87R6223 CJC-D

By:  Bettencourt S.B. No. 1433

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to tax increment financing.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1.  Section 311.004, Tax Code, is amended by adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

(d)  For purposes of Subsection (a)(4), an order or ordinance designating a reinvestment zone that is adopted on or after September 1, 2021, must provide that the zone terminates not later than the 10th anniversary of the date on which the ordinance or order designating the zone is adopted.

SECTION 2.  Section 311.006(a), Tax Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a)  A municipality may not designate a reinvestment zone if:

(1)  more than 10 [~~30~~] percent of the property in the proposed zone, excluding property that is publicly owned, is used for residential purposes; or

(2)  the total appraised value of taxable real property in the proposed zone and in existing reinvestment zones exceeds 10 [~~:~~

[~~(A)  25~~] percent of the total appraised value of taxable real property in the municipality and in the industrial districts created by the municipality[~~, if the municipality has a population of 100,000 or more; or~~

[~~(B)  50 percent of the total appraised value of taxable real property in the municipality and in the industrial districts created by the municipality, if the municipality has a population of less than 100,000~~].

SECTION 3.  The heading to Section 311.007, Tax Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 311.007.  CHANGING BOUNDARIES OR TERM OF EXISTING ZONE; LIMITATION ON EXTENSION OF TERM.

SECTION 4.  Section 311.007, Tax Code, is amended by amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsections (d) and (e) to read as follows:

(c)  Subject to Subsections (d) and (e), the [~~The~~] governing body of the municipality or county that designated a reinvestment zone by ordinance or resolution or by order or resolution, respectively, may extend the term of all or a portion of the zone after notice and hearing in the manner provided for the designation of the zone.  A taxing unit other than the municipality or county that designated the zone is not required to participate in the zone or portion of the zone for the extended term unless the taxing unit enters into a written agreement to do so.

(d)  Except as provided by Subsection (e), the term of all or any portion of a reinvestment zone may not be extended beyond the 10th anniversary of the date on which the ordinance or order designating the zone is adopted.

(e)  This subsection applies only to a reinvestment zone designated before September 1, 2021, the term of which extends beyond the period prescribed by Subsection (d). A reinvestment zone to which this subsection applies must terminate on the earlier of:

(1)  the termination date expressed in the ordinance or order designating the zone or an earlier termination date designated by an ordinance, order, or resolution adopted under Subsection (c); or

(2)  the date on which all project costs, tax increment bonds and interest on those bonds, and other obligations of the zone have been paid in full.

SECTION 5.  Chapter 311, Tax Code, is amended by adding Section 311.0111 to read as follows:

Sec. 311.0111.  RESTRICTION ON BOARD'S AUTHORITY TO AMEND PLAN. The board of directors of a reinvestment zone may not adopt, and the governing body of a municipality may not approve, an amendment to the project plan if:

(1)  the median appraised value of taxable real property located in the zone equals or exceeds the median appraised value of taxable real property that is located outside the boundaries of the zone and that is within the designating municipality's corporate boundaries and extraterritorial jurisdiction; and

(2)  the amendment is required under Section 311.011(e) to be approved by ordinance adopted after a public hearing that satisfies the procedural requirements of Sections 311.003(c) and (d).

SECTION 6.  Sections 311.015(a) and (c), Tax Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a)  Subject to Subsection (c), a [~~A~~] municipality designating a reinvestment zone may issue tax increment bonds or notes, the proceeds of which may be used to make payments pursuant to agreements made under Section 311.010(b), to pay project costs for the reinvestment zone on behalf of which the bonds or notes were issued, or to satisfy claims of holders of the bonds or notes. The municipality may issue refunding bonds or notes for the payment or retirement of tax increment bonds or notes previously issued by it.

(c)  Tax increment bonds and notes are issued by ordinance of the municipality after the [~~without any additional~~] approval of the qualified voters of the municipality as provided by Section 311.0151 [~~other than that of the attorney general~~].

SECTION 7.  Chapter 311, Tax Code, is amended by adding Section 311.0151 to read as follows:

Sec. 311.0151.  BOND ELECTION REQUIRED. (a) A municipality may issue tax increment bonds and notes under Section 311.015 as provided by this section.

(b)  A municipality may not authorize tax increment bonds and notes unless a majority of the municipality's qualified voters who vote at an election ordered for that purpose approve the issuance of the bonds and notes.

(c)  The municipality may order an election on the tax increment bonds and notes. The order must contain the same information contained in the notice of the election.

(d)  The municipality shall publish notice of the election at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality. The notice must be published not later than the 31st day before election day.

(e)  In addition to the contents of the notice required by the Election Code, the notice must state:

(1)  the amount of bonds or notes to be authorized; and

(2)  the maximum maturity of the bonds or notes.

SECTION 8.  (a) Section 311.006(a), Tax Code, as amended by this Act, applies only to a reinvestment zone designated on or after the effective date of this Act. A reinvestment zone designated before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the zone was designated, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

(b)  Section 311.0111, Tax Code, as added by this Act, applies only to an amendment to a reinvestment zone project plan proposed on or after the effective date of this Act. An amendment proposed before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the amendment was proposed, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

(c)  Section 311.015, Tax Code, as amended by this Act, and Section 311.0151, Tax Code, as added by this Act, apply only to bonds or notes issued on or after the effective date of this Act. Bonds or notes issued before the effective date of this Act are governed by the law in effect on the date the bonds or notes were issued, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 9.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.