<u>Commonly Asked Questions for Reassessment Petitions</u>

Q. How can I petition the board to order a reassessment?

A. Per RSA 71-B:16 IV, a petition can be filed with the board. Once a petition is received, the board will typically direct one of its Review Appraisers (RSA 71-B:14) to investigate and file a report. Based on the issues raised in the petition and the review appraiser's report, the board may schedule a Show Cause Hearing, at which time both the petitioners and the town will have an opportunity to present their case.

Q. How many signatures are required on a reassessment petition?

A. A petition must be signed by at least 50 taxpayers or 1/3 of the taxpayers in a taxing district, whichever is less (RSA 71-B:16 IV). A taxpayer is a property owner; if more than one person owns a property, each individual is considered a taxpayer. For example, if Mr. Smith and Ms. Jones own a property together, they can each sign the petition.

Q. What criteria will the board use in determining a need for reassessment?

A. The board will use the criteria established in RSA 71-B:16-a to determine if there is a need for any remedial action.

Q. Can the board investigate the need for a reassessment without a taxpayer petition?

A. Yes. The board has the authority to investigate the need for a reassessment based on information obtained from any source. For instance, the information could come from a media report or a taxpayer petition.

Q. If the board orders a reassessment, will my property taxes go down?

A. The intended result of any board ordered reassessment is to establish market value and to improve the equity of the assessments within a taxing jurisdiction. As a result, some assessments may increase while others may decrease. If an individual is concerned about the proportionality of the assessment of a particular property, an individual property tax appeal should be filed.