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## DIGEST

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Robideaux

HB No. 674

**Abstract:** Authorizes the granting of ad valorem tax exemption contracts for businesses at the discretion of the Board of Commerce and Industry under certain circumstances.

Proposed constitution authorizes the granting of an ad valorem tax exemption contract by the State Board of Commerce and Industry or its successor for the property of an eligible business which is located in a parish which has agreed to participate in the program. Contracts are subject to gubernatorial approval and shall be made on such terms and conditions as deemed by the board to be in the best interest of the state.

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 existing bonds payable from the proceeds of a tax.

Proposed constitution provides that the initial term of a contract shall be up to five calendar years, and may be renewed as provided by law. The renewal of a contract shall not be contingent upon a parish's continued participation in the program.

Proposed constitution directs the legislature to establish a program for the granting of contracts, with the exception that provisions regarding specific taxes shall be as provided in proposed constitution.

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

Effective Jan. 1, 2013.

(Adds Const. Art. VII, §21(L))