

House File 2502 - Introduced

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A BILL FOR

1 An Act allowing cities to certify taxes for general fund levy
2 for various purposes upon approval of the voters at an
3 election.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 37.8, Code 2024, is amended to read as
2 follows:

3 **37.8 Cost of development, operation, and maintenance.**

4 For the development, operation, and maintenance of a
5 building or monument constructed, purchased, or donated under
6 this chapter, a city may utilize taxes levied under section
7 384.1 or section 384.12, subsection 7.

8 Sec. 2. Section 384.12, Code 2024, is amended by adding the
9 following new subsections:

10 NEW SUBSECTION. 6. A tax not to exceed thirteen and
11 one-half cents per thousand dollars of assessed value for
12 the support of instrumental or vocal musical groups, one or
13 more organizations which have tax-exempt status under section
14 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and are organized and
15 operated exclusively for artistic and cultural purposes, or
16 any of these purposes. Certification of this tax is subject
17 to subsection 16.

18 NEW SUBSECTION. 7. A tax not to exceed eighty-one cents
19 per thousand dollars of assessed value for development,
20 operation, and maintenance of a memorial building or monument.
21 Certification of this tax is subject to subsection 16.

22 NEW SUBSECTION. 8. A tax not to exceed thirteen and
23 one-half cents per thousand dollars of assessed value for
24 support of a symphony orchestra. Certification of this tax is
25 subject to subsection 16.

26 NEW SUBSECTION. 9. A tax not to exceed twenty-seven cents
27 per thousand dollars of assessed value for the operation of
28 cultural and scientific facilities. Certification of this tax
29 is subject to subsection 16, except that the question may be
30 submitted on the council's own motion.

31 NEW SUBSECTION. 10. A tax to aid in the construction of
32 a county bridge. Certification of this tax is subject to
33 subsection 17, except that, in addition to other requirements,
34 the notice of special election must include the location of the
35 proposed bridge.

1 NEW SUBSECTION. 11. a. A tax to aid a company incorporated
2 under the laws of this state in the construction of a highway
3 or combination bridge across any navigable boundary river of
4 this state, commencing or terminating in the city and suitable
5 for use as highway, or for both highway and railway purposes.
6 b. Tax moneys received for this purpose may not be paid over
7 by the county treasurer until the city has filed a statement
8 that the corporation has complied with all conditions.
9 c. The levy is limited to one dollar and thirty-five cents
10 per thousand dollars of the assessed value of taxable property
11 in the city.
12 d. The estimated cost of the bridge must be at least ten
13 thousand dollars, and the city aid may not exceed one-half of
14 the estimated cost.
15 e. Certification of this tax is subject to subsection 17,
16 except that the notice of the special election shall include
17 the name of the corporation to be aided, and all conditions
18 required of the corporation.
19 NEW SUBSECTION. 12. If a tax has been voted for aid of
20 a bridge under subsection 11, a further tax may be voted for
21 the purpose of purchasing the bridge. Certification of this
22 further tax is subject to subsection 16. The levy under this
23 subsection is limited to three dollars and thirty-seven and
24 one-half cents per thousand dollars of the assessed value of
25 the taxable property in the city, payable in not less than ten
26 annual installments.
27 NEW SUBSECTION. 13. A tax for aid to a public
28 transportation company. Certification of this tax is
29 subject to subsection 17. The levy is limited to three and
30 three-eighths cents per thousand dollars of assessed value. In
31 addition to any other conditions, the following requirements
32 must be met before moneys received for this purpose may be paid
33 over by the county treasurer:
34 a. The public transportation company shall provide the city
35 with copies of state and federal income tax returns for the

1 five years preceding the year for which payment is contemplated
2 or for such lesser period of time as the company has been in
3 operation.

4 *b.* The city shall, in any given year, be authorized to pay
5 over only such sums as will yield not to exceed two percent
6 of the public transportation company's investment as the same
7 is valued in its tax depreciation schedule, provided that
8 corporate profits and losses for the five preceding years or
9 for such lesser period of time as the company has been in
10 operation shall not average in excess of a two percent net
11 return. Taxes levied under this subsection may not be used to
12 subsidize losses incurred prior to the election required by
13 this subsection.

14 NEW SUBSECTION. 14. A tax not to exceed twenty and
15 one-half cents per thousand dollars of assessed value each
16 year to maintain an institution received by gift or devise.
17 Certification of this tax is subject to subsection 16.

18 NEW SUBSECTION. 15. A tax not to exceed twenty-seven cents
19 per thousand dollars of assessed value for support of a public
20 library. Certification of this tax is subject to subsection
21 16, except that if a majority of voters approve the levy
22 pursuant to subsection 16, paragraph "b", it shall be imposed.

23 NEW SUBSECTION. 16. A tax to be certified under subsection
24 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, or 14 shall be subject to all of the following:

25 *a.* Upon receipt of a valid petition pursuant to section
26 362.4, the council shall submit to the voters at the next
27 regular city election the question of whether a tax shall be
28 levied.

29 *b.* If a majority of voters approve the levy, it may be
30 imposed.

31 *c.* The levy can be eliminated by the same procedure of
32 petition and election.

33 *d.* A tax authorized by an election held prior to the
34 effective date of the city code may be continued until
35 eliminated by the council, or by petition and election.

1 of certain highways or combination bridge across any navigable
2 boundary river of Iowa; the purchase of certain bridges
3 across navigable boundary rivers of Iowa; the aid to a public
4 transportation company; the maintenance of an institution
5 received by gift or devise; and the support of a public
6 library. The bill establishes the maximum rate a city may levy
7 for each tax.