. Unlike the regular property tax refund program, eligibility for this additional refund is independent of income. The refund equals 60% of the property tax increase in excess of 12%, up to a maximum of \$1,000. In calendar year 2009, over 113,000 homeowners received an average refund of \$75.

**Political Contribution Refund** [Minnesota Statutes § 290.06, subd. 23(c)]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$5,138	\$5,800	\$1,720	\$0	\$5,400	\$6,400	\$5,500	\$6,500
% Chg	12.9%	(70.3%)	(100.0%)	-	18.5%	(14.1%)	18.2%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open

**Fund:** General

**Description:** This state program allows a taxpayer to claim a refund equal to the amount of the taxpayer's contributions made in the calendar year to candidates and to a political party. The maximum refund for an individual must not exceed \$50 and for a married couple, filing jointly, must not exceed \$100. In calendar year 2009, over 114,000 individuals received an average political contribution refund of \$50. Due to budget constraints, these refunds were temporarily suspended for fiscal years 2010 and 2011. (Note: FY 2010 contains payments for claims filed prior to the deadline of June 30, 2009.)

**Tax Refund Interest** [Minnesota Statutes, 289A.56, subd. 2]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$12,333	\$12,000	\$20,437	\$9,700	\$21,500	\$12,000	\$12,500	\$12,500
% Chg	(2.7%)	70.3%	(52.5%)	121.7%	(44.2%)	4.2%	0%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open

**Fund:** General

**Description:** This account contains interest expenses that must be paid on an overpayment refunded or credited to taxpayers, from the date of payment of the tax until the date the refund is paid or credited. When the amount of tax exceeds the tax shown on the original return by \$10, the amount refunded bears 3% interest (CY 2011) from 90 days after (1) the due date of the return of the taxpayer, or (2) the date on which the original return is filed, whichever is later, until the date the refund is paid to the taxpayer. When the amount to be refunded is less than \$10, no interest is paid. In FY 2011, budget constraints caused in a 6-month delay of payments, shifting a total of \$236 million in refunds plus interest from FY 2011 to FY 2012.

**LOCAL AIDS \*\*\*\*\*****Local Government Aid, LGA** [Minnesota Statutes, 477A.03, subd. 2 & 2a, 477A.013, subd. 9]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$484,551	\$430,557	\$481,479	\$426,438	\$527,101	\$527,101	\$527,101	\$527,101
% Chg	(11.1%)	11.8%	(11.4%)	23.6%	0%	0%	0%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open & Standing **Fund:** General

**Description:** This budget activity provides state property tax relief aid to cities that is distributed according to “need factors” – measured differently for small cities (with populations of under 2,500 residents) versus large cities (with populations of 2,500 or more)- minus the “ability to pay” measured by cities’ tax base. Local Government Aid (LGA) provides general-purpose funding annually to 763 of Minnesota’s 855 cities; 608 of these LGA-receiving cities have a population less than 2,500. The program underwent significant changes in calendar year 2003 including a reduction in funding and the elimination of most "grandfathered" aid components. In the FY 2010-2011 biennium, budget constraints temporarily reduced the LGA appropriation by \$147 million, followed by second action that permanently cut another \$7.8 million in FY 2011 and then \$31 million each year thereafter. In addition, inflation adjustments were removed from the law.

**County Program Aid, CPA** [Minnesota Statutes, 477A.03, subd. 2 & 2b, 477A.0124, subd. 3-4]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$204,919	\$161,620	\$194,419	\$164,471	\$196,996	\$196,990	\$196,990	\$196,690
% Chg	(20.9%)	20.2%	(15.4%)	19.7%	0%	0%	(0.2%)

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open & Standing **Fund:** General

**Description:** This budget activity provides general purpose aid to Minnesota's 87 counties to reduce property tax levies, based on the needs of the populations they serve relative to the size of their tax bases. County Program Aid (CPA) is distributed through two main formulas, roughly equal in size. The need aid formula is based on each county’s relative share of needy populations; the tax base equalization is based on the size of each county’s tax base relative to its population. Appropriations payable for CY 2011 and annually thereafter are limited to \$96.395 million for need aid and \$101.309 million for equalization aid for a total of \$197.7 million. In the FY 2010-2011 biennium, budget constraints temporarily reduced the CPA appropriation by \$100 million. Beginning in FY 2012, the 2010 legislature permanently cut CPA by \$43.8 million and eliminated inflation adjustments from the law. Of the total annual appropriation, up to \$714,000 is retained by the Commissioner of Revenue to pay for public defender costs pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 611.27 and to pay for the cost of local impact notes as required by section 3.987.

**County Transition Aid** [Minnesota Statutes, 477A.03, subd. 2, 477A.0124, subd. 5.]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$464	\$0	\$464	\$464	\$464	\$464	\$464	\$464
% Chg	(100.0%)	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Standing**Fund:** General

**Description:** This budget activity provides state aid to certain counties that suffered extreme reductions in aid attributable to the 2003 consolidation of five aid programs into County Program Aid. Seven counties (Aitkin, Chippewa, Cook, Kanabec, Kittson, Traverse, and Wilkin) qualified for a total of \$1.3 million of transition aid in CY 2005, which was then reduced by one-third in each CY 2006 and CY 2007. This provision was due to sunset in calendar year 2007 (FY 2008), but it was reinstated and made permanent by the 2008 Legislature (Ch 366).

**Public Defender Cost** [Minnesota Statutes, section 477A.03, subd. 2b, and 611.27.]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$240	\$281	\$279	\$500	\$500	500	\$500	\$500
% Chg	17.1%	(0.7%)	79.2%	0%	0%	0%	0%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open**Fund:** General

**Description:** This budget activity represents set-aside moneys to pay for public defense services for correctional facility inmates. Under prior law, 1.5 percent of the criminal justice aid was designated for this purpose. However, since the CY 2005 consolidation of county aids, these funds (up to \$500,000 per year) are now deducted from the need aid portion of the County Program Aid appropriation.

