**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND ACT 601 OF 1971, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO THE JASPER COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE JASPER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT BEGINNING WITH THE YEAR 2012, THE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION RATHER THAN THE COUNTY COUNCIL SHALL IMPOSE THE TAX LEVY NECESSARY FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES, AND TO PROVIDE FOR PROCEDURES FOR AND LIMITATIONS ON THIS SCHOOL TAX LEVY.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Section 2 of Act 601 of 1971, as last amended by Act 288 of 1989, is further amended by adding a new item to be appropriately numbered to read:

“( ) Beginning with the year 2012, the county auditor of Jasper County, when directed and ordered by an appropriate resolution of the Jasper County Board of Education as the governing body of the Jasper County School District, shall impose for school purposes a countywide annual tax millage levy on all of taxable property in the county subject to either a school operating millage levy or a school debt service levy, or both. The millage levy for the year 2012 must be the same levy as that levied for 2011 by the Jasper County Council for K‑12 educational purposes increased by no more than eight mills unless approval for a higher increase is granted by the Jasper County Legislative Delegation. After 2012, the tax levy for school purposes each year may not be increased more than eight mills above the millage levy for school purposes for the previous fiscal year unless approved by a majority of the Jasper County Legislative Delegation. The annual levy must be designated as the county education fund tax. The district superintendent of education and the county treasurer shall open and enter in their books and records an account to be designated as the ‘County Education Fund’. The county treasurer shall credit to the fund or account all the proceeds of the tax and any other money received for the county education fund or account and charge against the fund or account all proper vouchers drawn against it.”

SECTION 2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, including the provision of Item 5, Section 6, of Act 982 of 1967, the Jasper County Council beginning with the year 2012, shall not and is not authorized to impose or levy any taxes for K‑12 school purposes.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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