
DIGEST

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Leger

HB No. 290

Abstract: Authorizes the governing authority of Orleans Parish to levy annually an additional ad valorem tax for fire protection and an additional ad valorem tax for police protection, each not to exceed an additional one mill and each subject to voter approval; specifies the allowable uses of current and new taxes.

Present constitution authorizes the governing authority of a parish to levy annually an ad valorem tax for general purposes not to exceed four mills. However, for Orleans Parish the maximum is seven mills. Proposed constitutional amendment retains present constitution.

Present constitution, in addition to any other millage otherwise authorized, authorizes the governing authority of Orleans Parish to levy an additional ad valorem tax for fire protection not to exceed five mills, and an additional ad valorem tax for police protection not to exceed five mills.

Proposed constitutional amendment increases the millages that Orleans Parish is authorized to levy for such purposes to six mills for fire protection and six mills for police protection, and specifies that any additional ad valorem taxes be approved by the electors of Orleans Parish. Otherwise retains present constitution.

Proposed constitutional amendment requires that the revenues generated by the taxes authorized by present constitution and proposed constitutional amendment be used for police and fire protection service enhancements that directly contribute to the safety of the residents of the parish.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held Nov. 4, 2014.

(Amends Const. Art. VI, §26(E))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Civil Law and Procedure to the engrossed bill.

1. Specified that any increase in ad valorem taxes be approved by a majority of the electors of Orleans Parish.

2. Added technical changes to the ballot language.

House Floor Amendments to the reengrossed bill.

1. Adds provision specifying allowable uses of the revenues generated by the taxes authorized by present constitution and proposed constitutional amendment.