

AN ACT concerning local government.

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,
represented in the General Assembly:**

Section 5. The Fire Protection District Act is amended by changing Sections 22 and 24 as follows:

(70 ILCS 705/22) (from Ch. 127 1/2, par. 38.5)

Sec. 22. The Board of Trustees of any fire protection district incorporated under this Act is authorized under the terms and conditions hereinafter set out, to provide emergency ambulance service to or from points within or without the district; to contract with providers of ambulance service; to combine with other units of governments for the purpose of providing ambulance service; to levy a tax for the provision of such service and to adopt rules and regulations relating to ambulance service within their jurisdiction.

(a) It is declared as a matter of public policy:

(1) That, in order to preserve, protect and promote the public health, safety and general welfare, adequate and continuing emergency ambulance service should be available to every citizen of Illinois;

(2) That, insofar as it is economically feasible, emergency ambulance service should be provided by private enterprise; and

(3) That, in the event adequate and continuing emergency ambulance services do not exist, fire protection districts should be authorized to provide, and shall cause to be provided, ambulance service as a public responsibility.

(b) Whenever the Board of Trustees of a fire protection district desires to levy a special tax to provide an ambulance service, it shall certify the question to the proper election officials, who shall submit that question at an election to the voters of the district. The result of such referendum shall be entered upon the records of the district. If a majority of the votes on the proposition are in favor of such proposition, the Board of Trustees may thereafter levy a special tax at a rate not to exceed .30% of the value of all taxable property within the district as equalized or assessed by the Department of Revenue. The proposition shall be in substantially the following form:

Shall the Fire Protection	
District levy a special tax at a rate	YES
not to exceed .30% of the value of all	
taxable property within the district as	-----
equalized or assessed by the Department	
of Revenue for the purpose of providing	NO
an ambulance service?	

(b-5) On and after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 98th General Assembly, whenever the Board of Trustees of a fire protection district desires to levy a special tax to provide an ambulance service, it shall certify the question to the proper election officials, who shall submit that question at an election to the voters of the district. The result of such referendum shall be entered upon the records of the district. If a majority of the votes on the proposition are in favor of such proposition, the Board of Trustees may thereafter levy a special tax at a rate not to exceed .40% of the value of all taxable property within the district as equalized or assessed by the Department of Revenue. The proposition shall be in substantially the following form:

Shall the Fire Protection
District levy a special tax at a rate YES
not to exceed .40% of the value of all
taxable property within the district as -----
equalized or assessed by the Department
of Revenue for the purpose of providing NO
an ambulance service?

(c) If it appears that a majority of all valid votes cast on the proposition are in favor of levying a special tax to pay for an ambulance, the Board of Trustees may levy and collect an

annual tax for the purpose of providing ambulance service under this Act to be extended at a rate not to exceed .40% of the full fair cash value of the taxable property within the governmental unit as assessed or equalized by the Department of Revenue. Such annual tax shall be in addition to the other taxes a fire protection district may levy for its corporate purposes.

(d) Any Board of trustees may:

1. Provide or operate an emergency ambulance service;
2. Contract with a private person, hospital, corporation or another governmental unit for the provision and operation of emergency ambulance service or subsidize the service thereof;
3. Limit the number of ambulance services;
4. Within its jurisdiction, fix, charge and collect fees for emergency ambulance service within or outside of the fire protection district not exceeding the reasonable cost of the service;
5. Establish necessary regulations not inconsistent with the statutes or regulations of the Department of Public Health relating to ambulance service;
6. The trustees shall have the power identified in paragraphs 3 and 5 only if the district shall have passed the referendum provided for herein.

(e) When any Board of Trustees is authorized prior to January 1, 1978 to levy and collect an annual tax, for the

purpose of providing ambulance service, at any rate not exceeding .25% of the full fair cash value of the taxable property within the governmental unit as equalized or assessed by the Department of Revenue, such Board of Trustees may by resolution increase its authority to tax for ambulance purposes to a rate not to exceed .30%. Such resolution shall be effective 30 days after its adoption. Notice of such resolution shall be published twice in a newspaper having a general circulation within the district at least 20 days and again at least 10 days prior to the effective date of the resolution. Such notice shall state that the voters of that fire protection district, which district shall be described in the notice, have until 30 days after the adoption of the resolution to file a petition with the Board of Trustees praying that the question of the adoption of the resolution be submitted to a vote of the electors of such territory, and that, if no such petition is filed, the resolution shall become effective 30 days after its adoption. The notice also shall state the specific number of voters required to sign the petition and the date of the prospective referendum. The district secretary shall provide a petition form to any individual requesting one. If such a petition, signed by the voters of the district equal to 10% or more of the registered voters of the district, is so filed with the Board of Trustees, then the question of the adoption of the resolution shall be certified to the proper election officials, who shall submit

