



April 3, 2017

Expanded Homestead Exemption - OPPOSE

On Wednesday, April 5 at 9:00 a.m., the [House Ways and Means Committee](#) will consider a Proposed Constitutional Amendment that proposes expanding the Homestead Exemption.

The bill will be a proposed constitutional amendment that creates an additional \$25,000 exemption for homestead properties for the purposes of non-school (city, county and special district) property taxes.

The Florida League of Cities is **opposed** to this legislation for the following reasons:

- **An additional homestead exemption will create even more inequities to the property tax system that already picks winners and losers.**
- If approved by 60 percent of voters, it is estimated that the new homestead exemption would have a negative fiscal impact on cities, counties and special districts of **\$752.7 million in the first year and that impact grows to \$816.8 million in the fifth year.**
- The additional homestead exemption will require local governments to either reduce services or increase the taxes of businesses and renters by increasing millage to offset the fiscal impact.
- This new exemption transfers tax burden to non-homestead properties such as businesses and renters who currently receive far less property tax relief that homestead property owners.

Please contact members of the House Ways and Means Committee and urge them to Oppose legislation that would create a NEW \$25,000 Homestead Exemption. The House bill language has not been released yet, but the issue will be discussed by the Committee on Wednesday.

House Ways and Means Committee – Oppose New Homestead Exemption

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You can also use the League's [Contact Your Legislator](#) advocacy tool to e-mail your legislators.

Should you have any questions, please contact Amber Hughes at ahughes@flcities.com or 813-777-4783 (cell).

Thank you for your advocacy efforts!