

CHAPTER 275

TAXES; LEVY, EXTENSION

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275.02 STATE LEVY FOR BONDED DEBT; CERTIFICATION OF TAX RATE.

A state tax for bonded debt pursuant to the Minnesota Constitution, article XI, shall be levied on the tax capacity of all taxable property in the state. The rate of the tax shall be certified by the state auditor to each county auditor on or before November 1 annually. The tax under this section is not treated as a local tax rate under section 469.177.

History: *1Sp2001 c 5 art 3 s 45*

275.025 STATE GENERAL TAX.

Subdivision 1. **Levy amount.** The state general levy is levied against commercial-industrial property and seasonal recreational property, as defined in this section. The state general levy is \$592,000,000 for taxes payable in 2002. For taxes payable in subsequent years, the levy is increased each year by multiplying the amount for the prior year by the sum of one plus the rate of increase, if any, in the implicit price deflator for government consumption expenditures and gross investment for state and local governments prepared by the Bureau of Economic Analysts of the United States Department of Commerce for the 12-month period ending March 31 of the year prior to the year the taxes are payable. The tax under this section is not treated as a local tax rate under section 469.177 and is not the levy of a governmental unit under chapters 276A and 473F. Beginning in fiscal year 2004, and in each year thereafter, the commissioner of finance shall deposit in an education reserve account, which account is hereby established, the increased amount of the state general levy received for deposit in the general fund for that year over the amount of the state general levy received for deposit in the general fund in fiscal year 2003. The amounts in the education reserve account do not lapse or cancel each year, but remain until appropriated by law for education aid or higher education funding.

Subd. 2. **Commercial-industrial tax capacity.** For the purposes of this section, "commercial-industrial tax capacity" means the tax capacity of all taxable property classified as class 3 or class 5(1) under section 273.13, except for electric generation attached machinery under class 3 and property described in section 473.625. County commercial-industrial tax capacity amounts are not adjusted for the captured net tax capacity of a tax increment financing district under section 469.177, subdivision 2, the net tax capacity of transmission lines deducted from a local government's total net tax capacity under section 273.425, or fiscal disparities contribution and distribution net tax capacities under chapter 276A or 473F.

Subd. 3. **Seasonal recreational tax capacity.** For the purposes of this section, "seasonal recreational tax capacity" means the tax capacity of all class 4c(1) property under section 273.13, subdivision 25, except that the first \$76,000 of market value of each noncommercial class 4c(1) property has a tax capacity for this purpose equal to 40 percent of its tax capacity under section 273.13.

Subd. 4. **Apportionment and levy of state general tax.** The state general tax must be distributed among the counties by applying a uniform rate to each county's

commercial-industrial tax capacity and its seasonal recreational tax capacity. Within each county, the tax must be levied by applying a uniform rate against commercial-industrial tax capacity and seasonal recreational tax capacity. By November 1 each year, the commissioner of revenue shall certify the state general levy rate to each county auditor.

History: *1Sp2001.c 5 art 3 s 46*

275.065 PROPOSED PROPERTY TAXES; NOTICE.

[For text of subs 1 to 1c, see M.S.2000]

Subd. 3. **Notice of proposed property taxes.** (a) The county auditor shall prepare and the county treasurer shall deliver after November 10 and on or before November 24 each year, by first class mail to each taxpayer at the address listed on the county's current year's assessment roll, a notice of proposed property taxes.

(b) The commissioner of revenue shall prescribe the form of the notice.

(c) The notice must inform taxpayers that it contains the amount of property taxes each taxing authority proposes to collect for taxes payable the following year. In the case of a town, or in the case of the state determined portion of the school district levy, the final tax amount will be its proposed tax. In the case of taxing authorities required to hold a public meeting under subdivision 6, the notice must clearly state that each taxing authority, including regional library districts established under section 134.201, and including the metropolitan taxing districts as defined in paragraph (i), but excluding all other special taxing districts and towns, will hold a public meeting to receive public testimony on the proposed budget and proposed or final property tax levy, or, in case of a school district, on the current budget and proposed property tax levy. It must clearly state the time and place of each taxing authority's meeting, a telephone number for the taxing authority that taxpayers may call if they have questions related to the notice, and an address where comments will be received by mail.

(d) The notice must state for each parcel:

(1) the market value of the property as determined under section 273.11, and used for computing property taxes payable in the following year and for taxes payable in the current year as each appears in the records of the county assessor on November 1 of the current year; and, in the case of residential property, whether the property is classified as homestead or nonhomestead. The notice must clearly inform taxpayers of the years to which the market values apply and that the values are final values;

(2) the items listed below, shown separately by county, city or town, state determined school tax net of the education homestead credit under section 273.1382, voter approved school levy, other local school levy, and the sum of the special taxing districts, and as a total of all taxing authorities:

(i) the actual tax for taxes payable in the current year;

(ii) the tax change due to spending factors, defined as the proposed tax minus the constant spending tax amount;

(iii) the tax change due to other factors, defined as the constant spending tax amount minus the actual current year tax; and

(iv) the proposed tax amount.

In the case of a town or the state determined school tax, the final tax shall also be its proposed tax unless the town changes its levy at a special town meeting under section 365.52. If a school district has certified under section 126C.17, subdivision 9, that a referendum will be held in the school district at the November general election, the county auditor must note next to the school district's proposed amount that a referendum is pending and that, if approved by the voters, the tax amount may be higher than shown on the notice. In the case of the city of Minneapolis, the levy for the Minneapolis library board and the levy for Minneapolis park and recreation shall be listed separately from the remaining amount of the city's levy. In the case of a parcel where tax increment or the fiscal disparities areawide tax under chapter 276A or 473F

applies, the proposed tax levy on the captured value or the proposed tax levy on the tax capacity subject to the areawide tax must each be stated separately and not included in the sum of the special taxing districts; and

(3) the increase or decrease between the total taxes payable in the current year and the total proposed taxes, expressed as a percentage.

