

Regular Session, 1997

HOUSE BILL NO. 857

BY REPRESENTATIVE MURRAY

TAX/PROPERTY: (Constitutional Amendment) Provides relative to the sale of property for nonpayment of taxes in certain municipalities

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION

2 Proposing to amend Article VII, Section 25(A) of the Constitution of
3 Louisiana, to provide relative to the sale of property for unpaid taxes
4 in certain municipalities; to authorize sales with no minimum bid under
5 certain conditions; to provide relative to proceeds of such sales and
6 remaining liabilities on the property; to provide for submission of the
7 proposed amendment to the electors; and to provide for related matters.

8 Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of
9 the members elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted
10 to the electors of the state of Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the
11 manner provided by law, a proposal to amend Article VII, Section 25(A) of the
12 Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

13 §25. Tax Sales

14 Section 25.(A) Tax Sales. (1) There shall be no forfeiture of
15 property for nonpayment of taxes. However, at the expiration of the
16 year in which the taxes are due, the collector, without suit, and after
17 giving notice to the delinquent in the manner provided by law, shall
18 advertise for sale the property on which the taxes are due. The
19 advertisement shall be published in the official journal of the parish or
20 municipality, or, if there is no official journal, as provided by law for

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.

1 sheriffs' sales, in the manner provided for judicial sales. On the day of
2 sale, the collector shall sell the portion of the property which the debtor
3 points out. If the debtor does not point out sufficient property, the
4 collector shall sell immediately the least quantity of property which any
5 bidder will buy for the amount of the taxes, interest, and costs. The
6 sale shall be without appraisalment. A tax deed by a tax collector shall
7 be prima facie evidence that a valid sale was made.

8 (2) If property located in a municipality with a population of
9 more than four hundred fifty thousand persons as of the most recent
10 federal decennial census fails to sell for the minimum required bid in
11 the tax sale, the collector may offer the property for sale at a
12 subsequent sale with no minimum required bid. The proceeds of the
13 sale shall be applied to the taxes, interest, and costs due on the
14 property, and any remaining deficiency shall be eliminated from the tax
15 rolls.

16 * * *

17 Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be
18 submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the congressional primary
19 election to be held in 1998.

20 Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used
21 at said election there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors
22 of the state shall be permitted to vote FOR or AGAINST, to amend the
23 Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as follows:

24 To provide relative to tax sales of property in municipalities
25 with a population in excess of 450,000; to authorize such a sale

1 with no minimum bid if the property failed to sell at a previous
2 sale. (Amends Article VII, Section 25(A))

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument.

Murray

HB No. 857

Present constitution provides that there shall be no forfeiture of property for nonpayment of taxes. However, authorizes the collector to advertise for sale property on which the taxes are due. Requires that the collector sell the portion of the property which the debtor points out, or if the debtor does not point out sufficient property, the least quantity of property which any bidder will buy for the amount of the taxes, interest, and costs. Provides that such sale shall be without appraisalment.

Proposed constitutional amendment retains present constitution and provides relative to the sale of property in a municipality with a population of over 450,000. Provides that if property fails to sell, it may be sold at a subsequent sale with no minimum required bid. Requires that the proceeds of the sale be applied to the taxes, interest, and costs due on the property and that the remaining deficiency shall be eliminated from the tax rolls.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the congressional primary election in 1998.

(Amends Const. Art. VII, §25(A))