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Sixty-eighth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1158

Introduced by **(INCLUDES SB 2066)**

Representatives Headland, Bosch, Dockter, Grueneich, Hagert, Heinert

Senators Axtman, Conley, Kannianen, Meyer, K. Roers, Wanzek

A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact 57-15-01.1, subsection 1 of section 57-15-14, section 57-15-14.2, and subdivision c of subsection 1 of section 57-20-07.1, 57-38-30.3 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the determination of state aid payments, information displayed on property tax statements, school district levy authority, and a credit against payments in lieu of taxes paid by centrally assessed companies, the imposition of a flat income tax rate of one and one-half percent for individuals estates, and trusts; and to provide an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Section 57-15-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

57-15-01. Levy in specific amounts - Exceptions.

With the exception of special assessment taxes and such general taxes as may be definitely fixed by law, all state, county, city, township, school district, and park district taxes must be levied or voted in specific amounts of money. For purposes of communicating with the public and comparing the amount levied in the current taxable year to the amount levied in the preceding taxable year, taxing districts shall express levies in terms of dollars rather than mills.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT. Section 57-15-01.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

57-15-01.1. Protection of taxpayers and taxing districts.

Each taxing district may levy the lesser of the amount in dollars as certified in the budget of the governing body, or the amount in dollars as allowed in this section, subject to the following:

1. No taxing district may levy more taxes expressed in dollars than the amounts allowed by this section.
2. For purposes of this section:

- a. "Base year" means the taxing district's taxable year with the highest amount levied in dollars in property taxes of the three taxable years immediately preceding the budget year;
 - b. "Budget year" means the taxing district's year for which the levy is being determined under this section;
 - c. "Calculated mill rate" means the mill rate that results from dividing the base year taxes levied by the sum of the taxable value of the taxable property in the base year plus the taxable value of the property exempt by local discretion or charitable status, calculated in the same manner as the taxable property; and
 - d. "Property exempt by local discretion or charitable status" means property exempted from taxation as new or expanding businesses under chapter 40-57.1; improvements to property under chapter 57-02.2; or buildings belonging to institutions of public charity, new single-family residential or townhouse or condominium property, property used for early childhood services, or pollution abatement improvements under section 57-02-08; and
 - e. "Taxing district" means any political subdivision, other than a school district, empowered by law to levy taxes.
3. A taxing district may elect to levy the amount levied in dollars in the base year. Any levy under this section must be specifically approved by a resolution approved by the governing body of the taxing district. Before determining the levy limitation under this section, the dollar amount levied in the base year must be:
- a. Reduced by an amount equal to the sum determined by application of the base year's calculated mill rate for that taxing district to the final base year taxable valuation of any taxable property and property exempt by local discretion or charitable status which is not included in the taxing district for the budget year but was included in the taxing district for the base year.
 - b. Increased by an amount equal to the sum determined by the application of the base year's calculated mill rate for that taxing district to the final budget year taxable valuation of any taxable property or property exempt by local discretion or charitable status which was not included in the taxing district for the base year but which is included in the taxing district for the budget year.
 - e. Reduced to reflect expired temporary mill levy increases authorized by the electors of the taxing district. ~~For purposes of this subdivision, an expired temporary mill levy increase does not include a school district general fund mill rate exceeding one~~

~~hundred ten mills which has expired or has not received approval of electors for an extension under subsection 2 of section 57-64-03.~~

~~d.—Reduced by the amount of state aid under chapter 15.1-27, which is determined by multiplying the budget year taxable valuation of the school district by the lesser of the base year mill rate of the school district minus sixty mills or fifty mills, if the base year is a taxable year before 2013.~~

4. In addition to any other levy limitation factor under this section, a taxing district may increase its levy in dollars to reflect new or increased mill levies authorized by the legislative assembly or authorized by the electors of the taxing district.
5. Under this section a taxing district may supersede any applicable mill levy limitations otherwise provided by law, or a taxing district may levy up to the mill levy limitations otherwise provided by law without reference to this section, but the provisions of this section do not apply to the following:
 - a. Any irrevocable tax to pay bonded indebtedness levied pursuant to section 16 of article X of the Constitution of North Dakota.
 - b. The one-mill levy for the state medical center authorized by section 10 of article X of the Constitution of North Dakota.
- ~~6.—A school district choosing to determine its levy authority under this section may apply subsection 3 only to the amount in dollars levied for general fund purposes under section 57-15-14 or, if the levy in the base year included separate general fund and special fund levies under sections 57-15-14 and 57-15-14.2, the school district may apply subsection 3 to the total amount levied in dollars in the base year for both the general fund and special fund accounts. School district levies under any section other than section 57-15-14 may be made within applicable limitations but those levies are not subject to subsection 3.~~
7. Optional levies under this section may be used by any city or county that has adopted a home rule charter unless the provisions of the charter supersede state laws related to property tax levy limitations.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENT. Subsection 1 of section 57-15-14 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

1. Unless authorized by the electors of the school district in accordance with this section, a school district may not impose greater levies than those permitted under section 57-15-14.2.
 - a. In any school district having a total population in excess of four thousand according to the last federal decennial census there may be levied any specific number of mills that upon resolution of the school board has been submitted to and approved by a

majority of the qualified electors voting upon the question at any regular or special school district election.

