

Tightwad Fire Protection District

April 2026 Henry County Property Tax Ballot Resolution 26-05

WHEREAS, the Tightwad Fire Protection District is committed to protecting lives and property while maintaining responsible stewardship of local taxpayer resources; and

WHEREAS, the Missouri General Assembly passed Senate Bill 3 (SB3) in June 2025, which requires Henry County to place a measure on the April 7, 2026, ballot regarding a five percent (5%) cap on residential property tax liability; and

WHEREAS, residential property taxes represent approximately 30 percent (30%) of the Tightwad Fire Protection District's total aggregate assessed property valuation and are one of the primary sources of funding for apparatus, stations, and equipment for protecting lives and property;

WHEREAS, the Tightwad Fire Protection District is already subject to the Hancock Amendment to the Missouri State Constitution, which requires the mandatory rolling back of property tax levy rates when property tax assessments rise, and the implementation of SB3 would create a tightening of revenue that permanently erodes the District's local funding base; and

WHEREAS, SB3 has no clear exemption for any future debt service levy for stations, station improvements, and/or apparatus, potentially endangering the Tightwad Fire Protection District's ability to maintain its credit rating and satisfy future voter-approved bond obligations; and

WHEREAS, current fiscal projections indicate that the passage of this measure could result in a cumulative revenue loss of at least \$11,000 over the next six fiscal years;

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The Board of Directors of the Tightwad Fire Protection District expresses grave concern regarding the long-term impact of Senate Bill 3 on said District's ability to protect lives and property using apparatus, stations, and equipment, especially due to the inflationary cost of apparatus, stations, and equipment.
2. The Tightwad Fire Protection District shall ensure that voters of said District are fully informed of the consequences of the Henry County ballot measure before the April 7, 2026, election; and
3. Should the April 2026 Henry County measure pass, the Budget Officer shall, working with the District Manager and Fire Chief, prepare a budget amendment to specifically detail the loss of 2026 revenue.

Duly passed by the Tightwad Fire Protection District Board of Directors this 19th day of March, 2026.

Jeffrey Hunt, Chair of the Board of Directors
Tightwad Fire Protection District

ATTEST:



Monte Olsen, Secretary Pro Tem
Tightwad Fire Protection District