Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE BILL NO. 407

BY REPRESENTATIVE ROBIDEAUX

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

LEGISLATIVE POWERS: (Constitutional Amendment) Provides relative to prefiling and consideration of certain legislation at regular sessions

A JOINT RESOLUTION
Proposing to amend Article III, Section 2(A)(2)(b) and (d), (3)(b), and (4)(b)(introductory
paragraph) and Article XIII, Section 1(A)(2) and to add Article III, Section
2(A)(2)(e) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to provide relative to legislative
sessions; to provide relative to the introduction, consideration, and enactment of
certain legislation in regular sessions; to provide relative to prefiling of certain
proposed legislation; to provide for submission of the proposed amendment to the
electors; and to provide for related matters.
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 of
Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to
amend Article III, Section 2(A)(2)(b) and (d), (3)(b), and (4)(b)(introductory paragraph) and
to add Article III, Section 2(A)(2)(e) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:
§2. Sessions
Section 2.(A) Annual Session.
* * *
(2)
* * *
(b) Except as provided in Subsubparagraph Subsubparagraphs (c) and (d) of
this Subparagraph, any bill that is to be prefiled for introduction in either house shall

Page 1 of 5

CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words <u>underscored</u> are additions.

1	be prefiled no later than five o'clock in the evening of the tenth calendar day prior
2	to the first day of a regular session.
3	* * *
4	(d) Each bill the object of which is to legislate with regard to tax exemptions,
5	exclusions, deductions, reductions, repeals, rebates, or credits shall be prefiled. Each
6	such bill shall be prefiled no later than five o'clock in the evening of the forty-fifth
7	calendar day prior to the first day of a regular session.
8	(e) The legislature is authorized to provide by joint rule for the procedures
9	for passage of duplicate or companion instruments.
10	(3)
11	* * *
12	(b) No measure levying or authorizing a new tax by the state or by any
13	statewide political subdivision whose boundaries are coterminous with the state;
14	increasing an existing tax by the state or by any statewide political subdivision
15	whose boundaries are coterminous with the state; or legislating with regard to tax
16	exemptions, exclusions, deductions, rebates, or credits shall be introduced or enacted
17	during a regular session held in an even-numbered year.
18	(4)
19	* * *
20	(b) During any session convening in an odd-numbered year, no matter
21	intended to have the effect of law, including any suspension of law, shall be
22	introduced or considered unless its object is to enact the General Appropriation Bill;
23	enact the comprehensive capital budget; make an appropriation; levy or authorize a
24	new tax; increase an existing tax; levy, authorize, increase, decrease, or repeal a fee;
25	dedicate revenue; legislate with regard to tax exemptions, exclusions, deductions,
26	reductions, repeals, rebates, or credits; or legislate with regard to the issuance of
27	bonds. In addition, a matter intended to have the effect of law, including a measure

1	proposing a suspension of law, which is not within the subject matter restrictions
2	provided in this Subparagraph may be considered at any such session if:
3	* * *
4	Section 2. Be it further resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the
5	members elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of
6	the state of Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a
7	proposal to amend Article XIII, Section 1(A)(2) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as
8	follows:
9	§1. Amendments
10	Section 1.(A)
11	* * *
12	(2)(a) Any joint resolution proposed at a regular session of the legislature
13	which effects any change in constitutional provisions relating to any retirement
14	system for public employees shall be prefiled no later than five o'clock in the
15	evening of the forty-fifth calendar day prior to the first day of session.
16	(b) Any joint resolution proposed at a regular session of the legislature which
17	would amend this constitution relative to tax exemptions, exclusions, deductions,
18	reductions, repeals, rebates, or credits shall be prefiled no later than five o'clock in
19	the evening of the forty-fifth calendar day prior to the first day of session.
20	* * *
21	Section 3. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted
22	to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 4,
23	2014.
24	Section 4. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at the election,
25	there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted
26	to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as
27	follows:
28	Do you support an amendment to provide that legislation relative to tax
29	rebates may be enacted by the legislature only in a session convening in an

CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words <u>underscored</u> are additions.

