
A BILL FOR AN ACT

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE III, SECTION 15, OF THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION TO ENACT A SUPERMAJORITY VOTING REQUIREMENT FOR PASSAGE OF LEGISLATION PROPOSING TO RAISE OR CREATE TAXES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that proposed legislation
2 that would create new taxes or raise existing taxes should be
3 considered and enacted in a different manner than other
4 legislation. The power of the State to tax its citizens has a
5 huge impact on the cost of living in Hawaii. The more the State
6 takes in taxes, the less local families have to spend on their
7 own priorities. Therefore, the legislative power to create or
8 raise taxes should only be exercised after the greatest care and
9 deliberation.

10 The legislature further finds that requiring a
11 supermajority to create or raise taxes would do two important
12 things for the State of Hawaii. First, it would require
13 consensus on new or additional taxes. Second, a supermajority
14 requirement would encourage lawmakers to work within existing
15 revenue streams rather than seek new ones.



1 bill is enacted, it shall pass at least one reading in the house
2 in which the bill originated.

3 Passage of legislation proposing to increase the rates for
4 any tax collected by the State or to enact a new tax to be
5 collected by the State shall require a two-thirds vote of all
6 members to which each house is entitled."

7 SECTION 3. The question to be printed on the ballot shall
8 be as follows:

9 "Shall the Constitution be amended to include a two-thirds
10 supermajority voting requirement for the legislature to pass
11 laws that would raise taxes or create new taxes?"

12 SECTION 4. New constitutional material is underscored.

13 SECTION 5. This amendment shall take effect upon
14 compliance with Article XVII, section 3, of the Constitution of
15 the State of Hawaii.

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H.B. NO. 1731

Report Title:

Constitutional Amendment; Bill Passage; Taxation; Supermajority

Description:

Proposes a constitutional amendment to include a two-thirds supermajority voting requirement for the legislature to pass laws that raise taxes or create new taxes.

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