By: Vasut H.B. No. 5502

## A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

- 2 relating to the calculation of certain ad valorem tax rates of a
- 3 taxing unit and the manner in which a proposed ad valorem tax rate
- 4 that exceeds the voter-approval tax rate is approved; making
- 5 conforming changes.
- 6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
- 7 SECTION 1. Section 48.202(f), Education Code, is amended to
- 8 read as follows:
- 9 (f) For a school year in which the dollar amount guaranteed
- 10 level of state and local funds per weighted student per cent of tax
- 11 effort ("GL") under Subsection (a-1)(2) exceeds the dollar amount
- 12 guaranteed level of state and local funds per weighted student per
- 13 cent of tax effort ("GL") under Subsection (a-1)(2) for the
- 14 preceding school year, a school district shall reduce the
- 15 district's tax rate under Section 45.0032(b)(2) for the tax year
- 16 that corresponds to that school year to a rate that results in the
- 17 amount of state and local funds per weighted student per cent of tax
- 18 effort available to the district at the dollar amount guaranteed
- 19 level for the preceding school year. A school district is not
- 20 entitled to the amount equal to the increase of revenue described by
- 21 this subsection for the school year for which the district must
- 22 reduce the district's tax rate. For [Unless Section 26.042(e), Tax
- 23 Code, applies to the district, for ] a tax year in which a district
- 24 must reduce the district's tax rate under this subsection, the

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- 1 district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations
- 2 tax rate to a rate that exceeds the maximum maintenance and
- 3 operations tax rate permitted under Section 45.003(d) or (f), as
- 4 applicable, minus the reduction of tax effort required under this
- 5 subsection. This subsection does not apply if the amount of state
- 6 funds appropriated for a school year specifically excludes the
- 7 amount necessary to provide the dollar amount guaranteed level of
- 8 state and local funds per weighted student per cent of tax effort
- 9 under Subsection (a-1)(2).
- 10 SECTION 2. Section 3828.157, Special District Local Laws
- 11 Code, is amended to read as follows:
- 12 Sec. 3828.157. INAPPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN TAX CODE
- 13 PROVISIONS. Sections 26.04,  $[\frac{26.042}{7}]$  26.05, and 26.07,  $[\frac{1}{2}]$
- 14  $\frac{26.075}{7}$ ] Tax Code, do not apply to a tax imposed under Section
- 15 3828.153 or 3828.156.
- SECTION 3. Section 8876.152(a), Special District Local Laws
- 17 Code, is amended to read as follows:
- 18 (a) Sections 26.04,  $\left[\frac{26.042}{7}\right]$  26.05, 26.06, 26.061, and
- 19 26.07, [and 26.075,] Tax Code, do not apply to a tax imposed by the
- 20 district.
- 21 SECTION 4. Section 26.012(18), Tax Code, is amended to read
- 22 as follows:
- 23 "No-new-revenue maintenance and operations rate"
- 24 means a rate expressed in dollars per \$100 of taxable value
- 25 calculated as follows:
- 26 (A) for a taxing unit other than a school
- 27 district, the rate calculated according to the following formula:

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- 1 NO-NEW-REVENUE MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS RATE = (LAST YEAR'S LEVY - LAST YEAR'S DEBT LEVY - LAST YEAR'S JUNIOR COLLEGE 2 LEVY) / (CURRENT TOTAL VALUE [- NEW PROPERTY VALUE]) 3 4 ; or 5 (B) for a school district, the rate calculated as provided by Section 44.004(c)(5)(A)(ii)(a), Education Code. 6 7 SECTION 5. Section 26.04(c), Tax Code, is amended to read as follows: 8 9 After the assessor for the taxing unit submits the 10 appraisal roll for the taxing unit to the governing body of the taxing unit as required by Subsection (b), an officer or employee 11 12 designated by the governing body shall calculate the no-new-revenue tax rate and the voter-approval tax rate for the taxing unit, where: 13 14 "No-new-revenue tax rate" means a rate expressed 15 in dollars per \$100 of taxable value calculated according to the 16 following formula: NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE = (LAST YEAR'S LEVY [- LOST PROPERTY 17 LEVY]) / (CURRENT TOTAL VALUE [= NEW PROPERTY VALUE]) 18 19 ; and "Voter-approval tax rate" means a rate expressed 20 (2) in dollars per \$100 of taxable value calculated according to the 21 following [applicable] formula: 22
