1 State of Arkansas 2 89th General Assembly SJR 4 Regular Session, 2013 3 4 5 By: Senator Rapert 6 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 7 8 PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION 9 TO PROHIBIT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FROM ENACTING A LAW TO LEVY A TAX OR TO INCREASE THE RATE OF TAXES EXCEPT 10 11 UPON THE VOTE OF THREE-FOURTHS (3/4) OF THE TOTAL 12 MEMBERSHIP OF EACH HOUSE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY; TO PROHIBIT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FROM ENACTING A LAW TO 13 14 DECREASE THE RATE OF ANY TAX OR PROVIDING A TAX EXCEPTION, CREDIT, EXCLUSION, OR DEDUCTION EXCEPT 15 UPON THE VOTE OF A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS ELECTED TO 16 17 EACH HOUSE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY; AND TO PROHIBIT 18 THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FROM ENACTING A LAW REMOVING A 19 TAX EXEMPTION, CREDIT, EXCLUSION, OR DEDUCTION EXCEPT 20 UPON THE AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF A MAJORITY OF THE TOTAL MEMBERSHIP OF EACH HOUSE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. 21 22 23 Subtitle 24 25 THE TAXPAYERS' PROTECTION AMENDMENT. 26 27 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE 28 29 STATE OF ARKANSAS AND BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, A MAJORITY OF ALL 30 MEMBERS ELECTED TO EACH HOUSE AGREEING THERETO: 31 32 33 THAT the following is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Arkansas, and upon being submitted to the electors of the state 34 35 for approval or rejection at the next general election for Representatives

and Senators, if a majority of the electors voting thereon at the election



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adopt the amendment, the amendment shall become a part of the Constitution of the State of Arkansas, to wit: SECTION 1. (a) The General Assembly may enact a law to levy a tax or to increase the rate of any tax only upon the affirmative vote of three-fourths (3/4) of the members elected to each house of the General Assembly. (b) The General Assembly shall not enact a law to decrease the rate of any tax or to provide a tax exemption, credit, exclusion, or deduction except upon the affirmative vote of a majority of the members elected to each house of the General Assembly. (c) The General Assembly shall not enact a law to remove a tax exemption, credit, exclusion, or deduction except upon the affirmative vote of a majority of the members elected to each house of the General Assembly. SECTION 2. This amendment shall be known as the "Taxpayers' Protection Amendment". SECTION 3. This amendment shall become effective January 1, 2015.