For purposes of this section, the amount of the tax on homesteads qualifying under the senior citizens' property tax deferral program under chapter 290B is the total amount of property tax before subtraction of the deferred property tax amount.

(e) The notice must clearly state that the proposed or final taxes do not include the following:

(1) special assessments;

(2) levies approved by the voters after the date the proposed taxes are certified, including bond referenda, school district levy referenda, and levy limit increase referenda;

(3) amounts necessary to pay cleanup or other costs due to a natural disaster occurring after the date the proposed taxes are certified;

(4) amounts necessary to pay tort judgments against the taxing authority that become final after the date the proposed taxes are certified; and

(5) the contamination tax imposed on properties which received market value reductions for contamination.

(f) Except as provided in subdivision 7, failure of the county auditor to prepare or the county treasurer to deliver the notice as required in this section does not invalidate the proposed or final tax levy or the taxes payable pursuant to the tax levy.

(g) If the notice the taxpayer receives under this section lists the property as nonhomestead, and satisfactory documentation is provided to the county assessor by the applicable deadline, and the property qualifies for the homestead classification in that assessment year, the assessor shall reclassify the property to homestead for taxes payable in the following year.

(h) In the case of class 4 residential property used as a residence for lease or rental periods of 30 days or more, the taxpayer must either:

(1) mail or deliver a copy of the notice of proposed property taxes to each tenant, renter, or lessee; or

(2) post a copy of the notice in a conspicuous place on the premises of the property.

The notice must be mailed or posted by the taxpayer by November 27 or within three days of receipt of the notice, whichever is later. A taxpayer may notify the county treasurer of the address of the taxpayer, agent, caretaker, or manager of the premises to which the notice must be mailed in order to fulfill the requirements of this paragraph.

(i) For purposes of this subdivision, subdivisions 5a and 6, "metropolitan special taxing districts" means the following taxing districts in the seven-county metropolitan area that levy a property tax for any of the specified purposes listed below:

(1) metropolitan council under section 473.132, 473.167, 473.249, 473.325, 473.446, 473.521, 473.547, or 473.834;

(2) metropolitan airports commission under section 473.667, 473.671, or 473.672; and

(3) metropolitan mosquito control commission under section 473.711.

For purposes of this section, any levies made by the regional rail authorities in the county of Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, or Washington under chapter 398A shall be included with the appropriate county's levy and shall be discussed at that county's public hearing.

(j) If a statutory or home rule charter city or a town has exercised the local levy option provided by section 473.388, subdivision 7, it may include in the notice of its proposed taxes the amount of its proposed taxes attributable to its exercise of the

option. In the first year of the city or town's exercise of this option, the statement shall include an estimate of the reduction of the metropolitan council's tax on the parcel due to exercise of that option. The metropolitan council's levy shall be adjusted accordingly.

[For text of subs 3a and 4, see M.S.2000]

Subd. 5a. **Public advertisement.** (a) A city that has a population of more than 2,500, county, a metropolitan special taxing district as defined in subdivision 3, paragraph (i), a regional library district established under section 134.201, or school district shall advertise in a newspaper a notice of its intent to adopt a budget and property tax levy or, in the case of a school district, to review its current budget and proposed property taxes payable in the following year, at a public hearing, if a public hearing is required under subdivision 6. The notice must be published not less than two business days nor more than six business days before the hearing.

The advertisement must be at least one-eighth page in size of a standard-size or a tabloid-size newspaper. The advertisement must not be placed in the part of the newspaper where legal notices and classified advertisements appear. The advertisement must be published in an official newspaper of general circulation in the taxing authority. The newspaper selected must be one of general interest and readership in the community, and not one of limited subject matter. The advertisement must appear in a newspaper that is published at least once per week.

For purposes of this section, the metropolitan special taxing district's advertisement must only be published in the Minneapolis Star and Tribune and the Saint Paul Pioneer Press.

In addition to other requirements, a county and a city having a population of more than 2,500 must show in the public advertisement required under this subdivision the current local tax rate, the proposed local tax rate if no property tax levy increase is adopted, and the proposed rate if the proposed levy is adopted. For purposes of this subdivision, "local tax rate" means the city's or county's net tax capacity levy divided by the city's or county's taxable net tax capacity.

(b) The advertisement for school districts, metropolitan special taxing districts, and regional library districts must be in the following form, except that the notice for a school district may include references to the current budget in regard to proposed property taxes.

"NOTICE OF
PROPOSED PROPERTY TAXES

(School District/Metropolitan
Special Taxing District/Regional
Library District) of

The governing body of will soon hold budget hearings and vote on the property taxes for (metropolitan special taxing district/regional library district services that will be provided in (year)/school district services that will be provided in (year) and (year)).

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING:

All concerned citizens are invited to attend a public hearing and express their opinions on the proposed (school district/metropolitan special taxing district/regional library district) budget and property taxes, or in the case of a school district, its current budget and proposed property taxes, payable in the following year. The hearing will be held on (Month/Day/Year) at (Time) at (Location. Address)."

(c) The advertisement for cities and counties must be in the following form.

"NOTICE OF PROPOSED
TOTAL BUDGET AND PROPERTY TAXES

The (city/county) governing body or board of commissioners will hold a public hearing to discuss the budget and to vote on the amount of property taxes to collect for services the (city/county) will provide in (year).

SPENDING: The total budget amounts below compare (city's/county's) (year) total actual budget with the amount the (city/county) proposes to spend in (year).

(Year) Total Actual Budget	Proposed (Year) Budget	Change from (Year)-(Year)
\$.....	\$.....%

TAXES: The property tax amounts below compare that portion of the current budget levied in property taxes in (city/county) for (year) with the property taxes the (city/county) proposes to collect in (year).

(Year) Property Taxes	Proposed (Year) Property Taxes	Change from (Year)-(Year)
\$.....	\$.....%

LOCAL TAX RATE COMPARISON: The current local tax rate, the local tax rate if no tax levy increase is adopted, and the proposed local tax rate if the proposed levy is adopted.

