1 AN ACT relating to vacancies in elective office.

2	Be it enacted by	the General Assemb	oly of	f the	Commonwealth o	f Kentuck	v.

- 3 → Section 1. KRS 83A.165 (Effective November 6, 2019) is amended to read as follows:
- 5 (1) A candidate running to fill the unexpired term of any city office shall file his or her
- 6 nomination papers in accordance with the provisions of KRS 83A.045, 118.365,
- 7 118.375, and 83A.047.

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- 8 (2) Vacancies in the office of mayor or city legislative body that are to be filled
- 9 temporarily by appointment shall be governed by the provisions of KRS 83A.040
- 10 and Section 152 of the Kentucky Constitution.
- 11 (3) Vacancies in the office of mayor or city legislative body that are to be filled by
- 12 partisan election shall be governed by the following provisions:
- 13 Vacancies in candidacy shall be governed by KRS 118.105;
- 14 (b) Nominations for unexpired terms shall be governed by KRS 118.115 and
- 15 Section 152 of the Kentucky Constitution; and
- 16 (c) Independent candidates filing to fill a vacancy shall be governed by KRS
- 17 118.375.
- 18 (4) Vacancies in the office of mayor or city legislative body that are to be filled by
- 19 nonpartisan election shall be governed by the following provisions:
- 20 If the vacancy occurs not less than one hundred sixty (160) days before a May (a)
- 21 primary, candidates to fill the vacancy shall be nominated at that primary in
- 22 the manner prescribed in KRS 83A.170;
- 23 If the vacancy occurs on or after the one hundred sixtieth day before a May
- 24 primary or at any time before the time prescribed in KRS 118.365 for filing
- 25 petitions of nomination, the election to fill the unexpired term shall be held
- 26 without a primary in the manner prescribed in Section 152 of the Kentucky
- 27 Constitution. Petitions of nomination for candidates to fill the vacancy shall

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1		be filed at the time and place prescribed in KRS 118.365;
2	(c)	If the vacancy occurs after the time prescribed in KRS 118.365 for filing
3		petitions of nomination, but not less than three (3) months before the regular
4		election, petitions of nomination for candidates to fill the vacancy shall be
5		filed not later than the second Tuesday in August preceding the regular
6		election for the office sought;[ and]
7	(d)	Notwithstanding any other statute to the contrary, if the vacancy occurs five
8		(5) calendar days or less before the time prescribed for filing petitions of
9		nomination, candidates for unexpired terms to be filled at a regular election
0		may file their petitions not later than ten (10) additional calendar days,
1		excluding weekends and legal holidays, after the time prescribed for filing
2		petitions;
3	<u>(e)</u>	The petition shall be filed no later than 4 p.m. local time at the place of
4		filing when filed on the last date on which papers are permitted to be filed;
5		<u>and</u>
6	<u>(f)</u>	Vacancies in candidacy in any city that has eliminated the nonpartisan primary
7		election pursuant to KRS 83A.045 shall be governed by the provisions of
8		KRS 83A.045(2)(b)6.
9	<b>→</b> S	ection 2. KRS 118.115 (Effective November 6, 2019) is amended to read as
20	follows:	
21	(1) Exce	ept as provided in subsection (2)(b) of KRS 83A.045 governing vacancies in
22	canc	lidacy, candidates for unexpired terms to be filled at a regular election shall be
23	nom	inated as prescribed in subsection (2) of this section.
24	(2) (a)	If the vacancy occurs not less than one hundred sixty (160) days before the
25		primary, the nomination shall be made at the primary next preceding the
26		regular election[, if the vacancy occurred not less than one hundred sixty (160)
27		days before the primary]:[.]

