



## 2013 SENATE BILL 513

January 23, 2014 – Introduced by Senator LAZICH, cosponsored by Representatives MARKLEIN, RINGHAND and BERNIER. Referred to Elections and Urban Affairs.

- 1     **AN ACT to amend** 66.0602 (4) (c) of the statutes; **relating to:** the information  
2           contained in referendum questions to authorize exceeding county levy limits.

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

Generally, under current law, and subject to a number of exceptions, a city, village, town, or county (political subdivision) may not increase its levy in any year by a percentage that exceeds its “valuation factor,” which is defined as the greater of either zero percent or the percentage change in the political subdivision’s equalized value due to new construction, less improvements removed. The base amount of a political subdivision’s levy, on which the levy limit is imposed, is the actual levy for the immediately preceding year.

Under one of the current law exceptions, a political subdivision may exceed the levy limits that otherwise apply if the political subdivision’s governing body adopts a resolution to that effect and the resolution is approved in a referendum.

Under current law, the wording in the referendum question that appears on the ballot must include information relating to the maximum allowable levy rate increase for the next year and the total levy for the next year. However, the information that is necessary to prepare the question is not available to the political subdivision in time to put the question on the ballot for the spring primary or election or partisan primary. The bill requires that in preparing the ballot question for a referendum at a partisan primary in 2014, a county with a population of at least 30,000, but no more than 40,000, that is adjacent to a county with a population