**Local Impact Note Cost** [Minnesota Statutes, 477A.03, subd. 2b, 477A.0124, subd. 4]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$214	\$214	\$214	\$214	\$214	\$214	\$214	\$214
% Chg	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Standing**Fund:** General

**Description:** This budget activity provides annual funding of up to \$207,000 for the Commissioner of Finance and up to \$7,000 for the Commissioner of Education to pay for administrative costs incurred from completing local fiscal impact notes on legislation considered by the Minnesota Legislature. As was done previously with county Homestead Agriculture Credit Aid (HACA) distributions, these funds are subtracted from the equalization aid portion of the County Program Aid formula.

**Disparity Reduction Aid** [Minnesota Statutes, 273.1398, subd. 3, 6 & 8]**Disparity Reduction Aid – School**

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$8,057	\$7,997	\$6,567	\$7,693	\$9,552	\$7,966	\$7,966	\$7,966
% Chg	(1.0%)	(17.7%)	17.2%	24.2%	(16.6%)	0%	0%

**Disparity Reduction Aid – Non-School**

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$10,208	\$10,117	\$10,162	\$10,090	\$10,041	\$10,041	\$10,041	\$10,041
% Chg	(0.9%)	0.4%	(0.7%)	(0.5%)	0%	0%	0%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open**Fund:** General

**Description:** This budget activity reflects state aid paid to more than 1300 local governments, including counties, townships and school districts, to provide relief to high tax rate areas. The program was created in 1988 and unlike other aids that provide non-property tax revenues to local governments, disparity reduction aid is applied directly to local tax rates. A local tax rate is determined by subtracting the disparity reduction aid (DRA) from the initial tax rate, up to the amount that the total local tax rate does not fall below 90 percent.

**Tribal Casino Aid** [Minnesota Statutes, 270C.19, subd. 4]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$702	\$669	\$764	\$754	\$754	\$754	\$754	\$754
% Chg	(4.7%)	14.2%	(1.3%)	0%	0%	0%	0%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open**Fund:** General

**Description:** This budget activity reflects state aid payments to counties with a tribal casino. Through this program, the state pays ten percent of the state's share of excise taxes (tobacco, alcoholic beverage, and motor fuels) collected under the tribal tax agreement. Because the tribal government receives one-half of the taxes collected, the county, in effect, receives 5 percent of these shared taxes. Currently, 17 casinos representing 11 tribes are operating in Minnesota.

**Utility Transition Aid** [Minnesota Statutes, 477A.16]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$0	\$0	\$2,102	\$3,024	\$1,508	\$980	\$570	\$142
% Chg	-	-	43.9%	(50.1%)	(35.1%)	(41.8%)	(75.1%)

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open**Fund:** General

**Description:** Created in 2008, this budget activity provides partial relief to 14 cities and 29 towns where changes in Minnesota Rules Ch. 8100 (governing utility property valuation) resulted in a reduction in tax capacity that was greater than 4 percent. The aid continues for each eligible government until the valuation of public utility property exceeds its assessment year 2007 valuation under the old system.

**Mahnomen Aid** [Minnesota Laws, Chapter 151, Article 1]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$0	\$600	\$600	\$600	\$600	\$600	\$600	\$600
% Chg	-	-	43.9%	(50.1%)	(35.1%)	(41.8%)	(75.1%)

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open**Fund:** General

**Description:** Created in 2006 and made permanent in 2008, this budget activity provides partial replacement aid to local governments in Mahnomen. In 2006, the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, placed revenue producing land (a tribal casino) in Mahnomen into trust, thus removing it from the property tax rolls and causing a void of over \$932,000 in tax revenues. Of the \$600,000 payment, \$450,000 is for Mahnomen County, \$80,000 for the City of Mahnomen, and \$70,000 for Mahnomen Independent School District No. 432.

**Performance Measurement Reimbursement** [Minnesota Laws, Chapter 389, Article 2]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$940	\$880	\$890	\$900
% Chg	-	-	-	-	(6.4%)	1.1%	1.1%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open**Fund:** General

**Description:** This budget activity was created in 2010 as part of property tax reform, accountability, value and efficiencies. Counties and cities that participate in establishing and monitoring standards for a comprehensive performance measurement system of their public services are eligible for reimbursement of 14 cents per capita, up to a maximum of \$25,000. Payments are scheduled to begin in FY 2012.

**PROPERTY TAX CREDITS \*\*\*\*\*****Homestead Market Value Credit** [Minnesota Statutes, 273.1384, subd. 1, 4 & 5]**Homestead Market Value Credit – School**

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$57,134	\$53,978	\$45,175	\$55,429	\$68,241	\$56,860	\$57,334	\$58,670
% Chg	(5.5%)	(16.3%)	22.7%	23.1%	(16.7%)	0.8%	2.3%

**Homestead Market Value Credit – Non-School**

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$218,587	\$201,928	\$193,313	\$95,573	\$196,681	\$198,547	\$200,432	\$206,130
% Chg	(7.6%)	(4.3%)	-2.2%	105.8%	1.0%	1.0%	2.8%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open**Fund:** General

**Description:** This budget activity reflects reimbursements to taxing districts for property tax credits issued to residential homeowners. Under this program, homeowners may receive tax credits equal to 0.4 percent of the market value of the parcel up to a maximum of \$304, subject to a phase-out of the credit beginning at \$76,000 in market value. The phase-out rate is equal to .09 percent of market value above \$76,000 with no credit for homes valued at \$414,000 and above.

**For School Districts,** reimbursement is provided for the amount of the Homestead Market Value Credit deducted from each school district's tax revenues in proportion to each district's share of the gross tax, excluding school referendums. Currently Minnesota's 337 independent school districts –no charter schools—receive this reimbursement.

**For Non-School** entities (local governments), reimbursement is provided for the amount of the Homestead Market Value Credit deducted from each local government's tax revenues in proportion to the local government's share of the gross tax. Over the CY 2003 to 2010 period (save 2007), budget constraints have prevented a full reimbursement of the credit to local governments.

