HB 53 2006

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the discretionary surtax on documents; amending ss. 125.0167 and 201.031, F.S.; authorizing certain counties operating under a home rule charter to levy the discretionary surtax for purposes of establishing and funding a Housing Assistance Loan Trust Fund to assist in providing housing for low-income and moderate-income families; prohibiting certain counties from levying the surtax unless approved by a majority of the electors of the county voting in a referendum; providing requirements for holding a referendum; providing for the future repeal of ss. 125.0167 and 201.031, F.S., relating to the surtax on documents, for purposes of funding housing assistance; amending s. 201.0205, F.S.; deleting references to ch. 83-220, Laws of Florida, to conform; updating crossreferences; repealing s. 3 of ch. 83-220, Laws of Florida, as amended, relating to the former repeal date established for the discretionary surtax on documents; 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. Section 125.0167, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

125.0167 Discretionary surtax on documents; adoption; application of revenue. --

Pursuant to the provisions of s. 201.031, the governing authority in each county having a population of 1.2

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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

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million or greater which operates under a home rule charter, and each county, as defined by s. 125.011(1), is authorized to levy a discretionary surtax on documents for the purpose of establishing and financing a Housing Assistance Loan Trust Fund to assist in the financing of construction, rehabilitation, or purchase of housing for low-income and moderate-income families. No less than 50 percent of the funds used in each county to provide such housing assistance shall be for the benefit of lowincome families. For the purpose of this section, "low-income family" means a family whose income does not exceed 80 percent of the median income for the area, and "moderate-income family" means a family whose income is in excess of 80 percent but less than 140 percent of the median income for the area. For purposes of this section, the term "housing" is not limited to singlefamily, detached dwellings. The rate of the surtax shall not exceed the rate of 45 cents for each \$100 or fractional part thereof of the consideration therefor. Such surtax shall apply only to those documents taxable under s. 201.02, except that there shall be no surtax on any document pursuant to which the interest granted, assigned, transferred, or conveyed involves only a single-family residence. Such single-family residence may be a condominium unit, a unit held through stock ownership or membership representing a proprietary interest in a corporation owning a fee or a leasehold initially in excess of 98 years, or a detached dwelling.

(2)(a) The levy of the discretionary surtax and the creation of a Housing Assistance Loan Trust Fund shall be by ordinance which shall set forth the policies and procedures of

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the assistance program. The ordinance shall be proposed at a regular meeting of the governing authority at least 2 weeks prior to formal adoption. Formal adoption shall not be effective unless approved on final vote by a majority of the total membership of the governing authority. The ordinance shall not take effect until 90 days after formal adoption.

- (b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), a charter county that is not a county as defined in s. 125.011(1) may not levy the surtax unless such levy is approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the county voting in a referendum called by the governing authority of the charter county. The referendum may be held in conjunction with any primary or general election or at any other time determined appropriate by the governing authority of the charter county. The general laws of this state governing elections shall apply to the referendum required by this paragraph and notice of the referendum must comply with s. 100.342. If the voters approved the levy of the surtax, the charter county's governing authority shall proceed to levy the surtax as provided in paragraph (a).
- (3) The county shall deposit revenues from the discretionary surtax in the Housing Assistance Loan Trust Fund of the county, except that a portion of such revenues may be deposited into the Home Investment Trust Fund of the county as defined by and created pursuant to the requirements of federal law. The county shall use the revenues only to help finance the construction, rehabilitation, or purchase of housing for lowincome families and moderate-income families, to pay necessary costs of collection and enforcement of the surtax, and to fund

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any local matching contributions required pursuant to federal law. For purposes of this section, authorized uses of the revenues include, but are not limited to, providing funds for first and second mortgages and acquiring property for the purpose of forming housing cooperatives. Special consideration shall be given toward using the revenues in the neighborhood economic development programs of community development corporations. No more than 50 percent of the revenues collected each year pursuant to this section may be used to help finance new construction as provided herein. The proceeds of the surtax shall not be used for rent subsidies or grants.

- (4) This section is repealed effective October 1, 2017.
 Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 201.031, Florida
 Statutes, is amended, and subsection (4) is added to said
 section, to read:
- 201.031 Discretionary surtax; administration and collection; Housing Assistance Loan Trust Fund; reporting requirements.--
- (1) Each county having a population of 1.2 million or greater which operates under a home rule charter, and each county, as defined by s. 125.011(1), may levy, subject to the provisions of s. 125.0167, a discretionary surtax on documents taxable under the provisions of s. 201.02, except that there shall be no surtax on any document pursuant to which the interest granted, assigned, transferred, or conveyed involves only a single-family residence. Such single-family residence may be a condominium unit, a unit held through stock ownership or membership representing a proprietary interest in a corporation

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owning a fee or a leasehold initially in excess of 98 years, or a detached dwelling.

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- (4) This section is repealed effective October 1, 2017.
 Section 3. Section 201.0205, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 201.0205 Counties as defined in s. 125.011(1) that have implemented a discretionary surtax on documents under s. 125.0167 ch. 83-220; inapplicability of 10-cent tax increase by s. 2, ch. 92-317, Laws of Florida. -- The 10-cent tax increase in the documentary stamp tax levied by s. 2, chapter 92-317, Laws of Florida, does not apply to deeds and other taxable instruments relating to real property located in any county as defined in s. 125.011(1) that has levied a discretionary surtax on documents under s. 125.0167 implemented the provisions of chapter 83-220, Laws of Florida, as amended by chapters 84-270, 86-152, and 89-252, Laws of Florida. Each such county and each eligible jurisdiction within such county shall not be eligible to participate in programs funded pursuant to s. 201.15(9)(6). However, each such county and each eligible jurisdiction within such county shall be eligible to participate in programs funded pursuant to s. $201.15(10)\frac{(7)}{}$.
- Section 4. Section 3 of chapter 83-220, Laws of Florida, as amended by section 1 of chapter 84-270, Laws of Florida, and section 1 of chapter 89-252, Laws of Florida, is repealed.
- Section 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.