

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 504 (As amended by A01564)

Sponsor: REPRESENTATIVE KNOWLES

Printer's No. 561

1 Amend Bill, page 1, line 6 (A01564), by striking out "and"
2 where it occurs the second time

3 Amend Bill, page 1, line 7 (A01564), by inserting after "Act"
4 ; and making an inconsistent repeal

5 Amend Bill, page 10, lines 14 through 17 (A01564), by
6 striking out all of said lines and inserting

7 (1) the amount of revenue generated in the previous
8 fiscal year, minus;

9 Amend Bill, page 10, lines 30 through 33 (A01564), by
10 striking out all of said lines and inserting

11 (1) the amount of revenue generated in the previous
12 fiscal year, minus;

13 Amend Bill, page 10, by inserting between lines 44 and 45
14 (A01564)

15 Section 1634. Public referendum requirements for increasing the
16 rate of a tax on real property.

17 (a) General rule.--Except as provided in subsection (b) and
18 unless there is compliance with subsection (c), a board of
19 school directors may not increase the rate of a tax on real
20 property for the support of the public schools.

21 (b) Change in rate following countywide reassessment.--In
22 the first year that a county implements a countywide revision of
23 assessment by revaluing the properties and applies an
24 established predetermined ratio or changes its assessment base
25 by applying a change in the predetermined ratio, a school
26 district levying a real property tax on the revised assessment
27 roll for the first time shall reduce its tax rate, if necessary,
28 so that the total amount of taxes levied for that year does not
29 exceed the total amount of taxes levied for the previous year.
30 For the purpose of determining the total amount of taxes to be
31 levied for the first year under this section, the amount to be

1 levied on newly constructed buildings or structures or on
2 increased valuations based on new improvements made to existing
3 houses shall be considered.

4 (c) Referendum.--

5 (1) In order to take an action prohibited under
6 subsection (a), at the election immediately preceding the
7 start of the school district's fiscal year in which the
8 proposed tax increase would take effect, a referendum stating
9 the specific rate or rates of the tax increase must be
10 submitted to the electors of the school district and a
11 majority of the electors voting on the question must approve
12 the increase.

13 (2) A school district acting pursuant to this subsection
14 shall submit the referendum question required under this
15 subsection to the election officials of each county in which
16 it is situate no later than 60 days prior to the election
17 immediately preceding the fiscal year in which the tax
18 increase would take effect.

19 (3) The election officials of each county shall, in
20 consultation with the board of school directors, draft a
21 nonlegal interpretative statement which shall accompany the
22 referendum question in accordance with section 201.1 of the
23 act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the
24 Pennsylvania Election Code. The nonlegal interpretative
25 statement shall include information that references the items
26 of expenditure for which the tax increase is sought and the
27 consequence of the referendum being disapproved by the
28 electorate.

29 (d) Failure to approve referendum.--If a referendum question
30 submitted under subsection (c) is not approved, the board of
31 school directors may not approve an increase in the tax rate.

32 (e) Election interference prohibited.--

33 (1) No public funds may be used to urge any elector to
34 vote for or against a referendum or be appropriated for
35 political or campaign purposes.

36 (2) This subsection shall not be construed to prohibit
37 the use of public funds for dissemination of factual
38 information relative to a referendum appearing on an election
39 ballot.

40 (f) Applicable tax rate for first class school district.--
41 This section shall apply to a tax on real property levied by a
42 city of the first class for the benefit of a school district of
43 the first class.

44 (g) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following
45 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this
46 subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

47 "County." A county of the first, second, second A, third,
48 fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh or eighth class.

49 Amend Bill, page 22, by inserting between lines 33 and 34

1 (A01564)

2 (3) All acts and parts of acts are repealed insofar as they
3 are inconsistent with the addition of section 1634 of the act.