A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the Children's Services Council of Broward County; amending ch. 2000-461, Laws of Florida, as amended; increasing the maximum millage rate for ad valorem tax; requiring a referendum; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 5 and section 6 of chapter 2000-461, Laws of Florida, as amended by chapter 2004-396, Laws of Florida, are amended to read:

Section 5. Fiscal Year.-

(2) On or before July 1 of each year, the Children's Services Council of Broward County shall prepare and adopt a tentative annual written budget of its expected income and expenditures, including a contingency fund. The tentative annual written budget shall be delivered to the Board of County Commissioners on or before July 1 of each year. Included in each tentative annual budget shall be an estimate of the millage rate necessary to be applied to raise the funds budgeted for expenditures, which millage rate shall not exceed a maximum of \$1 50 cents for each \$1,000 of assessed valuation of all properties within the County which are subject to County taxes. The adopted budget and final millage rate shall be certified and

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delivered to the Board of County Commissioners within 15 days following the council's adoption of the final budget and millage rate pursuant to chapter 200, Florida Statutes.

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Section 6. Levying of Ad Valorem Taxes.-In order to provide funds for the Children's Services Council of Broward County, the council may levy ad valorem taxes annually on all taxable property in the County in an amount not to exceed one one-half mill, provided that the authority to levy such taxes has been approved by a majority vote of the electors of the District voting in the Countywide Election to be held in accordance with the requirements of the constitution and the laws of Florida and as set forth in this act. The council shall compute a proposed millage rate within the voter-approved cap necessary to fund the tentative budget and, prior to adopting a final budget, comply with the provisions of section 200.065, Florida Statutes, relating to the method of fixing millage, and shall fix the final millage rate by resolution of the council. All tax money collected under this act, as soon after the collection thereof as is reasonably practicable, shall be paid directly to the Children's Services Council by the Tax Collector of the County and all other applicable County officials. The moneys so received by the Children's Services Council, shall be deposited in a special bank account, shall be withdrawn only by checks signed by the chair of the council and counter-signed by one other member of the council, who shall be so authorized by

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the council. The chair and other member of the council who signs its checks shall each give a surety bond in the amount of \$1,000 which bond shall be conditioned that each shall faithfully discharge the duties of their office. No other member of the council shall be required to give bond or other security. No funds of the council shall be expended except by check as aforesaid, except expenditures of petty cash account which shall not at any time exceed \$100. All expenditures from petty cash shall be recorded on the books and records of the Children's Services Council. No funds of the council, except the expenditure of petty cash or issuance of checks made payable for sums no greater than \$5,000, shall be expended without prior approval of the council, in addition to the budgeting thereof. Budgeted expenditures of \$5,000 or less that have not received prior council approval shall be authorized only upon approval of the chief executive officer of the council and shall be reported to the council by written report on a monthly basis. For purposes of this section, electronic wire transfers shall be deemed checks if written authorization for each wire transfer is obtained from the council chair and by an authorized council member.

Section 2. This act shall take effect only upon its approval by a majority vote of those qualified electors residing within Broward County, voting in a referendum to be held in conjunction with the next general election to be held in Broward

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76 County, except that this section shall take effect upon becoming a law.

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