ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2021 COMMITTEE STATEMENT LB408

Hearing Date: Wednesday January 27, 2021

Committee On: Revenue Introducer: Briese

One Liner: Adopt the Property Tax Request Act

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:

Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:

Aye: 7 Senators Albrecht, Briese, Flood, Friesen, Lindstrom, Linehan, Pahls

Nay: 1 Senator Bostar

Absent:

Present Not Voting:

Oral Testimony:

Proponents: Representing:

Senator Tom Briese Introducer

Bud Synhorst Lincoln Independent Business Association

Bob Hallstrom National Federation of Independent Businesses

Sarah Curry Platte Institute

Opponents:Representing:Dennis MeyerLancaster County

Greg Adams Nebraska Community College Association

Robert Post Banner County, Nebraska Association of County Officials

John Spatz Nebraska Association of School Boards

Spencer Head Omaha Public Schools
Renne Fry OpenSky Policy Institute

Kyle Fairbairn Nebraska Education Collaboration (GNSA, NCSA, NASB,

NSEA, STANCE, ESUCC, NRCSA, and Stand for Schools)

Christy Abraham League of Nebraska Municipalities

Don Wesely Greater Nebraska Cities

Jon Cannon Nebraska Association of County Officials

Neutral: Representing:

Submitted Written Testimony:

Proponents: Representing:

Opponents: Representing:

Joey Adler Holland Children's Movement

Nolan Beyer Millard Public Schools Mike Rogers Gilmore & Bell, P.C.

Justin Brady Metropolitan Community College

Tim Gay Sarpy County

Jenni Benson Nebraska State Education Association

Jack MolesNebraska Rural Community Schools AssociationJohn SkrettaSchools Taking Action Nebraska Children's Education

John Neal Lincoln Public Schools

Neutral: Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB408 creates the Property Tax Request Act. It provides definitions for approved bonds, political subdivision, property tax request, and real growth value.

A political subdivision's property tax request for any year shall not exceed the prior year's property tax request by more than 3%. A political subdivision may exceed the 3% cap by a specific amount at special election if approved by a majority of legal voters of the subdivision.

The 3% increase on the property tax requests would not apply to (1) property tax dollars required to pay for the principal or interest needed to retire bonded indebtedness of the political subdivision; or (2) property taxes raised from real growth of a political subdivision.

Real growth value is defined to mean the increase in real property valuation due to (1) improvements in existing property or new construction; (2) any other improvements to real property which increase its value; and (3) annexation of real property by the political subdivision.

The provisions of LB408 become operative January 1, 2022.

Explanation of amendments:

The committee voted to adopt Committee Amendment 371:

8 Yes - Linehan, Lindstrom, Albrecht, Bostar, Briese, Flood, Friesen, Pahls

The Committee Amendment becomes the bill. The changes from LB408, as introduced are noted below. All other provisions from LB408 are included in the Committee Amendment.

Section 4 (Page 4, Lines 19-31 through Page 6, Lines 1-14) that a political subdivision's property tax request in any year shall not exceed its request authority. Request authority shall be equal to the political subdivision's tax request from the prior year multiplied by 103%.

By a majority vote of a political subdivision's governing board, the political subdivision may exceed the 3% limit for no more than 2 consecutive years. If this situation occurs, the property tax request of the political subdivision shall be reduced to ensure the increase in the property tax request does not exceed 9% over a 3-year period.

The 3-year period will be measured using the year when the political subdivision exceeds the 3% limit as the first year. If the vote to exceed the 3% limit is for 2 consecutive years, the 3-year period shall be measured twice using each of the 2 consecutive years as the first year of the applicable 3-year period.

The 3% limit shall not apply to a political subdivision's property tax request that will be derived from the real growth value of the political subdivision.

A political subdivision that chooses not to increase its property tax request by the full 3% may carry forward one-half of its unused request authority to future years as carryover request authority. Carryover request authority may be used in future years to increase the political subdivision's tax request above the 3% limit.

The 3% limit shall apply to property tax requests set in 2022 through 2027. The 3% limit shall not longer apply to property tax request set in 2028 and thereafter.

Section 13-506 is amended to require the presentation required at a budget hearing shall also include information showing the political subdivision is in compliance with the Property Tax Request Act.

Lou Ann Linehan, Chairperson