(Year) Tax Rate	(Year) Tax Rate if NO Levy Increase	(Year) Proposed Tax Rate
.....

ATTEND THE PUBLIC HEARING

All (city/county) residents are invited to attend the public hearing of the (city/county) to express your opinions on the budget and the proposed amount of (year) property taxes. The hearing will be held on:

(Month/Day/Year/Time)
(Location/Address)

If the discussion of the budget cannot be completed, a time and place for continuing the discussion will be announced at the hearing. You are also invited to send your written comments to:

(City/County)
(Location/Address)"

(d) For purposes of this subdivision, the budget amounts listed on the advertisement mean:

(1) for cities, the total government fund expenditures, as defined by the state auditor under section 471.6965, less any expenditures for improvements or services that are specially assessed or charged under chapter 429, 430, 435, or the provisions of any other law or charter; and

(2) for counties, the total government fund expenditures, as defined by the state auditor under section 375.169, less any expenditures for direct payments to recipients or providers for the human service aids listed below:

- (i) Minnesota family investment program under chapters 256J and 256K;
- (ii) medical assistance under sections 256B.041, subdivision 5, and 256B.19, subdivision 1;
- (iii) general assistance medical care under section 256D.03, subdivision 6;
- (iv) general assistance under section 256D.03, subdivision 2;
- (v) emergency assistance under section 256J.48;
- (vi) Minnesota supplemental aid under section 256D.36, subdivision 1;

(vii) preadmission screening under section 256B.0911, and alternative care grants under section 256B.0913;

(viii) general assistance medical care claims processing, medical transportation and related costs under section 256D.03, subdivision 4;

(ix) medical transportation and related costs under section 256B.0625, subdivisions 17 to 18a;

(x) group residential housing under section 256I.05, subdivision 8, transferred from programs in clauses (iv) and (vi); or

(xi) any successor programs to those listed in clauses (i) to (x).

(e) A city with a population of over 500 but not more than 2,500 that is required to hold a public hearing under subdivision 6 must advertise by posted notice as defined in section 645.12, subdivision 1. The advertisement must be posted at the time provided in paragraph (a). It must be in the form required in paragraph (b).

(f) For purposes of this subdivision, the population of a city is the most recent population as determined by the state demographer under section 4A.02.

(g) The commissioner of revenue, subject to the approval of the chairs of the house and senate tax committees, shall prescribe the form and format of the advertisements required under this subdivision.

Subd. 6. Public hearing; adoption of budget and levy. (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms shall have the meanings given:

(1) "Initial hearing" means the first and primary hearing held to discuss the taxing authority's proposed budget and proposed property tax levy for taxes payable in the following year, or, for school districts, the current budget and the proposed property tax levy for taxes payable in the following year.

(2) "Continuation hearing" means a hearing held to complete the initial hearing, if the initial hearing is not completed on its scheduled date.

(3) "Subsequent hearing" means the hearing held to adopt the taxing authority's final property tax levy, and, in the case of taxing authorities other than school districts, the final budget, for taxes payable in the following year.

(b) Between November 29 and December 20, the governing bodies of a city that has a population over 500, county, metropolitan special taxing districts as defined in subdivision 3, paragraph (i), and regional library districts shall each hold an initial public hearing to discuss and seek public comment on its final budget and property tax levy for taxes payable in the following year, and the governing body of the school district shall hold an initial public hearing to review its current budget and proposed property tax levy for taxes payable in the following year. The metropolitan special taxing districts shall be required to hold only a single joint initial public hearing, the location of which will be determined by the affected metropolitan agencies. A city, county, metropolitan special taxing district as defined in subdivision 3, paragraph (i), regional library district established under section 134.201, or school district is not required to hold a public hearing under this subdivision unless its proposed property tax levy for taxes payable in the following year, as certified under subdivision 1, has increased over its final property tax levy for taxes payable in the current year by a percentage that is greater than the percentage increase in the implicit price deflator for government consumption expenditures and gross investment for state and local governments prepared by the Bureau of Economic Analysts of the United States Department of Commerce for the 12-month period ending March 31 of the current year.

(c) The initial hearing must be held after 5:00 p.m. if scheduled on a day other than Saturday. No initial hearing may be held on a Sunday.

(d) At the initial hearing under this subdivision, the percentage increase in property taxes proposed by the taxing authority, if any, and the specific purposes for which property tax revenues are being increased must be discussed. During the discussion, the governing body shall hear comments regarding a proposed increase and explain the reasons for the proposed increase. The public shall be allowed to speak and to ask questions. At the public hearing, the school district must also provide and discuss

information on the distribution of its revenues by revenue source, and the distribution of its spending by program area.

(e) If the initial hearing is not completed on its scheduled date, the taxing authority must announce, prior to adjournment of the hearing, the date, time, and place for the continuation of the hearing. The continuation hearing must be held at least five business days but no more than 14 business days after the initial hearing. A continuation hearing may not be held later than December 20 except as provided in paragraphs (f) and (g). A continuation hearing must be held after 5:00 p.m. if scheduled on a day other than Saturday. No continuation hearing may be held on a Sunday.

(f) The governing body of a county shall hold its initial hearing on the first Thursday in December each year, and may hold additional initial hearings on other dates before December 20 if necessary for the convenience of county residents. If the county needs a continuation of its hearing, the continuation hearing shall be held on the third Tuesday in December. If the third Tuesday in December falls on December 21, the county's continuation hearing shall be held on Monday, December 20.

(g) The metropolitan special taxing districts shall hold a joint initial public hearing on the first Wednesday of December. A continuation hearing, if necessary, shall be held on the second Wednesday of December even if that second Wednesday is after December 10.

(h) The county auditor shall provide for the coordination of initial and continuation hearing dates for all school districts and cities within the county to prevent conflicts under clauses (i) and (j).

