

**Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the Arkansas Constitution.**

1 State of Arkansas  
2 95th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2025

HJR 1008

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5 By: Representative S. Meeks  
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8 **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION**

9 AN AMENDMENT TO THE ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION CONCERNING  
10 THE TAXATION OF PERSONAL PROPERTY AND REAL PROPERTY  
11 IN THE STATE OF ARKANSAS; AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL  
12 ASSEMBLY TO REDUCE OR ELIMINATE THE TAXATION OF  
13 PERSONAL PROPERTY BY LAW AND TO CREATE EXEMPTIONS FOR  
14 THE TAXATION OF PERSONAL PROPERTY; REPEALING THE  
15 REQUIREMENT THAT PERSONAL PROPERTY AND REAL PROPERTY  
16 BE TAXED AT AN EQUAL RATE; AND AMENDING ARKANSAS  
17 CONSTITUTION, AMENDMENTS 30 AND 38, TO PROVIDE THAT  
18 TAXES FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE AMENDMENTS MAY BE  
19 LEVIED ON REAL PROPERTY, PERSONAL PROPERTY, OR BOTH  
20 REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY.  
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22

23 **Subtitle**

24 AN AMENDMENT TO THE ARKANSAS  
25 CONSTITUTION CONCERNING THE TAXATION OF  
26 PERSONAL PROPERTY AND REAL PROPERTY IN  
27 THE STATE OF ARKANSAS.  
28

29 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL  
30 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, AND BY THE SENATE, A MAJORITY OF ALL  
31 MEMBERS ELECTED TO EACH HOUSE AGREEING THERETO:  
32

33 THAT the following is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of  
34 the State of Arkansas, and upon being submitted to the electors of the state  
35 for approval or rejection at the next general election for Representatives  
36 and Senators, if a majority of the electors voting thereon at the election



1 adopt the amendment, the amendment shall become a part of the Constitution of  
2 the State of Arkansas, to wit:

3  
4 SECTION 1. The Arkansas Constitution is amended to add an additional  
5 amendment to read as follows:

6 § 1. Reduction of taxation of personal property.

7 (a) The General Assembly may enact laws to:

8 (1) Reduce the rates on the taxation of personal property,  
9 including without limitation laws:

10 (A) Providing that no tax shall be levied on personal  
11 property; and

12 (B) Establishing a maximum rate of taxation of personal  
13 property and subsequently modifying the maximum rate of taxation; and

14 (2) Create exemptions for the taxation of personal property.

15 (b) A law enacted by the General Assembly under this amendment:

16 (1) Requires a majority vote of each house of the General  
17 Assembly for passage; and

18 (2) Supersedes any provision of the Arkansas Constitution in  
19 conflict with the law.

20  
21 SECTION 2. Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 30, § 1, is amended to  
22 read as follows:

23 § 1. Petition for tax levy – Election.

24 Whenever 100 or more taxpaying electors of any city, having a  
25 population of not less than 5,000, shall file a petition with the Mayor  
26 asking that an annual tax on ~~real and personal property~~ real property,  
27 personal property, or both real property and personal property be levied for  
28 the purpose of maintaining and operating a public city library and shall  
29 specify a rate of taxation not to exceed five mills on the dollar on real  
30 property, or not to exceed five mills on the dollar on personal property, or  
31 not to exceed five mills on the dollar on each type of property, real  
32 property and personal property, the question as to whether such tax shall be  
33 levied shall be submitted to the qualified electors of such city at a general  
34 or special election. Such petition must be filed at least thirty days prior  
35 to the election at which it will be submitted to the voters. The ballot  
36 shall be in substantially the following form and may be adjusted to reflect

1 whether the proposed annual tax would be upon real property, personal  
 2 property, or both real property and personal property:

3 For a \_\_\_ mill tax on real property and a \_\_\_ mill tax on personal property  
 4 to be used for maintenance and operation of a public city library.

5 Against a \_\_\_ mill tax on real property and a \_\_\_ mill tax on personal  
 6 property to be used for maintenance and operation of a public city library.

