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AN ACT in relation to taxation.

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

4 Section 5. The Property Tax Code is amended by adding
5 Section 20-3 as follows:

6 (35 ILCS 200/20-3 new)

7 Sec. 20-3. Two-year moratorium on property tax increases. 8 (a) Rate freeze. Notwithstanding any other law to the 9 contrary and except as otherwise provided in this subsection (a), for taxable years 2003 and 2004, the rate on any tax 10 imposed under this Act may not be increased from the rate 11 12 imposed in the 2002 taxable year. A school district, however, may increase property tax rates if the question of increasing 13 the tax rate is submitted to the electors of the school 14 15 district at a regular election and approved by a majority of the electors voting on the question. 16

(b) Assessment freeze. Notwithstanding any other law to 17 the contrary and except as otherwise provided in this 18 subsection (b), for taxable years 2003 and 2004, the 19 equalized assessed value of property subject to taxation 20 under this Code shall be the same as the equalized assessed 21 value of that property for the 2002 taxable year. If, 22 however, a parcel of property subject to taxation under this 23 Code is improved by the construction of new or added 24 buildings, structures, or other improvements during taxable 25 26 year 2003 or 2004, the assessment of that property shall be the assessment for the 2002 taxable year plus the increase in 27 28 assessed value solely as a result of the improvement. Once the 2002 assessment is increased to reflect an improvement, 29 the assessment for that property shall remain the same for 30 31 the duration of the assessment freeze period.

Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
 becoming law.