- 23 [<del>(A) for a special taxing unit:</del>]
- VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE = [+] NO-NEW-REVENUE MAINTENANCE AND
- 25 OPERATIONS RATE [x 1.08)] + CURRENT DEBT RATE
- 26 [<del>; or</del>
- 27 [(B) for a taxing unit other than a special taxing

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1
   <del>unit:</del>
          [VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE - (NO-NEW-REVENUE MAINTENANCE AND
2
   OPERATIONS RATE x 1.035) + (CURRENT DEBT RATE + UNUSED INCREMENT
 3
   RATE)
4
          SECTION 6. Sections 26.041(a), (b), (c), (g), and (h), Tax
5
   Code, are amended to read as follows:
6
7
               In the first year in which an additional sales and use
          (a)
8
   tax is required to be collected, the no-new-revenue tax rate and
   voter-approval tax rate for the taxing unit are calculated
9
10
   according to the following formulas:
               NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE = [(LAST YEAR'S LEVY [=
11
          LOST PROPERTY LEVY]) / (CURRENT TOTAL VALUE [- NEW
12
          PROPERTY VALUE])] - SALES TAX GAIN RATE
13
14
    and
15
               VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE [FOR SPECIAL TAXING UNIT]
          = [+]NO-NEW-REVENUE MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS RATE [+]
16
17
          1.08) + [+] CURRENT DEBT RATE - SALES TAX GAIN RATE[+
18
    [<del>or</del>
                [VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE FOR TAXING UNIT OTHER
19
          THAN SPECIAL TAXING UNIT - (NO-NEW-REVENUE MAINTENANCE
20
          AND OPERATIONS RATE x 1.035) + (CURRENT DEBT RATE +
21
          UNUSED INCREMENT RATE - SALES TAX CAIN RATE)
22
   where "sales tax gain rate" means a number expressed in dollars per
23
24
   $100 of taxable value, calculated by dividing the revenue that will
   be generated by the additional sales and use tax in the following
25
26
   year as calculated under Subsection (d) by the current total value.
          (b) Except as provided by Subsections (a) and (c), in a year
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- 1 in which a taxing unit imposes an additional sales and use tax, the
- 2 voter-approval tax rate for the taxing unit is calculated according
- 3 to the following formula, regardless of whether the taxing unit
- 4 levied a property tax in the preceding year:
- 5 VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE [FOR SPECIAL TAXING UNIT]
- 6 = [[+]]LAST YEAR'S MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS EXPENSE
- 7 [x 1.08)] / (CURRENT TOTAL VALUE [- NEW PROPERTY
- 8 VALUE])] + (CURRENT DEBT RATE SALES TAX REVENUE RATE)
- 9 [<del>or</del>
- 10 [VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE FOR TAXING UNIT OTHER
- 11 THAN SPECIAL TAXING UNIT [(LAST YEAR'S MAINTENANCE
- 12 AND OPERATIONS EXPENSE x 1.035) / (CURRENT TOTAL VALUE
- NEW PROPERTY VALUE)] + (CURRENT DEBT RATE + UNUSED
- 14 INCREMENT RATE SALES TAX REVENUE RATE)
- 15 where "last year's maintenance and operations expense" means the
- 16 amount spent for maintenance and operations from property tax and
- 17 additional sales and use tax revenues in the preceding year, and
- 18 "sales tax revenue rate" means a number expressed in dollars per
- 19 \$100 of taxable value, calculated by dividing the revenue that will
- 20 be generated by the additional sales and use tax in the current year
- 21 as calculated under Subsection (d) by the current total value.