7

8 SECTION 3. Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 30, § 5(a) and (b),  
 9 concerning tax levies for capital improvements to or construction of a public  
 10 city library, are amended to read as follows:

11 (a) Whenever 100 or more taxpaying electors of any city, having a  
 12 population of not less than 5,000, shall file a petition with the Mayor  
 13 asking that an annual tax on ~~real and personal property~~ real property,  
 14 personal property, or both real property and personal property be levied for  
 15 capital improvements to or construction of a public city library and shall  
 16 specify a rate of taxation not to exceed three mills on the dollar on real  
 17 property, or not to exceed three mills on the dollar on personal property, or  
 18 not to exceed three mills on the dollar on each type of property, real  
 19 property and personal property, the question as to whether such tax shall be  
 20 levied shall be submitted to the qualified electors of such city at a general  
 21 or special election. Such petition must be filed at least thirty days prior  
 22 to the election at which it will be submitted to the voters. The ballot  
 23 shall be in substantially the following form and may be adjusted to reflect  
 24 whether the proposed annual tax would be upon real property, personal  
 25 property, or both real property and personal property:

26 For a \_\_\_ mill tax on real property and a \_\_\_ mill tax on personal property  
 27 to be used for capital improvements to or construction of a public city  
 28 library.

29 Against a \_\_\_ mill tax on real property and a \_\_\_ mill tax on personal  
 30 property to be used for capital improvements to or construction of a public  
 31 city library.

32 (b) The electors may authorize the governing body of the city to issue  
 33 bonds as prescribed by law for capital improvements to or construction of the  
 34 library and to authorize the pledge of all, or any part of, the tax  
 35 authorized by this section for the purpose of retiring the bonds. The ballot  
 36 submitting the question to the voters shall be in substantially the following

1 form and may be adjusted to reflect whether the proposed annual tax would be  
 2 upon real property, personal property, or both real property and personal  
 3 property:

4 For a \_\_\_ mill tax on real property and a \_\_\_ mill tax on personal property  
 5 within the city, to be pledged to an issue or issues of bonds not to exceed  
 6 \$ \_\_\_, in aggregate principal amount, to finance capital improvements to or  
 7 construction of the city library and to authorize the issuance of the bonds  
 8 on such terms and conditions as shall be approved by the city.

9 Against a \_\_\_ mill tax on real property and a \_\_\_ mill tax on personal  
 10 property within the city, to be pledged to an issue or issues of bonds not to  
 11 exceed \$ \_\_\_, in aggregate principal amount, to finance capital improvements  
 12 to or construction of the city library and to authorize the issuance of the  
 13 bonds on such terms and conditions as they shall be approved by the city.

14

15 SECTION 4. Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 38, § 1, is amended to  
 16 read as follows:

17 § 1. Petition for tax levy – Election.

18 Whenever 100 or more taxpaying electors of any county shall file a  
 19 petition in the County Court asking that an annual tax on ~~real and personal~~  
 20 ~~property~~ real property, personal property, or both real property and personal  
 21 property be levied for the purpose of maintaining and operating a public  
 22 county library or a county library service or system and shall specify a rate  
 23 of taxation not to exceed five mills (5) mills on the dollar on real  
 24 property, or not to exceed five (5) mills on the dollar on personal property,  
 25 or not to exceed five (5) mills on the dollar on each type of property, real  
 26 property and personal property, the question as to whether said tax shall be  
 27 levied shall be submitted to the qualified electors of such county at a  
 28 general or special election. Such petition must be filed at least thirty  
 29 days prior to the election at which it will be submitted to the voters. The  
 30 ballot shall be in substantially the following form and may be adjusted to  
 31 reflect whether the proposed annual tax would be upon real property, personal  
 32 property, or both real property and personal property:

33 FOR a \_\_\_ mill tax on real property and a \_\_\_ mill tax on personal property  
 34 to be used for maintenance and operation of a public county library or county  
 35 library service or system.

36 AGAINST a \_\_\_ mill tax on real property and a \_\_\_ mill tax on personal

1 property to be used for maintenance and operation of a public county library  
2 or county library service or system.

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4 SECTION 5. Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 38, § 5(a) and (b),  
5 concerning tax levies for capital improvements to or construction of a public  
6 county library or a county library service or system, are amended to read as  
7 follows:

8 (a) Whenever 100 or more taxpaying electors of any county shall file a  
9 petition in the County Court asking that an annual tax on ~~real and personal~~  
10 property real property, personal property, or both real property and personal  
11 property be levied for the purpose of capital improvements to or construction  
12 of a public county library or a county library service or system and shall  
13 specify a rate of taxation not to exceed three mills on the dollar on real  
14 property, or not to exceed three mills on the dollar on personal property, or  
15 not to exceed three mills on the dollar on each type of property, real  
16 property and personal property, the question as to whether said tax shall be  
17 levied shall be submitted to the qualified electors of such county at a  
18 general or special election. Such petition must be filed at least thirty  
19 days prior to the election at which it will be submitted to the voters. The  
20 ballot shall be in substantially the following form and may be adjusted to  
21 reflect whether the proposed annual tax would be upon real property, personal  
22 property, or both real property and personal property:

23 FOR a \_\_\_ mill tax on real property and a \_\_\_ mill tax on personal property  
24 to be used for capital improvements to or construction of a public county  
25 library or county library service or system.

