

By Senator Ostalkiewicz

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to special districts; requiring
certain special districts to conduct a
referendum on their continued existence and
certify the results to the Legislature;
requiring certain special districts to obtain
the approval of their electors before imposing
or raising taxes; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. At the general election held in November 1998, each special district, as defined in section 189.403, Florida Statutes, which has the power to impose ad valorem taxes shall have placed on the ballot a referendum in which the electors of the district may vote on the following question:

Shall the _____ District be abolished?
Yes _____
No _____

The governing body of each district shall certify the results of the referendum on that district to the Legislature by January 1, 1999.

Section 2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, each special district, as defined in section 189.403, Florida Statutes, which has the power to impose ad valorem taxes may not impose such a tax, or increase the rate of one already in existence, unless the electors of the district approve such change in a referendum.

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

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5 SENATE SUMMARY

6 Requires each special district that has the power to levy
7 ad valorem taxes to:

8 (1) Conduct a referendum on whether the district
9 should be abolished and certify the results to the
10 Legislature.

11 (2) Obtain the approval of the electors of the
12 district, by referendum, before imposing such a tax or
13 increasing the rate of one that is already in place.
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