For CY 2010, over 1.34 million homesteads participated. The average credit was \$218 for homes in greater Minnesota and \$181 for homes in the metro area.

**Agricultural Market Value Credit** [Minnesota Statutes, 273.1384, subd. 2, 4 & 5]**Agricultural Market Value Credit – School**

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$5,751	\$5,776	\$4,683	\$5,349	\$6,555	\$5,459	\$5,459	\$5,459
% Chg	0.4%	(18.9%)	14.2%	22.5%	(16.7%)	0%	0%



**Agricultural Market Value Credit – Non School**

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$19,321	\$19,273	\$19,103	\$18,097	\$17,864	\$17,863	\$17,863	\$17,863
% Chg	(0.3%)	(0.9%)	(5.3%)	(1.3%)	0%	0%	0%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open**Fund:** General

**Description:** This budget activity reflects reimbursements to taxing jurisdictions for property tax credits issued to owners of agricultural property minus the value of the house, garage and 1 acre of land. Applicants receive tax credits equal to 0.3 percent of the market value of the parcel up to a maximum of \$345 subject to a phase-back of the credit beginning at \$115,000 in market value. The phase-back rate, equal to .05 percent of market value above \$115,000, reduces the credit amount to a maximum of \$230 for farms valued at \$345,000 and above.

**For School Districts,** reimbursement is provided for the amount of the Agricultural Market Value Credit deducted from each school district's tax revenues in proportion to each district's share of the gross tax, excluding school referendums.

**For Non-School** entities (local governments), reimbursement is provided for the amount of the Agricultural Market Value Credit deducted from each local government's tax revenues in proportion to the local government's share of the gross tax.

In CY 2010, there were over 88,000 agricultural homesteads in Minnesota.

**Border City Disparity Reduction Credit – [Minnesota Statutes, section 273.1398, subd 3,4, 8.]****Border City Disparity Reduction Credit – School**

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$817	\$845	\$811	\$900	\$1,188	\$1,019	\$1,019	\$1,019
% Chg	3.4%	(4.0%)	11.0%	32.0%	(14.2%)	0%	0%

**Border City Disparity Reduction Credit – Non School**

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$4,260	\$4,4796	\$4,685	\$4,232	\$4,781	\$4,781	\$4,781	\$4,781
% Chg	5.1%	4.6%	(9.7%)	13.0%	0%	0%	0%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open**Fund:** General

**Description:** This budget activity provides reimbursement for property tax credits issued to qualified commercial/industrial properties located in an enterprise zone of one of five designated border cities: Breckenridge, Dilworth, East Grand Forks, Moorhead, and Ortonville. This property tax credit does not apply to the debt service levy or school district taxes, other than the state equalized levies.

**For School Districts,** reimbursement is provided for the amount of the Border City Disparity Credit deducted from each school district's tax revenues in proportion to each district's share of the gross tax, excluding school referendums.

**For Non-School** entities (local governments), reimbursement is provided for the amount of the Border City Disparity Credit deducted from each local government's tax revenues in proportion to the local government's share of the gross tax.

**Senior Deferral Reimbursement** [*Minnesota Statutes*, section 290B.09, subd 2]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$390	\$504	\$647	\$838	\$1,048	\$1,310	\$1,637	\$2,047
% Chg	29.4%	29.5%	25.1%	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	25.1%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open

**Fund:** General

**Description:** This budget activity allows certain seniors, age 65 years and over and who have a total household income of \$60,000 or less, to defer the amount of their homestead property taxes that exceeds three percent of their household income to a later time. The state pays the amount of the deferred tax, including special assessments and other charges that appear on the property tax statement, to the county where the property is located. In 2010, 271 homes owned by seniors were enrolled in this program.

**Wetlands Reimbursement Credit** [*Minnesota Statutes*, section 275.295, subd 2 & 3]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$5	\$8	\$6	\$6	\$6	\$6	\$6	\$6
% Chg	60.0%	(25.0%)	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open

**Fund:** General

**Description:** This budget activity reflects payments to counties for lost revenue resulting from the exemption of land in a wetland preservation area. Payments are based on tax revenue that would have been received if the wetlands had a net tax capacity of 50 cents per acre.

**Sustainable Forest Land Credits** [*Minnesota Statutes*, section 290C.07 & 290C.08]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$4,854	\$6,095	\$6,972	\$5,728	\$15,079	\$16,304	\$17,634	\$19,067
% Chg	25.6%	14.4%	(17.8%)	163.6%	8.1%	8.2%	8.1%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open

**Fund:** General

**Description:** This budget activity provides reimbursement to counties for property tax relief to private landowners who practice long-term forest management investment in accordance with the Sustainable Forest Incentive Act (2001). In CY 2009/FY 2010, approved claimants enrolled just

under 800,000 acres in the program and received a credit of \$8.74 per acre. In CY 2010/FY 2011, about 1,700 property owners enrolled over 869,000 acres and received a credit of \$15.67 per acre. The 79% per acre rate increase was due to a change in law from class 2b, timberland, to higher-valued class 2c, managed forest land. Also in FY 2011, a one-time limit of \$100,000 per taxpayer was imposed due to budget constraints.

**Minnesota Conservation Tax Credit** [Minnesota Statutes, 40A.151, subd. 2, and 40A.152]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$275	\$291	\$199	\$199	\$199	\$199	\$199	\$199
% Chg	5.8%	17.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open

**Fund:** Special Revenue

**Description:** This budget activity reflects state aid payments to counties to reimburse tax revenues forgone due to taxpayer participation in the Minnesota Conservation Tax Credit program. Under this program, a property tax credit of \$1.50 per acre is awarded to certain landowners who enter their property into an agricultural preserve restrictive covenant under chapter 40A. The origin of these funds is a \$5 fee on mortgage and deed registrations for the metropolitan counties of Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott or Washington.

