HOUSE BILL No. 2922

By Committee on Appropriations

2 - 20

AN ACT concerning municipalities; relating to disaster emergencies; amending K.S.A. 79-2940 and repealing the existing section.

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

New Section 1. (a) Whenever there is a disaster emergency declaration by the governor under the provisions of K.S.A. 48-924, and amendments thereto, and by the president of the United States under provisions of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act and such disaster causes an expense in any fund of any municipality which could not have been anticipated at the time the budget for the current budget year was prepared, and by reason of such disaster emergency the governing body of any such municipality is of the opinion that it will be impossible to pay for such unforeseen expense and pay for the imperative functions of the fund without incurring indebtedness in excess of the adopted budget of expenditures for the current budget year, the governing body may make application to the board of tax appeals for authority to issue no-fund warrants to pay for such unforeseen expense. The application shall be signed and sworn to, and shall have a majority approval of any governing body composed of three members or less, and a ³/₄ majority of any governing body composed of more than three members. The application shall reveal: (1) The nature of the disaster emergency; (2) a copy of the final budget adopted for the current budget year; and (3) a detailed statement showing why the budgeted expenditures for the current budget year cannot be reduced during the remainder of the current budget year so that the total expenditure for the current budget year, including the disaster emergency expense, will not exceed the adopted budget.

- (b) If the board of tax appeals shall find that the evidence submitted in writing in support of the application shows:
- (1) There was an occurrence which could not have been foreseen at the time the budget for the current budget year was prepared; and
- (2) that from the time of such disaster emergency to the end of the current budget year it will be impossible to reduce the expenditures of the adopted budget to the extent the total expenditure for the current budget year, including the unforeseen expense, will not exceed the

adopted budget, the board of tax appeals is empowered to authorize the issuance of warrants for the payment of that portion (in dollars) of such unforeseen expense which must be in excess of the adopted budget.

No order for the issuance of such warrants shall be made without a public hearing before the board of tax appeals conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Kansas administrative procedure act. In addition to notice to the parties, notice of such hearing shall be published in two issues of a paper of general circulation within the district applying for such authority at least 10 days prior to such hearing. The notice shall be in such form as the board of tax appeals prescribes, and the expense of such application shall be borne by the municipality making application. Any taxpayer interested may file a written protest against such application. Any member of the governing body of the municipality making application hereunder may appear and be heard in person at such hearing in support of the application. All records and findings of such hearings shall be subject to public inspection.

Whenever the authority to issue warrants under this section is granted, the governing body of such municipality shall make not more than five equal annual tax levies, as determined by the board of tax appeals sufficient to pay such warrants. If there is money in the fund over and above the amount needed for the adopted budget, such money shall be used and the tax levy or levies shall be only for the difference, if any, between the money available and the amount of warrants issued. Any municipality having a surplus in any public utility fund may use such surplus to pay the warrants authorized by the board of tax appeals under this section. When the money must be raised by a tax levy the municipality may issue and sell at par no-fund warrants in multiples of \$100 and place the money in the fund and issue regular warrants in the usual manner. Whenever any municipality receives insurance money in payment of damage occasioned by the disaster emergency, and authority to issue warrants is authorized by the board of tax appeals under this section, such insurance money shall be deposited with the county treasurer immediately and used by the county treasurer in lieu of ad valorem taxes as provided in K.S.A. 79-2940, and amendments thereto. This section shall not require a deposit of insurance money in excess of the total amount of such warrants and interest thereon.

- (c) The term "municipality" shall mean a city or county.
- (d) The adjutant general of the state of Kansas shall establish a pilot program whereby the interest costs for no fund warrants issued under the authority of this section may be reimbursed by the state of Kansas to the municipality to alleviate major financial hardship of a municipality. The adjutant general shall adopt rules and regulations to implement this pilot program which shall expire on July 1, 2013.

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Sec. 2. K.S.A. 79-2940 is hereby amended to read as follows: 79-2940. A certified copy of orders issued by the board of tax appeals authorizing the issuance of warrants in accordance with the provisions of K.S.A. 79-2938 and, 79-2939 and section 1, and amendments thereto, shall be delivered by the board of tax appeals to the county treasurer, county clerk, and clerk of the municipality or other taxing district. Warrants issued thereunder shall be issued in like manner as other warrants, or such warrants in multiples of one hundred dollars (\$100) \$100 not exceeding the amount authorized and to be raised by tax levy may be issued and sold at par and the money placed in the fund and paid out on regular warrants, and the warrants or single warrant issued under this section shall bear interest at the rate of not more than the maximum rate of interest prescribed by K.S.A. 10-1009, and amendments thereto, except that such warrants shall be made payable at the office of the county treasurer, shall be designated on their face as "no-fund warrants," and shall also bear the notation "issued pursuant to authority granted by order _ of the state board of tax appeals." _, dated _

Such warrants, when presented to the county treasurer, shall be registered in accordance with the provisions of K.S.A. 10-807 and 10-808, and amendments thereto. No warrants shall be registered in excess of the amount authorized by the board of tax appeals. The county treasurer shall maintain a separate register for such warrants and all warrants issued under a particular order of the board of tax appeals shall be registered under the particular order number in the register. When the tax levy to redeem warrants issued under K.S.A. 79-2938 and, 79-2939 and section 1, and amendments thereto, is made, the county treasurer shall keep the proceeds of such tax levy in a separate fund and charge the warrants against such fund when paid. In the event a surplus exists in any such fund at any tax levying time, the county treasurer shall certify the amount of such surplus to the county clerk and the county clerk shall deduct the levy equivalent of such surplus from the general fund tax levy of such district, and the maximum general fund levy and aggregate limit of such taxing district shall be reduced accordingly, and that amount of surplus shall be considered and used as revenue in lieu of ad valorem taxes for such taxing district.

On January 1 following such action by the county clerk, and in that event only, the county treasurer shall transfer to the general fund of such taxing district the amount of surplus as used by the county clerk in reducing ad valorem taxes, except that the governing body of any city may request, by resolution, that the county treasurer pay to the city treasurer all money collected from the levy for the payment of emergency warrants. Upon presentation of such resolution, the county treasurer shall pay to the city treasurer all moneys collected from the levy for the payment of

- such warrants and the city treasurer shall deposit the money in the bond
- 2 and interest fund and redeem the emergency warrants for which such
- 3 levy was made and shall forthwith exhibit such redeemed warrants to the
- 4 county treasurer who shall record such redemption in the warrant reg-
- 5 ister. The provisions of this act shall not apply to utilities managed, op-
- 6 erated and controlled by a board of public utilities as provided for by
- 7 chapter 126 of the Laws of Kansas for 1929.
- 8 Sec. 3. K.S.A. 79-2940 are hereby repealed.
- 9 Sec. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
- 10 publication in the statute book.