

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 Fire Protection District Act is amended by
5 changing Sections 22 and 24 as follows:

6 (70 ILCS 705/22) (from Ch. 127 1/2, par. 38.5)

7 Sec. 22. The Board of Trustees of any fire protection
8 district incorporated under this Act is authorized under the
9 terms and conditions hereinafter set out, to provide emergency
10 ambulance service to or from points within or without the
11 district; to contract with providers of ambulance service; to
12 combine with other units of governments for the purpose of
13 providing ambulance service; to levy a tax for the provision
14 of such service and to adopt rules and regulations relating to
15 ambulance service within their jurisdiction.

16 (a) It is declared as a matter of public policy:

17 (1) That, in order to preserve, protect and promote
18 the public health, safety and general welfare, adequate
19 and continuing emergency ambulance service should be
20 available to every citizen of Illinois;

21 (2) That, insofar as it is economically feasible,
22 emergency ambulance service should be provided by private
23 enterprise; and

1 (3) That, in the event adequate and continuing
 2 emergency ambulance services do not exist, fire protection
 3 districts should be authorized to provide, and shall cause
 4 to be provided, ambulance service as a public
 5 responsibility.

6 (b) Whenever the Board of Trustees of a fire protection
 7 district desires to levy a special tax to provide an ambulance
 8 service, it shall certify the question to the proper election
 9 officials, who shall submit that question at an election to
 10 the voters of the district. The result of such referendum
 11 shall be entered upon the records of the district. If a
 12 majority of the votes on the proposition are in favor of such
 13 proposition, the Board of Trustees may thereafter levy a
 14 special tax at a rate not to exceed .30% of the value of all
 15 taxable property within the district as equalized or assessed
 16 by the Department of Revenue. The proposition shall be in
 17 substantially the following form:

18 -----
 19 Shall the Fire Protection
 20 District levy a special tax at a rate YES
 21 not to exceed .30% of the value of all
 22 taxable property within the district as -----
 23 equalized or assessed by the Department
 24 of Revenue for the purpose of providing NO
 25 an ambulance service?
 26 -----

1 (b-5) On and after the effective date of this amendatory
 2 Act of the 98th General Assembly, whenever the Board of
 3 Trustees of a fire protection district desires to levy a
 4 special tax to provide an ambulance service, it shall certify
 5 the question to the proper election officials, who shall
 6 submit that question at an election to the voters of the
 7 district. The result of such referendum shall be entered upon
 8 the records of the district. If a majority of the votes on the
 9 proposition are in favor of such proposition, the Board of
 10 Trustees may thereafter levy a special tax at a rate not to
 11 exceed .40% of the value of all taxable property within the
 12 district as equalized or assessed by the Department of
 13 Revenue. The proposition shall be in substantially the
 14 following form:

15 -----
 16 Shall the Fire Protection
 17 District levy a special tax at a rate YES
 18 not to exceed .40% of the value of all
 19 taxable property within the district as -----
 20 equalized or assessed by the Department
 21 of Revenue for the purpose of providing NO
 22 an ambulance service?
 23 -----

24 (c) If it appears that a majority of all valid votes cast
 25 on the proposition are in favor of levying a special tax to pay
 26 for an ambulance, the Board of Trustees may levy and collect an

1 annual tax for the purpose of providing ambulance service
2 under this Act to be extended at a rate not to exceed .40% of
3 the full fair cash value of the taxable property within the
4 governmental unit as assessed or equalized by the Department
5 of Revenue. Such annual tax shall be in addition to the other
6 taxes a fire protection district may levy for its corporate
7 purposes.

8 (d) Any Board of trustees may:

- 9 1. Provide or operate an emergency ambulance service;
- 10 2. Contract with a private person, hospital,
11 corporation or another governmental unit for the provision
12 and operation of emergency ambulance service or subsidize
13 the service thereof;
- 14 3. Limit the number of ambulance services;
- 15 4. Within its jurisdiction, fix, charge and collect
16 fees for emergency ambulance service within or outside of
17 the fire protection district not exceeding the reasonable
18 cost of the service;
- 19 5. Establish necessary regulations not inconsistent
20 with the statutes or regulations of the Department of
21 Public Health relating to ambulance service;
- 22 6. The trustees shall have the power identified in
23 paragraphs 3 and 5 only if the district shall have passed
24 the referendum provided for herein.