**Disaster Credit** [Minnesota Statutes, section 273.123, subd 4, 5 & 6.]

**Disaster Credit – School**

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$24	\$90	\$73	\$38	\$145	\$15	\$0	\$0
% Chg	275%	(18.9%)	(48.0%)	281.6%	(90.0%)	(100.0%)	-

**Disaster Credit – Non School**

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$69	\$676	\$264	\$66	\$431	\$0	\$0	\$0
% Chg	879.7%	(61.0%)	(75.0%)	553.0%	(100.0%)	-	-

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open

**Fund:** General

**Description:** This budget activity reflects reimbursement for property tax credits to counties within a disaster or an emergency area. Specifically, counties must re-adjust property valuations to reflect damages and subsequent losses in market value caused by the event, creating a void in anticipated property tax revenues for the year. The commissioner of revenue is required to reimburse affected taxing jurisdictions when ad valorem taxes or other aids are distributed.

**Bovine Tuberculosis Property Tax Credit** [Minnesota Statutes, section 273.113]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$0	\$0	\$337	\$427	\$448	\$431	\$431	\$431
% Chg	-	-	26.7%	5.9%	(3.8%)	0%	0%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open**Fund:** General

**Description:** Created in 2008, this budget activity provides a property tax credit to livestock owners who suffered productivity losses of their land due to bovine tuberculosis eradication procedures. The credit is calculated as the greater of \$5 per acre on the first 160 acres of the property, or \$25 times the highest number of animals tested on the property for whole-herd bovine tuberculosis tests. The credit cannot exceed the property tax payable on the land.

**Prior Year Credits** [Minnesota Statutes, section 273 various parts]**Prior Year Credits – School**

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$32	\$390	\$24	\$124	\$198	\$165	\$165	\$165
% Chg	1,118.8%	(93.9%)	416.7%	59.7%	(16.7%)	0%	0%

**Prior Year Credits – Non School**

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$1,315	\$898	\$847	\$534	\$534	\$534	\$534	\$534
% Chg	(31.7%)	(5.7%)	(37.0%)	0%	0%	0%	0%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open**Fund:** General

**Description:** This budget activity accounts for reimbursements for a variety of property tax credits (mostly market value credits) that are attributable to previous year tax liabilities.

**TACONITE TAX RELIEF AREA AIDS & CREDITS \*\*\*\*\*****Supplemental Taconite Homestead Credit - School** (also called **Taconite Reimbursement Aid**) -  
[*Minnesota Statutes*, section 273.136, subd 2.]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$561	\$561	\$561	\$561	\$561	\$561	\$561	\$561
% Chg	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open**Fund:** General

**Description:** This budget activity provides reimbursements to school districts in the Iron Range for tax credits issued under the homestead property tax relief program.

**Supplemental Taconite Homestead Credit – Non-School** [*Minnesota Statutes*, sec. 273.136, subd 2.]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$5,205	\$5,211	\$5,178	\$5,215	\$5,269	\$5,321	\$5,375	\$5,428
% Chg	0.1%	(0.6%)	0.7%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open**Fund:** General

**Description:** This budget activity provides reimbursements to local governments in the Iron Range for tax credits issued under the homestead property tax relief program.

**Taconite Replacement Aid – Non-School** [*Minnesota Statutes*, section 298.285.]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$8,593	\$8,527	\$7,713	\$9,600	\$9,440	\$10,395	\$11,350	\$11,350
% Chg	(0.8%)	(9.6%)	24.5%	(1.7%)	10.1%	9.2%	0.0%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open**Fund:** General

**Description:** This budget activity provides state aid (an amount equal to 22 cents per taxable ton of iron ore concentrates per production year) to local governments in the Iron Range to replenish their taconite municipal aid accounts. For fiscal years 2010 and 2011 only, \$1.5 million of the net interest, dividends, and other earnings is transferred to a special account for loans or grants to businesses, with priority given to businesses with 25 or fewer employees. Funds may be used for wage subsidies, up to \$5 per hour for no more than 52 weeks, or for other activities that will create additional jobs, including but not limited to short-term operating expenses and purchases of equipment and materials by businesses under financial duress.

**LOCAL PENSION AIDS \*\*\*\*\*****Aid to Police & Fire** [*Minnesota Statutes*, section 69.021, and section 297L.10.]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$94,933	\$81,791	\$80,500	\$81,989	\$85,054	\$88,194	\$91,455	\$94,842
% Chg	(3.7%)	(1.6%)	1.9%	3.7%	3.7%	3.7%	3.7%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open**Fund:** General

**Description:** This budget activity is a combination of three pension aid provisions that provide payments to certain counties, municipalities, independent nonprofit firefighting corporations, and other entities to supplement their budgets. The commissioner of revenue determines which local governments are qualified to receive state aid based upon personnel and equipment certifications, financial compliance reports and other relevant information. Funding for Fire State Aid comes from the dedicated proceeds of the state insurance premium tax (generally 2%) on fire insurance. Police State Aid is financed by the dedicated proceeds of a 2% automobile insurance premium tax. Funding for the First Class City Fire Insurance Surcharge comes from a tax on insurance written on property located in a first class city and allocated to the applicable city.

Table 1 of this document (on page 27) provides additional detail regarding these aid distributions.

**Additional P&F Amortization Aid** [*Minnesota Statutes*, section 423A.02, subd 1b.]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$3,247	\$1,152	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
% Chg	(64.5%)	(100.0%)	-	-	-	--	--

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open**Fund:** General

**Description:** This budget activity provides payments to municipalities to help reduce unfunded accrued liabilities for their police and salaried firefighters' relief association pension funds. Revenues, which are one-half of excess police state aids, depend on the size of the employer pension contribution for the previous year and the tax on auto casualty insurance claims. Since fiscal year 2010, there have been no excess police state aids to distribute.