(i) By August 10, each school board and the board of the regional library district shall certify to the county auditors of the counties in which the school district or regional library district is located the dates on which it elects to hold its initial hearing and any continuation hearing. If a school board or regional library district does not certify these dates by August 10, the auditor will assign the initial and continuation hearing dates. The dates elected or assigned must not conflict with the initial and continuation hearing dates of the county or the metropolitan special taxing districts.

(j) By August 20, the county auditor shall notify the clerks of the cities within the county of the dates on which school districts and regional library districts have elected to hold their initial and continuation hearings. At the time a city certifies its proposed levy under subdivision 1 it shall certify the dates on which it elects to hold its initial hearing and any continuation hearing. Until September 15, the first and second Mondays of December are reserved for the use of the cities. If a city does not certify its hearing dates by September 15, the auditor shall assign the initial and continuation hearing dates. The dates elected or assigned for the initial hearing must not conflict with the initial hearing dates of the county, metropolitan special taxing districts, regional library districts, or school districts within which the city is located. To the extent possible, the dates of the city's continuation hearing should not conflict with the continuation hearing dates of the county, metropolitan special taxing districts, regional library districts, or school districts within which the city is located. This paragraph does not apply to cities of 500 population or less.

(k) The county initial hearing date and the city, metropolitan special taxing district, regional library district, and school district initial hearing dates must be designated on the notices required under subdivision 3. The continuation hearing dates need not be stated on the notices.

(l) At a subsequent hearing, each county, school district, city over 500 population, and metropolitan special taxing district may amend its proposed property tax levy and must adopt a final property tax levy. Each county, city over 500 population, and metropolitan special taxing district may also amend its proposed budget and must adopt a final budget at the subsequent hearing. The final property tax levy must be adopted prior to adopting the final budget. A school district is not required to adopt its final budget at the subsequent hearing. The subsequent hearing of a taxing authority must be held on a date subsequent to the date of the taxing authority's initial public

hearing. If a continuation hearing is held, the subsequent hearing must be held either immediately following the continuation hearing or on a date subsequent to the continuation hearing. The subsequent hearing may be held at a regularly scheduled board or council meeting or at a special meeting scheduled for the purposes of the subsequent hearing. The subsequent hearing of a taxing authority does not have to be coordinated by the county auditor to prevent a conflict with an initial hearing, a continuation hearing, or a subsequent hearing of any other taxing authority. All subsequent hearings must be held prior to five working days after December 20 of the levy year. The date, time, and place of the subsequent hearing must be announced at the initial public hearing or at the continuation hearing.

(m) The property tax levy certified under section 275.07 by a city of any population, county, metropolitan special taxing district, regional library district, or school district must not exceed the proposed levy determined under subdivision 1, except by an amount up to the sum of the following amounts:

(1) the amount of a school district levy whose voters approved a referendum to increase taxes under section 123B.63, subdivision 3, or 126C.17, subdivision 9, after the proposed levy was certified;

(2) the amount of a city or county levy approved by the voters after the proposed levy was certified;

(3) the amount of a levy to pay principal and interest on bonds approved by the voters under section 475.58 after the proposed levy was certified;

(4) the amount of a levy to pay costs due to a natural disaster occurring after the proposed levy was certified, if that amount is approved by the commissioner of revenue under subdivision 6a;

(5) the amount of a levy to pay tort judgments against a taxing authority that become final after the proposed levy was certified, if the amount is approved by the commissioner of revenue under subdivision 6a;

(6) the amount of an increase in levy limits certified to the taxing authority by the commissioner of children, families, and learning or the commissioner of revenue after the proposed levy was certified; and

(7) the amount required under section 126C.55.

(n) This subdivision does not apply to towns and special taxing districts other than regional library districts and metropolitan special taxing districts.

(o) Notwithstanding the requirements of this section, the employer is required to meet and negotiate over employee compensation as provided for in chapter 179A.

[For text of subds 6a to 8, see M.S.2000]

History: *1Sp2001 c 5 art 3 s 47-49*

275.066 SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICTS; DEFINITION.

For the purposes of property taxation and property tax state aids, the term "special taxing districts" includes the following entities:

(1) watershed districts under chapter 103D;

(2) sanitary districts under sections 115.18 to 115.37;

(3) regional sanitary sewer districts under sections 115.61 to 115.67;

(4) regional public library districts under section 134.201;

(5) park districts under chapter 398;

(6) regional railroad authorities under chapter 398A;

(7) hospital districts under sections 447.31 to 447.38;

(8) St. Cloud metropolitan transit commission under sections 458A.01 to 458A.15;

(9) Duluth transit authority under sections 458A.21 to 458A.37;

(10) regional development commissions under sections 462.381 to 462.398;

(11) housing and redevelopment authorities under sections 469.001 to 469.047;

- (12) port authorities under sections 469.048 to 469.068;
- (13) economic development authorities under sections 469.090 to 469.1081;
- (14) metropolitan council under sections 473.123 to 473.549;
- (15) metropolitan airports commission under sections 473.601 to 473.680;
- (16) metropolitan mosquito control commission under sections 473.701 to 473.716;
- (17) Morrison county rural development financing authority under Laws 1982, chapter 437, section 1;
- (18) Croft Historical Park District under Laws 1984, chapter 502, article 13, section 6;
- (19) East Lake county medical clinic district under Laws 1989, chapter 211, sections 1 to 6;
- (20) Floodwood area ambulance district under Laws 1993, chapter 375, article 5, section 39;
- (21) Middle Mississippi river watershed management organization under sections 103B.211 and 103B.241;
- (22) emergency medical services special taxing districts under section 144F.01;
- (23) a county levying under the authority of section 103B.241, 103B.245, or 103B.251; and
- (24) any other political subdivision of the state of Minnesota, excluding counties, school districts, cities, and towns, that has the power to adopt and certify a property tax levy to the county auditor, as determined by the commissioner of revenue.

