

**Subject** School Referendum Elections; Ballot Notices

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## Overview

There are four different types of school property tax levies that may be approved by the voters. General language in [Minnesota Statutes, section 275.60](#) requires a notice on the ballot for these four types of ballot questions stating that voting yes on these questions is voting to raise one's property taxes. The four referendums are:

- **Building bonds** – A school district may ask voters to approve building bonds authorized under chapter 475 for a specific dollar amount stated on the ballot.
- **OPEB bonds** – A school district may hold a referendum to approve bonds sold to pay for OPEB costs. OPEB stands for “Other Postemployment Benefits” which pays for certain retiree health insurance costs faced by school districts.
- **Capital project referendum** – A school district may ask voters to approve a capital projects referendum. If the voters approve a renewal of the same dollar amount, then the notice may be modified to state to the voters that they are renewing an existing amount.
- **Operating referendum revenue** – A school district may ask its voters to approve a general operating referendum. If the referendum renews an existing dollar amount, then the notice may be modified to state to the voters that they are renewing an existing amount.

House File 3798 eliminates the ballot notices on school referendum questions.

## Summary

Section	Description
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| 1 | <b>Capital projects levy referendum.</b><br>Strikes the requirement that a capital projects levy referendum carry a notice on its ballot stating that approval of the question will raise taxes. |
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Section	Description
2	<b>Referendum revenue.</b> Strikes the requirement that an operating referendum carry a notice on its ballot stating that approval of the question will raise taxes.
3	<b>Levy or bond referendum; ballot notice.</b> Removes school districts from the general law in section 275.60 that requires city, town, county, and school district referendum questions to carry a ballot notice stating that passage of the question will raise property taxes.
4	<b>Effective date.</b> Makes this act effective for school district referendum questions placed on the ballot after September 1, 2025.



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