Appendix D
Property Tax Actions Affecting Local Revenues in 2020

While the changes in this section are not abnormal when compared to recent State Tax Actions reports, several states noted the prominence of property tax issues during this past legislative session. During long economic expansions when housing values generally increase or are at their highest value, property tax relief tends to be a significant topic. Below are property tax measures that were enacted affecting local revenues.

Arkansas increased the homestead property tax credit. This tax change was part of a larger reform measure.

Colorado voters approved Amendment B, which repealed the 29% assessment rate in the constitution for most nonresidential property, the calculation of the target percentage, and the requirement that the General Assembly adjust the residential assessment rate to maintain the target percentage.

Oregon removed city property from special district assessments.

Washington enacted several property tax measures in 2020. The state extended the multi-family property tax exemption for properties currently receiving the exemption until 12/31/21. It removed the expiration and expanded eligibility for a property tax exemption for tribal owned property used for economic development; expanded and extended a property tax exemption for nonprofits providing housing to very low-income households; authorized the extension of the special property valuation of historic properties in certain cities; and exempt the value of constructing accessory dwelling units from property taxes for three years.

West Virginia permitted counties to retain the property transfer tax (phased in over a 10-year period).