



SR1598

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1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Property taxes are a form of local taxation by
3 taxing bodies such as school districts, municipalities, park
4 districts, library boards, and other such units of local
5 government; and

6 WHEREAS, No property tax dollars are paid to the state
7 government; and

8 WHEREAS, According to the Illinois Department of Revenue,
9 about 62 percent of property tax bills go to funding school
10 districts in Illinois; and

11 WHEREAS, Property taxes also fund police and fire
12 protection services, as well as park district programs and
13 local projects; and

14 WHEREAS, The state legislature can pass laws freezing
15 property tax rates, but such a one-size-fits-all legislation
16 may unjustly hurt some local communities while leaving some
17 units of government with the excessive surpluses; and

18 WHEREAS, A property tax freeze applies to the total
19 property taxes collected by taxing districts, but does not mean
20 the property taxes paid by an individual homeowner will be

1 frozen; and

2 WHEREAS, A property tax freeze leaves municipalities,
3 school districts, police services, fire protection services,
4 and other local government units without a means to collect
5 additional revenue lost due to the freeze; and

6 WHEREAS, These units of local governments, when facing
7 increasing expenses during a property tax freeze, will be
8 forced to implement cost-cutting measures, such as reducing the
9 teaching staff and police force and eliminating programs;
10 therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL
12 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that by July 1, 2019, each
13 unit of Government that receives property taxes should, during
14 a regularly scheduled or special meeting with proper public
15 notice, conduct a public forum to discuss the specific effects
16 of a permanent property tax freeze or a property tax freeze for
17 one, two, or five years; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That each unit of government should make every
19 effort to fully provide projections of both revenue and
20 expenses with a correlating analysis of services and personnel
21 that would likely be impacted in order for the public to more
22 fully appreciate the effects of a property tax freeze on each

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1 taxing body.