1		$(\underline{b})$ If the vacancy $\underline{occurs}\{$ occurred $\}$ less than one hundred sixty (160) days before
2		the primary, the nomination shall be made in a manner determined by the
3		governing authority of the political party concerned; or
4		(c) If the vacancy occurs five (5) calendar days or less before the filing
5		deadlines prescribed by the election law generally for filing nomination
6		papers for that office, candidates for unexpired terms to be filled at a
7		regular election may file their nomination papers not later than ten (10)
8		additional calendar days, excluding weekends and legal holidays, after the
9		time prescribed for filing nomination papers. All nomination papers shall
10		be filed no later than 4 p.m. local time at the time and place of filing when
11		filed on the last date on which papers are permitted to be filed.
12	<u>(3)</u>	In the preparation of ballots, candidates for full terms shall be grouped together, and
13		candidates for unexpired terms shall be grouped together, under appropriate
14		headings, so that the voter may easily distinguish the candidates for full terms from
15		the candidates for unexpired terms.
16	<u>(4)</u> [(	2)] A judge who elected to retire as a Senior Status Special Judge in accordance
17		with KRS 21.580 shall not become a candidate or a nominee for any elected office
18		during the five (5) year term prescribed in KRS 21.580(1)(a)1., regardless of the
19		number of days served by the judge acting as a Senior Status Special Judge.
20		→ Section 3. KRS 118.165 (Effective November 6, 2019) is amended to read as
21	follo	ws:
22	(1)	Except as provided in KRS Chapters 116 to 121, candidates for offices to be voted
23		for by the electors of one (1) county or of a district less than one (1) county, except
24		members of Congress and members of the General Assembly, shall file their
25		nomination papers with the county clerk of the county not earlier than the first
26		Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year the
27		office will appear on the ballot and not later than the first Friday following the first

1 Monday in January preceding the day fixed by law for holding the primary.

(2) Candidates for offices to be voted for by the electors of more than one (1) county, and for members of Congress and members of the General Assembly, shall file their nomination papers with the Secretary of State not earlier than the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year the office will appear on the ballot and not later than the first Friday following the first Monday in January preceding the day fixed by law for holding the primary. Signatures for nomination papers shall not be affixed on the document to be filed prior to the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year in which the office will appear on the ballot.

(3) If a vacancy occurs in any elective office under this section five (5) calendar days or less before the filing deadline prescribed in this section for filing nomination papers, candidates for an unexpired term to be filled at a regular election may file their nomination papers not later than ten (10) additional calendar days, excluding weekends and legal holidays, after the time prescribed for filing nomination papers.

17 (4) All nomination papers shall be filed no later than 4 p.m. local time at the place of filing when filed on the last date on which the papers may be filed.

19 (5)[(3)] The Secretary of State or the county clerk shall examine the notification and declaration form of each candidate to determine whether it is regular on its face. If there is an error, the proper officer shall notify the candidate by certified mail within twenty-four (24) hours of filing.

(6)[(4)] A judge who elected to retire as a Senior Status Special Judge in accordance with KRS 21.580 shall not become a candidate or a nominee for any elected office during the five (5) year term prescribed in KRS 21.580(1)(a)1., regardless of the number of days served by the judge acting as a Senior Status Special Judge.

→ Section 4. KRS 118.365 is amended to read as follows:

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(1) Certificates of nomination issued by the State Board of Elections shall be filed by that board with the Secretary of State immediately. The certificates issued by the county board of elections shall be filed by that board with the county clerk immediately.

- (2) Petitions of nomination for candidates for city offices except as provided in KRS 83A.047, for candidates for members of boards of education, and for candidates for supervisors of soil and water conservation districts shall be filed with the county clerk not earlier than the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year in which the office will appear on the ballot and not later than the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June preceding the day fixed by law for the holding of regular elections for the offices sought.
- (3) Candidates for an office, the nomination to which is to be made by a convention pursuant to KRS 118.325(1) and (2), except for the office of electors of President and Vice President of the United States, shall file the statements required by KRS 118.325(3), with the official designated in KRS 118.165 with whom notification and declaration are filed for the office, not earlier than the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year in which the office will appear on the ballot and not later than the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June preceding the regular election for the office sought.
  - (4) Certificates of nomination made by the governing authority of a political party within the meaning of KRS 118.015 or a political organization not constituting a political party within the meaning of KRS 118.015 but whose candidate received two percent (2%) of the vote of the state at the last preceding election for presidential electors to fill vacancies in office, as provided in KRS 118.115 and 118.325, shall be filed as required with the Secretary of State or county clerk not earlier than the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year in which the offices will appear on the ballot and not later than

the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June preceding the day fixed by law for the election of the person in nomination.

