



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 than 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](mailto:ahughes@flcities.com) or 813-777-4783 (cell).

**Thank you for your advocacy efforts!**