CP0035

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Resolution of the Taxation and Budget Reform Commission A joint resolution proposing an amendment to Section 9 of Article VII of the State Constitution to require the Legislature to authorize local option taxes to supplement funding for public community colleges.

Be It Resolved by the Taxation and Budget Reform Commission:

9 That the following amendment to Section 9 of Article VII of 10 the State Constitution is agreed to and shall be submitted to 11 the electors of this state for approval or rejection at the next 12 general election or at an earlier special election specifically 13 authorized by law for that purpose:

ARTICLE VII FINANCE AND TAXATION

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SECTION 9. Local taxes.--

(a) Counties, school districts, and municipalities shall, and special districts may, be authorized by law to levy ad valorem taxes and may be authorized by general law to levy other taxes, for their respective purposes, except ad valorem taxes on intangible personal property and taxes prohibited by this constitution.

(b) Ad valorem taxes, exclusive of taxes levied for the payment of bonds and taxes levied for periods not longer than two years when authorized by vote of the electors who are the owners of freeholds therein not wholly exempt from taxation, shall not be levied in excess of the following millages upon the assessed value of real estate and tangible personal property: for all county purposes, ten mills; for all municipal purposes,

Page 1 of 3

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Lcl Option Tax for Community Colleges 2

CP0035

30 ten mills; for all school purposes, ten mills; for water 31 management purposes for the northwest portion of the state lying 32 west of the line between ranges two and three east, 0.05 mill; 33 for water management purposes for the remaining portions of the state, 1.0 mill; and for all other special districts a millage 34 35 authorized by law approved by vote of the electors who are 36 owners of freeholds therein not wholly exempt from taxation. A 37 county furnishing municipal services may, to the extent authorized by law, levy additional taxes within the limits fixed 38 39 for municipal purposes. 40 (C) The legislature shall provide a process by law for a county to submit a local option sales tax to the electors for 41 approval by referendum. Revenues generated under this subsection 42 43 must be used to supplement community college funding 44 exclusively. The local option sales tax shall sunset after five 45 years and may be reauthorized by the electors as provided by

46 law.

47 (d) The legislature shall provide a process by law for a county to submit a local option ad valorem tax to the electors 48 49 for approval by referendum. The ad valorem tax shall not be 50 subject to the millage limits in this section. Revenues 51 generated under this subsection must be used to supplement 52 community college funding exclusively. The local option ad 53 valorem tax shall sunset after five years and may be 54 reauthorized by the electors as provided by law. 55

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Page 2 of 3 Lcl Option Tax for Community Colleges 2 CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions. 07-08

CP0035

58 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be 59 placed on the ballot: CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 60 ARTICLE VII, SECTION 9 61 62 LOCAL OPTION COMMUNITY COLLEGE FUNDING.-This proposed amendment to the State Constitution requires the Legislature to 63 64 provide a process by law to permit counties to submit a 65 referendum to the voters for a local option sales tax or ad 66 valorem tax to supplement community college funding. The ad 67 valorem tax authorized by the amendment is not subject to the 68 existing county ad valorem tax millage limit. Approved taxes 69 will sunset after five years and may be reauthorized by the 70 voters.

Page 3 of 3 Lcl Option Tax for Community Colleges 2 CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

5:17 p.m. 1/23/08