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- Except as otherwise provided in this section, petitions of nomination shall be filed as required with the Secretary of State or county clerk not earlier than the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year in which the offices will appear on the ballot and not later than the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June preceding the day fixed by law for the holding of regular elections for the offices sought. Certificates of nomination shall be filed with the Secretary of State or county clerk, as required by law, not earlier than the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year in which the offices will appear on the ballot and not later than the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June preceding the day fixed by law for the holding of regular elections for the offices sought. The filing of petitions of nomination for independent, or political organization, or political group candidates shall not be accepted by the Secretary of State or the county clerk if the candidate has not filed a statement-of-candidacy form as required by KRS 118.367.
- Petitions and certificates of nomination for electors of President and Vice President (6) 18 of the United States shall be filed with the Secretary of State not earlier than the 19 first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year 20 in which there is an election for President and Vice President of the United States and not later than the Friday following the first Tuesday in September preceding the date fixed by law for the election of the electors.
  - If a vacancy occurs in any elective office for which a petition of nomination is (7) required to be filed under this section, and that vacancy occurs five (5) calendar days or less before the filing deadlines prescribed in this section for filing petitions of nomination, candidates for unexpired terms to be filled at a regular election may file their petitions not later than ten (10) additional calendar days,

1		excluding weekends and legal holidays, after the time prescribed for filing
2		petitions.
3	<u>(8)</u>	Petitions for recall elections or elections on public questions shall be filed as
4		required with the county clerk not later than the second Tuesday in August
5		preceding the day fixed by law for holding a regular election.
6	<u>(9)</u> [(	8)] Petitions of any kind named in this section, statements, and certificates of
7		nomination shall be filed no later than 4 p.m. local time at the place of filing when
8		filed on the last date on which papers are permitted to be filed.
9		→Section 5. KRS 118.375 (Effective November 6, 2019) is amended to read as
10	follo	ws:
11	(1)	If a vacancy occurs in any elective office to be filled at a regular election less than
12		one hundred sixty (160) days before the primary or at any time before the time
13		prescribed in KRS 118.365 for filing petitions of nomination, independent, or
14		political organization, or political group candidates may file their petitions at the
15		time and place provided in KRS 118.365, subject to the restrictions concerning
16		party registration and candidacy provided in KRS 118.315(1).
17	(2)	If a vacancy occurs in any elective office to be filled at a regular election after the
18		time prescribed in KRS 118.365 for filing petitions of nomination, but not less than
19		three (3) months before the regular election, independent, or political organization,
20		or political group candidates may file their petitions not later than the second
21		Tuesday in August preceding the regular election for the office sought, subject to
22		the restrictions concerning party registration and candidacy provided in KRS
23		118.315(1).
24	(3)	If a vacancy occurs in any elective office to be filled at a regular election five (5)
25		calendar days or less before the time prescribed in this section for filing petitions
26		for nomination, independent, or political organization, or political group
27		candidates may file their petitions not later than ten (10) additional calendar

