Funds/Funding. Constitutional amendment to remove authority to fund state police for traffic control from the Transportation Trust Fund. (2/3 - CA13s1(A))

A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing to amend Article VII, Section 27(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to the Transportation Trust Fund; to remove authority to appropriate or dedicate monies in the trust fund to state police for traffic control purposes; and to specify an election for submission of the proposition to electors and provide a ballot proposition.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to amend Article VII, Section 27(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

§27. Transportation Trust Fund

(B) The monies in the trust fund shall be appropriated or dedicated solely and exclusively for the costs for and associated with construction and maintenance of the roads and bridges of the state and federal highway systems, the Statewide Flood-Control Program or its successor, ports, airports, transit, state police for traffic control purposes, and the Parish Transportation Fund or its successor and for the payment of all principal, interest, premium, if any, and other obligations incident to
the issuance, security, and payment in respect of bonds or other obligations payable
from the trust fund as authorized in Paragraph (D) hereof. Unless pledged to the
repayment of bonds authorized in Paragraphs (C) or (D) of this Section, the monies
in the trust fund allocated to ports, airports, flood control, parish transportation, and
state highway construction shall be appropriated annually by the legislature only
pursuant to programs established by law which establish a system of priorities for the
expenditure of such monies, except that the Transportation Infrastructure Model for
Economic Development, which shall include only those projects enumerated in
House Bill 17 of the 1989 First Extraordinary Session of the Legislature and US
Highway 61 from Thompson Creek to the Mississippi Line, in lieu of "US 61-Bains
to Mississippi Line", and US Highway 165 from I-10 to Alexandria to Monroe to
Bastrop and thence on US Highway 425 from Bastrop to the Arkansas Line, in lieu
of "US 165-I-10 Alexandria-Monroe-Bastrop-Arkansas Line" and LA 15-Natchez,
Mississippi to Chase in lieu of "LA 15-Natchez, Mississippi to Monroe", shall be
funded as provided by law. The state-generated tax monies
appropriated for ports, Parish Transportation Fund, or its successor, and the
Statewide Flood-Control Program, or its successor, and state police for traffic control
purposes shall not exceed twenty percent annually of the state-generated tax revenues in the trust fund; provided, however, that no less than
the avails of one cent of the tax on gasoline and special fuels shall be appropriated
each year to the Parish Transportation Fund, or its successor. The annual
appropriation for airports shall be a sum equal to, but not greater than, the annual
estimated revenue to be derived from the state taxes to be collected and received on
aviation fuel. Unencumbered and unexpended balances at the end of each fiscal year
shall remain in the trust fund. The earnings realized in each fiscal year on the
investment of monies in the trust fund shall be deposited in and credited to the trust
fund.

*      *      *

Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted
to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the special election to be held on October 14, 2017,
if authorized by law enacted at the 2017 Regular Session of the Legislature, or if not so
authorized, to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on
November 6, 2018.

Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at said election
there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted
to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as
follows:

Do you support an amendment to remove authority to appropriate or dedicate
monies in the Transportation Trust Fund to state police for traffic control
purposes?

(Amends Article VII, Section 27(B))

The original instrument was prepared by Sharon F. Lyles. The following
digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was
prepared by Cathy Wells.

DIGEST
SB 57 Reengrossed 2017 Regular Session Cortez

Present constitution authorizes monies in the Transportation Trust Fund to be appropriated
or dedicated for costs for and associated with construction and maintenance of roads and
bridges in the state and federal highway systems, the Statewide Flood-Control Program,
ports, airports, transit, state police for traffic control purposes, and the Parish Transportation
Fund.

Proposed constitutional amendment removes the authority to appropriate or dedicate monies
in the Transportation Trust Fund to state police for traffic control purposes.

 Specifies submission of the amendment to the voters at a special election to be held on
Oct. 14, 2017, if authorized by law enacted in the 2017 Regular Session, or if not so
authorized, such amendment shall be submitted to the voters at the statewide election to be
held on November 6, 2018.

(Amends Const. Art. VII, Sec. 27(B))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Adds provision to require submission of the amendment to the voters at a
special election to be held on Oct. 14, 2017, if authorized by law enacted in
the 2017 Regular Session.