**Local Police/Fire Amortization Aid** [*Minnesota Statutes*, section 423A.02, subd 1-5.]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$942	\$948	\$0	\$1,760	\$1,760	\$1,760	\$1,760	\$1,760
% Chg	0.6%	(100.0%)	-	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open**Fund:** General

**Description:** Established in 1980, this budget activity provides payments to local governments to help amortize the unfunded liability of local police and salaried firefighters' relief associations. Aid eligibility terminates when a local relief association or consolidated account becomes fully funded (assets equal to actuarial liability).

**Redistributed Amortization Aid – TRFA** [*Minnesota Statutes*, section 423A.02, subd 3.]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$2,281	\$2,274	\$5,890	\$3,203	\$3,203	\$3,203	\$3,203	\$3,203
% Chg	(0.3%)	159.0%	(45.6%)	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open

**Fund:** General

**Description:** This budget activity reflects a redistribution of residual amortization aid to the Minneapolis Teachers Retirement Fund Association and to the St. Paul Teachers Retirement Fund Association to help pay for the unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities of the respective funds.

**Local Police/Fire Supplemental Amortization Aid** [*Minnesota Statutes*, section 423A.02, subd 1a.]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$572	\$572	\$829	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
% Chg	0.0%	44.9%	20.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open

**Fund:** General

**Description:** Established in 1984, this budget activity provides supplemental state aid to amortize the unfunded liability of local police and salaried firefighters relief associations. Equal to amortization aid, the supplemental amortization aid terminates when a relief association or consolidation account becomes fully funded.

**Firefighters Relief Reimbursements** [*Minnesota Statutes*, section 423A.02, subd 3e.]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$571	\$571	\$722	\$722	\$722	\$722	\$722	\$722
% Chg	0.0%	26.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	-0.0%	0.0%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open

**Fund:** General

**Description:** Established in 1988, this budget activity reimburses volunteer firefighter relief associations for prior calendar year payments of state-mandated supplemental benefits ( 10% of service pension, up to \$1,000 and 20 % of survivor benefit , up to \$2,000).

**PERA Pension Aid** [*Minnesota Statutes*, section 273.1385.]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$14,534	\$14,520	\$14,390	\$14,384	\$14,384	\$14,384	\$14,384	\$14,384
% Chg	(0.1%)	(0.9%)	(0.0%)	0.0%	0.0%	-0.0%	0.0%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open**Fund:** General

**Description:** This budget activity reflects payments to each city, county, town, and other non-school jurisdictions in an amount equal to 0.35 percent of the fiscal year 1997 payroll for employees who were members of the general plan of the Public Employees Retirement Association. The aid provided under this section terminates on June 30, 2020.

**OTHER EXPENDITURES** \*\*\*\*\***Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) for Lands Owned by the Department of Natural Resources**[*Minnesota Statutes*, section 477A.11 (DNR).]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$20,347	\$21,017	\$21,824	\$21,777	\$26,490	\$26,801	\$27,134	\$27,500
% Chg	3.3%	3.8%	(0.2%)	21.6%	1.2%	1.2%	1.4%

**Appropriation Type:** Statutory, Open**Fund:** General

**Description:** This budget activity reimburses counties and towns for lost revenues attributable to the removal of tax-generating properties from their property tax inventories to support preservation of natural resources lands. The commissioner of revenue provides payment in-lieu of tax (PILT) payments to local governments for this land. Previously included in the Department of Natural Resources' budget, this item returns to the purview of the House Tax Committee in FY 2011.



\*\*\*\*\*

## LOCAL REVENUE - TAX RELIEF AREA REVENUE DISTRIBUTION

**NOTE: No state dollars contribute to this activity.**

### Fiscal Disparities Distribution Levy [*Minnesota Statutes*, section 473F]

Dollars in Thousands							
FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Forecast	FY 2012 Projected	FY 2013 Projected	FY 2014 Planning	FY 2015 Planning
\$365,962	\$406,492	\$464,750	\$523,498	NA	NA	NA	NA
% Chg	11.1%	14.3%	12.6%	-	-	-	-

Source: House Research Simulations Final Pay 2007- Final Pay 2010

The fiscal disparities program is a system that shares a portion of the revenues generated by the commercial-industrial property tax base among all local governments within a defined geographic area. Minnesota has two fiscal disparities programs currently operating in the state: one in the seven-county area of the Twin Cities and the other in the Iron Range of northern Minnesota.

Fiscal disparities distribution levies are disbursed on a formula primarily based on real property market value and population. The contribution to the “pool” is 40% of the growth since 1971 in commercial and industrial tax capacity.

2010 Minnesota Laws, Chapter 389, Article 1, sections 28 and 32, require the Commissioner of Revenue to conduct a study of the metropolitan fiscal disparities program. Topics to be analyzed include how the benefits of economic growth are shared within the region, program impacts on tax rates, program impacts on homestead property tax burdens, and impacts on properties with regional benefits. A report of the findings and issues for further consideration by the Legislature is due by February 1, 2012.

\*\*\*\*\*

## BUDGET ACTIVITIES REPORTED IN PREVIOUS YEARS

### Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) for Lands Owned by the Department of Transportation

[*Minnesota Statutes*, section 477A.12 (DOT).]

This budget activity reimburses counties and towns for lost revenues attributable to the removal of tax-generating properties from their property tax inventories for highway right-of-way lands. The commissioner of revenue provides payment in-lieu of tax (PILT) payments to local governments for this land.

### Court Aid Adjustment [*Minnesota Statutes*, 477A.0124, subd. 4.]

This budget activity, which provides state aid to Anoka and Washington Counties to pay for certain postretirement costs for court employees, has been integrated into the annual calculation that determines the county tax-base equalization aid portion of county program aid.

**Court MOE Aid**

This budget activity provided state aid payments to certain courts undergoing economic difficulty with judicial district transitions from county to state-level funding in CYs 2002-2005. Specifically, courts were required to increase their expenditures by 8 percent per year. The last two districts -- the Sixth and Tenth Judicial Districts -- finished transitioning in FY 2006.