- b. In any school district having a total population of fewer than four thousand, there may be levied any specific number of mills that upon resolution of the school board has been approved by fifty-five percent of the qualified electors voting upon the question at any regular or special school election.
- c. After June 30, 2009, in any school district election for approval by electors of increased levy authority under subsection 1 or 2, the ballot must specify the number of mills proposed for approval, and the number of taxable years for which that approval is to apply. After June 30, 2009, approval by electors of increased levy authority under subsection 1 or 2 may not be effective for more than ten taxable years.
- d. The authority for a levy of up to a specific number of mills under this section approved by electors of a school district before July 1, 2009, is terminated effective for taxable years after 2015. If the electors of a school district subject to this subsection have not approved a levy for taxable years after 2015 of up to a specific number of mills under this section by December 31, 2015, the school district levy limitation for subsequent years is subject to the limitations under ~~section 57-15-01.1~~ ~~or~~ this section.
- e. For taxable years beginning after 2012:
 - 1) The authority for a levy of up to a specific number of mills, approved by electors of a school district for any period of time that includes a taxable year before 2009, must be reduced by one hundred fifteen mills as a precondition of receiving state aid in accordance with chapter 15.1-27.
 - 2) The authority for a levy of up to a specific number of mills, approved by electors of a school district for any period of time that does not include a taxable year before 2009, must be reduced by forty mills as a precondition of receiving state aid in accordance with chapter 15.1-27.
 - 3) The authority for a levy of up to a specific number of mills, placed on the ballot in a school district election for electoral approval of increased levy authority under subdivision a or b, after June 30, ~~2013~~2022, must be stated as a specific number of mills of general fund levy authority and must include a statement that the statutory school district general fund levy limitation is ~~seventy~~fifty mills on the dollar of the taxable valuation of

residential, agricultural, and commercial property in the school district and seventy mills on the dollar of taxable valuation of centrally assessed property in the school district.

- f. The authority for an unlimited levy approved by electors of a school district before July 1, 2009, is terminated effective for taxable years after 2015. If the electors of a school district subject to this subsection have not approved a levy of up to a specific number of mills under this section by December 31, 2015, the school district levy limitation for subsequent years is subject to the limitations under section 57-15-01.1 or this section.

SECTION 4. AMENDMENT. Section 57-15-14.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

57-15-14.2. School district levies. (~~Effective for taxable years through December 31, 2024~~)

- ~~1. The board of a school district may levy a tax not exceeding the amount in dollars that the school district levied for the prior year, plus twelve percent and the dollar amount of the adjustment required in section 15.1-27-04.3, up to a levy of seventy mills on the taxable valuation of the district, for any purpose related to the provision of educational services. The proceeds of this levy must be deposited into the school district's general fund and used in accordance with this subsection. The proceeds may not be transferred into any other fund.~~
- ~~2. The board of a school district may levy no more than twelve mills on the taxable valuation of the district, for miscellaneous purposes and expenses. The proceeds of this levy must be deposited into a special fund known as the miscellaneous fund and used in accordance with this subsection. The proceeds may not be transferred into any other fund.~~
- ~~3. The board of a school district may levy no more than three mills on the taxable valuation of the district for deposit into a special reserve fund, in accordance with chapter 57-19.~~
- ~~4. The board of a school district may levy no more than the number of mills necessary, on the taxable valuation of the district, for the payment of tuition, in accordance with section 15.1-29-15. The proceeds of this levy must be deposited into a special fund known as the tuition fund and used in accordance with this subsection. The proceeds may not be transferred into any other fund.~~
- ~~5. The board of a school district may levy no more than five mills on the taxable valuation of the district, pursuant to section 57-15-15.1, for purposes of developing a school safety plan in accordance with section 15.1-09-60. The proceeds of this levy must be deposited into a special fund known as the school safety plan fund and used in accordance with this subsection.~~

6. ~~Nothing in this section limits the board of a school district from levying:~~
- a. ~~Mills for a building fund, as permitted in sections 15.1-09-49 and 57-15-16; and~~
 - b. ~~Mills necessary to pay principal and interest on the bonded debt of the district, including the mills necessary to pay principal and interest on any bonded debt incurred under section 57-15-17.1 before July 1, 2013.~~

