
DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 521 Original

2026 Regular Session

Wilder

Abstract: Authorizes a local taxing authority to levy a lower millage rate without losing its ability to adjust to the prior year's maximum authorized millage rate.

Present constitution requires an automatic adjustment in ad valorem (property tax) millage rates in response to changes in the tax base resulting from reassessment or changes in the homestead exemption, with adjustments made to ensure tax revenue collected in the year after reappraisal is equal to the amount of tax revenue collected in the year prior to reappraisal.

Present constitution authorizes an increase in a millage rate up to the maximum authorized rate from the prior year's reassessment by a 2/3 vote of the total membership of the taxing authority without further voter approval.

Present constitution adjusts the maximum authorized rate from the prior year's reassessment due to a statewide reassessment every four years or due to a change in the homestead exemption. Further, present constitution provides that, if a taxing authority does not increase its millage rate up to the maximum authorized rate from the prior year's reassessment before the next reassessment, the taxing authority permanently loses the ability to increase its millage rate to the maximum authorized rate from the prior year's reassessment in the future.

Proposed constitutional amendment allows a taxing authority to continue to levy a lower millage rate without subsequently losing its ability to adjust to the maximum authorized millage rate from a prior year's reassessment.

Effective Jan. 1, 2027, and applicable to all tax years beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2027.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held Nov. 3, 2026.

(Amends Const. Art. VII, §23(C))