



19 APR 10 AM 9:12

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FLOOR AMENDMENT NO. _____

BY:

E. Rodriguez

Amend C.S.H.B. No. 2 (house committee printing) by adding the following appropriately numbered SECTION to the bill and renumbering subsequent SECTIONS of the bill accordingly:

SECTION ____ Chapter 26, Tax Code, is amended by adding Section 26.0446 to read as follows:

Sec. 26.0446. ELECTION TO ADJUST TAX RATE TO ADDRESS PUBLIC SAFETY COSTS FOR CERTAIN TAXING UNITS. (a) In this section, "public safety costs" means costs to:

(1) provide the following services:

(A) law enforcement;

(B) emergency response, as that term is defined by Section 78.101, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, including 9-1-1 services;

(C) disaster response, where "disaster" has the meaning assigned by Section 418.004, Government Code; and

(D) emergency medical services and medical supervision, as those terms are defined by Section 773.003, Health and Safety Code.

(2) recruit, train, equip, and pay the salaries, wages, benefits, and pensions of individuals employed by the taxing unit as:

(A) peace officers, as that term is defined by Article 2.12, Code of Criminal Procedure;

(B) school resource officers, as that term is defined by Section 1701.262, Occupations Code;

(C) fire fighters, as that term is defined by Section 614.001, Government Code;

(D) employees performing a service described by Subdivision (1) or employed by the taxing unit at a public safety facility, municipal court, or jail.

(b) The governing body of a taxing unit other than a school district or a special taxing unit may call an election for the purpose of allowing the voters in the taxing unit to determine whether to substitute "1.05" instead of "1.025" in the formula for computing the rollback tax rate provided by this chapter or other law and to dedicate all additional revenue to pay public safety costs.

(c) At the election, the ballots shall be prepared to permit voting for or against the proposition: "Increasing the rate at which the maintenance and operations taxes of the (name of taxing unit) may be increased without voter approval to five percent rather than 2.5 percent if the additional revenue is dedicated to pay public safety costs."

(d) If a majority of the votes cast in the election favor the proposition, in each tax year after the year in which the election is held:

(1) the designated officer or employee of the taxing unit shall substitute "1.05" for "1.025" in the formula for computing the rollback tax rate of the taxing unit; and

(2) the taxing unit may use the additional revenue only to pay public safety costs.

(e) If a majority of the votes cast in the election do not

favor the proposition:

(1) the designated officer or employee of the taxing unit shall continue to use "1.025" in the formula for computing the rollback tax rate of the taxing unit; and

(2) the governing body of the taxing unit may not order another election on the issue before the first anniversary of the date the previous election was held.