School district levies. (Effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2024)

1. a. ~~The board of a school district may levy a tax not exceeding for the school district's local contribution to the costs of education which may not exceed the amount in dollars that the school district levied for the prior year, plus twelve percent, up to would be generated by a levy of seventy:~~
 - 1) Forty mills on the taxable valuation of residential, agricultural, and commercial property in the district, for any purpose related to the provision of educational services. For purposes of this paragraph, "taxable valuation" means, for taxable year 2023, the 2022 taxable valuation of the school district, and for taxable year 2024 and each year thereafter, the 2022 taxable valuation increased by five percent per year, or the actual increase in taxable valuation, as compared to the previous year's taxable valuation calculation, whichever is less, beginning with taxable year 2024 and each year thereafter.
 - 2) Sixty mills on the taxable valuation of centrally assessed property in the district.
- b. ~~The proceeds of this levy must be deposited into the school district's general fund and may be used in accordance with this subsection for any purposes related to the provision of educational services. The proceeds may not be transferred into any other fund.~~
2. The board of a school district may levy no more than ten mills on the taxable valuation of the district, for any purpose related to the provision of educational services. The proceeds of this levy must be deposited into the school district's general fund and used in accordance with this subsection. The proceeds may not be transferred into any other fund.
3. The board of a school district may levy no more than twelve mills on the taxable valuation of the district, for miscellaneous purposes and expenses. The proceeds of this levy must be deposited into a special fund known as the miscellaneous fund and used in accordance with this subsection. The proceeds may not be transferred into any other fund.
4. The board of a school district may levy no more than three mills on the taxable valuation of the district for deposit into a special reserve fund, in accordance with chapter 57-19.
5. The board of a school district may levy no more than the number of mills necessary, on the taxable valuation of the district, for the payment of tuition, in accordance with section 15.1-29-15.

The proceeds of this levy must be deposited into a special fund known as the tuition fund and used in accordance with this subsection. The proceeds may not be transferred into any other fund.

6. The board of a school district may levy no more than five mills on the taxable valuation of the district, pursuant to section 57-15-15.1, for purposes of developing a school safety plan in accordance with section 15.1-09-60. The proceeds of this levy must be deposited into a special fund known as the school safety plan fund and used in accordance with this subsection.
7. Nothing in this section limits the board of a school district from levying:
 - a. Mills for a building fund, as permitted in sections 15.1-09-49 and 57-15-16; and
 - b. Mills necessary to pay principal and interest on the bonded debt of the district, including the mills necessary to pay principal and interest on any bonded debt incurred under section 57-15-17.1 before July 1, 2013.

SECTION 5. AMENDMENT. Subdivision c of subsection 1 of section 57-20-07.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

c. ~~Provide~~For tax statements to be mailed to an owner of a residential, agricultural, or commercial parcel of land, provide information identifying the property tax savings provided by the state of North Dakota. The tax statement must include a line item that is entitled "legislative tax relief" and identifies the dollar amount of property tax savings realized by the taxpayer under chapter 50-34 for taxable years before 2019, chapter 50-35 for taxable years after 2018, and chapter 15.1-27.

(1) For purposes of this subdivision, legislative tax relief under chapter 15.1-27 is determined by multiplying the taxable value for the taxable year for each parcel shown on the tax statement by the number of mills of mill levy reduction grant under chapter 57-64 for the 2012 taxable year ~~plus the number of mills determined by subtracting from the 2012 taxable year mill rate of the school district in which the parcel is located~~ the lesser of:

(a) ~~Fifty~~Seventy mills; or

(b) The 2012 taxable year mill rate of the school district minus ~~sixty~~forty mills.

(2) Legislative tax relief under chapter 50-35 is determined by multiplying the taxable value for the taxable year for each parcel shown on the tax statement by the number of mills of relief determined by dividing the amount calculated in subsection 1 of section 50-35-03 for a human service zone by the taxable value of taxable property in the zone for the taxable year.

SECTION 6. AMENDMENT. Subsection 1 of the section 57-38-30.3 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

1. A tax is hereby imposed for each taxable year upon income earned or received in that taxable year by every resident and nonresident individual, estate, and trust. A taxpayer computing the

tax under this section is only eligible for those adjustments or credits that are specifically provided for in this section. Provided, that for purposes of this section, any person required to file a state income tax return under this chapter, but who has not computed a federal taxable income figure, shall compute a federal taxable income figure using a pro forma return in order to determine a federal taxable income figure to be used as a starting point in computing state income tax under this section. The tax for individuals is equal to North Dakota taxable income multiplied by the ~~rates in the applicable rate schedule~~ in subdivisions a through d corresponding to an individual's filing status used for federal income tax purpose. ~~For~~The tax for an estate or trust, ~~the schedule is equal to North Dakota taxable income multiplied by the rate in subdivision e must be used for purposes of this subsection.~~ The tax to be computed for:

- a. Single, other than head of the household or surviving ~~spouse~~qualifying widow or widower is ~~one and one-half~~two and one-quarter percent of North Dakota taxable income exceeding forty-four thousand seven hundred twenty-five dollars.

