

1 SENATE BILL NO. 123  
2 INTRODUCED BY G. HERTZ

3  
4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING THE BALLOT FOR A BOND ELECTION TO  
5 INCLUDE THE ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL PROPERTY TAXES IMPOSED ON A RESIDENCE; AMENDING  
6 SECTION 20-9-426, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN APPLICABILITY DATE."

7  
8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

9  
10 NEW SECTION. Section 1. Bond election -- impact on value. (1) ~~The Except as provided in~~  
11 ~~subsection (2), the~~ form of the ballot for a bond election must include ~~a statement an estimate~~ of the impact of  
12 the election on ~~a home~~ HOMES valued at \$100,000, ~~\$300,000~~, and ~~a home valued at \$200,000~~ ~~\$600,000~~ in  
13 terms of actual dollars in additional property taxes that would be imposed in the first year on residences with  
14 those values if the bond were to pass. The ballot may also include ~~a statement an estimate~~ of the impact of the  
15 election on homes of any other value in the district, if appropriate.

16 (2) ~~The taxing jurisdiction conducting the bond election may replace the estimate of the impact of~~  
17 ~~the election on a home valued at \$600,000 with an estimate of the impact of the election on a home of a~~  
18 ~~different value.~~

19  
20 **Section 2.** Section 20-9-426, MCA, is amended to read:

21 **"20-9-426. Preparation and form of ballots for bond election.** (1) The school district shall cause  
22 ballots to be prepared for all bond elections.

23 (2) All ballots must be substantially in the following form:

24 OFFICIAL BALLOT  
25 SCHOOL DISTRICT BOND ELECTION

26 INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: Make an X or similar mark in the vacant square before the words  
27 "BONDS--YES" if you wish to vote for the bond issue; if you are opposed to the bond issue, make an X or  
28 similar mark in the square before the words "BONDS--NO".

1 Shall the board of trustees be authorized to issue and sell (state type of bonds here: general obligation,  
2 oil and natural gas revenue, oil and natural gas revenue for which a tax deficiency is pledged, or impact aid  
3 revenue) bonds of this school district in the amount of ..... dollars (\$ .....), payable semiannually, during  
4 a period not more than ..... years, for the purpose ..... (here state the purpose the same way as  
5 in the notice of election)?

6 If this bond is passed, based on the ~~current~~ taxable value of the school district, the property taxes on a  
7 home with an assessed market value for tax purposes of \$100,000 WOULD INCREASE BY \$..... IN THE FIRST  
8 YEAR, OF \$300,000 would increase by \$..... in the first year, and property taxes on a home with an assessed  
9 market value of \$200,000 OF \$600,000 would increase by \$..... in the first year.

10  BONDS -- YES.

11  BONDS -- NO.

12 (3) The school district conducting the bond election may replace the estimate of the impact of the  
13 election on a home valued at \$600,000 with an estimate of the impact of the election on a home of a different  
14 value."

16 NEW SECTION. Section 3. Codification instruction. [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an  
17 integral part of Title ~~13 7~~, chapter ~~1 7~~, part ~~4 1~~, and the provisions of Title ~~13 7~~, chapter ~~1 7~~, part ~~4 1~~, apply to  
18 [section 1].

20 COORDINATION SECTION. Section 4. Coordination instruction. If both House Bill No. 543 and  
21 [this act] are passed and approved, then [section 1 of House Bill No. 543] is void and [section 1 of this act] must  
22 be amended as follows:

23 "NEW SECTION. Section 1. Bond election -- impact on value. (1) The ~~Except as provided in~~  
24 subsection (2), the form of the ballot for a bond election must include a statement:

25 (a) the statement that "an increase in property taxes may lead to an increase in rental costs"; and

26 (b) an estimate of the impact of the election on a ~~home~~ HOMES valued at \$100,000, \$300,000, and  
27 a ~~home~~ valued at \$200,000 \$600,000 in terms of actual dollars in additional property taxes that would be  
28 imposed in the first year on residences with those values if the bond were to pass. The ballot may also include

1 a ~~statement~~ an estimate of the impact of the election on homes of any other value in the district, if appropriate.

2 (2) The taxing jurisdiction conducting the bond election may replace the estimate of the impact of  
3 the election on a home valued at \$600,000 with an estimate of the impact of the election on a home of a  
4 different value."

6 COORDINATION SECTION. Section 5. Coordination instruction. If both House Bill No. 543 and  
7 [this act] are passed and approved and if both contain a section that amends 20-9-426, then the sections  
8 amending 20-9-426 are void and 20-9-426 must be amended as follows:

9 **"20-9-426. Preparation and form of ballots for bond election.** (1) The school district shall cause  
10 ballots to be prepared for all bond elections.

11 (2) All ballots must be substantially in the following form:

12 OFFICIAL BALLOT

13 SCHOOL DISTRICT BOND ELECTION

14 INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: Make an X or similar mark in the vacant square before the words  
15 "BONDS--YES" if you wish to vote for the bond issue; if you are opposed to the bond issue, make an X or  
16 similar mark in the square before the words "BONDS--NO".

17 Shall the board of trustees be authorized to issue and sell (state type of bonds here: general obligation,  
18 oil and natural gas revenue, oil and natural gas revenue for which a tax deficiency is pledged, or impact aid  
19 revenue) bonds of this school district in the amount of ..... dollars (\$ .....), payable semiannually, during  
20 a period not more than ..... years, for the purpose ..... (here state the purpose the same way as  
21 in the notice of election)?

22 If this bond is passed, based on the taxable value of the school district, the property taxes on a home  
23 with an assessed market value for tax purposes of \$100,000 would increase by \$..... in the first year, of  
24 \$300,000 would increase by \$..... in the first year, and of \$600,000 would increase by \$..... in the first  
25 year. An increase in property taxes may lead to an increase in rental costs.

26 [ ] BONDS -- YES.

27 [ ] BONDS -- NO.

28 (3) The school district conducting the bond election may replace the estimate of the impact of the

1 election on a home valued at \$600,000 with an estimate of the impact of the election on a home of a different  
2 value."

3  
4 NEW SECTION. Section 6. Applicability. [This act] applies to bond elections held on or after [the  
5 effective date of this act].

6 - END -

AMENDED