## As Introduced

## 136th General Assembly Regular Session 2025-2026

H. B. No. 422

## Representatives Click, Newman Cosponsors: Representatives Willis, Gross, Deeter

То	amend sections 345.02, 511.07, 757.02, and	1
	3318.06 and to enact section 5705.171 of the	2
	Revised Code to increase the approval threshold	3
	required for passage of certain property taxes	4
	and to name this act the Taxpayers Freedom	5
	Trilogy - Act Three: The Triumph of the	6
	Taxpayer.	7

## BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That sections 345.02, 511.07, 757.02, and	8
3318.06 be amended and section 5705.171 of the Revised Code be	9
enacted to read as follows:	10
Sec. 345.02. The taxing authority of any municipal	11
corporation, township, or county may issue the bonds of such	12
subdivision for the purpose of purchasing a site, and for	13
erecting, equipping, and furnishing, or for establishing a	14
memorial to commemorate the services of all members and veterans	15
of the armed forces of the United States. Any such taxing	16
authority may determine to submit to the electors of the	17
subdivision the question of issuing such bonds make the	18
declarations and statements required by section 133.18 of the	19
Revised Code. The county auditor and taxing authority shall	20

thereupon proceed as set forth in divisions (C) and (D) of such	21
section. The election on the question of issuing such bonds	22
shall be held under divisions (E), (F), and (G) of section	23
133.18 of the Revised Code. Such bond issue shall require the	24
affirmative vote of sixty per cent of those electors voting upon	25
the proposition.	26
Sec. 511.07. If, at an election under section 511.06 of	27
the Revised Code, two thirds a majority of the electors of the	28
township and of the village voting, vote in favor of such	29
improvement, the board of township trustees and the legislative	30
authority of the village shall jointly take such action as is	31
necessary to carry out complete improvement.	32
Sec. 757.02. Upon the filing of a petition as provided by	33
section 757.01 of the Revised Code, the taxing authority of the	34
municipal corporation shall pass a resolution providing for the	35
submission of the question of levying a tax as provided by such	36
section at the next following municipal election. A copy of such	37
resolution shall be certified by the taxing authority to the	38
board of elections not less than ninety days before the general	39
election in any year in which a municipal election is held, and	40
such board shall submit the question to the electors of the	41
municipal corporation at the succeeding November election.	42
Section 5705.25 of the Revised Code relating to the arrangements	43
for and the conduct of such election, publication thereof, and	44
form of ballot therefor, shall apply to such proposal to the	45
electorate.	46
If sixty-five per cent a majority of the electors voting	47
on such proposal at the election vote in favor thereof, sections	48
5705.25 and 5705.26 of the Revised Code, shall apply to the	49

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certification and levy of such additional tax.

Sec. 3318.06. (A) After receipt of the conditional	51
approval of the Ohio facilities construction commission, the	52
school district board by a majority of all of its members shall,	53
if it desires to proceed with the project, declare all of the	54
following by resolution:	55
(1) That by issuing bonds in an amount equal to the school	56
district's portion of the basic project cost the district is	57
unable to provide adequate classroom facilities without	58
assistance from the state;	59
(2) Unless the school district board has resolved to	60
transfer money in accordance with section 3318.051 of the	61
Revised Code or to apply the proceeds of a property tax or the	62
proceeds of an income tax, or a combination of proceeds from	63
such taxes, as authorized under section 3318.052 of the Revised	64
Code, that to qualify for such state assistance it is necessary	65
to do either of the following:	66
(a) Levy a tax outside the ten-mill limitation the	67
proceeds of which shall be used to pay the cost of maintaining	68
and upgrading the classroom facilities included in the project.	69
The use of the proceeds for upgrades is subject to the approval	70
by the commission under division (E) of section 3318.05 of the	71
Revised Code.	72
(b) Earmark for maintenance of classroom facilities from	73
the proceeds of an existing permanent improvement tax levied	74
under section 5705.21 of the Revised Code, if such tax can be	75
used for maintenance, an amount equivalent to the amount of the	76
additional tax otherwise required under this section and	77
sections 3318.05 and 3318.08 of the Revised Code.	78
(3) That the question of any tax levy specified in a	79

resolution described in division (A)(2)(a) of this section, if	80
required, shall be submitted to the electors of the school	81
district at the next general or primary election, if there be a	82
general or primary election not less than ninety and not more	83
than one hundred ten days after the day of the adoption of such	84
resolution or, if not, at a special election to be held at a	85
time specified in the resolution which shall be not less than	86
ninety days after the day of the adoption of the resolution and	87
which shall be in accordance with the requirements of section	88
3501.01 of the Revised Code.	89
Such resolution shall also state that the question of	90
issuing bonds of the board shall be combined in a single	91
proposal with the question of such tax levy. More than one	92
election under this section may be held in any one calendar	93
year. Such resolution shall specify both of the following:	94
(a) That the rate which it is necessary to levy shall be	95
at the rate of not less than one-half mill for each one dollar	96
of taxable value, and that such tax shall be levied for a period	97
of twenty-three years;	98
(b) That the proceeds of the tax shall be used to pay the	99
cost of maintaining the classroom facilities included in the	100
project or upgrading those facilities if approved by the	101
commission.	102
(B) A copy of a resolution adopted under division (A) of	103
this section shall after its passage and not less than ninety	104
days prior to the date set therein for the election be certified	105
to the county board of elections.	106