- (c) In a year in which a taxing unit that has been imposing
- 23 an additional sales and use tax ceases to impose an additional sales
- 24 and use tax, the no-new-revenue tax rate and voter-approval tax
- 25 rate for the taxing unit are calculated according to the following
- 26 formulas:
- 27 NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE = [(LAST YEAR'S LEVY [=

```
LOST PROPERTY LEVY]) / (CURRENT TOTAL VALUE [- NEW
 1
          PROPERTY VALUE])] + SALES TAX LOSS RATE
 2
 3
    and
               VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE [FOR SPECIAL TAXING UNIT]
 4
          = [[+]]LAST YEAR'S MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS EXPENSE
 5
          [* 1.08)] / (CURRENT TOTAL VALUE [- NEW PROPERTY
 6
          VALUE])] + CURRENT DEBT RATE
 7
 8
    [<del>or</del>
 9
               [VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE FOR TAXING UNIT OTHER
          THAN SPECIAL TAXING UNIT - [(LAST YEAR'S MAINTENANCE
10
          AND OPERATIONS EXPENSE x 1.035) / (CURRENT TOTAL VALUE
11
          - NEW PROPERTY VALUE) ] + (CURRENT DEBT RATE + UNUSED
12
          INCREMENT RATE)
13
14
   where "sales tax loss rate" means a number expressed in dollars per
15
   $100 of taxable value, calculated by dividing the amount of sales
   and use tax revenue generated in the last four quarters for which
16
17
   the information is available by the current total value and "last
   year's maintenance and operations expense" means the amount spent
18
19
   for maintenance and operations from property tax and additional
   sales and use tax revenues in the preceding year.
20
21
          (q) If the rate of the additional sales and use tax is
    increased, the designated officer or employee shall make two
22
23
   projections, in the manner provided by Subsection (d), of the
24
    revenue generated by the additional sales and use tax in the
   following year. The first projection must take into account the
25
26
    increase and the second projection must not take into account the
    increase. The designated officer or employee shall then subtract
27
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1 the amount of the result of the second projection from the amount of the result of the first projection to determine the revenue 2 3 generated as a result of the increase in the additional sales and use tax. In the first year in which an additional sales and use tax 4 5 is increased, the no-new-revenue tax rate for the taxing unit is the no-new-revenue tax rate before the increase minus a number the 6 numerator of which is the revenue generated as a result of the 7 increase in the additional sales and use tax, as determined under 8 this subsection, and the denominator of which is the current total 9 10 value [minus the new property value].

(h) If the rate of the additional sales and use tax is 11 decreased, the designated officer or employee shall make two 12 projections, in the manner provided by Subsection (d), of the 13 14 revenue generated by the additional sales and use tax in the 15 following year. The first projection must take into account the decrease and the second projection must not take into account the 16 17 decrease. The designated officer or employee shall then subtract the amount of the result of the first projection from the amount of 18 19 the result of the second projection to determine the revenue lost as a result of the decrease in the additional sales and use tax. 20 the first year in which an additional sales and use tax is 21 decreased, the no-new-revenue tax rate for the taxing unit is the 22 23 no-new-revenue tax rate before the decrease plus a number the 24 numerator of which is the revenue lost as a result of the decrease in the additional sales and use tax, as determined under this 25 26 subsection, and the denominator of which is the current total value 27 [minus the new property value].

