

By Representative Wallace

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Legislature; creating s.
3 11.077, F.S., the "Taxpayer Protection Act";
4 requiring that any general law enacted by the
5 Legislature that will potentially increase the
6 cost of county or municipal personnel salaries,
7 wages, or benefits must include an economic
8 impact statement and provide a means to finance
9 the legislation; providing requirements of the
10 economic impact statement; providing that any
11 provision of general law that will potentially
12 increase the cost of county or municipal
13 personnel salaries, wages, or benefits for
14 employees represented by a collective
15 bargaining agent under ch. 447, F.S., shall not
16 take effect for those employees until agreed to
17 in collective bargaining; providing an
18 effective date.

19
20 WHEREAS, Article VIII of the State Constitution
21 establishes counties and municipalities within the state with
22 independent authority to exercise governmental authority and
23 power, and

24 WHEREAS, inherent in the exercise of local governmental
25 authority and governmental powers is the right of counties and
26 municipalities to hire necessary personnel to conduct
27 governmental activities and the right to provide salaries,
28 wages, and benefits to said personnel, and

29 WHEREAS, funding of local government employees'
30 salaries, wages, and benefits is ultimately the responsibility
31 of the local citizen taxpayers, and

1 WHEREAS, personnel salaries, wages, and benefits
2 frequently represent between 60 and 70 percent of the total
3 operating budget of a local government, and

4 WHEREAS, control over these costs is essential to
5 controlling governmental finances and protecting the
6 taxpayers' interests, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

9
10 Section 1. Section 11.077, Florida Statutes, is
11 created to read:

12 11.077 General laws affecting local government
13 personnel costs.--

14 (1) This section may be cited as the "Taxpayer
15 Protection Act."

16 (2) Any general law enacted by the Legislature after
17 January 1, 1998, which will potentially increase the cost of
18 municipal or county personnel salaries, wages, or benefits
19 must include an economic impact statement prepared by an
20 enrolled actuary which estimates the total cost to
21 municipalities or counties to implement the legislation, and
22 must provide a means to finance the requirements of the
23 legislation.

24 (3) The economic impact statement must include:

25 (a) An estimate of the cost to the local government of
26 implementing the proposed legislation, including a separate
27 calculation of the total cost to each of the five counties in
28 the state with the greatest population, according to the
29 latest official census, or the five municipalities in the
30 state with the greatest population, according to the latest
31 official census, or both, if applicable.

1 (b) An estimate of the cost or the economic benefit to
2 all persons directly affected by the proposed legislation.

3 (c) An estimate of the impact of the proposed
4 legislation on competition and the open market for employment,
5 if applicable.

6 (d) A comparison of the probable costs and benefits of
7 the proposed legislation to the probable costs and benefits of
8 not adopting the legislation.

9 (e) A detailed statement of the data and methodology
10 used in making the estimates required by this subsection.

11 (4) No provision of general law enacted by the
12 Legislature after January 1, 1998, which will potentially
13 increase the cost of municipal or county personnel salaries,
14 wages, or benefits shall become effective with respect to
15 employees represented pursuant to chapter 447 by a collective
16 bargaining agent, until such time as it is agreed to in
17 collective bargaining and ratified by both parties as provided
18 in chapter 447.

19 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
20 law.

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23 HOUSE SUMMARY

24 Requires that any general law enacted by the Legislature
25 that will potentially increase the cost of county or
26 municipal personnel salaries, wages, or benefits must
27 include an economic impact statement and provide a means
28 of finance the legislation. Provides requirements of the
29 economic impact statement. Provides that any provision
30 of general law that will potentially increase the cost of
31 county or municipal personnel salaries, wages, or
benefits for employees represented by a collective
bargaining agent under ch. 447, F.S., shall not take
effect for those employees until agreed to in collective
bargaining.