



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Cook County Building, Board Room, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois**

**New Items Agenda**

**Wednesday, September 12, 2018, 11:00 AM**

**Third Set**

[18-5880](#)

**Sponsored by:** TIMOTHY O. SCHNEIDER, SEAN M. MORRISON, RICHARD R. BOYKIN, GREGG GOSLIN and JOHN A. FRITCHEY, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENT**

**REQUIRING A TWO THIRDS MAJORITY VOTE OF THE BOARD TO ENACT ANY NEW OR ADDITIONAL TAX IN COOK COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, multiple cities as well as states have either enacted or considered a supermajority requirement for tax increases as it provides residents with another level of protection from unpopular taxes, and

**WHEREAS**, taxpayers expect reasonable limits, like a 2/3 majority vote requirement for tax increases in order to protect them from controversial votes being used to raise or create new taxes without broad public support, and

**WHEREAS**, the burden of new and increased taxes that falls on the shoulders of Cook County residents should not be left to a simple majority vote, and

**WHEREAS**, the process of both increasing taxes and creating new taxes should be agreed upon by a large majority of those who will be effected by them, and

**WHEREAS**, the board should establish the requirement that all new taxes and new tax increases can only be enacted by a two third majority vote from the Board of Commissioners.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Cook County Board of Commissioners that Chapter 2, Sec. 105 (f) is hereby amended as follows:

(f) Majority votes. Except as otherwise provided in these rules, and except for questions for which a higher majority is required by law, all questions shall be determined by a majority vote of those Commissioners entitled to vote. Any question which enacts a new form of taxation, or increase in taxation, shall require a two thirds majority vote of the board in order to pass. A vote of “present shall not be counted in determining the number of Commissioners voting on a question

**Effective date:** This ordinance shall be in effect immediately upon adoption