

ATRA SUPPORTS SB 1392

Public Health Services Districts

Background

During the 2000 regular session, legislation was passed that allowed for the creation of a Public Health Services District (PHSD), which allowed a County Board of Supervisors to sidestep the voters and create the district upon a unanimous vote.

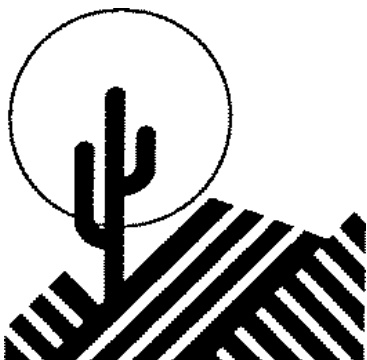
Upon such approval, the county would have the option to levy either a 2% transaction privilege tax (TPT) rate or a property tax rate not to exceed 25 cents per \$100 of assessed value to fund the new district.

Purpose for ATRA's Support

ATRA believes that it's bad public policy to remove the public discussion from the implementation of a new tax. Similar special taxing districts, such as a Special Health Care District, Hospital District, and Health Service District, all require voter approval prior to creating the district or implementation of a new tax. The PHSD is the only special district of its kind that makes it possible for government to bypass the voters. Two counties, to date, have established a PHSD by a unanimous vote of the board.

If passed, SB 1392 would rectify the PHSD law by requiring a county board of supervisors to seek approval from the voters prior to establishing the district.

ATRA urges you to vote YES on SB 1392, requiring counties to seek voter approval prior to establishing a Public Health Services District



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