

House Bill No. 425

An act relating to Escambia County; amending chapter 2002-380, Laws of Florida; providing that referendum for approval of creation of the West Florida Regional Library District, an independent special district, and exercise of its powers to levy ad valorem taxes and to issue debt obligations payable from ad valorem taxes shall be permissive rather than mandatory; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 8 of chapter 2002-380, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

Section 8. Referendum authority to levy ad valorem taxes and to issue debt obligations payable from ad valorem taxes; dissolution of district upon nonapproval.—A referendum of the electors of Escambia County shall be held prior to December 31, 2003, to authorize the creation of the West Florida Regional Library District and its power to levy ad valorem taxes on real and tangible personal property within the limitations and for the purposes provided in paragraph (5)(g) of section 3. The Pensacola City Council may ~~shall~~, by resolution, prepare the referendum ballot language and fix the date of the referendum election, and shall provide for such notices as may be required by the Florida Election Code.

Section 2. This act shall take effect only upon its approval by a majority vote of those qualified electors of Escambia County voting in a referendum which may be called by the Pensacola City Council in conjunction with a primary, general, special, or other election in Escambia County prior to December 31, 2003, except that this section shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor July 16, 2003.

Filed in Office Secretary of State July 16, 2003.