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- SECTION 7. Sections 26.044(a) and (b), Tax Code, are
- 2 amended to read as follows:
- 3 (a) The first time that a county adopts a tax rate after
- 4 September 1, 1991, in which the state criminal justice mandate
- 5 applies to the county, the no-new-revenue maintenance and operation
- 6 rate for the county is increased by the rate calculated according to
- 7 the following formula:
- 8 (State Criminal Justice Mandate) / (Current Total
- 9 Value [- New Property Value])
- 10 (b) In the second and subsequent years that a county adopts
- 11 a tax rate, if the amount spent by the county for the state criminal
- 12 justice mandate increased over the previous year, the
- 13 no-new-revenue maintenance and operation rate for the county is
- 14 increased by the rate calculated according to the following
- 15 formula:
- 16 (This Year's State Criminal Justice Mandate -
- 17 Previous Year's State Criminal Justice Mandate) /
- 18 (Current Total Value [- New Property Value])
- 19 SECTION 8. Sections 26.0441(a) and (b), Tax Code, are
- 20 amended to read as follows:
- 21 (a) In the first tax year in which a taxing unit adopts a tax
- 22 rate after January 1, 2000, and in which the enhanced minimum
- 23 eligibility standards for indigent health care established under
- 24 Section 61.006, Health and Safety Code, apply to the taxing unit,
- 25 the no-new-revenue maintenance and operations rate for the taxing
- 26 unit is increased by the rate computed according to the following
- 27 formula:

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Amount of Increase = Enhanced Indigent Health
 1
 2
         Care Expenditures / (Current Total Value [- New
 3
         Property Value])
             In each subsequent tax year, if the taxing unit's
4
5
   enhanced indigent health care expenses exceed the amount of those
   expenses for the preceding year, the no-new-revenue maintenance and
6
7
   operations rate for the taxing unit is increased by the rate
8
   computed according to the following formula:
               Amount of Increase = (Current Tax Year's Enhanced
9
         Indigent Health Care Expenditures - Preceding Tax
10
         Year's Indigent Health Care Expenditures) / (Current
11
         Total Value [ - New Property Value ] )
12
         SECTION 9. Section 26.0442(b), Tax Code, is amended to read
13
14
   as follows:
15
          (b) If a county's indigent defense
                                                      compensation
16
   expenditures exceed the amount of those expenditures for the
17
   preceding tax year, the no-new-revenue maintenance and operations
   rate for the county is increased by the lesser of the rates computed
18
   according to the following formulas:
19
20
               (Current
                          Tax
                                 Year's
                                           Indigent
                                                       Defense
21
         Compensation Expenditures - Preceding Tax Year's
         Indigent Defense
                              Compensation Expenditures) /
22
          (Current Total Value [- New Property Value])
23
24
25
               (Preceding
                            Tax Year's Indigent
         Compensation Expenditures x = 0.05) / (Current Total
26
         Value [- New Property Value])
27
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- 1 SECTION 10. Section 26.0443(b), Tax Code, is amended to 2 read as follows:
- 3 (b) If a county's or municipality's eligible county hospital
- 5 preceding tax year, the no-new-revenue maintenance and operations

expenditures exceed the amount of those expenditures for the

- 6 rate for the county or municipality, as applicable, is increased by
- 7 the lesser of the rates computed according to the following
- 8 formulas:
- 9 (Current Tax Year's Eligible County Hospital
- 10 Expenditures Preceding Tax Year's Eligible County
- 11 Hospital Expenditures) / (Current Total Value [- New
- 12 Property Value])
- 13 or

4

- 14 (Preceding Tax Year's Eligible County Hospital
- Expenditures x 0.08) / (Current Total Value [- New
- 16 <u>Property Value</u>])
- SECTION 11. Section 26.0444(b), Tax Code, is amended to
- 18 read as follows:
- 19 (b) The no-new-revenue maintenance and operations rate for
- 20 a defunding municipality is decreased by the rate computed
- 21 according to the following formula:
- 22 Municipal Public Safety Expenditure Adjustment /
- 23 (Current Total Value [- New Property Value])
- SECTION 12. Section 26.07(b), Tax Code, is amended to read
- 25 as follows:
- 26 (b) If the governing body of a [special] taxing unit [or a
- 27 municipality with a population of 30,000 or more] adopts a tax rate

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- 1 that exceeds the taxing unit's voter-approval tax rate, [or the
- 2 governing body of a taxing unit other than a special taxing unit or
- 3 a municipality with a population of less than 30,000 regardless of
- 4 whether it is a special taxing unit adopts a tax rate that exceeds
- 5 the greater of the taxing unit's voter-approval tax rate or de
- 6  $minimis rate_{r}$ ] the registered voters of the taxing unit at an
- 7 election held for that purpose must determine whether to approve
- 8 the adopted tax rate.
