**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND ACT 806 OF 1952, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR FLORENCE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT TWO, SO AS TO ONLY REQUIRE A SEPARATE MEETING OF THE CITIZENS IF THE PROPOSED BUDGET REQUIRES A MILLAGE INCREASE.

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

SECTION 1. Section 1 of Act 806 of 1952, as last amended by Act 83 of 2011, is further amended to read:

“SECTION 1. (A) On or before the fifteenth day of May, 1952, and on or before the fifteenth day of April of each year thereafter, the board of trustees of each school district in Florence County, except District 4 which shall meet on the second Thursday in June, shall call a meeting of the citizens of the district, which must be held within the school district. The time and place of the meeting must be advertised in a newspaper of general circulation within the district at least once, ten days prior to the meeting. The persons entitled to vote at the meeting have power to appoint a chairman and a secretary and to adjourn the meeting from time to time until business is completed. It is the duty of the chairman of the meeting to keep a correct record of all of the proceedings and to file the same in the office of the county board of education.

(B)(1) In addition to the citizens’ meeting provided in subsection (A), in any year in which the proposed budget for Florence County School District 2 for the upcoming fiscal year requires a millage increase, the board of trustees shall call a separate meeting of the citizens of the district on the proposed ~~district budget~~ millage increase for the next fiscal year, which must be held ~~before June thirtieth of each year~~ on the second Tuesday of May. The citizens’ meetings must be held within the school district, and the time and place of the meetings must be advertised in a newspaper of general circulation within the district at least once, ten days ~~prior to~~ before the meetings. The advertisement must include the current year’s millage, the proposed millage, and the amount of the millage increase. The millage increase only may be adopted by a majority vote of the qualified electors present at the meeting. The tax millage levied must maintain at least the level of per pupil financial effort established in the previous year. The chairman shall keep a correct record of all proceedings and file the records of the proceedings with the district board of trustees.

(2) In any year in which the proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year does not require a millage increase, the provisions of Section 2 and the provisions of item (1) do not apply except that the tax millage levied must maintain at least the level of per pupil financial effort established in the previous fiscal year. If the provisions of item (1) do not apply, the proposed budget must be posted on the Internet website maintained by the district at least ten days before its adoption.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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