**Court Takeover Aid**

This budget activity reflects state aid paid to certain courts undergoing judicial district transitions from county to state-level funding in CYs 2002-2005. Specifically, court takeover aid primarily reflects one-time costs attributed to timing differences between county and state fiscal years.

**Taxpayer Assistance Grants** [*Minnesota Session Laws 2005, 1<sup>st</sup> Special Session – Chapter 3.*]

In FY 2006, this budget activity, which provides \$125,000 per year in grant moneys to nonprofit organizations to assist low-income and disadvantaged taxpayers, became part of the Department of Revenue's base budget.

**Disaster Grants** [*Minnesota Session Laws 2005, 1<sup>st</sup> Special Session – Chapter 3.*]

In FY 2006, this item provided a one-time disaster grant of \$500,000 to the Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) for disaster relief in Otter Tail County.

**Cargo Grants** [*Minnesota Session Laws 2005, 1<sup>st</sup> Special Session – Chapter 3.*]

In FY 2006, this budget activity provided a one-time appropriation of \$750,000 to the Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) for business assistance in an international trade zone.

**REPEALED PROGRAMS**

**Attached Machinery Aid**

**Homestead Agricultural Credit Aid (HACA)**

**Family Preservation Aid**

**Criminal Justice Aid**

Beginning in 2004, four aid programs -- Attached Machinery Aid, Homestead Agricultural Credit Aid (HACA), Family Preservation Aid, and Criminal Justice Aid -- were repealed and consolidated into one general aid program, called county program aid, found on page 3 of this catalog.

## APPENDICES

**Table 1: Pension Aids**

**State Aid Supporting Local Government Pensions**  
November 2010 Forecast

House Committee	Budget Activity	All Numbers in Thousands							
		Actual FY 2008	Actual FY 2009	Actual FY 2010	Estimated FY 2011	Forecast FY 2012	Forecast FY 2013	Plan Estim FY 2014	Plan Estim FY 2015
<b>Tax Aids/Cred</b>	<b>Local Aids to Police &amp; Fire</b>	\$ 88,180	\$ 81,791	\$ 80,500	\$ 81,989	\$ 85,054	\$ 88,194	\$91,455	\$94,842
	Police - 431 depts in FY 08	\$ 54,987	\$ 55,827	\$ 57,479	\$ 58,957	\$ 59,344	\$ 61,829	64,415	67,107
	Fire - 766 depts in FY 08	\$ 28,287	\$ 23,714	\$ 20,522	\$ 20,533	\$ 23,211	\$ 23,866	24,541	25,236
	Insurance Surcharge (1st class cities)	\$ 1,659	\$ 2,250	\$ 2,499	\$ 2,499	\$ 2,499	\$ 2,499	2,499	2,499
	Additional Amortization Aid	\$ 3,247	\$ 1,152	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0	0
<b>Tax Aids/Cred</b>	<b>Local Police and Fire Amort</b>	\$ 4,366	\$ 4,365	\$ 7,441	\$ 6,685	\$ 6,685	\$ 6,685	\$ 6,685	\$ 6,685
	P/F Amortization	\$ 942	\$ 948	\$ -	\$ 1,760	\$ 1,760	\$ 1,760	\$ 1,760	\$ 1,760
	Redistribution of Amort Aid	\$ 2,281	\$ 2,274	\$ 5,890	\$ 3,203	\$ 3,203	\$ 3,203	\$ 3,203	\$ 3,203
	P/F Supplemental Amort	\$ 572	\$ 572	\$ 829	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
	Firefighter Reimbursement	\$ 571	\$ 571	\$ 722	\$ 722	\$ 722	\$ 722	\$ 722	\$ 722
<b>Tax Aids/Cred</b>	<b>PERA Pension Aid</b>	\$ 14,534	\$ 14,520	\$ 14,390	\$ 14,384	\$ 14,384	\$ 14,384	\$ 14,384	\$ 14,384
	<b>Subtotal - Tax Aids &amp; Credits</b>	\$ 107,080	\$ 100,676	\$ 102,331	\$ 103,058	\$ 106,123	\$ 109,263	\$ 112,524	\$ 115,911
<b>State Gov</b>	<b>Mpls TRA 1993 Aid</b>	\$ 2,501	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
	<b>Mpls TRA 1997 Aid</b>	\$ 13,300	\$ 13,300	\$ 12,954	\$ 12,954	\$ 12,954	\$ 12,954	\$ 12,954	\$ 12,954
	<b>St Paul TRA 1997 Aid</b>	\$ 2,967	\$ 2,967	\$ 2,827	\$ 2,827	\$ 2,827	\$ 2,827	\$ 2,827	\$ 2,827
	<b>Mpls Employee Retrmt Fnd (MERF)</b>	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,000	\$ 22,750	\$ 22,750	\$ 24,000	\$ 24,000
	<b>Duluth TRA</b>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 346	\$ 346	\$ 346	\$ 346	\$ 346	\$ 346
	<b>Subtotal - State Government</b>	\$ 27,768	\$ 27,767	\$ 27,627	\$ 27,627	\$ 41,377	\$ 41,377	\$ 42,627	\$ 42,627
	<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ 134,848	\$ 128,443	\$ 129,958	\$ 130,685	\$ 147,500	\$ 150,640	\$ 155,151	\$ 158,538