- 9 SECTION 13. Sections 31.12(a) and (b), Tax Code, are
- 10 amended to read as follows:
- 11 (a) If a refund of a tax provided by Section 11.431(b),
- 12 26.07(q),  $\left[\frac{26.075(k)}{r}\right]$  26.15(f), 31.11, 31.111, or 31.112 is paid
- 13 on or before the 60th day after the date the liability for the
- 14 refund arises, no interest is due on the amount refunded. If not
- 15 paid on or before that 60th day, the amount of the tax to be refunded
- 16 accrues interest at a rate of one percent for each month or part of a
- 17 month that the refund is unpaid, beginning with the date on which
- 18 the liability for the refund arises.
- 19 (b) For purposes of this section, liability for a refund
- 20 arises:
- 21 (1) if the refund is required by Section 11.431(b), on
- 22 the date the chief appraiser notifies the collector for the taxing
- 23 unit of the approval of the late homestead exemption;
- 24 (2) if the refund is required by Section 26.07(g) [or
- 25  $\frac{26.075(k)}{k}$ , on the date the results of the election to approve [or
- 26 reduce] the tax rate[, as applicable,] are certified;
- 27 (3) if the refund is required by Section 26.15(f):

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- 1 (A) for a correction to the tax roll made under
- 2 Section 26.15(b), on the date the change in the tax roll is
- 3 certified to the assessor for the taxing unit under Section 25.25;
- 4 or
- 5 (B) for a correction to the tax roll made under
- 6 Section 26.15(c), on the date the change in the tax roll is ordered
- 7 by the governing body of the taxing unit;
- 8 (4) if the refund is required by Section 31.11, on the
- 9 date the auditor for the taxing unit determines that the payment was
- 10 erroneous or excessive or, if the amount of the refund exceeds the
- 11 applicable amount specified by Section 31.11(a), on the date the
- 12 governing body of the taxing unit approves the refund;
- 13 (5) if the refund is required by Section 31.111, on the
- 14 date the collector for the taxing unit determines that the payment
- 15 was erroneous; or
- 16 (6) if the refund is required by Section 31.112, on the
- 17 date required by Section 31.112(d) or (e), as applicable.
- SECTION 14. Section 33.08(b), Tax Code, is amended to read
- 19 as follows:
- 20 (b) The governing body of the taxing unit or appraisal
- 21 district, in the manner required by law for official action, may
- 22 provide that taxes that become delinquent on or after June 1 under
- 23 Section  $\left[\frac{26.075(\frac{1}{7})}{7}\right]$  26.15(e), 31.03, 31.031, 31.032, 31.033,
- 24 31.04, or 42.42 incur an additional penalty to defray costs of
- 25 collection. The amount of the penalty may not exceed the amount of
- 26 the compensation specified in the applicable contract with an
- 27 attorney under Section 6.30 to be paid in connection with the

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- 1 collection of the delinquent taxes.
- 2 SECTION 15. Section 49.057, Water Code, is amended by
- 3 amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (j) to read as
- 4 follows:
- 5 (b) The board shall adopt an annual budget. The board of a
- 6 developed district[ , as defined by Section 49.23602, ] shall include
- 7 as an appendix to the budget the district's:
- 8 (1) audited financial statements;
- 9 (2) bond transcripts; and
- 10 (3) engineer's reports required by Section 49.106.
