



**House County and Municipal Government Reported  
Substitute for HB561**

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A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

Relating to municipalities; to amend Section 11-45-2, Code of Alabama 1975, to require that new or increased taxes or fees may only be levied by ordinance; and to require notice and a public hearing.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Section 11-45-2, Code of Alabama 1975, is amended to read as follows:

"§11-45-2

(a) The style of an ordinance of a city or town shall be, "Be it ordained by the city (or town) council of \_\_\_\_\_ as follows:" inserting the name of the city or town as the case may be.

(b) (1) No ordinance or resolution intended to be of permanent operation shall be adopted by the council at the same meeting at which it is introduced, unless unanimous consent of those present is given for the immediate consideration of ~~such~~the ordinance or resolution, ~~such~~with consent to be shown by a vote taken by yeas and nays, and the names of the members voting shall be entered upon the minutes.



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29 (2) ~~and no~~ No ordinance or resolution intended to be of  
30 permanent operation shall become a law unless on its final  
31 passage a majority of the members elected to ~~said~~ the council  
32 in cities of over 12,000 inhabitants ~~shall~~ vote in its favor.

33 (3) In all towns and in cities of less than 12,000  
34 ~~population~~ inhabitants, an affirmative vote of a majority of  
35 the whole number of members of the council to which the  
36 corporation is entitled, including the mayor, shall be  
37 required to enact any ordinance or resolution intended to be  
38 of permanent operation.

39 (c) (1) Notwithstanding subsection (b), any action taken  
40 on or after October 1, 2026, by a council to adopt a new tax  
41 or license fee or to increase the rate of a tax or license fee  
42 shall be subject to this subsection.

43 (2) Once the ordinance is introduced at a council  
44 meeting, the council shall hold a public hearing after not  
45 less than 30 days' notice of the public hearing.

46 (3) The notice shall state all of the following:

47 a. The substance of the proposed ordinance.

48 b. The amount of any proposed new tax or license fee or  
49 the amount of the increase in any tax or license fee.

50 c. The date, time, and place of the public hearing.

51 d. That a copy of the proposed ordinance may be  
52 obtained from the office of the municipal clerk.

53 (4) The notice shall be published in a newspaper of  
54 general circulation published in the municipality or otherwise  
55 in the same manner as the publication of an ordinance is  
56 provided for in Section 11-45-8(b).



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57 (5) A copy of the proposed ordinance shall be published  
58 concurrently on the website of the municipality, if the  
59 municipality has a website, and on the Secretary of State's  
60 open meetings website.

61 (6) After the public hearing, the proposed ordinance  
62 may be considered by the council at a regular council meeting.

63 ~~(e)~~ (d) ~~The A~~ council shall award no contract on bids  
64 except by resolution."

65 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October  
66 1, 2026.