CS/HB 1483 2007

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to local government revenue sources; requiring a super majority vote for actions by a local government to levy new, increase existing, expand a base or area subject to, or eliminate an exemption from taxes, special assessments, non-ad valorem assessments, or impact fees; requiring a super majority vote of electors voting in referenda on laws taking the same actions; providing an exception for certain emergencies; providing for nonapplication to certain other revenue sources; providing a definition; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. (1) Beginning July 1, 2007, and notwithstanding any other general or special law, the governing board of a county, municipality, school board, or special district may not take the following actions unless the action is first approved by at least a three-fifths vote, or a majority plus one, whichever is greater, of the governing board's membership:

(a) Levy a new tax, special assessment, non-ad valorem assessment, or impact fee;

(b) Increase the rate of an existing tax, special assessment, non-ad valorem assessment, or impact fee;

(c) Expand a tax base or a geographic area subject to a tax, special assessment, non-ad valorem assessment, or impact

28 <u>fee; or</u>

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(d) Eliminate an exemption from a tax, special assessment, non-ad valorem assessment, or impact fee.

- (2) If the governing board of a county, municipality, school board, or special district takes action as required by subsection (1), and the law otherwise requires approval by the electors voting in a referendum, the action must be approved by at least a three-fifths vote of electors voting in the referendum.
- (3) This section shall not apply to a tax, special assessment, non-ad valorem assessment, or impact fee levied or increased for the exclusive purpose of funding repair or replacement of public infrastructure damaged in a natural or man-made disaster that resulted in a declaration of emergency by the Governor.
- (4) This section shall not apply to ad valorem taxes, fees other than impact fees, license fees, penalties, fines, or charges for services.
- (5) For purposes of this section, the term "non-ad valorem assessment" has the same meaning as provided in s. 197.3632, Florida Statutes.
 - Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.