

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1999

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HOUSE BILL 1475

Short Title: Publish Revenue-Neutral Tax Rate.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Allred; Decker, Cansler, Rayfield, and Gillespie.

Referred to: Rules, Calendar and Operations of the House.

May 13, 1999

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE UNITS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO PUBLISH THE
2 REVENUE-NEUTRAL PROPERTY TAX RATES IN THE YEARS WHEN THERE
3 IS A GENERAL REVALUATION OF REAL PROPERTY.
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5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 Section 1. G.S. 159-11 reads as rewritten:

7 "**§ 159-11. Preparation and submission of budget and budget message.**

8 (a) Upon receipt of the budget requests and revenue estimates and the financial
9 information supplied by the finance officer and department heads, the budget officer shall
10 prepare a budget for consideration by the governing board in such form and detail as may
11 have been prescribed by the budget officer or the governing board. The budget shall
12 comply in all respects with the limitations imposed by G.S. 159-13(b), and unless the
13 governing board ~~shall have~~ has authorized or requested submission of an unbalanced
14 budget as provided in subsection (c) of this section, the budget shall be balanced.

15 (b) The budget, together with a budget message, shall be submitted to the
16 governing board not later than June 1. The budget and budget message should, but need
17 not, be submitted at a formal meeting of the board. The budget message should contain a
18 concise explanation of the governmental goals fixed by the budget for the budget year,
19 should explain important features of the activities anticipated in the budget, should set

1 forth the reasons for stated changes from the previous year in program goals, programs,
2 and appropriation levels, and should explain any major changes in fiscal policy.

3 (c) The governing board may authorize or request the budget officer to submit a
4 budget containing recommended appropriations in excess of estimated revenues. If this is
5 done, the budget officer shall present the appropriations recommendations in a manner
6 that will reveal for the governing board the nature of the activities supported by the
7 expenditures that exceed estimated revenues.

8 (d) The budget officer shall include in the budget a proposed financial plan for
9 each intragovernmental service fund, as required by G.S. 159-13.1, and information
10 concerning capital projects and grant projects authorized or to be authorized by project
11 ordinances, as required by G.S. 159-13.2.

12 (e) In each year in which a general reappraisal of real property has been
13 conducted, the budget officer shall include in the budget, for comparison purposes, a
14 statement of the revenue-neutral property tax rate for the budget of the local government
15 unit and for the budgets of every other unit for which it collects taxes. The revenue-
16 neutral property tax rate is the rate that is estimated to produce revenue for the next fiscal
17 year equal to the revenue that was produced for the current fiscal year."

18 Section 2. This act is effective when it becomes law.