

Massachusetts House of Representatives Bill Summary

Bill #:	H.2336
Title:	An Act relative to assessor certificates
Sponsor:	Rep. Thomas Stanley
Committee:	Municipalities and Regional Government
Hearing Date:	
Prior History:	Refile of H.2112 (2023-2024 OTP); H.2026 (2021-2022 OTP)
Current Law:	<p>Chapter 59 of MGL concerns the assessment of local taxes. Section 21A of MGL deals with additional compensation of assessors for courses of study. In a city or town that accepts this section, an assessor or assistant assessor who has completed the necessary courses of study and training and has been awarded a certificate by the International Association of Assessing Officers as a certified assessment evaluator or who has been awarded a certificate by the Association of Massachusetts Assessors as a certified Massachusetts assessor can receive an amount equal to ten percent of their regular salary. This bonus is capped at \$1,000 annually. Part-time assessors may receive up to \$500 in additional pay.</p> <p>Section 21A ½ states that in any city or town which accepts this section, an assessor or assistant assessor, who has completed the necessary courses of study and training and has been awarded a certificate by the International Association of Assessing Officers as a certified assessment evaluator or who has been awarded a certificate by the Association of Massachusetts Assessors as a certified Massachusetts assessor, shall receive as compensation from such city or town, in addition to the regular compensation paid by such city or town for services in such office, an amount equal to ten percent of such regular compensation. There's no cap on the total amount which could be received annually.</p>
Summary:	<p>Section 1 amends Section 21A by inserting new subsections. Subsection (a) authorizes an assessor or assistant assessor who has been awarded a certificate by the International Association of Assessing Officers as a certified assessment evaluator or by the Massachusetts Association of Assessing Officers, Inc. as a certified Massachusetts assessors to receive additional compensation. This</p>

additional compensation should be of an amount equal to 10 percent of their regular compensation and shall not exceed \$3,000 annually if such assessor or assistant assessor is employed full-time and shall not exceed \$500 annually if such assessor or assistant assessor is employed on a part-time basis.

Subsection (b) allows or an assessor or assistant assessor who has been awarded a certificate by the International Association of Assessing Officers as a residential evaluation specialist or by the Massachusetts Association of Assessing Officers, Inc. as a residential Massachusetts assessor to receive additional compensation. This additional compensation should be of an amount equal to 5 percent of their regular compensation and this amount shall not exceed \$2,000 annually. The increase in compensation shall only be applied to an assessor or assistant assessor who is employed on a full-time basis.

Subsection (c) provides for additional compensation for an assessor or assistant assessor who has completed courses and has received a certificate by the International Association of Assessing Officers as an assessment administration specialist or as a Massachusetts-accredited assessor from the Massachusetts Association of Assessing Officers, Inc. This additional compensation shall be of an amount equal to 3 percent of their regular compensation, shall not exceed \$1,000 annually, and shall only be applied if such assessor or assistant assessor is employed on a full-time basis.

Subsection (d) holds that this additional compensation shall only be applied to 1 of the certificates. To qualify for the additional compensation, the assessor or assistant assessor shall submit proof of the certificate to the mayor or the select board of such city or town. The additional compensation shall be prorated for any 12-month period in which an eligible person does not hold office of assessor or assistant assessor for 12 consecutive months.

Section 2 further amends Chapter 59 of MGL by striking out Section 21A ½ and inserting new language that similarly expands

the eligibility criteria and requirements for receiving additional compensation. As in the current law, this section would have no limit on the total amount that an eligible person could receive annually but the bonus would only be applied to one such certificate.

Subsection (a) authorizes an assessor or assistant assessor who has been awarded a certificate by the International Association of Assessing Officers as a certified assessment evaluator or by the Massachusetts Association of Assessing Officers, Inc. as a certified Massachusetts assessor to receive additional compensation. This additional compensation should be of an amount equal to 10 percent of their regular compensation.

Subsection (b) allows for an assessor or assistant assessor who has been awarded a certificate by the International Association of Assessing Officers as a residential evaluation specialist or by the Massachusetts Association of Assessing Officers, Inc. as a residential Massachusetts assessor to receive additional compensation of an amount equal to 5 percent of their regular compensation.

Subsection (c) provides additional compensation for an assessor or assistant assessor who has received a certificate by the International Association of Assessing Officers as an assessment administration specialist or as a Massachusetts- accredited assessor from the Massachusetts Association of Assessing Officers, Inc. This additional compensation shall be in an amount equal to 3 percent of their regular compensation.

Subsection (d) provides that this additional compensation shall only apply to 1 certificate. To qualify for this additional compensation, the assessor or assistant assessor shall submit proof of the certificate to the mayor or the select board of such city or town. The additional compensation shall be prorated for any 12-month period in which an eligible person does not hold the office of an assessor or assistant assessor for 12 consecutive months. This section does not apply to cities and towns that accept the provisions of Section 21A of Chapter 59.

Notes:

Refile of H.2112 and H.2206. H.5137 was substituted for H.2206 in the 2021- 2022 session. The language in this version and H.5137 differ from H.2206 by removing acronyms associated with various certificates referenced in the bill and by using numeric versions of numbers in various parts of the bill instead of the spelled-out version of the number.