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(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this constitution to the contrary, for the purposes of the budget estimate and enactment of the budget for the next fiscal year, ~~when the official forecast of recurring revenues for the next fiscal year is at least one percent less than the official forecast for the current fiscal year, the following procedure may be employed to avoid a budget deficit in the next fiscal year.~~ if the Legislative Fiscal Officer reports to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget that the budget estimate as provided by Article VII, Section 11(A) of the Constitution of Louisiana provides for appropriations out of the state general fund and dedicated funds for the ensuing fiscal year for either healthcare or for higher education in an amount less than the appropriations for either purpose as contained in the existing operating budget for the current fiscal year as of the day the executive budget is submitted to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget, an amount not to exceed five percent of the total appropriations or allocations for the current fiscal year from any fund established by law or this constitution shall be available for expenditure in the next fiscal year for a purpose other than as specifically provided by law or this constitution. For the purposes of this Subsubparagraph, an amount not to exceed one percent of the current fiscal year appropriation for expenditures required by Article VIII, Section 13(B) of this constitution shall be available for expenditures for other purposes in the next fiscal year. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this constitution to the contrary, monies made available as authorized under this Subsubparagraph may be transferred to a fund for which revenues have been forecast to be less than the revenues in the current fiscal year for such fund. Monies transferred as a result of the budget actions authorized by this Subsubparagraph are deemed available for appropriation and expenditure, but in no event shall the aggregate amount of any such transfers exceed the amount of the difference between the official forecast for the current fiscal year and the next fiscal year.

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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 November 8,
3 2016.

4 Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at said 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 authorize the use of constitutional and
9 dedicated funds to eliminate a projected deficit if the Legislative Fiscal
10 Officer reports that the state budget estimate provides for appropriations out
11 of the state general fund and dedicated funds for the ensuing fiscal year for
12 either healthcare or for higher education in an amount less than the
13 appropriations for either purpose as contained in the existing operating
14 budget for the current fiscal year as of the day the executive budget is
15 submitted to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget?
16 (Amends Article VII, Section 10(F)(2)(b))

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Martha S. Hess.

	DIGEST	
SB 201 Original	2016 Regular Session	Allain

Present constitution provides for the purposes of the budget estimate and enactment of the budget for the next fiscal year, when the official forecast of recurring revenues for the next fiscal year is at least one percent less than the official forecast for the current fiscal year, in order to avoid a budget deficit in the next fiscal year, an amount not to exceed five percent of the total appropriations or allocations for the current fiscal year from any statutory or constitutional fund shall be available for expenditure in the next fiscal year for a purpose other than as specifically provided by law or this constitution.

Proposed constitution revises present constitution to provide that if the Legislative Fiscal Officer reports to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget that the budget estimate provides for appropriations out of the state general fund and dedicated funds for the ensuing fiscal year for either healthcare or for higher education in an amount less than the appropriations for either purpose as contained in the existing operating budget for the current fiscal year as of the day the executive budget is submitted to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget, an amount not to exceed five percent of the total appropriations or allocations for the current fiscal year from any fund established by law or this constitution shall be available for expenditure in the next fiscal year for a purpose other than as specifically provided by law or this constitution.

Present constitution provides that for purposes of this provision, an amount not to exceed one percent of the current fiscal year appropriation for Minimum Foundation Program expenditures shall be available for expenditures for other purposes in the next fiscal year.

Proposed constitution retains present constitution.

Present constitution further provides that monies made available as authorized under this provision may be transferred to a fund for which revenues have been forecast to be less than the revenues in the current fiscal year for such fund. Monies transferred as a result of the budget actions authorized by this provision are deemed available for appropriation and expenditure, but in no event shall the aggregate amount of any such transfers exceed the amount of the difference between the official forecast for the current fiscal year and the next fiscal year.

Proposed constitution retains present constitution.

Specifies submission of the amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held on November 8, 2016.

(Amends Const. Art. VII, Sec. 10(F)(2)(b))