

which may have been made subsequent to January 1, 1960, on interests which were not taxable prior to May 8, 1961, are hereby ratified, confirmed and validated to the same extent as if made after the passage hereof. Anything in this Code dealing with the time of making assessments notwithstanding, the appropriate authorities are hereby directed to make assessments on all interests subject to taxation hereby which may not have previously been made, the intention being that all interests made subject to tax by this subsection shall be assessed and taxed as of January 1, 1960, and thereafter, to the end that there shall be no discrimination whatsoever in the retroactive application of the tax.

【8A.

Except to the extent prohibited by Section 269 of this article, and except where a mandatory rate of reduction is otherwise prescribed by this article, any county of this State by appropriate resolution of its governing body shall have the power to eliminate or phase out, by a reduction in the assessed basis, county taxes upon one or more classes of business personal property. "Business personal property" as used herein means inventory, furniture and fixtures, tools, machinery, equipment and supplies of any commercial, manufacturing or professional business, or of any farmer.】

【9.

The following shall be exempt from assessment and from State, county and city taxation in this State, each and all of which exemptions shall be strictly construed:

(1) *Public property.*—Property, real and personal, tangible and intangible, belonging to this State or to any county or city of this State.

(2) *Real and personal property of incorporated fire insurance salvage corps and fire companies.*—Real and personal property owned by any incorporated fire insurance salvage corps without capital stock which uses its property as aid to the fire department of any county or city in this State, and the real and personal property owned by any incorporated fire company.

(3) *Fraternal beneficiary associations.*—The property of any fraternal beneficiary association incorporated or licensed under Article 48A of the Code of Public General Laws of this State, except real estate, chattels real and office equipment, and shares of stock in domestic corporations the taxes upon which are required by this article to be paid by such corporation.

(4) *Churches, parsonages, etc.*—Houses and buildings used exclusively for public worship, and the furniture contained therein, and any parsonage used in connection therewith, and the grounds appurtenant to such houses, buildings and parsonages and necessary for the respective uses thereof.

(5) *Graveyards, etc.*—Graveyards, cemeteries, mausoleums and other burial places for the dead, (including burying grounds and/or mausoleums set apart for the use of any family or belonging to any church or congregation) and cemetery and/or mausoleum companies which are not operated for pecuniary profit and which do not accumulate profits for any purpose other than the maintenance or improve-