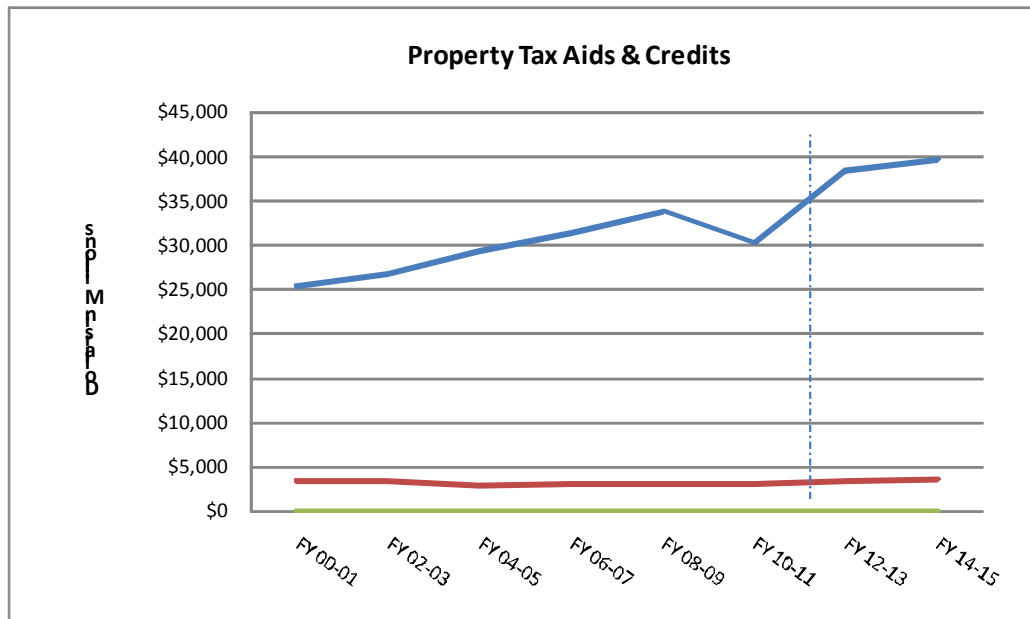
Source : General Fund Fund Balance Analysis, November 2010 Forecast, Minnesota Management & Budget

Notes: <sup>1</sup> Excludes Legislators and Constitutional Officers

<sup>2</sup> Other forms of state aid (including education aids and Local Government Aid) that also supplement local pensions at the discretion of the local authorities, are not reflected here.

<sup>3</sup> Pension aids are distributed to local governments by October 1 of each year except for PERA (by Sept 1) and Insurance Surcharge (twice per year- July 31 and December 31).

House Fiscal document, January 25, 2011. All funds are general fund dollars.

**Table 2: Fifteen Years of Tax Aids & Credits Expenditures****Property Tax Aids & Credits Spending**

	Dollars in Millions							
	Actual FY 00-01	Actual FY 02-03	Actual FY 04-05	Actual FY 06-07	Actual FY 08-09	Estimated FY 10-11	Forecast FY 12-13	Planning FY 14-15
<b>Total GF</b>	\$25,438	26,752	\$29,364	\$31,490	\$33,866	\$30,266	\$38,591	\$39,678
<b>Tax Aids &amp; Credits</b>	\$3,306	3,379	\$2,800	\$2,990	\$3,070	\$3,018	\$3,469	\$3,546
<b>% of Total GF</b>	13.0%	12.6%	9.5%	9.5%	9.1%	10.0%	9.0%	8.9%

House Fiscal document, January 25, 2011. All funds are general fund dollars.

**Table 3: 2011 Session - Tax Aids and Credits Spreadsheet FYs 2010-2013****House Tax Aids and Credits****General Fund Expenditures - November 2010 forecast****All Numbers in Thousands**

General Fund Expenditures	Nov 2010 Fcst			Nov 2010 Fcst		
	FY2010	FY2011	FY2010-11	FY2012	FY2013	FY2012-13
<b><u>REFUNDS</u></b>						
Homeowners property tax refund	\$290,230	\$304,700	<b>\$594,930</b>	\$318,000	\$334,000	<b>\$652,000</b>
Renters property tax refund	185,799	145,200	\$330,999	199,900	203,100	\$403,000
Targeting	4,211	2,400	<b>6,611</b>	3,960	6,050	<b>10,010</b>
Forest Land Credits	<u>6,972</u>	5,728	<b>12,700</b>	15,079	16,304	<b>31,383</b>
<b>Subtotal - Property Tax Refunds</b>	487,212	458,028	<b>945,240</b>	536,939	559,454	<b>1,096,393</b>
Political Contribution Refund	1,720	-	<b>1,720</b>	5,400	6,400	<b>11,800</b>
Tax Refund Interest	20,437	9,700	<b>30,137</b>	21,500	12,000	<b>33,500</b>
Tax Refund Delay Interest					0	-
<b><u>LOCAL AIDS</u></b>						
Local Government Aid (LGA)	481,479	426,438	<b>907,917</b>	527,101	527,101	<b>1,054,202</b>
Ch 154 Mahnomon City Aid	80	80	<b>160</b>	80	80	<b>160</b>
<b>Subtotal- Local Government Aid (LGA)</b>	481,559	426,518	<b>908,077</b>	527,181	527,181	<b>1,054,362</b>
County Program Aid	194,419	164,471	<b>358,890</b>	196,996	196,990	<b>393,986</b>
County Transition Aid	464	464	<b>928</b>	464	464	<b>928</b>
Ch 154 Mahnomon County Aid	<u>450</u>	<u>450</u>	<b>900</b>	<u>450</u>	<u>450</u>	<b>900</b>
<b>Subtotal- County Program Aid (CPA)</b>	195,333	165,385	<b>360,718</b>	197,910	197,904	<b>395,814</b>
Public Defender Cost	279	500	<b>779</b>	500	500	<b>1,000</b>
Local Impact Notes (DOF/MDE)	214	214	<b>428</b>	214	214	<b>428</b>
Ch 366 Utility Transition Aid (cities and towns)	2,102	3,024	<b>5,126</b>	1,508	980	<b>2,488</b>
Ch 154 Mahnomon ISD #432 Aid	70	70	<b>140</b>	70	70	<b>140</b>
<i>DRA School</i>	6,567	7,693	<b>14,260</b>	9,552	7,966	<b>17,518</b>
<i>DRA Non-School</i>	<u>10,162</u>	<u>10,090</u>	<b>20,252</b>	<u>10,041</u>	<u>10,041</u>	<b>20,082</b>
<b>Disparity Reduction Aid (DRA)</b>	16,729	17,783	<b>34,512</b>	19,593	18,007	<b>37,600</b>
Indian Casino Aid	764	754	<b>1,518</b>	754	754	<b>1,508</b>
<b><u>PROPERTY TAX CREDITS</u></b>						
<i>Res MVC School***</i>	45,175	55,429	<b>100,604</b>	68,241	56,860	<b>125,101</b>
<i>Res MVC Non-School</i>	193,313	95,573	<b>288,886</b>	196,681	198,547	<b>395,228</b>
<b>Residential Market Value Homestead Credit</b>	238,488	151,002	<b>389,490</b>	264,922	255,407	<b>520,329</b>
<i>Agr MVC School</i>	4,683	5,349	<b>10,032</b>	6,555	5,459	<b>12,014</b>
<i>Agr MVC Non-School</i>	19,103	18,097	<b>37,200</b>	17,864	17,863	<b>35,727</b>
<b>Agricultural Market Value Credit</b>	23,786	23,446	<b>47,232</b>	24,419	23,322	<b>47,741</b>