26 AGAINST a \_\_\_ mill tax on real property and a \_\_\_ mill tax on personal  
27 property to be used for capital improvements to or construction of a public  
28 county library or county library service or system.

29 (b) The voters may authorize the County Court to issue bonds as  
30 prescribed by law for capital improvements to or construction of the library  
31 and to authorize the pledge of all, or any part of, the tax authorized in  
32 Section 1 of this Amendment for the purpose of retiring the bonds. The ballot  
33 submitting the question to the voters shall be in substantially the following  
34 form and may be adjusted to reflect whether the proposed annual tax would be  
35 upon real property, personal property, or both real property and personal  
36 property:

1 For a \_\_\_ mill tax on real property and a \_\_\_ mill tax on personal property  
 2 within the county, to be pledged to an issue or issues of bonds not to exceed  
 3 \$ \_\_\_, in aggregate principal amount, to finance capital improvements to or  
 4 construction of the county library or county library service or system, and  
 5 to authorize the issuance of the bonds on such terms and conditions as shall  
 6 be approved by the County Court.

7 Against a \_\_\_ mill tax on real property and a \_\_\_ mill tax on personal  
 8 property within the county, to be pledged to an issue or issues of bonds not  
 9 to exceed \$ \_\_\_, in aggregate principal amount, to finance capital  
 10 improvements to or construction of the county library or county library  
 11 service or system, and to authorize the issuance of the bonds on such terms  
 12 and conditions as shall be approved by the County Court.

13  
 14 SECTION 6. Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 79, § 4(b), concerning  
 15 millage rates levied against is amended to read as follows:

16 § 4. [Income adjustments – Personal property millage rate – Uniform  
 17 property tax rate requirement – Reassessment – Rollback adjustments].

18 (a) The General Assembly shall, by law, provide for procedures to be  
 19 followed with respect to adjusting ad valorem taxes or millage pledged for  
 20 bonded indebtedness purposes, to assure that the tax or millage levied for  
 21 bonded indebtedness purposes will, at all times, provide a level of income  
 22 sufficient to meet the current requirements of all principal, interest,  
 23 paying agent fees, reserves, and other requirements of the bond indenture.

24 ~~(b) The millage rate levied against taxable personal property and~~  
 25 ~~utility and regulated carrier property in each taxing unit in the state shall~~  
 26 ~~be equal to the millage rate levied against real property in each taxing unit~~  
 27 ~~in the state. Personal property millage rates currently not equal to real~~  
 28 ~~estate millage rates shall be reduced to the level of the real estate millage~~  
 29 ~~rate; except to the extent necessary to provide a level of income sufficient~~  
 30 ~~to meet the current requirements of all principal, interest, paying agent~~  
 31 ~~fees, reserves, and other requirements of the bond indenture~~ The millage rate  
 32 levied against taxable personal property and utility and regulated carrier  
 33 property in each taxing unit in the state and the millage rate levied against  
 34 real property in each taxing unit in the state may be differing rates and are  
 35 not required to be equal.

36 ~~(e)(b)~~ The provisions of this section shall not affect or repeal the

1 required uniform rate of ad valorem property tax set forth in Amendment 74.

2 ~~(d)~~(c) The General Assembly may, by law, prescribe the method and  
3 means for reassessing real property and establish the frequency of  
4 reassessment. However, reassessment shall occur at least once every five (5)  
5 years.

6 ~~(e)~~(d) Rollback adjustments under Article 16, Section 14 shall be  
7 determined after the adjustments are made to assessed value under this  
8 Amendment.

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10 SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE. This amendment is effective on and after  
11 January 1, 2027.

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13 SECTION 8. BALLOT TITLE AND POPULAR NAME. When this proposed  
14 amendment is submitted to the electors of this state on the general election  
15 ballot:

16 (1) The title of this Joint Resolution shall be the ballot  
17 title; and

18 (2) The popular name shall be "A Constitutional Amendment  
19 Concerning the Taxation of Personal Property and Real Property in the State  
20 of Arkansas; Authorizing the General Assembly to Reduce or Eliminate the  
21 Taxation of Personal Property by Law and to Create Exemptions by Law for the  
22 Taxation of Personal Property; and Repealing the Requirement that Personal  
23 Property and Real Property Be Taxed at an Equal Rate."

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