

**DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE
100 NORTH SENATE AVENUE
IGC-N, ROOM N1058
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE REVIEW)
OF PROPOSED LANGUAGE FOR A)
BALLOT QUESTION REGARDING) No. 20-002-REF
HANOVER COMMUNITY)
SCHOOL CORPORATION)**

**FINDINGS AND FINAL DETERMINATION ON PROPOSED QUESTION SUBMITTED
JANUARY 16, 2020**

1. Hanover Community School Corporation (“Corporation”) proposes to place an operating referendum on the ballot for the purpose of continuing a referendum tax levy with a tax rate not to exceed twenty-nine cents (\$0.29) per one hundred dollars (\$100) of assessed value.
2. Under Indiana law, voters in the area served by the Corporation will vote in a referendum to approve or deny the Corporation’s proposed tax rate. Pursuant to IC 20-46-1-8.5, a resolution to extend a referendum levy must be adopted by the governing body of a school corporation and approved in a referendum before December 31 of the final calendar year in which the school corporation’s previously approved referendum levy is imposed.
3. Indiana law governs the format and wording of the ballot question for the referendum.
4. Under Indiana law, the “question to be submitted to the voters in the referendum **must read as follows**”:

"For the ___ (insert number) calendar year or years immediately following the holding of the referendum, shall the school corporation continue to impose a property tax rate that does not exceed _____ (insert amount) cents (\$0. __) (insert amount) on each one hundred dollars (\$100) of assessed valuation and for the purpose of funding _____ (insert short description of purposes)? The tax rate requested in this referendum was originally approved by the voters in the _____ (insert name of the school corporation) in _____ (insert the year in which the referendum tax levy was approved)."

Indiana Code 20-46-1-10.1 (emphasis added). The number of years for which a referendum tax levy may be extended if the public question under this section is approved may not exceed the number of years for which the expiring referendum tax levy was imposed.

5. The ballot question then must contain five parts:
 - the number of calendar years for which the tax will be in effect;
 - the amount of the tax rate;
 - the purpose of the funding;

- the name of the school corporation; and
 - the year in which the initial referendum was originally approved.
6. The law requires the Department of Local Government Finance (“Department”) to review the language for compliance with IC 20-46-1-10.1. The Department may either approve or reject the language.
7. On January 16, 2020, the Department received a letter from the Corporation presenting the proposed ballot question for the referendum. The resolution is incorporated by reference into this Order.

Compliance of Language

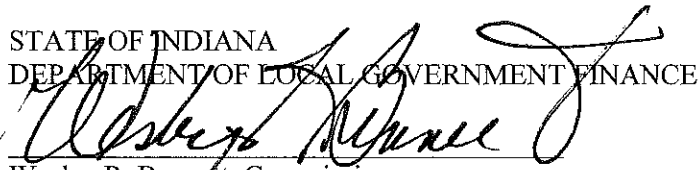
8. The Department must review the proposed language for compliance with IC 20-46-1-10.1. The Department may either approve or reject the language. The Department concludes that the language is in compliance with IC 20-46-1-10.1.

Final Determination

WHEREFORE, based on the above findings and applicable law, the Department finds that the proposed language is in compliance with IC 20-46-1-10.1 and approves the language as proposed.

Dated this 21st day of January, 2020.

STATE OF INDIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE


Wesley R. Bennett, Commissioner
Department of Local Government Finance

RESOLUTION

REQUESTING PROPERTY TAX OPERATION LEVY REFERENDUM

WHEREAS, Indiana Code 20-46-1 authorizes a school corporation to place a referendum on the ballot to impose a referendum tax levy; and

WHEREAS, the Board of School Trustees (the "Board") of the Hanover Community School Corporation (the "School Corporation") has considered and deliberated as to the need to extend the referendum tax levy approved by the voters of the School Corporation in 2015 to carry out its public education duty.

NOW, THEREFOR, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby approves the placement of a referendum on the ballot to impose a referendum tax levy pursuant to Indiana Code 20-46-1 at the municipal primary election on May 5, 2020;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board hereby determines that the School Corporation cannot, in a calendar year, carry out its public education duty unless it continues to impose a referendum tax levy under Indiana Code 20-46-1;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the public question to be submitted to the voters shall be in compliance with the form proscribed by Indiana Code 20-46-1-10, in the form as follows:

For the seven calendar years immediately following the holding of the referendum, shall the Hanover Community School Corporation continue to impose a property tax rate that does not exceed twenty-nine cents (\$0.29) on each one hundred dollars (\$100) of assessed valuation and that is in addition to all other property tax levies imposed by the Hanover Community School Corporation for the purpose of funding the continuation and expansion of academic programs, student safety, transportation and other educational needs of the schools? The tax rate requested in this referendum was originally approved by the voters in the Hanover Community School Corporation in 2015.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to Indiana Code 20-46-1-8(b), the Secretary of this Board is hereby directed to certify a copy of this resolution to the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance, the Lake County Clerk and the Lake County Auditor (for informational purposes only) in order to have the public question placed upon the ballot of the primary election on May 5, 2020; and

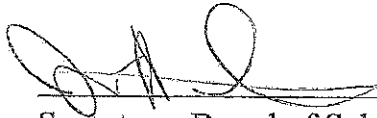
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Members of the Board, the Superintendent and the Business Manager of the School Corporation are hereby authorized and directed to take all steps necessary and prudent to gain passage of this resolution at the primary election on May 5, 2020.

Adopted this 14th day of January, 2020



President, Board of School Trustees
Hanover Community School Corporation

Witnessed and Certified by



Secretary, Board of School Trustees
Hanover Community School Corporation