

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE BILL NO. 497

BY REPRESENTATIVE BARRAS AND SENATOR MILLS

TAX/AD VALOREM-EXEMPTION: (Constitutional Amendment) Authorizes the city of New Iberia to grant contracts for the exemption of property annexed by the city

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION

2 Proposing to add Article VII, Section 21(L) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to authorize  
3 the governing authority of the city of New Iberia to grant ad valorem tax exemption  
4 contracts for certain property annexed by the city; to provide for the approval of  
5 contracts; to provide for certain contract limitations; to provide with respect to the  
6 assessment and taxation of property subject to a contract; to authorize the legislature  
7 to provide for implementation; to provide for submission of the proposed amendment  
8 to the electors; and to provide for related matters.

9 Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members  
10 elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of  
11 Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to  
12 amend Article VII, Section 21(L) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

13 §21. Other Property Exemptions

14 Section 21. In addition to the homestead exemption provided for in Section  
15 20 of this Article, the following property and no other shall be exempt from ad  
16 valorem taxation:

17 \* \* \*

18 (L) Notwithstanding any provision of this constitution to the contrary, the  
19 governing authority of the city of New Iberia is authorized to enter into contracts for  
20 the exemption from ad valorem taxes of property which is annexed by the city of  
21 New Iberia after January 1, 2013. Each contract shall require authorization by two-

1 thirds vote of the governing authority of the city. A contract shall grant the property  
2 owner an exemption from ad valorem taxes for a period of up to five calendar years,  
3 and contracts may be renewed for up to five additional years. All property exempted  
4 pursuant to a contract shall be listed on the assessment rolls and submitted to the Tax  
5 Commission or its successor, but no taxes shall be collected thereon during the  
6 period of exemption; however, the exemption authorized by this Paragraph shall in  
7 no way affect or impair the security of any bonds payable from the proceeds of a tax.  
8 The legislature may provide by law for implementation of the provisions of this  
9 Paragraph.

10 Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted  
11 to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 6,  
12 2012.

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

17 Do you support an amendment to authorize the granting of ad valorem tax  
18 exemption contracts by the city of New Iberia for property annexed by the  
19 city after January 1, 2013? (Adds Article VII, Section 21(L))

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#### DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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Barras

HB No. 497

**Abstract:** Authorizes the city of New Iberia to grant ad valorem tax exemption contracts to owners of property annexed by the city after Jan. 1, 2013.

Present constitution authorizes the levy of ad valorem tax by various units of local government.

Proposed constitution retains present constitution and authorizes the granting of ad valorem tax exemption contracts by the city of New Iberia for property annexed by the city after Jan. 1, 2013.

Proposed constitution provides that a contract shall grant to the owner of the annexed property a tax exemption for up to five calendar years, which may be renewed for an additional five years.

Proposed constitution requires that all property exempted pursuant to a contract be listed on the assessment rolls, but no taxes shall be collected thereon during the period of exemption; however, the exemption shall in no way affect or impair the security of any bonds payable from the proceeds of a tax.

Proposed constitution authorizes the legislature to provide by law for implementation of proposed constitution.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held Nov. 6, 2012.

(Adds Const. Art. VII, §21(L))