



Please Vote “No” on SB16-100

County Road & Bridge Tax Reduction Requirement Sponsor: Sen. Jahn & Rep. Pabon

SB 100 grants municipal officials authority over the county commissioner’s taxing power. It does so by requiring municipal approval before the county road and bridge mill levy can be reduced. In the absence of municipal approval of the county mill levy, the county must annually compensate each municipality for any reduction in county property taxes.

Voters in fifty-four counties have approved the levying of a county road and bridge mill levy. In accordance with statute, the portion of this county mill levy that comes from property in a city is split 50/50 with municipalities. The funding retained by counties is used to build and maintain roads used by taxpayers throughout the county. Municipalities are also authorized to seek voter approval for their own municipal road and bridge mill levies.

Every year, Commissioners must determine how much of the county’s total mill levy is needed to fund state-mandated services. Counties, as arms of the state, are required to manage the overall county mill levy to ensure there is sufficient revenue to provide human services, maintain county jails, provide public health services, conduct elections, construct and maintain courthouses, support district attorneys and much more. These services are funded from the other portions of the county’s total mill levy and cannot be funded using the road and bridge portion. **SB 100 would insulate county payments to municipalities for roads at the expense of other state-mandated priorities and would do so in a manner that incentivizes counties to keep property tax mill levies high.**

Advocates of SB 100 draw parallels to last year’s discussions on Urban Renewal Authorities by suggesting that SB 100 simply grants municipalities a ‘seat at the table’. In reality, last years’ URA bill restored some county authority over county taxing powers and now SB 100 seeks to reassert municipal primacy by injecting municipal control over county taxing power in a different context.

CCI Requests Your Opposition to SB16-100

Contact:

Gini Pingnot 720.255.8941 // gpingenot@ccionline.org

Bill Clayton 303.884.7618 // bill@lombardclayton.com