Session of 2019

SENATE BILL No. 191

By Committee on Ways and Means

2-14

AN ACT concerning property taxation; relating to cities and counties; 1 2 approval of budgets and exception from election for transportation 3 construction projects; amending K.S.A. 2018 Supp. 79-2925c and 4 repealing the existing section. 5 6 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:* 7 Section 1. K.S.A. 2018 Supp. 79-2925c is hereby amended to read as follows: 79-2925c. (a) (1) On and after January 1, 2017, the governing 8 9 body of any city or county shall not approve any appropriation or budget 10 which provides for funding by property tax revenues in an amount 11 exceeding that of the next preceding year as adjusted to reflect the average changes in the consumer price index for all urban consumers as published 12 13 by the United States department of labor for the preceding five calendar years, which shall not be less than zero, unless the city or county approves 14 the appropriation or budget with the adoption of a resolution and such 15 16 resolution has been submitted to and approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the city or county voting at an election called and held 17 18 thereon, except as otherwise provided. 19 (2) The election shall be called and held in the manner provided by 20 K.S.A. 10-120, and amendments thereto, and may be: 21 (A) Held at the next regularly scheduled election to be held in August 22 or November; 23 (B) may be a mail ballot election, conducted in accordance with 24 K.S.A. 25-431 et seq., and amendments thereto; or 25 (C) may be a special election called by the city or county. Nothing in 26 this subsection shall prevent any city or county from holding more than 27 one election in any year. The city or county requesting the election shall be 28 responsible for paying all costs associated with conducting the election. 29 (b) A resolution by the governing body of a city or county otherwise 30 required by the provisions of this section shall not be required to be 31 approved by an election required by subsection (a) under the following 32 circumstances: 33 (1) Increased property tax revenues that, in the current year, are 34 produced and attributable to the taxation of: 35 (A) The construction of any new structures or improvements or the 36 remodeling or renovation of any existing structures or improvements on real property, which shall not include any ordinary maintenance or repair
 of any existing structures or improvements on the property;

(B) increased personal property valuation;

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- (C) real property located within added jurisdictional territory;(D) real property which has changed in use;
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(E) expiration of any abatement of property from property tax; or

7 (F) expiration of a tax increment financing district, rural housing
8 incentive district, neighborhood revitalization area or any other similar
9 property tax rebate or redirection program.

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(2) Increased property tax revenues that will be spent on:

(A) Bond, temporary notes, no fund warrants, state infrastructure
loans and interest payments not exceeding the amount of ad valorem
property taxes levied in support of such payments, and payments made to a
public building commission and lease payments but only to the extent such
payments were obligations that existed prior to July 1, 2016;

16 (B) payment of special assessments not exceeding the amount of ad 17 valorem property taxes levied in support of such payments;

(C) court judgments or settlements of legal actions against the city or
 county and legal costs directly related to such judgments or settlements;

20 (D) expenditures of city or county funds that are specifically 21 mandated by federal or state law with such mandates becoming effective 22 on or after July 1, 2015, and loss of funds from federal sources after 23 January 1, 2017, where the city or county is contractually obligated to 24 provide a service;

25 (E) expenses relating to a federal, state or local disaster or federal, 26 state or local emergency, including, but not limited to, a financial 27 emergency, declared by a federal or state official. The board of county 28 commissioners may request the governor to declare such disaster or 29 emergency; or

30 (F) increased costs above the consumer price index for law 31 enforcement, fire protection or emergency medical services; *or*

32 *(G)* expenses relating to transportation projects that do not exceed 33 20% of the appropriation or budget of the next preceding year if the 34 transportation project is first certified by the secretary of transportation as 35 a transportation construction project.

36 (3) Any increased property tax revenues generated for law
and enforcement, fire protection or emergency medical services shall be
expended exclusively for these purposes but shall not be used for the
construction or remodeling of buildings.

40 (4) The property tax revenues levied by the city or county have 41 declined:

42 (A) In one or more of the next preceding three calendar years and the 43 increase in the amount of funding for the budget or appropriation from

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1 revenue produced from property taxes does not exceed the average amount

of funding from such revenue of the next preceding three calendar years,
adjusted to reflect changes in the consumer price index for all urban
consumers as published by the United States department of labor for the
preceding calendar year; or

6 (B) the increase in the amount of ad valorem tax to be levied is less 7 than the change in the consumer price index plus the loss of assessed 8 property valuation that has occurred as the result of legislative action, 9 judicial action or a ruling by the board of tax appeals.

(5) Whenever a city or county is required by law to levy taxes for the 10 financing of the budget of any political or governmental subdivision of this 11 state that is not authorized by law to levy taxes on its own behalf, and the 12 governing body of such city or county is not authorized or empowered to 13 14 modify or reduce the amount of taxes levied therefore, the tax levies of the 15 political or governmental subdivision shall not be included in or 16 considered in computing the aggregate limitation upon the property tax 17 levies of the city or county.

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Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2018 Supp. 79-2925c is hereby repealed.

Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after itspublication in the statute book.