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CHAMBER ACTION

The Committee on Local Government & Veterans' Affairs recommends the following:

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Committee Substitute

Remove the entire bill and insert:

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to property taxes; amending s. 200.071, F.S.; authorizing counties to cap annual growth in ad valorem tax revenues by charter; providing requirements and limitations; providing an exception; prohibiting ad valorem tax levies by counties in excess of amounts specified in the county charter; prohibiting ad valorem tax levies by counties through municipal service taxing units in excess of amounts specified in the ordinance establishing the unit; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 200.071, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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200.071 Limitation of millage; counties.--

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(1)(a) Except as otherwise provided herein, no ad valorem tax millage shall be levied against real property and tangible

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personal property by counties in excess of 10 mills or the amount specified in the county charter, whichever is less, except for voted levies.

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- (b) A 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 Consumer Price Index as defined in s. 193.155(1)(b). 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 which, 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 or ad valorem revenues established by county charter. In preparing their respective budgets for submittal to the county commission, and notwithstanding any other provision of law, constitutional and charter officers are required to comply with any cap in growth established by county charter when submitting their respective budgets to the county commission.
- (3) Any county which, through a municipal service taxing unit, provides services or facilities of the kind or type commonly provided by municipalities, may levy, in addition to

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the millages otherwise provided in this section, against real property and tangible personal property within each such municipal service taxing unit an ad valorem tax millage not in excess of 10 mills, or the amount specified in the ordinance establishing the municipal service taxing unit, whichever is less, to pay for such services or facilities provided with the funds obtained through such levy within such municipal service taxing unit.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect January 1, 2005.