The resolution of the school district board, in addition

to meeting other applicable requirements of section 133.18 of

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the Revised Code, shall state that the amount of bonds to be	10
issued will be an amount equal to the school district's portion	11
of the basic project cost, and state the maximum maturity of the	11
bonds which may be any number of years not exceeding the term	11
calculated under section 133.20 of the Revised Code as	11
determined by the board. In estimating the amount of bonds to be	11
issued, the board shall take into consideration the amount of	11
moneys then in the bond retirement fund and the amount of moneys	11
to be collected for and disbursed from the bond retirement fund	11
during the remainder of the year in which the resolution of	11
necessity is adopted.	11

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If the bonds are to be issued in more than one series, the 120 resolution may state, in addition to the information required to 121 be stated under division (B)(3) of section 133.18 of the Revised 122 Code, the number of series, which shall not exceed five, the 123 principal amount of each series, and the approximate date each 124 series will be issued, and may provide that no series, or any 125 portion thereof, may be issued before such date. Upon such a 126 resolution being certified to the county auditor as required by 127 division (C) of section 133.18 of the Revised Code, the county 128 auditor, in calculating, advising, and confirming the estimated 129 average annual property tax levy under that division, shall also 130 calculate, advise, and confirm by certification the estimated 131 average property tax levy for each series of bonds to be issued. 132

Notice of the election shall include the fact that the tax

levy shall be at the rate of not less than one-half mill for

each one dollar of taxable value for a period of twenty-three

years, and that the proceeds of the tax shall be used to pay the

cost of maintaining or upgrading the classroom facilities

included in the project. The notice shall also express the rate

in dollars for each one hundred thousand dollars of the county

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auditor's appraised value and the county auditor's estimate of	140
the amount the tax levy is estimated to collect for each tax	141
year it is levied, as certified pursuant to section 5705.03 of	142
the Revised Code.	143
If the bonds are to be issued in more than one series, the	144
board of education, when filing copies of the resolution with	145
the board of elections as required by division (D) of section	146
133.18 of the Revised Code, may direct the board of elections to	147
include in the notice of election the principal amount and	148
approximate date of each series, the maximum number of years	149
over which the principal of each series may be paid, the	150
estimated additional average property tax levy for each series,	151
and the first calendar year in which the tax is expected to be	152
due for each series, in addition to the information required to	153
be stated in the notice under divisions (E)(3)(a), (b), (c),	154
(e), and (f) of section 133.18 of the Revised Code.	155
(C)(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (C)(2) of	156
this section, the form of the ballot to be used at such election	157
shall be:	158
"A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.	159
Shall bonds be issued by the (here insert	160
name of school district) school district to pay the local share	161
of school construction under the State of Ohio Classroom	162
Facilities Assistance Program in the principal amount of	163
$\S$ (here insert principal amount of the bond issue),	164
to be repaid annually over a maximum period of	165
(here insert the maximum number of years over which the	166
principal of the bonds may be paid) years, and an annual levy of	167
property taxes be made outside the ten-mill limitation,	168
estimated by the county auditor to average over the repayment	169

period of the bond issue	mills for each \$1 of	170
taxable value, which amounts to $\S$	for each \$100,000	171
of the county auditor's appraised val	ue to pay the annual debt	172
charges on the bonds and to pay debt	charges on any notes issued	173
in anticipation of the bonds?"		174
and, unless the addit	cional levy	175
of taxes is not requir	red pursuant	176
to division (C) of	section	177
3318.05 of the Revi	sed Code,	178
"Shall an additional levy of ta	xes be made for a period of	179
twenty-three years to benefit the	(here insert name	180
of school district) school district,	the proceeds of which shall	181
be used to pay the cost of maintaining	ng (or upgrading if approved	182
by the commission) the classroom fact	lities included in the	183
project, that the county auditor esti	mates will collect \$	184
annually, at the rate of	(here insert the number of	185
mills, which shall not be less than o	one-half mill) mills for	186
each \$1 of taxable value, which amour	nts to \$ for each	187
\$100,000 of the county auditor's appr	caised value?	188
		189
FOR THE BOND ISSUE AND TAX LEV	Y	
AGAINST THE BOND ISSUE AND TAX	LEVY	

(2) If authority is sought to issue bonds in more than one 190 series and the board of education so elects, the form of the 191 ballot shall be as prescribed in section 3318.062 of the Revised 192 Code. If the board of education elects the form of the ballot 193 prescribed in that section, it shall so state in the resolution 194 adopted under this section.