If North Dakota taxable income is:

Over	Not over	The tax is equal to	Of amount over
\$0	\$37,450	1.10% \$0	
\$37,450	\$90,750	\$411.95 + 2.04%	\$37,450
\$90,750	\$189,300	\$1,499.27 + 2.27%	\$90,750
\$189,300	\$411,500	\$3,736.36 + 2.64%	\$189,300
\$411,500		\$9,602.44 + 2.90%	\$411,500

- b. Married filing jointly and ~~surviving spouse~~qualifying widow or widower is ~~one and one-half~~two and one-quarter percent of North Dakota taxable income exceeding seventy-four thousand seven hundred fifty dollars.

If North Dakota taxable income is:

Over	Not over	The tax is equal to	Of amount over
\$0	\$62,600	1.10%	\$0
\$62,600	\$151,200	\$688.60 + 2.04%	\$62,600
\$151,200	\$230,450	\$2,496.04 + 2.64%	\$151,200
\$230,450	\$411,500	\$4,295.02 + 2.64%	\$230,450
\$411,500		\$9,074.74 + 2.90%	\$411,500

- c. Married filing separately is ~~one and one-half~~two and one-quarter percent of North Dakota taxable income exceeding thirty-seven thousand three hundred seventy-five dollars.

If North Dakota taxable income is:

Over	Not over	The tax is equal to	Of amount over
\$0	\$31,300	1.10%	\$0
\$31,300	\$75,600	\$344.30 + 2.04%	\$31,300
\$75,600	\$115,225	\$1,248.02 + 2.27%	\$75,600
\$115,225	\$205,750	\$2,147.51 + 2.64%	\$115,225
\$205,750		\$4,537.37 + 2.90%	\$205,750

- d. Head of household is one and one-half two and one-quarter percent of North Dakota taxable income exceeding fifty-nine thousand nine hundred fifty dollars.

If North Dakota taxable income is:

Over	Not over	The tax is equal to	Of amount over
\$0	\$50,200	1.10%	\$0
\$50,200	\$129,600	\$552.20 + 2.04%	\$50,200
\$129,600	\$209,850	\$2,171.96 + 2.47%	\$129,600
\$209,850	\$411,500	\$3,993.64 + 2.64%	\$209,850
\$411,500		\$9,317.20 + 2.9%	\$411,500

- e. Estates and trusts is one and one-half two and one-quarter percent of North Dakota taxable income exceeding three thousand dollars.

If North Dakota taxable income is:

Over	Not over	The tax is equal to	Of amount over
\$0	\$2,500	1.10%	\$0
\$2,500	\$5,900	\$27.50 + 2.04%	2,500
\$5,900	\$9,050	\$96.86 + 2.27%	\$5,900
\$9,050	\$12,300	\$168.37 + 2.64%	\$9,050
\$12,300		\$254.17 + 2.90%	\$12,300

- f. For an individual who is not a resident of this state for the entire year, or for a nonresident estate or trust, the tax is equal to the tax otherwise computed under this subsection multiplied by a fraction in which:

- 1) The numerator is the federal adjusted gross income allocable and apportionable to this state; and
- 2) The denominator is the federal adjusted gross income from all sources reduced by the net income from the amounts specified in subdivisions a and b of subsection 2.

In the case of married individuals filing a joint return, if one spouse is a resident of this state for the entire year and the other spouse is a nonresident for part or all of the tax year, the tax on the joint return must be computed under this subdivision.

- g. The tax commissioner shall prescribe new ~~rate schedules~~rates that apply in lieu of the ~~schedules~~rates set forth in subdivisions a through e. The new ~~schedules~~rates must be determined by increasing the ~~minimum and maximum~~North Dakota taxable income threshold dollar amounts for each ~~income bracket for which a tax is imposed~~ by the cost-of-living adjustment for the taxable year as determined by the secretary of the United States treasury for purposes of section 1(f) of the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended. For this purpose, the rate applicable to ~~each income bracket~~ may not be changed, and the manner of applying the cost-of-living adjustment must be the same as that used for adjusting the income brackets for federal income tax purposes.
- h. The tax commissioner shall prescribe an optional simplified method of computing tax under this section that may be used by an individual taxpayer who is not entitled to claim an adjustment under subsection 2 or credit against income tax liability under subsection 7.

SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE. Sections 2, 3, 4, and 6 of this Act are effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2022.