1		days, excluding weekends and legal holidays, after the time prescribed for filing
2		petitions.
3	<u>(4)</u>	Petitions for nomination under this section shall be filed no later than 4 p.m.
4		local time at the place of filing when filed on the last date on which papers are
5		permitted to be filed.
6	<u>(5)</u>	A judge who elected to retire as a Senior Status Special Judge in accordance with
7		KRS 21.580 shall not become a candidate or a nominee for any elected office
8		during the five (5) year term prescribed in KRS 21.580(1)(a)1., regardless of the
9		number of days served by the judge acting as a Senior Status Special Judge.
10		→ Section 6. KRS 118A.100 (Effective November 6, 2019) is amended to read as
11	follo	ows:
12	(1)	Candidates for an unexpired term of a judicial office to be filled at a regular election
13		shall be nominated at the primary next preceding the regular election in the manner
14		prescribed in KRS 118A.060 if the vacancy occurs not later than the second Friday
15		in December preceding the primary. If the vacancy occurs on or after that date, the
16		election to fill the unexpired term shall be held in accordance with the procedures
17		described in this section and Section 152 of the Constitution of Kentucky.
18	(2)	If in a regular election for judicial office no candidates nominated as provided in
19		KRS 118A.060 are available due to death, incapacity, or withdrawal, and the
20		candidates have not been replaced as provided in KRS 118A.060, the election to fill
21		the regular term shall be conducted in the manner prescribed in subsections (3)
22		through (11) of this section.
23	(3)	(a) If a vacancy occurs prior to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June,
24		each candidate shall file a petition for nomination with the Secretary of State
25		not earlier than the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the
26		year preceding the year in which the election for the unexpired term will be
27		held and not later than the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June

1		preceding the day fixed by law for holding the regular election for the
2		unexpired term; [, if the vacancy occurs prior to the first Tuesday following the
3		first Monday in June.]
4	<u>(b)</u>	If the vacancy occurs after the first Tuesday following the first Monday in
5		June, each candidate shall file a petition for nomination with the Secretary of
6		State not later than the second Tuesday in August preceding the day fixed by
7		law for holding the regular election for the unexpired term; or
8	<u>(c)</u>	If the vacancy occurs five (5) calendar days or less before the filing
9		deadlines prescribed in this section for filing a petition for nomination, each
10		candidate for an unexpired term of a judicial office to be filled at a regular
11		election may file a petition for nomination not later than ten (10) additional
12		calendar days, excluding weekends and legal holidays, after the time
13		prescribed for filing petitions.
14	(4) (a)	The petition <i>for nomination</i> shall be sworn to by the candidate and by not less
15		than two (2) registered voters from the district or circuit from which he or she
16		seeks nomination, before an officer authorized to administer an oath.
17		Signatures for nomination papers shall not be affixed on the document to be
18		filed prior to the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the
19		year preceding the year in which the office will appear on the ballot:[.]
20	<u>(b)</u>	The petition <u>for nomination</u> shall be filed no later than 4 p.m. local time at
21		the place of filing when filed on the last date on which the papers are
22		permitted to be filed: and [.]
23	<u>(c)</u> [(	4)] The petition for nomination shall be in the form prescribed by the State
24		Board of Elections. The petition shall include a declaration sworn to by the
25		candidate, that he or she possesses all the constitutional and statutory
26		requirements of the office for which the candidate has filed. Titles, ranks, or
27		spurious phrases shall not be accepted on the petition and shall not be printed

on the ballots as part of the candidate's name; however, nicknames, initials,

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2			and contractions of given names may be acceptable as the candidate's name.
3	(5)	The	Secretary of State shall examine the petition of each candidate to determine
4		whet	ther it is regular on its face. If there is an error, the Secretary of State shall
5		notif	fy the candidate by certified mail within twenty-four (24) hours of filing.
6	(6)	<u>(a)</u>	For those petitions for nomination required to be filed no later than the first
7			<u>Tuesday following the first Monday in June</u> , the order of names on the ballot
8			for each district or circuit, and numbered division if divisions exist, shall be
9			determined by lot at a public drawing to be held in the office of the Secretary
10			of State at 2 p.m., standard time, on the Thursday following the first Tuesday
11			after the first Monday in June preceding the regular election: [ for those
12			petitions for nomination required to be filed no later than the first Tuesday
13			following the first Monday in June.]
14		<u>(b)</u>	For those petitions for nomination required to be filed no later than the second
15			Tuesday in August, the order of names on the ballot for each district and
16			circuit, and numbered division if divisions exist, shall be determined by lot at
17			a public drawing to be held in the office of the Secretary of State at 2 p.m.,
18			standard time, on the Thursday following the second Tuesday in August
19			preceding the regular election; and
20		<u>(c)</u>	For those petitions for nomination required to be filed no later than the
21			filing deadline prescribed in subsection (3)(c) of this section, the order of
22			names on the ballot for each district and circuit, and numbered division if
23			divisions exist, shall be determined by lot at a public drawing to be held in
24			the office of the Secretary of State at 2 p.m., standard time, on the Thursday
25			following the extended filing deadline preceding the regular election.
26	(7)	Not	later than the date set forth in KRS 118.215 and after the order of names on the
27		ballo	ot has been determined as required in subsection (6) of this section, the