(D) If it is necessary for the school district to acquire	196
a site for the classroom facilities to be acquired pursuant to	197
sections 3318.01 to 3318.20 of the Revised Code, the district	198
board may propose either to issue bonds of the board or to levy	199
a tax to pay for the acquisition of such site, and may combine	200
the question of doing so with the questions specified in	201
division (B) of this section. Bonds issued under this division	202
for the purpose of acquiring a site are a general obligation of	203
the school district and are Chapter 133. securities.	204
The form of that portion of the ballot to include the	205
question of either issuing bonds or levying a tax for site	206
acquisition purposes shall be one of the following:	207
(1) "Shall bonds be issued by the (here	208
insert name of the school district) school district to pay costs	209
of acquiring a site for classroom facilities under the State of	210
Ohio Classroom Facilities Assistance Program in the principal	211
amount of $\S$ (here insert principal amount of the bond	212
issue), to be repaid annually over a maximum period of	213
(here insert maximum number of years over which the	214
principal of the bonds may be paid) years, and an annual levy of	215
property taxes be made outside the ten-mill limitation,	216
estimated by the county auditor to average over the repayment	217
period of the bond issue mills for each \$1 of taxable	218
value, which amounts to \$ for each \$100,000 of the	219
county auditor's appraised value to pay the annual debt charges	220
on the bonds and to pay debt charges on any notes issued in	221
anticipation of the bonds?"	222
(2) "Shall an additional levy of taxes outside the ten-	223
mill limitation be made for the benefit of the (here	224
insert name of the school district) school district for the	225

purpose of acquiring a site for classroom facilities in the sum	226
of \$ (here insert annual amount the levy is to produce)	227
estimated by the county auditor to average mills for	228
each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$ for each	229
\$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for a period	230
of (here insert number of years the millage is to be	231
<pre>imposed) years?"</pre>	232
Where it is necessary to combine the question of issuing	233
bonds of the school district and levying a tax as described in	234
division (B) of this section with the question of issuing bonds	235
of the school district for acquisition of a site, the question	236
specified in that division to be voted on shall be "For the Bond	237
Issues and the Tax Levy" and "Against the Bond Issues and the	238
Tax Levy."	239
Where it is necessary to combine the question of issuing	240
bonds of the school district and levying a tax as described in	241
division (B) of this section with the question of levying a tax	242
for the acquisition of a site, the question specified in that	243
division to be voted on shall be "For the Bond Issue and the Tax	244
Levies" and "Against the Bond Issue and the Tax Levies."	245
Where the school district board chooses to combine the	246
question in division (B) of this section with any of the	247
additional questions described in divisions (A) to (D) of	248
section 3318.056 of the Revised Code, the question specified in	249
division (B) of this section to be voted on shall be "For the	250
Bond Issues and the Tax Levies" and "Against the Bond Issues and	251
the Tax Levies."	252
If a majority of those voting upon a proposition hereunder	253
which includes the question of issuing bonds vote in favor	254
thereof, and if the agreement provided for by section 3318.08 of	255

the Revised Code has been entered into, the school district	256
board may proceed under Chapter 133. of the Revised Code, with	257
the issuance of bonds or bond anticipation notes in accordance	258
with the terms of the agreement.	259
Sec. 5705.171. (A) As used in this section, "voted tax"	260
means a tax levy authorized under any section of the Revised	261
Code that is in excess of the ten-mill limitation and subject to	262
approval by electors.	263
approvar by electors.	200
(B) Notwithstanding any other section of the Revised Code	264
to the contrary:	265
(1) No voted tax shall be levied unless approved by the	266
following percentage of electors of the taxing unit proposing	267
the levy:	268
	2.66
(a) For levies with an aggregate rate of not more than one	269
<pre>mill, fifty per cent;</pre>	270
(b) For levies with an aggregate rate of more than one	271
mill but not more than two mills, sixty per cent;	272
(c) For levies with an aggregate rate of more than two	273
mills, sixty-six per cent.	274
As used in the context of voted taxes in the Revised Code,	275
a "majority" of such electors means the applicable percentage of	276
such electors required under division (B)(1) of this section.	277
For voted taxes levied at whatever rate is required to produce a	278
specified amount of tax money, the percentage of such electors	279
required shall be based on the estimated millage for the levy as	280
appearing in the ballot language. For voted taxes levied under	281
section 5705.212 of the Revised Code, the percentage of such	282
electors required shall be based on the aggregate rate of the	283
original tax and each incremental tax.	284

(2) If additional territory would be added to the	285
territory of the taxing unit that would extend a voted tax to	286
that territory, that territory shall not be added unless the	287
question to add that territory is approved by the applicable	288
percentage of electors of the taxing unit or the portion of the	289
taxing unit required by law to approve the expansion under	290
division (B)(1) of this section, based on the millage of the	291
voted tax that would be extended to that territory.	292
Section 2. That existing sections 345.02, 511.07, 757.02,	293
and 3318.06 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed.	294
Section 3. This act shall be known as the Taxpayers	295
Freedom Trilogy - Act Three: The Triumph of the Taxpayer.	296