1	odd-numbered year and to require proposed legislation relative to tax
2	exemptions, exclusions, deductions, reductions, repeals, rebates, or credits
3	to be prefiled thirty-five days earlier than the general prefiling deadline?
4	(Amends Article III, Section 2(A)(2)(b) and (d), (3)(b), and
5	(4)(b)(introductory paragraph) and Article XIII, Section 1(A)(2); Adds
6	Article III, Section 2(A)(2)(e))

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)]

Robideaux

HB No. 407

Abstract: Provides that legislation relative to tax rebates may be enacted by the legislature only in a session convening in an odd-numbered year and requires proposed legislation relative to tax exemptions, exclusions, deductions, reductions, repeals, or credits to be prefiled no later than 45 days prior to the first day of a regular session.

<u>Present constitution</u> (Art. III, §2) provides that no measure levying or authorizing a new tax by the state or by any statewide political subdivision whose boundaries are coterminous with the state; increasing an existing tax by the state or by any statewide political subdivision whose boundaries are coterminous with the state; or legislating with regard to tax exemptions, exclusions, deductions or credits shall be introduced or enacted during a regular session held in an even-numbered year. <u>Proposed constitutional amendment</u> retains <u>present</u> <u>constitution</u> and adds a measure legislating with regard to tax rebates to the list of measures that cannot be introduced or enacted during a regular session in an even-numbered year.

<u>Present constitution</u> provides, subject to certain limited exceptions, that during a session convening in an odd-numbered year, no matter intended to have the effect of law, including any suspension of law, shall be introduced or considered unless its object is to enact the General Appropriation Bill; enact the comprehensive capital budget; make an appropriation; levy or authorize a new tax; increase an existing tax; levy, authorize, increase, decrease, or repeal a fee; dedicate revenue; legislate with regard to tax exemptions, exclusions, deductions, reductions, repeals, or credits; or legislate with regard to the issuance of bonds. Proposed constitutional amendment retains present constitution and adds a matter whose object is to legislate with regard to tax rebates to the list of matters that may be introduced and considered during a session convening in an odd-numbered year.

<u>Present constitution</u> provides that no member may introduce more than five bills that were not prefiled, except as provided in the joint rules of the legislature. Provides that any bill that is to be prefiled for introduction in either house shall be prefiled no later than 5 p.m. of the 10th calendar day prior to the first day of a regular session. However, provides that any bill to effect any change in laws relating to any retirement system for public employees that is to be prefiled for introduction in either house shall be prefiled no later than 5 p.m. of the 45th calendar day prior to the first day of a regular session.

<u>Proposed constitutional amendment</u> retains <u>present constitution</u> and additionally provides that each bill the object of which is to legislate with regard to tax exemptions, exclusions, deductions, reductions, repeals, rebates, or credits shall be prefiled. Requires each such bill

to be prefiled no later than 5 p.m. of the 45th calendar day prior to the first day of a regular session.

<u>Present constitution</u> (Art. XIII, §1) provides that an amendment to the constitution may be proposed by joint resolution at any regular session of the legislature, but the resolution shall be prefiled, at least 10 days before the beginning of the session in accordance with the rules of the house in which introduced. Provides, however, that any joint resolution proposed at a regular session of the legislature which effects any change in constitutional provisions relating to any retirement system for public employees shall be prefiled no later than 5 p.m. of the 45th calendar day prior to the first day of session.

<u>Proposed constitutional amendment</u> retains <u>present constitution</u> and additionally provides that any joint resolution proposed at a regular session of the legislature which would amend the constitution relative to tax exemptions, exclusions, deductions, reductions, repeals, rebates, or credits shall be prefiled no later than 5 p.m. of the 45th calendar day prior to the first day of session.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held Nov. 4, 2014.

(Amends Art. III, (2(A)(2)(b)) and (d), (3)(b), and (4)(b)(intro. para.) and Art. XIII, (A)(2); Adds Art. III, (2(A)(2)(e))