# STATE OF INDIANA

DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE

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## *Certification of Levy Freeze Rate - Budget Year 2017*
## *Morgan County*

This county previously chose to implement a local income tax rate for levy freeze under IC 6-3.5-1.1-24 or IC 6-3.5-6-30. The levy freeze effectively freezes the maximum property tax levies for an adopting county's civil units of government and replaces the annual maximum property tax levy growth factor with income tax proceeds. This rate is capped at 1%.

This county subsequently "thawed" its levy freeze, meaning the county's civil units are again able to grow their maximum property tax levy on an annual basis. The levy freeze rate remains in place to cover the timeframe for which the freeze was in place in the county.

Indiana Code 6-3.5-1.5-1 requires the Department of Local Government Finance ("Department") to calculate the local income tax rate that a county would have to adopt to raise an amount of levy freeze revenue sufficient to replace the amount of property tax growth the county foregoed while frozen. Therefore, the Department certifies the following rates for this county for Budget Year 2017:

| | |
|---|---|
| **2017 Total Certified Levy Freeze Rate:** | **0.2555%** |
| **2017 Rate for Levy Freeze:** | **0.2529%** |
| **2017 Rate for Property Tax Relief*:** | **0.0026%** |

* This rate is continued from 2009 and is in addition to any rate adopted by this county for property tax relief. This rate represents that part of the levy freeze rate that was used before January 1, 2009, to reduce levy growth in the county's Family and Children's Property Tax Levy and the Children's Psychiatric Residential Treatment Services Property Tax Levy. It is to be applied as a property tax relief rate within the county.

The levy freeze rate is now a part of the expenditure rate under IC 6-3.6-6. To increase the levy freeze rate, a county would increase its expenditure rate and specify in the resolution and/or ordinance the amount of the expenditure rate that should be dedicated to the levy freeze.

The Department emphasizes that a county's decision not to adopt the maximum rate certified herein could diminish the county's stabilization fund reserves. Counties are highly encouraged to weigh all relevant factors when adopting a levy freeze rate.

Dated this 31st day of August, 2016.

**Courtney L. Schaafsma, Commissioner**
**Indiana Department of Local Government Finance**