History: *1Sp2001 c 5 art 3 s 50.*

NOTE: The amendment to clause (22) by Laws 2001, First Special Session chapter 5, article 3, section 50, is effective for taxes levied in 2002, payable in 2003, through taxes levied in 2007, payable in 2008. Laws 2001, First Special Session chapter 5, article 3, section 50, the effective date.

275.07 CITY, TOWN, COUNTY, AND SCHOOL DISTRICT TAXES.

Subdivision 1. **Certification of levy.** (a) Except as provided under paragraph (b), the taxes voted by cities, counties, school districts, and special districts shall be certified by the proper authorities to the county auditor on or before five working days after December 20 in each year. A town must certify the levy adopted by the town board to the county auditor by September 15 each year. If the town board modifies the levy at a special town meeting after September 15, the town board must recertify its levy to the county auditor on or before five working days after December 20. The taxes certified shall not be reduced by the county auditor by the aid received under section 273.1398, subdivision 2, but shall be reduced by the county auditor by the aid received under section 273.1398, subdivision 3. If a city, town, county, school district, or special district fails to certify its levy by that date, its levy shall be the amount levied by it for the preceding year.

(b)(i) The taxes voted by counties under sections 103B.241, 103B.245, and 103B.251 shall be separately certified by the county to the county auditor on or before five working days after December 20 in each year. The taxes certified shall not be reduced by the county auditor by the aid received under section 273.1398, subdivisions 2 and 3. If a county fails to certify its levy by that date, its levy shall be the amount levied by it for the preceding year.

(ii) For purposes of the proposed property tax notice under section 275.065 and the property tax statement under section 276.04, for the first year in which the county implements the provisions of this paragraph, the county auditor shall reduce the county's levy for the preceding year to reflect any amount levied for water management purposes under clause (i) included in the county's levy.

[For text of subs 1a to 5, see M.S.2000]

History: *1Sp2001 c 5 art 3 s 51*

275.078 [Repealed, 1Sp2001 c 5 art 3 s 96]

275.08 AUDITOR TO FIX RATE.

[For text of subds 1 to 1d, see M.S.2000]

Subd. 1e. [Repealed, 1Sp2001 c 5 art 3 s 96]

[For text of subds 2 to 4, see M.S.2000]

275.16 COUNTY AUDITOR TO FIX AMOUNT OF LEVY.

If any such municipality shall return to the county auditor a levy greater than permitted by chapters 123A, 123B, 126C, 136C, and 136D, sections 275.124 to 275.16, and 275.70 to 275.74, such county auditor shall extend only such amount of taxes as the limitations herein prescribed will permit; provided, if such levy shall include any levy for the payment of bonded indebtedness or judgments, such levies for bonded indebtedness or judgments shall be extended in full, and the remainder of the levies shall be reduced so that the total thereof, including levies for bonds and judgments, shall not exceed such amount as the limitations herein prescribed will permit.

History: 1Sp2001 c 5 art 16 s 1

275.28 TAX LISTS.

Subdivision 1. **Auditor to make.** The county auditor shall make out the tax lists according to the prescribed form, and to correspond with the assessment districts. The rate percent necessary to raise the required amount of the various taxes shall be calculated on the net tax capacity of property as determined by the state board of equalization, but, in calculating such rates, no rate shall be used resulting in a fraction other than a decimal fraction, or less than a gross local tax rate of .01 percent or a net local tax rate of .01 percent; and, in extending any tax, whenever it amounts to the fractional part of a cent, it shall be made one cent. The tax lists shall also be made out to correspond with the assessment books in reference to ownership and description of property, with columns for the valuation and for the various items of tax included in the total amount of all taxes set down opposite each description. The auditor shall enter both the state tax determined under sections 275.02 and 275.025, and the local taxes determined under sections 275.08 and 275.083, on the tax lists. The total ad valorem property tax for each description of property before credits is the sum of the amounts of the various local taxes that apply to the parcel plus the amount of any applicable state tax. Opposite each description which has been sold for taxes, and which is subject to redemption, but not redeemed, shall be placed the words "sold for taxes." The amount of all special taxes shall be entered in the proper columns, but the general taxes may be shown by entering the rate percent of each tax at the head of the proper columns, without extending the same, in which case a schedule of the rates percent of such taxes shall be made on the first page of each tax list. If the auditor fails to enter on any such list before its delivery to the treasurer any tax levied, the tax may be subsequently entered. The tax lists shall be deemed completed, and all taxes extended thereon, as of January 1 annually.

[For text of subds 2 to 4, see M.S.2000]

History: 1Sp2001 c 5 art 3 s 52

275.60 LEVY OR BOND REFERENDUM; BALLOT NOTICE.

(a) Notwithstanding any general or special law or any charter provisions, but subject to section 126C.17, subdivision 9, any question submitted to the voters by any local governmental subdivision at a general or special election after June 8, 1995, authorizing a property tax levy or tax rate increase, including the issuance of debt obligations payable in whole or in part from property taxes, must include on the ballot the following notice in boldface type:

"BY VOTING "YES" ON THIS BALLOT QUESTION, YOU ARE VOTING FOR A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE."

(b) For purposes of this section and section 275.61, "local governmental subdivision" includes counties, home rule and statutory cities, towns, school districts, and all special taxing districts. This statement is in addition to any general or special laws or any charter provisions that govern the contents of a ballot question and, in the case of a question on the issuance of debt obligations, may be supplemented by a description of revenues pledged to payment of the obligations that are intended as the primary source of payment.

(c) This section does not apply to a school district bond election if the debt service payments are to be made entirely from transfers of revenue from the capital fund to the debt service fund.

History: 2001 c 214 s 3

275.61 VOTER APPROVED LEVY; MARKET VALUE; NET TAX CAPACITY CONVERSION.

Subdivision 1. **Market value.** For local governmental subdivisions other than school districts, any levy, including the issuance of debt obligations payable in whole or in part from property taxes, required to be approved and approved by the voters at a general or special election for taxes payable in 1993 and thereafter, shall be levied against the referendum market value of all taxable property within the governmental subdivision, as defined in section 126C.01, subdivision 3. Any levy amount subject to the requirements of this section shall be certified separately to the county auditor under section 275.07.

