

1 AN ACT in relation to taxes.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,
3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The Downstate Forest Preserve District Act
5 is amended by changing Section 13.1 as follows:

6 (70 ILCS 805/13.1) (from Ch. 96 1/2, par. 6324)

7 Sec. 13.1. After the first Monday in October and by the
8 first Monday in December in each year, the board shall levy
9 the general taxes for the district by general categories for
10 the next fiscal year. A certified copy of the levy ordinance
11 shall be filed with the county clerk by the last Tuesday in
12 December each year.

13 In forest preserve districts with a population of less
14 than 3,000,000, the amount of taxes levied for general
15 corporate purposes for a fiscal year may not exceed the rate
16 of .06% of the value, as equalized or assessed by the
17 Department of Revenue, of the taxable property therein. In
18 addition, in forest preserve districts having a population of
19 100,000 or more but less than 3,000,000, the board may levy
20 taxes for constructing, restoring reconditioning,
21 reconstructing and acquiring improvements and for the
22 development of the forests and lands of such district, the
23 amount of which tax each fiscal year shall be extended at a
24 rate not to exceed .025% of the assessed value of all taxable
25 property as equalized by the Department of Revenue.

26 All such taxes and rates are exclusive of the taxes
27 required for the payment of the principal of and interest on
28 bonds, and exclusive of taxes levied for employees' annuity
29 and benefit purposes.

30 The rate of tax levied for general corporate purposes in
31 a forest preserve district may not be increased by virtue of

1 this amendatory Act of 1977 unless the board first adopts a
2 resolution authorizing such increase and publishes notice
3 thereof in a newspaper having general circulation in the
4 district at least once not less than 45 days prior to the
5 effective date of the increase. The notice shall include a
6 statement of (1) the specific number of voters required to
7 sign a petition requesting that the question of the adoption
8 of the resolution be submitted to the electors of the
9 district; (2) the time in which the petition must be filed;
10 and (3) the date of the prospective referendum. The
11 Secretary of the district shall provide a petition form to
12 any individual requesting one. If, no later than 30 days
13 after the publication of such notice, petitions signed by
14 voters of the district equal to 10% or more of the registered
15 voters of the district, as determined by reference to the
16 number of voters registered at the next preceding general
17 election, and residing in the district are presented to the
18 board expressing opposition to the increase, the proposition
19 must first be certified by the board to the proper election
20 officials, who shall submit the proposition to the legal
21 voters of the district at an election in accordance with the
22 general election law and approved by a majority of those
23 voting on the proposition.

24 The rate of the tax levied for general corporate purposes
25 in a forest preserve district may be increased, up to the
26 maximum rate identified in this Section, by the Board by a
27 resolution calling for the submission of the question of
28 increasing the rate to the voters of the district in
29 accordance with the general election law. The question must
30 be in substantially the following form:

31 "Shall (name of district) be authorized to establish
32 its general corporate tax rate at (insert rate) on the
33 equalized assessed value on taxable property located
34 within the district for its general purposes, including

1 education, outdoor recreation, maintenance, operations,
2 public safety at the forest preserves, trails, and other
3 properties of the district (and, optionally, insert any
4 other lawful purposes or programs determined by the
5 Board).

6 The ballot must have printed on it, but not as part of
7 the proposition submitted, the following: "The approximate
8 impact of the proposed increase on the owner of a
9 single-family home having a market value of (insert value)
10 would be (insert amount) in the first year of the increase if
11 the increase is fully implemented." The ballot may have
12 printed on it, but not as part of the proposition, one or
13 both of the following: "The last tax rate extended for the
14 purposes of the district was (insert rate). The last rate
15 increase approved for the purposes of the district was in
16 (insert year)." No other information needs to be included on
17 the ballot.

18 The votes must be recorded as "Yes" or "No".

19 If a majority of the electors voting on the question vote
20 in the affirmative, the district may thereafter levy the tax.
21 (Source: P.A. 87-17; 87-767; 87-895; 88-506.)

22 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
23 becoming law.