- 11 (j) In this section, "developed district" means a district
- 12 that has financed, completed, and issued bonds to pay for all land,
- 13 works, improvements, facilities, plants, equipment, and appliances
- 14 necessary to serve at least 95 percent of the projected build-out of
- 15 the district in accordance with the purposes for its creation or the
- 16 purposes authorized by the constitution, this code, or any other
- 17 law.
- SECTION 16. Section 49.107(g), Water Code, is amended to
- 19 read as follows:
- 20 (g) Sections 26.04, [<del>26.042,</del>] 26.05, 26.061, <u>and</u> 26.07,
- 21 [and 26.075,] Tax Code, do not apply to a tax levied and collected
- 22 under this section or an ad valorem tax levied and collected for the
- 23 payment of the interest on and principal of bonds issued by a
- 24 district.
- 25 SECTION 17. Section 49.108(f), Water Code, is amended to
- 26 read as follows:
- 27 (f) Sections 26.04, [<del>26.042,</del>] 26.05, 26.061, <u>and</u> 26.07,

- 1 [and 26.075,] Tax Code, do not apply to a tax levied and collected
- 2 for payments made under a contract approved in accordance with this
- 3 section.
- 4 SECTION 18. Section 49.236(a), Water Code, is amended to
- 5 read as follows:
- 6 (a) Before the board adopts an ad valorem tax rate for the
- 7 district for debt service, operation and maintenance purposes, or
- 8 contract purposes, the board shall give notice of each meeting of
- 9 the board at which the adoption of a tax rate will be considered.
- 10 The notice must:
- 11 (1) contain a statement in substantially the following
- 12 form:
- "NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX RATE
- "The (name of the district) will hold a public hearing on a
- 15 proposed tax rate for the tax year (year of tax levy) on (date and
- 16 time) at (meeting place). Your individual taxes may increase at a
- 17 greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate
- 18 that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your
- 19 property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other
- 20 property. The change in the taxable value of your property in
- 21 relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property
- 22 determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property
- 23 owners.
- "Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local
- 25 property tax database on which you can easily access information
- 26 regarding your property taxes, including information about
- 27 proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity

- 1 that taxes your property.
- 2 "(Names of all board members and, if a vote was taken, an
- 3 indication of how each voted on the proposed tax rate and an
- 4 indication of any absences.)";
- 5 (2) contain the following information:
- 6 (A) the district's total adopted tax rate for the
- 7 preceding year and the proposed tax rate, expressed as an amount per
- 8 \$100;
- 9 (B) the difference, expressed as an amount per
- 10 \$100 and as a percent increase or decrease, as applicable, in the
- 11 proposed tax rate compared to the adopted tax rate for the preceding
- 12 year;
- 13 (C) the average appraised value of a residence
- 14 homestead in the district in the preceding year and in the current
- 15 year; the district's total homestead exemption, other than an
- 16 exemption available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of
- 17 age or older, applicable to that appraised value in each of those
- 18 years; and the average taxable value of a residence homestead in the
- 19 district in each of those years, disregarding any homestead
- 20 exemption available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of
- 21 age or older;
- (D) the amount of tax that would have been
- 23 imposed by the district in the preceding year on a residence
- 24 homestead appraised at the average appraised value of a residence
- 25 homestead in that year, disregarding any homestead exemption
- 26 available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or
- 27 older;

- 1 (E) the amount of tax that would be imposed by the
- 2 district in the current year on a residence homestead appraised at
- 3 the average appraised value of a residence homestead in that year,
- 4 disregarding any homestead exemption available only to disabled
- 5 persons or persons 65 years of age or older, if the proposed tax
- 6 rate is adopted;
- 7 (F) the difference between the amounts of tax
- 8 calculated under Paragraphs (D) and (E), expressed in dollars and
- 9 cents and described as the annual percentage increase or decrease,
- 10 as applicable, in the tax to be imposed by the district on the
- 11 average residence homestead in the district in the current year if
- 12 the proposed tax rate is adopted; and
- 13 (G) if the proposed combined debt service,
- 14 operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate requires [or
- 15 authorizes] an election to approve [or reduce] the tax rate, [as
- 16  $\frac{\text{applicable}_{7}}{\text{applicable}_{7}}$  a description of the purpose of the proposed tax
- 17 increase;
