

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 570

BY REPRESENTATIVES WILDER AND BERAULT

TAX/AD VALOREM TAX: Authorizes a taxing authority to levy a millage at a rate lower than the maximum authorized rate under certain circumstances

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 47:1705(B)(1)(a) and (b)(i) and (2)(b), relative to ad valorem
3 taxation; to authorize the adjustment of ad valorem millages under certain
4 circumstances; to provide for the retention of maximum authorized millages; to
5 require a reduction in adjusted maximum millage rates under certain circumstances;
6 to provide for the process of adjusting millages; to provide for applicability; to
7 provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 47:1705(B)(1)(a) and (b)(i) and (2)(b) are hereby amended and
10 reenacted to read as follows:

11 §1705. Information supplied to assessor and legislative auditor by tax recipient
12 agencies; additional notices

13 * * *

14 B.(1)(a)(i) Beginning in the 2027 ad valorem tax year, for ~~For~~ any taxing
15 authority with a governing authority membership ~~which~~ that is elected by the voters,
16 increases in the millage rate in excess of the rates established as provided by Article
17 VII, Section 23(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana, but not in excess of ~~the prior~~
18 ~~year's maximum authorized millage rate~~ the maximum authorized millage rate
19 approved by the Constitution of Louisiana and approved by the taxing authority until
20 the authorized millage rate expires may be levied by two-thirds vote of the total

1 membership of a taxing authority without further voter approval but only after a
2 public hearing held in accordance with the open meetings law. Maximum millage
3 rates not levied prior to the 2024 reassessment year, or the 2023 reassessment year
4 for Orleans Parish, shall be permanently reduced to the adjusted maximum millage
5 rate established for the 2026 ad valorem tax year or the 2025 ad valorem tax year in
6 Orleans Parish.

7 (ii) If an immediate subsequent reassessment has an increased taxable value,
8 the adjusted maximum millage rate shall be decreased to the maximum millage rate
9 for the 2024 reassessment year, or the 2023 reassessment year for Orleans Parish,
10 provided by the Constitution of Louisiana and approved by the taxing authority.

11 (b)(i)(aa) Beginning in the 2027 ad valorem tax year, any ~~Any~~ taxing
12 authority with a governing authority membership ~~which~~ that is not elected by the
13 voters may increase a millage rate in excess of the rates established as provided in
14 Article VII, Section 23(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana, but not in excess of the
15 ~~prior year's~~ maximum authorized millage rate approved by the Constitution of
16 Louisiana and approved by the taxing authority until the authorized millage rate
17 expires. ~~Such increased millage shall also be limited to an amount which would~~
18 ~~increase the ad valorem taxes collected by the taxing authority by no more than two~~
19 ~~and one-half percent of the collections for the calendar year immediately preceding~~
20 ~~the year for which the increased millage rate is effective.~~ Maximum millage rates not
21 levied by a taxing authority prior to the 2024 reassessment year, or the 2023
22 reassessment year for Orleans Parish, shall be permanently reduced to the adjusted
23 maximum millage rate established for the 2026 ad valorem tax year or the 2025 ad
24 valorem tax year in Orleans Parish.

25 (bb) If an immediate subsequent reassessment has an increased taxable value,
26 the adjusted maximum millage rate shall be decreased to the maximum millage rate
27 for the 2024 reassessment year, or the 2023 reassessment year for Orleans Parish,
28 provided by the Constitution of Louisiana and approved by the taxing authority.

29 * * *

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

1 (2) In order to accomplish this result, the following shall be mandatory:

2 * * *

3 (b) Before a tax recipient body levies and collects an increased millage rate,
4 each ~~Each~~ tax recipient body shall adopt a separate ordinance or resolution which
5 shall provide for such millage rate increases by two-thirds vote and shall set forth
6 and designate not only the increased millage rate but also the adjusted millage rate
7 as required in Subparagraph (a) above and by Article VII, Section 23(B) of the
8 Constitution of Louisiana.

9 * * *

10 Section 2. This Act shall apply to all taxable years beginning on or after January 1,
11 2027.

12 Section 3. This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2027, but only if the
13 proposed amendment of Article VII of the Constitution of Louisiana contained in the Act
14 which originated as House Bill No. 521 of this 2026 Regular Session of the Legislature is
15 adopted at a statewide election and becomes effective.

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 570 Reengrossed 2026 Regular Session Wilder

Abstract: Authorizes a local taxing authority to levy a lower millage rate without losing its ability to adjust to the maximum authorized millage rate after a reassessment, permanently reduces maximum millage rates if the maximum millage is not levied prior to the 2024 reassessment year, and limits the adoption of a resolution or ordinance by a tax recipient body to increase its millage rate.

Present constitution and present law require an automatic adjustment in millage rates in response to changes in the tax base resulting from reassessment or changes in the homestead exemption, with adjustments made to ensure taxes collected in the year after reappraisal are equal to the amount of taxes collected in the year prior to reappraisal.

Present constitution and present law authorize, with a 2/3 vote, a taxing authority to increase a rate up to the maximum authorized rate without further voter approval.

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

Proposed law changes present law by allowing 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.

Proposed law prohibits a taxing authority from increasing a millage rate in excess of its adjusted millage rates established for the 2026 ad valorem tax year or the 2025 ad valorem tax year in Orleans Parish.

Proposed law requires that, if an immediate subsequent reassessment has an increased taxable value, then the adjusted maximum millage rate is reduced to the maximum authorized millage rate for the 2024 reassessment year or the 2023 reassessment year in Orleans Parish, as provided by the constitution and approved by the taxing authority.

Present law requires a tax recipient body to adopt an ordinance or resolution to designate the adjusted millage rate and then requires a tax recipient body to adopt a separate ordinance or resolution if the tax recipient body increases its millage rate. The second ordinance or resolution shall be adopted by a 2/3 vote and shall set forth the increased millage rate and the adjusted millage rate.

Proposed law changes present law, to limit the adoption of the separate ordinance or resolution to instances when a tax recipient body intends to levy and collect an increased millage.

Proposed law applies to taxable years beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2027.

Effective if and when the proposed amendment of Article VII of the Constitution of La. contained in the Act which originated as House Bill No. 521 of this 2026 R.S. of the Legislature is adopted at a statewide election and becomes effective.

(Amends R.S. 47:1705(B)(1)(a), (b)(i), and (2)(b))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Ways and Means to the original bill:

1. Limit adoption of the separate ordinance or resolution to instances when a tax recipient body intends to levy and collect an increased millage.
2. Make technical changes.