the question to a vote of the electors of the district at an election in accordance with the general election law. If such a petition is filed, the resolution does not take effect unless a majority of the votes cast upon the question of the adoption of the resolution is in favor of adoption. However, if such a petition is determined to be invalid, the resolution shall take effect.

The result of the election shall be entered upon the records of the district. If a majority of the voters vote in favor of such resolution, the resolution shall be effective immediately. The proposition shall be in substantially the following form:

Shall the Board of Trustees of	
the Fire Protection District	YES
be authorized to increase the	
special tax for ambulance service	
to a rate not to exceed .30% of	-----
the value of all taxable property	
within the district as equalized or	
assessed by the Department of Revenue	NO
for the purpose of providing such service?	

(f) The Board of Trustees may accumulate funds in its ambulance fund for the purposes of acquiring, building, or maintaining real property, procuring emergency medical service

vehicles or equipment, or training to provide essential emergency medical services to the community.

(g) In this Section, "ambulance service" includes, without limitation, pre-hospital medical services. "Pre-hospital medical services" includes emergency services performed by a paramedic or other on-board emergency personnel that are within the scope of the provider's license. This amendatory Act of the 95th General Assembly is declarative of existing law.

(Source: P.A. 98-319, eff. 8-12-13.)

(70 ILCS 705/24) (from Ch. 127 1/2, par. 38.7)

Sec. 24. (a) In addition to any other tax authorized by law, the board of trustees of a fire protection district may, subject to the requirements of subsections (b) and (c), by ordinance levy a special annual tax at a rate not exceeding 0.10% of the value, as equalized or assessed by the Department of Revenue, of all taxable property within the district, for the purpose of obtaining funds to pay for the costs of emergency and rescue crews and equipment.

(b) Whenever the board of trustees of a fire protection district desires to levy a special tax under this Section, it shall certify the question to the proper election officials, who shall submit that question at an election to the voters of the district in accordance with the general election law. The result of such referendum shall be entered upon the records of

the district. If a majority of the votes on the proposition are in favor of such proposition, the board of trustees may thereafter levy a special tax under this Section at a rate not to exceed 0.05% of the value of all taxable property within the district as equalized or assessed by the Department of Revenue. The proposition shall be in substantially the following form:

Shall the Fire Protection District levy a special tax at a rate not to exceed 0.05% of the value of all taxable property within the district as equalized or assessed by the Department of Revenue for the purpose of providing funds to pay for the costs of emergency and rescue crews and equipment?	YES

	NO

(c) Whenever the board of trustees of a fire protection district desires to levy a special tax under this Section at a rate not to exceed 0.10% of the value of all taxable property within the district as equalized or assessed by the Department of Revenue, it shall certify the question to the proper election officials, who shall submit that question at an election to the voters of the district in accordance with the general election law. The result of such referendum shall be

entered upon the records of the district. If a majority of the votes on the proposition are in favor of such proposition, the board of trustees may thereafter levy a special tax under this Section at a rate not to exceed 0.10% of the value of all taxable property within the district as equalized or assessed by the Department of Revenue. The proposition shall be in substantially the following form:

Shall the Fire	
Protection District levy a	YES
special tax at a rate not to	
exceed 0.10% of the value of	
all taxable property within the	-----
district as equalized or assessed	
by the Department of Revenue	
for the purpose of providing funds	NO
to pay for the costs of emergency	
and rescue crews and equipment?	

(d) The board of trustees may accumulate funds in its emergency and rescue fund for the purposes of acquiring, building, or maintaining real property for emergency and rescue purposes, procuring emergency rescue crews and equipment, or training to provide essential rescue, specialized rescue, and technical rescue services to the community.

Public Act 103-0672

HB4359 Enrolled

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(Source: P.A. 99-4, eff. 5-31-15; 100-348, eff. 1-1-18.)