

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.