The ballot shall state the maximum amount of the increased levy as a percentage of market value and the amount that will be raised by the new referendum tax rate in the first year it is to be levied.

Subd. 2. **Conversion to net tax capacity.** Any referendum levy approved under subdivision 1 prior to January 1, 2001, may be converted from a referendum market value basis to a net tax capacity basis, provided that the proportion of the jurisdiction's referendum market value exempted under section 126C.01, subdivision 3, is at least ten percent for property taxes payable in 2001. A jurisdiction choosing to exercise the option to convert the referendum tax to a net tax capacity basis must notify the county auditor of its intent prior to October 1, 2001. A decision to convert a referendum levy under this subdivision shall be a permanent change affecting all future years. The option to convert a levy under this subdivision shall cease after October 1, 2001.

History: 1Sp2001 c 5 art 3 s 53

275.62 TAX LEVIES; REPORT TO THE COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE.

Subdivision 1. **Report on taxes levied.** The commissioner of revenue shall establish procedures for the annual reporting of local government levies. Each local governmental unit shall submit a report to the commissioner by December 30 of the year in which the tax is levied. The report shall include, but is not limited to, information on the amount of the tax levied by the governmental unit for the following purposes:

(1) social services and related programs, which include taxes levied for the purposes defined in Minnesota Statutes 1991 Supplement, section 275.50, subdivision 5, clauses (a), (j), and (v);

(2) the amounts levied for each of the purposes listed in section 275.70, subdivision 5; and

(3) other levies, which include the taxes levied for all purposes not included in clause (1), (2), or (3).

[For text of subs 2 to 4, see M.S.2000]

History: 1Sp2001 c 5 art 3 s 54

275.70 LEVY LIMITATIONS; DEFINITIONS.

Subdivision 1. **Application.** For the purposes of sections 275.70 to 275.74, the following terms have the meanings given them, unless provided otherwise.

Subd. 2. **Implicit price deflator.** "Implicit price deflator" means the implicit price deflator for government consumption expenditures and gross investment for state and local governments prepared by the bureau of economic analysis of the United States Department of Commerce for the 12-month period ending March 31 of the levy year.

Subd. 3. **Local governmental unit.** "Local governmental unit" means a county, or a statutory or home rule charter city with a population greater than 2,500.

Subd. 4. **Population; number of households.** "Population" or "number of households" means the population or number of households for the local governmental unit as established by the last federal census, by a census taken under section 275.14, or by an estimate made by the metropolitan council or by the state demographer under section 4A.02, whichever is most recent as to the stated date of the count or estimate up to and including June 1 of the current levy year.

Subd. 5. **Special levies.** "Special levies" means those portions of ad valorem taxes levied by a local governmental unit for the following purposes or in the following manner:

(1) to pay the costs of the principal and interest on bonded indebtedness or to reimburse for the amount of liquor store revenues used to pay the principal and interest due on municipal liquor store bonds in the year preceding the year for which the levy limit is calculated;

(2) to pay the costs of principal and interest on certificates of indebtedness issued for any corporate purpose except for the following:

(i) tax anticipation or aid anticipation certificates of indebtedness;

(ii) certificates of indebtedness issued under sections 298.28 and 298.282;

(iii) certificates of indebtedness used to fund current expenses or to pay the costs of extraordinary expenditures that result from a public emergency; or

(iv) certificates of indebtedness used to fund an insufficiency in tax receipts or an insufficiency in other revenue sources;

(3) to provide for the bonded indebtedness portion of payments made to another political subdivision of the state of Minnesota;

(4) to fund payments made to the Minnesota state armory building commission under section 193.145, subdivision 2, to retire the principal and interest on armory construction bonds;

(5) property taxes approved by voters which are levied against the referendum market value as provided under section 275.61;

(6) to fund matching requirements needed to qualify for federal or state grants or programs to the extent that either (i) the matching requirement exceeds the matching requirement in calendar year 2001, or (ii) it is a new matching requirement that didn't exist prior to 2002;

(7) to pay the expenses reasonably and necessarily incurred in preparing for or repairing the effects of natural disaster including the occurrence or threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from natural causes, in accordance with standards formulated by the emergency services division of the state department of public safety, as allowed by the commissioner of revenue under section 275.74, paragraph (b);

(8) pay amounts required to correct an error in the levy certified to the county auditor by a city or county in a levy year, but only to the extent that when added to the preceding year's levy it is not in excess of an applicable statutory, special law or charter limitation, or the limitation imposed on the governmental subdivision by sections 275.70 to 275.74 in the preceding levy year;

(9) to pay an abatement under section 469.1815;

(10) to pay any costs attributable to increases in the employer contribution rates under chapter 353 that are effective after June 30, 2001;

(11) to pay the operating or maintenance costs of a county jail as authorized in section 641.01 or 641.262, or of a correctional facility as defined in section 241.021, subdivision 1, paragraph (5), to the extent that the county can demonstrate to the commissioner of revenue that the amount has been included in the county budget as a direct result of a rule, minimum requirement, minimum standard, or directive of the department of corrections, or to pay the operating or maintenance costs of a regional jail as authorized in section 641.262. For purposes of this clause, a district court order is not a rule, minimum requirement, minimum standard, or directive of the department of corrections. If the county utilizes this special levy, any amount levied by the county in the previous levy year for the purposes specified under this clause and included in the county's previous year's levy limitation computed under section 275.71, shall be deducted from the levy limit base under section 275.71; subdivision 2, when determining the county's current year levy limitation. The county shall provide the necessary information to the commissioner of revenue for making this determination;

(12) to pay for operation of a lake improvement district, as authorized under section 103B.555. If the county utilizes this special levy, any amount levied by the county in the previous levy year for the purposes specified under this clause and included in the county's previous year's levy limitation computed under section 275.71 shall be deducted from the levy limit base under section 275.71, subdivision 2, when determining the county's current year levy limitation. The county shall provide the necessary information to the commissioner of revenue for making this determination;

