

**STORAGE NAME:** h3477z.ca  
**DATE:** June 25, 1998

**\*\*FINAL ACTION\*\***  
**\*\*SEE FINAL ACTION STATUS SECTION\*\***

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COMMITTEE ON  
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS  
FINAL BILL RESEARCH & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT**

**BILL #:** HB 3477  
**RELATING TO:** Determination of Millage  
**SPONSOR(S):** Representative Bronson  
**COMPANION BILL(S):** SB 0560 (i)

**ORIGINATING COMMITTEE(S)/COMMITTEE(S) OF REFERENCE:**

- (1) COMMUNITY AFFAIRS YEAS 6 NAYS 0
- (2)
- (3)
- (4)
- (5)

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**I. FINAL ACTION STATUS:**

House Bill 3477 was referred to the House Committee on Community Affairs on February 13, 1998. It was placed on the committee agenda February 27, 1998. The bill was voted favorably by the Community Affairs Committee on March 4, 1998. The bill passed the House on March 17, 1998 by a vote of 115 YEAS and 1 NAY.

The bill was received in Senate messages on March 18, 1998 and referred to the Committees on Community Affairs and Ways and Means on March 19, 1998. The bill was withdrawn from both committees on April 13, 1998. The bill passed the Senate on April 15, 1998 by a vote of 38 YEAS and 0 NAYS. The bill became law without the Governor's signature as chapter 98-32, Laws of Florida.

**II. SUMMARY:**

House Bill 3477 authorizes taxing authorities to adopt the tax levies and budgets of all of their dependent special taxing districts by a single, unanimous vote. The bill provides however, that if a member of the general public requests that the tax levy or budget of a dependent special taxing district be separately discussed and separately adopted, the taxing authority shall discuss and adopt that tax levy or budget separately.

This bill has no impact on the General Revenue Fund.

III. SUBSTANTIVE RESEARCH:

A. PRESENT SITUATION:

Section 200.065, Florida Statutes, requires that taxing authorities hold public hearings related to the adoption of tax levies and budgets. The public hearings must be advertised in a newspaper of general publication within the county.

Currently, taxing authorities must consider the tax levy and the budget of each of its dependent special taxing districts separately. This often makes the tax levy and budget adoption process long and cumbersome.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

House Bill 3477 authorizes taxing authorities to adopt the tax levies and budgets of all of their dependent special taxing districts by a single, unanimous vote. The bill provides however, that if a member of the general public requests that the tax levy or budget of a dependent special taxing district be separately discussed and separately adopted, the taxing authority shall discuss and adopt that tax levy or budget separately.

C. APPLICATION OF PRINCIPLES:

1. Less Government:

a. Does the bill create, increase or reduce, either directly or indirectly:

(1) any authority to make rules or adjudicate disputes?

No.

(2) any new responsibilities, obligations or work for other governmental or private organizations or individuals?

No.

(3) any entitlement to a government service or benefit?

No.

b. If an agency or program is eliminated or reduced:

(1) what responsibilities, costs and powers are passed on to another program, agency, level of government, or private entity?

N/A

(2) what is the cost of such responsibility at the new level/agency?

N/A

(3) how is the new agency accountable to the people governed?

N/A

2. Lower Taxes:

a. Does the bill increase anyone's taxes?

No.

b. Does the bill require or authorize an increase in any fees?

No.

c. Does the bill reduce total taxes, both rates and revenues?

No.

d. Does the bill reduce total fees, both rates and revenues?

No.

e. Does the bill authorize any fee or tax increase by any local government?

No.

3. Personal Responsibility:

a. Does the bill reduce or eliminate an entitlement to government services or subsidy?

No.

b. Do the beneficiaries of the legislation directly pay any portion of the cost of implementation and operation?

No.

4. Individual Freedom:

a. Does the bill increase the allowable options of individuals or private organizations/associations to conduct their own affairs?

No.

- b. Does the bill prohibit, or create new government interference with, any presently lawful activity?

No.

5. Family Empowerment:

- a. If the bill purports to provide services to families or children:

- (1) Who evaluates the family's needs?

N/A

- (2) Who makes the decisions?

N/A

- (3) Are private alternatives permitted?

N/A

- (4) Are families required to participate in a program?

N/A

- (5) Are families penalized for not participating in a program?

N/A

- b. Does the bill directly affect the legal rights and obligations between family members?

N/A

- c. If the bill creates or changes a program providing services to families or children, in which of the following does the bill vest control of the program, either through direct participation or appointment authority:

- (1) parents and guardians?

N/A

- (2) service providers?

N/A

(3) government employees/agencies?

N/A

**D. STATUTE(S) AFFECTED:**

Section 200.065, Florida Statutes, is affected.

**E. SECTION-BY-SECTION RESEARCH:**

Section 1. Paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section 200.065, Florida Statutes, is amended to allow taxing authorities to adopt the tax levies for all of its dependent special taxing districts with a single unanimous vote. The bill provides however, that if a member of the general public requests that the tax levy or budget of a dependent special taxing district be separately discussed and separately adopted, the taxing authority shall discuss and adopt that tax levy or budget separately.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming law.

**IV. FISCAL RESEARCH & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT:**

**A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE AGENCIES/STATE FUNDS:**

1. Non-recurring Effects:

N/A

2. Recurring Effects:

N/A

3. Long Run Effects Other Than Normal Growth:

N/A

4. Total Revenues and Expenditures:

N/A

**B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AS A WHOLE:**

1. Non-recurring Effects:

N/A

2. Recurring Effects:

N/A

3. Long Run Effects Other Than Normal Growth:

N/A

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

1. Direct Private Sector Costs:

N/A

2. Direct Private Sector Benefits:

N/A

3. Effects on Competition, Private Enterprise and Employment Markets:

N/A

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None.

V. CONSEQUENCES OF ARTICLE VII, SECTION 18 OF THE FLORIDA CONSTITUTION:

A. APPLICABILITY OF THE MANDATES PROVISION:

The bill does not require counties or municipalities to spend funds or take action requiring the expenditure of funds.

B. REDUCTION OF REVENUE RAISING AUTHORITY:

The bill does not reduce the authority of local governments to raise revenues in the aggregate.

C. REDUCTION OF STATE TAX SHARED WITH COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES:

The bill does not reduce the percentage of state tax shared with local governments.

VI. COMMENTS:

None.

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VII. AMENDMENTS OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES:

None.

VIII. SIGNATURES:

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