Page 10 of 15
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Secretary	of	State	shall
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(a) Certify to the county clerks of the respective counties entitled to participate in the election of the various candidates, the name and place of residence of each candidate for each office, by district or circuit, and numbered division if divisions exist, as specified in the petitions for nomination filed with the Secretary of State; and

- (b) Designate for the county clerks the office of the Court of Justice with which the names of candidates shall be printed and the order in which they are to appear on the ballot.
- 10 (8) The ballot position of a candidate shall not be changed after the ballot position has 11 been designated by the county clerk.
- 12 (9) The county clerks of each county shall cause to be printed on the ballot labels for 13 the voting machines and on the absentee ballots for the regular election the names 14 of the candidates for offices of the Court of Justice.
  - (10) The names of the candidates shall be placed on the voting machine in a separate column or columns or in a separate line or lines and identified by the words "Judicial Ballot," and in a manner so that the casting of a vote for all of the candidates of a political party will not operate to cast a vote for judicial candidates. The words "Vote for one" or "Vote for one in each division," shall be printed on the appropriate location. The office, numbered division if divisions exist, and the candidates therefor shall be clearly labeled. No party designation or emblem of any kind, nor any sign indicating any candidate's political belief or party affiliation, shall be used on voting machines or special ballots.
- 24 (11) The candidate receiving the highest number of votes cast at the regular election for a district or circuit, or for a numbered division if divisions exist, shall be elected.
- 26 (12) A judge who elected to retire as a Senior Status Special Judge in accordance with 27 KRS 21.580 shall not become a candidate or a nominee for any elected office

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during the five (5) year term prescribed in KRS 21.580(1)(a)1., regardless of the number of days served by the judge acting as a Senior Status Special Judge.

- 3 → Section 7. KRS 118.225 (Effective November 6, 2019) is amended to read as follows:
- 5 (1) For the purpose of determining the order in which the names of candidates or slates 6 of candidates to be voted for by the electors of the entire state shall be certified and 7 printed on the ballots with the designation of the respective offices, the Secretary of 8 State shall prepare lists of the counties of each congressional district of the state. 9 The Secretary of State shall arrange the surnames of all candidates or slates of 10 candidates for each office in alphabetical order for the First Congressional District, 11 and the names shall be certified in this order to the county clerks of all the counties 12 comprising that district. For each succeeding congressional district, taken in 13 numerical order, the name appearing first for each office in the last preceding 14 district shall be placed last, and the name appearing second in the last preceding 15 district shall be placed first, and each other name shall be moved up one (1) place. 16 The lists shall be certified accordingly.
  - (2) For all other offices for which nomination papers and petitions are filed with the Secretary of State, the order of names of candidates for each office shall be determined by lot at a public drawing to be held in the office of the Secretary of State at 2 p.m., standard time, on the Thursday following the filing deadline for the primary as established in KRS 83A.045, 118.165, and 118A.060 or the Thursday following the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June preceding the regular election.

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24 (3) For all offices for which nomination papers and petitions are filed in the office of 25 the county clerk, the order in which the names of candidates for each office are to 26 be printed on the ballot shall be determined by lot at a public drawing in the office 27 of the county clerk at 2 p.m., standard time, on the Thursday following the filing

Page 12 of 15 XXXX

1	deadline for the primary as established in KRS 83A.045, 118.165, and 118A.060 or
2	the Thursday following the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June preceding
3	the regular election.