(13) to repay a state or federal loan used to fund the direct or indirect required spending by the local government due to a state or federal transportation project or other state or federal capital project. This authority may only be used if the project is not a local government initiative;

(14) for counties only, to pay the costs reasonably expected to be incurred in 2002 related to the redistricting of election districts and establishment of election precincts under sections 204B.135 and 204B.14, the notice required by section 204B.14, subdivision 4, and the reassignment of voters in the statewide registration system, not to exceed \$1 per capita, provided that the county shall distribute a portion of the amount levied under this clause equal to 25 cents times the population of the city to all cities in the county with a population of 30,000 or more; and

(15) to pay for court administration costs as required under section 273.1398, subdivision 4b; however, for taxes levied to pay for these costs in the year in which the court financing is transferred to the state, the amount under this section is limited to one-third of the aid reduction under section 273.1398, subdivision 4a.

History: *1Sp2001 c 5 art 16 s 2-6*

275.71 LEVY LIMITS.

Subdivision 1. **Limit on levies.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law or municipal charter to the contrary which authorize ad valorem taxes in excess of the limits established by sections 275.70 to 275.74, the provisions of this section apply to local governmental units for all purposes other than those for which special levies and special assessments are made.

Subd. 2. **Levy limit base.** (a) The levy limit base for a local governmental unit for taxes levied in 2001 is equal to the greater of:

(1) the sum of its adjusted levy limit base for taxes levied in 1999 plus the amount it levied in 1999 under Minnesota Statutes 1999 Supplement, section 275.70, subdivision 5, clauses (8) and (13), multiplied by:

(i) one plus the percentage growth in the implicit price deflator for the 12-month period ending March 30, 2000;

(ii) one plus a percentage equal to the annual percentage increase in the estimated number of households, if any, for the most recent 12-month period that was available on July 1, 2000; and

(iii) one plus a percentage equal to 50 percent of the percentage increase in the taxable market value of the jurisdiction due to new construction of class 3 property, as defined in section 273.13, subdivision 24, except for state-assessed utility and railroad operating property, for the most recent year for which data was available as of July 1, 2000; or

(2) an amount equal to:

(i) the sum of the amount it levied in 2000 plus the amount of aids it was certified to receive in calendar year 2001 under sections 273.1398, 298.282, 477A.011 to 477A.03, prior to any aid reductions under section 273.1399, subdivision 5, 477A.06, and 477A.065; less

(ii) the amount it levied in 2000 that would qualify as special levies under section 275.70, subdivision 6, for taxes levied in 2001. The local governmental unit shall provide the commissioner of revenue with sufficient information to make this calculation.

(b) If the governmental unit was not subject to levy limits for taxes levied in 1999, its levy limit base for taxes levied in 2001 is equal to the amount calculated under paragraph (a), clause (2).

(c) The levy limit base for a local governmental unit for taxes levied in 2002 is equal to its adjusted levy limit base in the previous year, subject to any adjustments under section 275.72.

Subd. 3. Adjustments for state takeovers. (a) The levy limit base for each local unit of government shall be adjusted to reflect the assumption by the state of financing for certain government functions as indicated in this subdivision.

(b) For a county in a judicial district for which financing has not been transferred to the state by January 1, 2001, the levy limit base for 2001 is permanently reduced by the amount of the county's 2001 budget for court administration costs, as certified under section 273.1398, subdivision 4b, paragraph (b).

(c) For a governmental unit which levied a tax in 2000 under section 473.388, subdivision 7, the levy limit base for 2001 is permanently reduced by an amount equal to the sum of the governmental unit's taxes payable 2001 nondebt transit services levy plus the portion of its 2001 homestead and agricultural credit aid under section 273.1398, subdivision 2, attributable to nondebt transit services.

(d) For counties in a judicial district in which the state assumed financing of mandated services costs as defined in section 480.181, subdivision 4, on July 1, 2001, the levy limit base for taxes levied in 2001 is permanently reduced by an amount equal to one-half of the aid reduction under section 273.1398, subdivision 4a, paragraph (g).

Subd. 4. Adjusted levy limit base. (a) For taxes levied in 2001 and 2002, the adjusted levy limit base is equal to the levy limit base computed under subdivisions 2 and 3 or section 275.72, multiplied by:

(1) one plus a percentage equal to the percentage growth in the implicit price deflator;

(2) one plus a percentage equal to the percentage increase in number of households, if any, for the most recent 12-month period for which data is available; and

(3) one plus a percentage equal to 50 percent of the percentage increase in the taxable market value of the jurisdiction due to new construction of class 3 property, as defined in section 273.13, subdivision 24, except for state-assessed utility and railroad operating property, for the most recent year for which data is available.

(b) For counties only, for taxes levied in 2001 and 2002, the adjusted levy limit base is also reduced by any amount of levy reduction required under section 275.07, subdivision 1, paragraph (b), clause (ii).

Subd. 5. Property tax levy limit. Notwithstanding any other provision of a municipal charter which limits ad valorem taxes to a lesser amount, or which would require a separate voter approval for any increase, for taxes levied in 2001 and 2002,

the property tax levy limit for a local governmental unit is equal to its adjusted levy limit base determined under subdivision 4 plus any additional levy authorized under section 275.73, which is levied against net tax capacity, reduced by the sum of (i) the total amount of aids and reimbursements that the local governmental unit is certified to receive under sections 477A.011 to 477A.014, except for the increases in city aid bases in calendar year 2002 under section 477A.011, subdivision 36, paragraphs (n), (p), and (q), (ii) homestead and agricultural aids it is certified to receive under section 273.1398, (iii) taconite aids under sections 298.28 and 298.282 including any aid which was required to be placed in a special fund for expenditure in the next succeeding year, (iv) low-income housing aid under sections 477A.06 and 477A.065, and (v) property tax replacement aids under section 174.242.