**Table 3: 2011 Session - Tax Aids and Credits Spreadsheet (continued)**

General Fund Expenditures	Nov 2010 Fest			Nov 2010 Fest		
	FY2010	FY2011	FY2010-11	FY2012	FY2013	FY2012-13
<i>Border City School</i>	811	900	1,711	1,188	1,019	2,207
<i>Border City Non-School</i>	<u>4,685</u>	<u>4,232</u>	<u>8,917</u>	<u>4,781</u>	<u>4,781</u>	<u>9,562</u>
<b>Border City Disparity Credit</b>	5,496	5,132	10,628	5,969	5,800	11,769
<i>Disaster Credit -School</i>	73	38	111	145	15	160
<i>Disaster Credit- Non-School</i>	<u>264</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>330</u>	<u>431</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>431</u>
<b>Disaster Credit</b>	337	104	441	576	15	591
<i>Prior Year Credit -School</i>	24	124	148	198	165	363
<i>Prior Year Credit- Non-School</i>	<u>847</u>	<u>534</u>	<u>1,381</u>	<u>534</u>	<u>534</u>	<u>1,068</u>
<b>Prior Year Credits</b>	871	658	1,529	732	699	1,431
Wetlands Reimbursement Credit	6	6	12	6	6	12
Senior Deferral Reimbursement	647	838	1,485	1,048	1,310	2,358
Bovine TB Property Tax Credit (School)	71	82	153	103	86	189
Bovine TB Property Tax Credit (Non-School)	266	345	611	345	345	690
<b>Bovine TB Property Tax Credit</b>	337	427	764	448	431	879
<b><u>Taconite Tax Relief Area Aids &amp; Credits</u></b>						
Taconite Reimbursement (School)	561	561	1,122	561	561	1,122
Supplemental Homestead (Non-School)	5,178	5,215	10,393	5,269	5,321	10,590
Replacement Taconite Prod Tax IRRR (Non-School)*	2,159	0	2,159	2,850	2,850	5,700
Replacement Taconite Prod Tax Econ Dev (Non-School)*	1,145	2,850	3,995	0	0	-
Replacement Taconite Prod Tax *	4,409	6,750	11,159	6,590	7,545	14,135
Subtotal Repl Taconite Production Tax	7,713	9,600	17,313	9,440	10,395	19,835
<b><u>LOCAL PENSION AIDS</u></b>						
Aid to Police & Fire	80,500	81,989	162,489	85,054	88,194	173,248
Police/Fire Additional Amortization Aid	0	0	-	0	0	-
Police/Fire Amorization Aid (Open)	0	1,760	1,760	1,760	1,760	3,520
Redistributed Amortization Aid - TRFA	5,890	3,203	9,093	3,203	3,203	6,406
Police/Fire Supplemental Amortization Aid (Open)	829	1,000	1,829	1,000	1,000	2,000
Firefighters Relief Reimbursements	722	722	1,444	722	722	1,444
Public Employees Retirement Assoc. (PERA) Aid	14,390	14,384	28,774	14,384	14,384	28,768
<b><u>Other Expenditures</u></b>						
PILT for DNR Owned Lands	21,824	21,777	43,601	26,490	26,801	53,291
PILT for DOT Owned Lands	0	0	-	0	0	-
<b><u>Other Former Aids and One-Time Appropriations</u></b>						
Disaster Relief 07 SS1 Chptr 2	131		131	0	0	-
<i>Ch 389, Disaster Relief St Charles/Ottertail</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>250</i>	<i>250</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Ch 389, Council on Results Perform Measuremt</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>940</i>	<i>880</i>	<i>1,820</i>
<i>SS2, Disaster Assistance - City Tax Base Replcmt</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>50</i>
<i>SS2 Flood Local Option Abatement reimbursement</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>250</i>	<i>250</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>-</i>
<b>Property Tax Aids and Credits, GF Total</b>	<b>\$1,614,125</b>	<b>\$1,404,300</b>	<b>\$3,018,425</b>	<b>\$1,758,512</b>	<b>\$1,763,725</b>	<b>\$3,522,237</b>

Quick Summary	Nov 2010 Fest			Nov 2010 Fest		
	FY2010	FY2011	FY2010-11	FY2012	FY2013	FY2012-13
Refunds	487,212	458,028	945,240	536,939	559,454	1,096,393
Major Property Tax Relief Aids & Credits	957,997	787,158	1,745,155	1,035,533	1,022,801	2,058,334
Other Property Tax Aids and Credits	124,804	127,137	251,941	131,710	135,339	267,049
Other Expenditures and One-time Appropriations	44,112	31,977	76,089	54,330	46,131	100,461
<b>Property Tax Aids &amp; Credits, GF Total</b>	<b>1,614,125</b>	<b>1,404,300</b>	<b>3,018,425</b>	<b>1,758,512</b>	<b>1,763,725</b>	<b>3,522,237</b>