

## SENATE BILL 817: Const. Amd. - Max. Income Tax Rate of 5.5%.

## 2016-2017 General Assembly

Committee: Senate Finance Date: June 14, 2016

Introduced by: Sens. Rucho, Rabon, Tillman Prepared by: Cindy Avrette

Analysis of: First Edition Committee Co-Counsel

SUMMARY: Senate Bill 817 would propose amending the NC Constitution to cap the tax on income at 5.5%. The cap is currently 10%.

**CURRENT LAW:** The State Constitution may be amended by either a constitutional convention or by legislative action. An amendment proposed by legislative action must be approved by a vote of three-fifths of each house and submitted to the voters of the State. If a majority of the voters of the State approve the amendment, the amendment will become effective either the January following the public vote, or the date provided in the legislative proposal.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** If enacted by the General Assembly, and approved by a majority of the voters, this bill would limit the tax on incomes to 5.5% for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2017. Sec. 2 of Article V of the North Carolina Constitution currently provides the tax rate imposed on incomes cannot exceed 10%. The current tax rate on corporate income is 4%; it is anticipated the rate will fall to 3% for the 2017 taxable year. The current tax rate on personal income tax is 5.75%; the rate will fall to 5.499% for the 2017 taxable year.

The ballot question would be considered at the statewide general election to be held on November 8, 2016.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** The bill is effective when it becomes law.

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