By Representative Bronson

1   A bill to be entitled
2   An act relating to determination of millage;
3   amending s. 200.065, F.S.; authorizing taxing
4   authorities to adopt the tax levies and budgets
5   of their dependent special taxing districts by
6   single votes, unless a member of the public
7   requests a separate discussion and vote for the
8   tax levy or budget of any such district;
9   providing an effective date.
10
11   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
12
13   Section 1. Paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section
14   200.065, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
15   200.065 Method of fixing millage.--
16   (2) No millage shall be levied until a resolution or
17   ordinance has been approved by the governing board of the
18   taxing authority which resolution or ordinance must be
19   approved by the taxing authority according to the following
20   procedure:
21   (e)1. In the hearings required pursuant to paragraphs
22   (c) and (d), the first substantive issue discussed shall be
23   the percentage increase in millage over the rolled-back rate
24   necessary to fund the budget, if any, and the specific
25   purposes for which ad valorem tax revenues are being
26   increased. During such discussion, the governing body shall
27   hear comments regarding the proposed increase and explain the
28   reasons for the proposed increase over the rolled-back rate.
29   The general public shall be allowed to speak and to ask
30   questions prior to adoption of any measures by the governing
31

1

1 body. The governing body shall adopt its tentative or final
2 millage rate prior to adopting its tentative or final budget.
3   2. These hearings shall be held after 5 p.m. if
4 scheduled on a day other than Saturday. No hearing shall be
5 held on a Sunday. The county commission shall not schedule
6 its hearings on days scheduled for hearings by the school
7 board. The hearing dates scheduled by the county commission
8 and school board shall not be utilized by any other taxing
9 authority within the county for its public hearings. A
10 multicounty taxing authority shall make every reasonable
11 effort to avoid scheduling hearings on days utilized by the
12 counties or school districts within its jurisdiction. Tax
13 levies and budgets for dependent special taxing districts ~~each~~
14 shall be ~~separately discussed and separately~~ adopted at the
15 hearings for the taxing authority to which such districts are
16 dependent, following such discussion and adoption of levies
17 and budgets for the superior taxing authority. <u>A taxing</u>
18 <u>authority may adopt the tax levies for all of its dependent</u>
19 <u>special taxing districts, and may adopt the budgets for all of</u>
20 <u>its dependent special taxing districts, by a single unanimous</u>
21 <u>vote. However, if a member of the general public requests that</u>
22 <u>the tax levy or budget of a dependent special taxing district</u>
23 <u>be separately discussed and separately adopted, the taxing</u>
24 <u>authority shall discuss and adopt that tax levy or budget</u>
25 <u>separately.</u>If, due to circumstances beyond the control of the
26 taxing authority, the hearing provided for in paragraph (d) is
27 recessed, the taxing authority shall publish a notice in a
28 newspaper of general paid circulation in the county. The
29 notice shall state the time and place for the continuation of
30 the hearing and shall be published at least 2 days but not
31

CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words <u>underlined</u> are additions.

1 more than 5 days prior to the date the hearing will be

2 continued.

3   Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a

4 law.

5

6   ***

7   HOUSE SUMMARY

8

9   Authorizes taxing authorities to adopt the tax levies and
     budgets of their dependent special taxing districts by
     single votes, unless a member of the public requests a
10   separate discussion and vote for the tax levy or budget
     of any such district.

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31