- 4 (4) For all offices for which the deadline for filing nomination papers and petitions is governed by KRS 83A.165(4)(c) or 118.375(2), the order in which the names of candidates for each office are to be printed shall be determined by lot at a public drawing in the office at the place of filing at 2 p.m., standard time, on the Thursday following the second Tuesday in August preceding the regular election.
- 9 (5) For all offices for which the deadline for filing nomination papers and petitions
  10 for filling unexpired terms in elective office at the regular election has been
  11 extended as provided in Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 of this Act, the order in which
  12 the names of candidates for each unexpired term are to be printed on the ballot
  13 shall be determined by lot at a public drawing in the office at the place of filing at
  14 2 p.m., standard time, on the Thursday following the extended filing deadline
  15 preceding the regular election.
- 16 (6) If the number of certified candidates or slates of candidates cannot be placed on a
  17 ballot which can be accommodated on voting machines currently in use in the
  18 county, the county clerk shall notify the State Board of Elections, as provided in
  19 KRS 118.215.
- Section 8. KRS 132.380 is amended to read as follows:
- 21 (1) (a) Before any person's name shall appear before the voters on election day as a 22 candidate for the office of property valuation administrator in any primary or 23 regular[general] election, except a current property valuation administrator 24 already qualified as a candidate to succeed himself or herself in office, or 25 before that person may be appointed property valuation administrator, except 26 as an interim appointee as provided by KRS 132.375, that person shall hold a 27 certificate issued by the department, showing that he or she has been

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1			examined by the department and is qualified for the office.
2		(b)	All certificates issued shall expire four (4) years one (1) year from the date
3			of issuance.
4		(c)	The examinations shall be written and formulated so as to test fairly the ability
5			and fitness of the applicant to serve as property valuation administrator.
6		(d)	The department shall hold the examination at a central location during the
7			month of November of each year immediately preceding each year in which
8			property valuation administrators are to be elected.
9		(e)	The department shall, at least thirty (30) days prior to the examination, issue a
10			statewide press release announcing the examination and post the
11			announcement on the department's Web site.
12		(f)	Any person desiring to take an examination shall appear at the time and place
13			designated.
14	(2)	(a)	If, after the giving of the examination, as provided in subsection (1) of this
15			section, there is no person qualified to be a candidate in the county, the
16			department shall hold a second examination.
17		(b)	Applicants from only those counties having no person qualified shall be
18			eligible to take the examination.
19		(c)	Notice of the second examination shall be made by issuing a press release in
20			those counties and posting an announcement for the examination on the
21			department's Web site at least fourteen (14) days prior to the second
22			examination.
23	(3)	(a)	If no qualified candidate files for the office, a special examination shall be
24			given at a time determined by the department.
25		(b)	Notice of and registration for the special examination shall be provided in the

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{Page 14 of 15} \\ \text{XXXX} \end{array}$ 

Whenever there is a vacancy in the office of property valuation administrator

same manner as provided in subsection (2) of this section.

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(a)

1			to be filled by appointment or by election, [ and there is not more than one (1)
2			person holding a valid certificate and eligible for appointment or election,] the
3			department shall hold a special examination for applicants seeking a
4			certificate for the office. No person shall be appointed property valuation
5			administrator to fill a vacancy, except as an interim appointee under KRS
6			132.375, until the department has issued the certificates required under
7			subsection (1) of this section following the special examination.
8		(b)	If, after the giving of a special examination, only one (1) person is qualified,
9			the county judge/executive may request a second examination.
10		(c)	Notice of and registration for <u>any</u> [the] special examination <u>given under this</u>
11			<u>subsection</u> shall be provided in the same manner as provided by subsection
12			(2) of this section.
13	(5)	(a)	Examinations shall be given and graded in accordance with rules of the
14			department published at the time of the examination.
15		(b)	Within ten (10) days after the examination, a certificate of fitness and
16			qualification to fill the office of property valuation administrator shall be
17			issued by the department to each person passing the examination.
18	(6)	Exa	mination records shall be preserved by the department for forty-eight
19		<u>(48)</u>	[twelve (12)] months after the examination, and the record of any person who
20		took	the examination may be seen by him or her at the office of the department in
21		Fran	kfort, Kentucky.