

House Bill 358 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Burnough of the 77<sup>th</sup>, Stovall of the 74<sup>th</sup>, Glanton of the 75<sup>th</sup>, Schofield of the 60<sup>th</sup>, and Scott of the 76<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To provide for a nonbinding advisory referendum for the purpose of ascertaining whether the  
2 governing authority of the City of Morrow should seek a reduction in the \$60,000.00  
3 homestead exemption from City of Morrow ad valorem taxes for city purposes; to provide  
4 for legislative purposes and findings; to provide for procedures and requirements relating  
5 thereto; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 (a) It is the purpose of this Act to provide for a nonbinding advisory referendum for the  
9 purpose of ascertaining whether the governing authority of the City of Morrow should seek  
10 a reduction in the \$60,000.00 homestead exemption from City of Morrow ad valorem taxes  
11 for city purposes.

12 (b) It is found, determined, and declared that the holding of the nonbinding advisory  
13 referendum provided for in this Act is:

- 14 (1) In all respects for the benefit of the people of the City of Morrow;  
15 (2) A public purpose; and  
16 (3) An essential governmental function for which public funds may be expended.

17 **SECTION 2.**

18 The election superintendent of the City of Morrow shall call and conduct a nonbinding  
19 advisory referendum election as provided in this section for the purpose of submitting a  
20 question to the electors of the City of Morrow to determine whether a majority of said  
21 electors want the governing authority of the City of Morrow to seek a reduction in the  
22 \$60,000.00 homestead exemption from City of Morrow ad valorem taxes for city purposes.  
23 The election superintendent shall decide in accordance with Georgia election law the date  
24 on which the nonbinding advisory referendum election shall be held and shall issue the call  
25 and conduct that election as provided by general law. The election superintendent shall

26 cause the date and purpose of the election to be published once a week for two weeks  
 27 immediately preceding the date thereof in the official organ of the City of Morrow. The  
 28 ballot shall have written or printed thereon the words:

29 **"NONBINDING ADVISORY REFERENDUM**

30 **Question 1**

31 ( ) YES Should the governing authority of the City of Morrow seek a reduction in  
 32 the \$60,000.00 homestead exemption from City of Morrow ad valorem  
 33 ( ) NO taxes for city purposes?"

34 All persons desiring to vote for approval of the question shall vote "Yes," and all persons  
 35 desiring to vote for rejection of the question shall vote "No." The expense of such election  
 36 shall be borne by the City of Morrow. It shall be the election superintendent's duty to certify  
 37 the result thereof to the Secretary of State.

38 **SECTION 3.**

39 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.