

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 520

BY REPRESENTATIVES HENSGENS, STUART BISHOP, GEYMAN, HARRIS,  
HARRISON, HAVARD, HUVAL, JAY MORRIS, PEARSON, POPE, RICHARD,  
SCHRODER, AND TALBOT

TAX EXEMPTIONS: (Constitutional Amendment) Prohibits the granting of certain tax  
exemptions in certain circumstances

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION

2 Proposing to enact Article VII, Section 2.4 of the Constitution of Louisiana, to prohibit the  
3 granting of certain tax exemptions in certain circumstances; to provide for  
4 submission of the proposed amendment to the electors; and to provide for related  
5 matters.

6 Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members  
7 elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of  
8 Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to add  
9 Article VII, Section 2.4 of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

10 §2.4. Limitations on the granting of tax exemptions, deductions, credits, or rebates

11 Section 2.4. (A) The state shall not grant any tax exemptions, deductions,  
12 credits, or rebates to a business or individual, of which the effect would be a decrease  
13 in state funds, when the official forecast of recurring state revenues for the next fiscal  
14 year is less than the continuation budget for the next fiscal year. The legislature may  
15 provide by law for a procedure for establishing the continuation budget.

16 B. The state may resume granting tax exemptions, deductions, credits, or  
17 rebates to a business or individual, of which the effect would be a decrease in state  
18 funds, when the estimate of the official forecast of recurring state revenues for the  
19 next fiscal year is more than the continuation budget for the same year.

1           Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted  
2 to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on October 24,  
3 2015.

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

8                   Do you support an amendment to prohibit the granting of tax exemptions,  
9                   deductions, credits, or rebates when the official forecast of revenues is less  
10                  than the continuation budget? (Adds Article VII, Section 2.4 )

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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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HB 520 Original

2015 Regular Session

Hensgens

**Abstract:** Prohibits the granting of tax exemptions, deductions, credits or rebates when the official forecast of state revenues is less than the continuation budget.

Proposed constitutional amendment prohibits the state from granting any tax exemptions, deductions, credits, or when the official forecast of recurring state revenues for the next fiscal year is less than the continuation budget for the next fiscal year. Further provides for the legislature to establish a procedure for determining the continuation budget in law.

Proposed constitutional amendment authorizes the state to resume granting tax exemptions, deductions, credits, or rebates when the estimate of the official forecast of recurring state revenues for the next fiscal year is more than the continuation budget for the same year.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held October 24, 2015.

(Adds Const. Art. VII, §2.4 )