25 (e) When any Board of Trustees is authorized prior to
26 January 1, 1978 to levy and collect an annual tax, for the

1 purpose of providing ambulance service, at any rate not
2 exceeding .25% of the full fair cash value of the taxable
3 property within the governmental unit as equalized or assessed
4 by the Department of Revenue, such Board of Trustees may by
5 resolution increase its authority to tax for ambulance
6 purposes to a rate not to exceed .30%. Such resolution shall be
7 effective 30 days after its adoption. Notice of such
8 resolution shall be published twice in a newspaper having a
9 general circulation within the district at least 20 days and
10 again at least 10 days prior to the effective date of the
11 resolution. Such notice shall state that the voters of that
12 fire protection district, which district shall be described in
13 the notice, have until 30 days after the adoption of the
14 resolution to file a petition with the Board of Trustees
15 praying that the question of the adoption of the resolution be
16 submitted to a vote of the electors of such territory, and
17 that, if no such petition is filed, the resolution shall
18 become effective 30 days after its adoption. The notice also
19 shall state the specific number of voters required to sign the
20 petition and the date of the prospective referendum. The
21 district secretary shall provide a petition form to any
22 individual requesting one. If such a petition, signed by the
23 voters of the district equal to 10% or more of the registered
24 voters of the district, is so filed with the Board of Trustees,
25 then the question of the adoption of the resolution shall be
26 certified to the proper election officials, who shall submit

1 the question to a vote of the electors of the district at an
 2 election in accordance with the general election law. If such
 3 a petition is filed, the resolution does not take effect
 4 unless a majority of the votes cast upon the question of the
 5 adoption of the resolution is in favor of adoption. However,
 6 if such a petition is determined to be invalid, the resolution
 7 shall take effect.

8 The result of the election shall be entered upon the
 9 records of the district. If a majority of the voters vote in
 10 favor of such resolution, the resolution shall be effective
 11 immediately. The proposition shall be in substantially the
 12 following form:

13 -----
 14 Shall the Board of Trustees of
 15 the Fire Protection District YES
 16 be authorized to increase the
 17 special tax for ambulance service
 18 to a rate not to exceed .30% of -----
 19 the value of all taxable property
 20 within the district as equalized or
 21 assessed by the Department of Revenue NO
 22 for the purpose of providing such service?
 23 -----

24 (f) The Board of Trustees may accumulate funds in its
 25 ambulance fund for the purposes of acquiring, building, or
 26 maintaining real property, procuring emergency medical service

1 vehicles or equipment, or training to provide essential
2 emergency medical services to the community.

3 (g) In this Section, "ambulance service" includes, without
4 limitation, pre-hospital medical services. "Pre-hospital
5 medical services" includes emergency services performed by a
6 paramedic or other on-board emergency personnel that are
7 within the scope of the provider's license. This amendatory
8 Act of the 95th General Assembly is declarative of existing
9 law.

10 (Source: P.A. 98-319, eff. 8-12-13.)

11 (70 ILCS 705/24) (from Ch. 127 1/2, par. 38.7)

12 Sec. 24. (a) In addition to any other tax authorized by
13 law, the board of trustees of a fire protection district may,
14 subject to the requirements of subsections (b) and (c), by
15 ordinance levy a special annual tax at a rate not exceeding
16 0.10% of the value, as equalized or assessed by the Department
17 of Revenue, of all taxable property within the district, for
18 the purpose of obtaining funds to pay for the costs of
19 emergency and rescue crews and equipment.

20 (b) Whenever the board of trustees of a fire protection
21 district desires to levy a special tax under this Section, it
22 shall certify the question to the proper election officials,
23 who shall submit that question at an election to the voters of
24 the district in accordance with the general election law. The
25 result of such referendum shall be entered upon the records of

1 the district. If a majority of the votes on the proposition are
 2 in favor of such proposition, the board of trustees may
 3 thereafter levy a special tax under this Section at a rate not
 4 to exceed 0.05% of the value of all taxable property within the
 5 district as equalized or assessed by the Department of
 6 Revenue. The proposition shall be in substantially the
 7 following form:

8 -----

9 Shall the Fire Protection

10 District levy a special tax at a rate

11 not to exceed 0.05% of the value of YES

12 all taxable property within the

13 district as equalized or assessed -----

14 by the Department of Revenue for

15 the purpose of providing funds NO

16 to pay for the costs of emergency

17 and rescue crews and equipment?

18 -----

19 (c) Whenever the board of trustees of a fire protection
 20 district desires to levy a special tax under this Section at a
 21 rate not to exceed 0.10% of the value of all taxable property
 22 within the district as equalized or assessed by the Department
 23 of Revenue, it shall certify the question to the proper
 24 election officials, who shall submit that question at an
 25 election to the voters of the district in accordance with the
 26 general election law. The result of such referendum shall be

1 (Source: P.A. 99-4, eff. 5-31-15; 100-348, eff. 1-1-18.)