



February 24, 2016

### Determination of Maximum Millage Rates

**CS/HB 1015 (Nuñez) will be considered by the House Local and Federal Affairs Committee on Thursday (tomorrow), February 24 at 10:00 a.m.**

**Please Contact the Members of the House Local and Federal Affairs Committee and Urge them to Oppose CS/HB 1015.**

#### Background

In 2007 the State and Local governments negotiated a deal that:

- Significantly reduced Local Property Taxes
- Placed an Ad Valorem Revenue Growth Limitation Cap on future revenues (Maximum Millage)
  - Formula emphasized long-term growth based on Florida Personal Income
  - Allowed for flexibility in the local management of local revenues
    - Incentivized local management of further local tax reductions

#### The Recession

- Florida local governments and their ad valorem tax base (Property Values) was severely affected by the recession

#### Today in a Post-Recession Florida

- Local governments are still in various stages of the recovery process
- Local governments have honored the 2007 deal and have managed resources accordingly
- Local Governments are currently \$5 Billion + below the revenue limit trend cap set by the state in 2007

#### The Proposed Amendment and Original Bill (HB 1015)

- Proposes to eliminate existing capacity and “ratchet down” the trend line or cap
  - Locking local governments in to various places in their current recovery status
- Eliminates “Original Flexibility” provided for the local management of local resources
  - “Use it or lose it” scenario
  - Strongly disincentivizes local voluntary tax cuts
- Eliminates long-time standard provision “rolled-back rate/rolled-up rate” that provides for the maintenance of current level of revenues and services in relation to property values

- Effect would force local governments to absorb impacts of property value losses due economic downturns, natural disasters, or other events

**Message to Legislators:**

**Please OPPOSE HB 1015 because it:**

- “Breaks” the deal established in 2007
  - Local governments have honored the agreement
  - Billions of Tax Dollars were returned to local citizens
- “Disrupts” the ability to continue to locally manage the local recovery process
- “Endangers” ability of local governments to manage in severely distressed situations
- “Punishes” the good actors who have managed the recovery process the best
  - Those that are furthest below the cap, will be punished the worst

**House Local and Federal Affairs Committee – Oppose CS/HB 1015**

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You can also use the League’s advocacy tool [Capitol Connection](#) to e-mail members of the Committee.

Should you have any questions, please contact: Amber Hughes at [ahughes@flcities.com](mailto:ahughes@flcities.com) or 813-777-4783 (cell).

**Thank you for your advocacy efforts.**