Subd. 6. Levies in excess of levy limits. If the levy made by a city or county exceeds the levy limit provided in sections 275.70 to 275.74, except when the excess levy is due to the rounding of the rate in accordance with section 275.28, the county auditor shall only extend the amount of taxes permitted under sections 275.70 to 275.74, as provided for in section 275.16.

History: *1Sp2001 c 5 art 16 s 7*

275.72 LEVY LIMIT ADJUSTMENTS FOR CONSOLIDATION AND ANNEXATION.

Subdivision 1. Adjustments for consolidation. If all of the area included in two or more local governmental units is consolidated, merged, or otherwise combined to constitute a single governmental unit, the levy limit base for the resulting governmental unit in the first levy year in which the consolidation is effective shall be equal to (1) the highest tax rate in any of the merging governmental units in the previous year multiplied by the net tax capacity of all the merging governmental units in the previous year, minus (2) the sum of all levies in the merging governmental units in the previous year that qualify as special levies under section 275.70, subdivision 5.

Subd. 2. Adjustments for annexation. If a local governmental unit increases its tax base through annexation of an area which is not the area of an entire local governmental unit and the area of annexation contains a population of 50 or more, the levy limit base of the local governmental unit in the first year in which the annexation is effective shall be equal to its levy limit base established before the adjustment under section 275.71, subdivision 3, for the current levy year multiplied by the ratio of the net tax capacity in the local governmental unit after the annexation compared to its net tax capacity before the annexation.

Subd. 3. Adjustments for changes in service levels. If a local governmental unit, as a result of an annexation agreement prior to January 1, 1999, has different tax rates in various parts of the jurisdiction due to different service levels, it may petition the commissioner of revenue to adjust its levy limits established under section 275.71. The commissioner shall adjust the levy limits to reflect scheduled changes in tax rates related to increasing service levels in areas currently receiving less city services. The local governmental unit shall provide the commissioner with any information the commissioner deems necessary in making the levy limit adjustment.

Subd. 4. Transfer of governmental functions. If a function or service of one local governmental unit is transferred to another local governmental unit, the levy limits established under section 275.71 must be adjusted by the commissioner of revenue in such manner so as to fairly and equitably reflect the reduced or increased property tax burden resulting from the transfer. The aggregate of the adjusted limitations must not exceed the aggregate of the limitations prior to adjustment.

Subd. 5. Effective date for levy limits purposes. Annexations, mergers, and shifts in services and functional responsibilities that are effective by June 30 of the levy year are included in the calculation of the levy limit for that levy year. Annexations, mergers, and shifts in services and functional responsibilities that are effective after June 30 of a levy year are not included in the calculation of the levy limit until the subsequent levy year.

History: *1Sp2001 c 5 art 16 s 8*

275.73 ELECTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL LEVIES.

Subdivision 1. **Additional levy authorization.** Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 275.70 to 275.72, but subject to other law or charter provisions establishing other limitations on the amount of property taxes a local governmental unit may levy, a local governmental unit may levy an additional levy in any amount which is approved by the majority of voters of the governmental unit voting on the question at a general or special election. Notwithstanding section 275.61, any levy authorized under this section must be levied against net tax capacity unless the levy required voter approval under another general or special law or any charter provisions. When the governing body of the local governmental unit resolves to increase the levy pursuant to this section, it shall provide for submission of the proposition of an additional levy at a general or special election. Notice of the election must be given in the manner required by law. The notice must state the purpose and the maximum yearly amount of the additional levy.

Subd. 2. **Levy effective date.** An additional levy approved under subdivision 1 at a general or special election held prior to September 1 in any levy year may be levied in that same levy year and subsequent levy years. An additional levy approved under subdivision 1 at a general or special election held after August 31 in any levy year shall not be levied in that same levy but may be levied in subsequent levy years.

History: *1Sp2001 c 5 art 16 s 9*

275.74 STATE REGULATION OF LEVIES.

Subdivision 1. **Calculation and notification.** The commissioner of revenue shall make all necessary calculations for determining levy limits for local governmental units and notify the affected governmental units of their levy limits directly by September 1 of each levy year. The local governmental units shall, upon request, provide the commissioner with any information needed to make the calculations. The local governmental unit shall report by September 30, in a manner prescribed by the commissioner, the maximum amount of taxes it plans to levy for each of the purposes listed under special levies and any additional levy authorized under section 275.73, along with any necessary documentation. The commissioner shall review the proposed special levies and make any adjustments needed. The commissioner's decision is final. The final allowed special levy amounts and any levy limit adjustments must be certified back to the local governments by December 10. In addition, the commissioner of revenue shall notify all county auditors on or before five working days after December 20 of the sum of the levy limit plus the total of allowed special levies for each local governmental unit located within their boundaries so that they may fix the levies as required in section 275.16. The local governmental units shall provide the commissioner of revenue with all information that the commissioner deems necessary to make the calculations provided for in sections 275.70 to 275.73.

Subd. 2. **Authorization for special levies.** A local governmental unit may request authorization to levy for unreimbursed costs for other natural disasters under section 275.70, subdivision 5, clause (6). The local governmental unit shall submit a request to levy under section 275.70, subdivision 5, clause (6), to the commissioner of revenue by September 30 of the levy year and the request must include information documenting the estimated unreimbursed costs. The commissioner of revenue may grant levy authority, up to the amount requested based on the documentation submitted. All decisions of the commissioner are final.

Subd. 3. **Information necessary to calculate the 2001 levy limit base.** A local governmental unit must provide the commissioner with the information required to calculate the alternative 2001 levy limit base under section 275.71, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (2), by July 20, 2001. If the information is not received by the commissioner by that date, or is not deemed sufficient to make the calculation under that clause, the commissioner has the discretion to set the local governmental unit's 2001 levy limit base equal to the amount calculated under section 275.71, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (1).

History: *1Sp2001 c 5 art 16 s 10*