

HB2914



101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2019 and 2020

HB2914

by Rep. Thaddeus Jones

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

65 ILCS 5/8-1-19 new

Amends the Illinois Municipal Code. Provides that a municipality may not incur legal expenses in excess of \$1,000,000 unless the electors of the municipality approve a greater amount of legal expenses after a referendum after adoption of an ordinance requesting the referendum. Limits home rule powers. Exempts full-time and part-time employees.

LRB101 09876 AWJ 54978 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

HOME RULE NOTE
ACT MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning local government.

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

4 Section 5. The Illinois Municipal Code is amended by adding
5 Section 8-1-19 as follows:

6 (65 ILCS 5/8-1-19 new)

7 Sec. 8-1-19. Legal expenses cap.

8 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, a
9 municipality may not incur legal expenses in excess of
10 \$1,000,000 unless the electors of the municipality approve a
11 greater amount of legal expenses after a referendum under
12 subsection (b).

13 (b) Upon the adoption of an ordinance by the city council
14 of the municipality requesting a referendum to incur additional
15 legal expenses, a referendum, subject to the requirements of
16 16-7 of the Election Code, shall be placed on the ballot for
17 all electors residing in the municipality at the next general
18 election in substantially the following form:

19 May the (name of municipality) expend more than the
20 \$1,000,000 statutory cap on legal expenses for the
21 (current/next) fiscal year?

1 The votes shall be recorded as "Yes" or "No".

2 (c) A home rule municipality may not regulate the incurring
3 of legal expenses in a manner inconsistent with this Section.
4 This Section is a limitation under subsection (i) of Section 6
5 of Article VII of the Illinois Constitution on the concurrent
6 exercise by home rule units of powers and functions exercised
7 by the State.

8 (d) This Section does not apply to salaries and benefits
9 paid to attorneys and paralegals who are full-time or part-time
10 employees a municipality.