

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 ZIONSVILLE ) No. 15-017-REF-A  
COMMUNITY SCHOOLS, BOONE COUNTY )

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FINDINGS AND FINAL DETERMINATION ON PROPOSED QUESTION RESUBMITTED JUNE  
19, 2015

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1. On June 11, 2015, the Department of Local Government Finance (“Department”) disapproved proposed ballot language presented by Zionsville Community Schools (“Corporation”), which proposes to place an operating referendum on the ballot for the purpose of establishing a referendum tax levy with a tax rate not to exceed twenty-four and forty-four hundredths cents (\$0.2444) per one hundred dollars (\$100) of assessed value.
2. On June 18, 2015, the Corporation resubmitted the following proposed question for the Department’s review:

“For the six (6) calendar years immediately following the holding of the referendum, shall Zionsville Community Schools impose a property tax rate that does not exceed \$0.2444 on each one hundred dollars (\$100) of assessed valuation and that is in addition to all other property tax levies imposed by Zionsville Community Schools to maintain academic and educationally related programs at current levels which reflect community standards?”

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 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 that is in addition to all other property taxes imposed by the school corporation for the purpose of funding \_\_\_\_\_ (insert short description of purposes)?”

Indiana Code 20-46-1-10 (emphasis added).

5. The ballot question then must contain three parts:
  - the number of calendar years for which the tax will be in effect;
  - the amount of the tax rate; and
  - the purpose of the funding.
6. The law requires the Department of Local Government Finance (“Department”) to review the language for compliance with IC 20-46-1-10. The Department may either approve or reject the language.

**Compliance of Language**

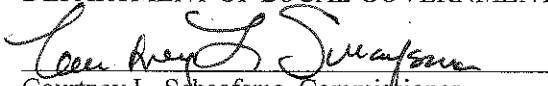
7. The Department must review the proposed language for compliance with IC 20-46-1-10. The Department may either approve or reject the language. The Department concludes that the language is in compliance with IC 20-46-1-10.

**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 and approves the language as proposed.

Dated this 19<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2015.

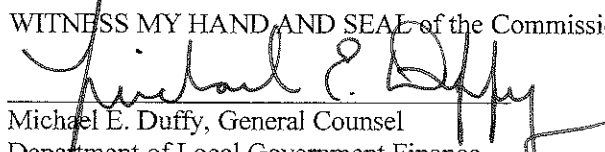
STATE OF INDIANA  
DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE

  
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Courtney L. Schaafsma, Commissioner  
Department of Local Government Finance

STATE OF INDIANA  
DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE

I, Michael E. Duffy, General Counsel for the Department of Local Government Finance, hereby certify that the above is an order of the Commissioner of the Department of Local Government Finance made this date in the above-entitled matter and that the Commissioner has personally signed the same under her statutory authority.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL of the Commissioner on this the 19<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2015.

  
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Michael E. Duffy, General Counsel  
Department of Local Government Finance