

Council Substitute for House Bill No. 1577

An act relating to Brevard County; authorizing Brevard County to cap, through a provision in its charter, the annual growth in ad valorem tax revenue; providing for exceptions to the limitation; requiring a referendum; providing a ballot statement; providing a definition; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Brevard County may cap, through a provision in its charter, the annual growth in ad valorem tax revenues. Any such cap may not restrict the annual growth at a rate below the lesser of 3 percent or the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index as provided in section 193.155(1)(b), Florida Statutes. Any such cap specified in a county charter must allow for the cap to be overcome by a finding of necessity due to emergency or critical need by a super majority vote of the county commission. In applying the increase or growth cap, the county shall compute a millage rate that, exclusive of new construction, additions to structures, deletions, increases in the value of improvements that have undergone a substantial rehabilitation which increased the assessed value of such improvements by at least 100 percent, and property added due to geographic boundary changes, will provide the same ad valorem tax revenue for each taxing authority as was levied during the prior year. It is the rate that shall be subject to any cap in growth or increase in ad valorem revenues established by county charter.

Section 2. (1) In conjunction with the next countywide election held in Brevard County, and in accordance with the general laws governing elections, the Brevard County Supervisor of Elections shall conduct a referendum of qualified electors of the county for the purpose of posing the following question:

Shall Brevard County be authorized to cap, through a provision in its charter, the annual growth in ad valorem tax revenue?

...Yes

...No

(2) "Qualified elector" means a person who is registered to vote in a general election held in Brevard County.

Section 3. This act shall take effect only upon its approval by a majority vote of those qualified electors of Brevard County voting in a referendum held in accordance with section 2, except that this section and section 2 shall take effect upon this act becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor June 19, 2007.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 19, 2007.