- 18 (3) contain a statement in substantially the following
- 19 form[<del>, as applicable:</del>
- 20 [(A) if the district is a district described by
- 21 <u>Section 49.23601</u>]:
- 22 "NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE
- "If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation
- 24 and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the
- 25 taxes on the average residence homestead increasing from the
- 26 preceding year [by more than eight percent], an election must be
- 27 held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance

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1
   tax rate under Section 49.23601, Water Code.";
                     [(B) if the district is a district described by
 2
   Section 49.23602:
 3
 4
                       ["NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE
          ["If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation
 5
   and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the
 6
   taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than
 7
   3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether
   approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section
 9
10
   49.23602, Water Code."; or
                     [(C) if the district is a district described by
11
   Section 49.23603:
12
        ["NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE
13
14
          ["If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation
15
   and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the
   taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than
16
   eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may
17
   require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the
18
19
   operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate
   under Section 49.23603, Water Code."; and
20
21
                    include the following statement: "The 86th Texas
   Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax
22
23
   rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in
24
   the state.".
          SECTION 19. The heading to Section 49.23601, Water Code, is
25
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Sec. 49.23601. AUTOMATIC ELECTION TO APPROVE TAX RATE [FOR

26

27

amended to read as follows:

## 1 LOW TAX RATE DISTRICTS].

- 2 SECTION 20. Sections 49.23601(a) and (c), Water Code, are
- 3 amended to read as follows:
- 4 (a) In this section, "voter-approval tax rate" means the
- 5 rate equal to the sum of the following tax rates for the district:
- 6 (1) the current year's debt service tax rate;
- 7 (2) the current year's contract tax rate; and
- 8 (3) the operation and maintenance tax rate that would
- 9 impose  $[\frac{1.08 \text{ times}}{}]$  the amount of  $[\frac{}{}$ the] operation and maintenance
- 10 tax imposed by the district in the preceding year on a residence
- 11 homestead appraised at the average appraised value of a residence
- 12 homestead in the district in that year, disregarding any homestead
- 13 exemption available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of
- 14 age or older.
- 15 (c) If the board of a district adopts a combined debt
- 16 service, contract, and operation and maintenance tax rate that
- 17 would impose more than [1.08 times] the amount of tax imposed by the
- 18 district in the preceding year on a residence homestead appraised
- 19 at the average appraised value of a residence homestead in the
- 20 district in that year, disregarding any homestead exemption
- 21 available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or
- 22 older, an election must be held in accordance with the procedures
- 23 provided by Sections 26.07(c)-(g), Tax Code, to determine whether
- 24 to approve the adopted tax rate. If the adopted tax rate is not
- 25 approved at the election, the district's tax rate is the
- 26 voter-approval tax rate.
- 27 SECTION 21. The following provisions are repealed:

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1
               (1)
                    Section 45.0032(d), Education Code;
                    Section 120.007(d), Local Government Code;
 2
               (2)
                    Sections 26.012(8-a), (15), and (19), Tax Code;
 3
               (3)
 4
               (4)
                    Section 26.013, Tax Code;
                    Section 26.042, Tax Code;
 5
               (5)
 6
               (6)
                    Section 26.0501(c), Tax Code;
                    Section 26.063, Tax Code;
 7
               (7)
                    Section 26.075, Tax Code;
8
               (8)
                    Section 49.23601(b), Water Code;
 9
               (9)
               (10) Section 49.23602, Water Code; and
10
11
               (11) Section 49.23603, Water Code.
          SECTION 22. This Act applies only to ad valorem taxes
12
    imposed for an ad valorem tax year that begins on or after the
13
   effective date of this Act.
14
15
          SECTION 23. This Act takes effect January 1, 2026.
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