

- Document names – Act # 388 of 2006/Ratification # R417/House Bill # H4449
  - See link:  
[http://www.scstatehouse.net/sess116\\_2005-2006/bills/4449.htm](http://www.scstatehouse.net/sess116_2005-2006/bills/4449.htm)
- S.C. Sales Tax on groceries dropped to 3% on October 1, 2006 and was removed on November 1, 2007
- S.C. Sales Tax increased by 1% for a total of 6 % on June 1, 2007
- Revenue from the increase Sales Tax will be placed into the Homestead Exemption Fund
- Beginning in tax year 2007, Qualified Owner Occupied Legal Residence properties will be 100% exempt from school operating property taxes. (This was previously limited to the first \$100,000 of appraised value.) These properties are still taxable for all school bonded debt.
- School districts will receive a reimbursement equal to the amount not collected as a result of the school operating expense exemption on Owner Occupied Legal Residence properties.
- Millage rate increases are limited to the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index over the previous year plus the percentage increase in the county population over the previous year. Spartanburg limit for 2007 CPI 3.2% + POP 1.62% = 4.82%
- Valuation of real property is determined from the “base year” or “tax year” 2007. Adjustments to the market value may be made only under certain circumstances:
  - When an “assessable transfer of interest” occurs; (ATI)
    - Conveyance by deed or contract
    - Conveyance by will or intestate succession (except to decedent’s spouse)
    - Change in agricultural use of the property
    - Local zoning ordinance change
    - Some conveyances by lease
    - See Section 12-37-3150(A) of the Act for other ATIs
  - When a value is determined on appeal
  - When a county-wide reassessment/reappraisal program is implemented. The 5-year reappraisal requirement is still in effect but the increase in value is limited to 15% increase from the base year, or a reassessment/reappraisal program, or an ATI, or a value determined on appeal. The 15% limitation does not apply to the market value of additions or improvements made to a property or an ATI in the year they are first subject to tax.
- Appeal procedure – The 90 day appeal period is still in place for those receiving a Change of Assessment notice. However, when there is no CAS notice, taxpayers may appeal at any time. An appeal submitted before the first penalty date (usually around January 15<sup>th</sup>) applies to the tax year in which the penalty applies. An appeal submitted on or after the first penalty date applies for the succeeding tax year. (This change was made in the 2007 Legislative year H3422)

Other resources: <http://www.sccounties.org/>

<http://www.sctax.org>

Gil Bulman

Spartanburg County Assessor