

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

HB 518

2025 Regular Session

Geymann

June 12, 2025

To the Honorable Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives and the Honorable President and Members of the Senate.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, the conferees appointed to confer over the disagreement between the two houses concerning House Bill No. 518 by Representative Geymann, recommend the following concerning the Engrossed bill:

- 1. That the set of Senate Floor Amendments by Senator Bass (#2833) be adopted.
- 2. That the following amendments be adopted:

AMENDMENT NO. 1

In Senate Floor Amendment No. 4 by Senator Bass (#2833), on page 1, line 10, after "On page 9, delete lines" and before "through 28," delete "13" and insert "11"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

In Senate Floor Amendment No. 4 by Senator Bass (#2833), on page 1, delete lines 12 through 16 and insert the following:

""(ii) "Qualified accountant" means a certified public accountant ("CPA") who ~~meets all of the following qualifications:~~

~~(aa) Maintains maintains an active ~~unrestricted original~~ certified public accountant license in good standing.~~

~~(bb) Maintains a current Louisiana certified public accountant firm permit.~~

~~(cc) Actively participates in a Peer Review Program approved by the State Board of Certified Public Accountants of Louisiana."~~

Respectfully submitted,

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Representative Brett F. Geymann

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Senator Adam Bass

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Representative Julie Emerson

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Senator Franklin J. Foil

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Representative Josh Carlson

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Senator Mike Reese

## 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)]

## CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

HB 518

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Geymann

**Keyword and oneliner of the instrument as it left the House**

TAX/SEVERANCE TAX: Provides relative to rates, computation, and administration of severance tax on oil, gas, and other natural resources

**Report adopts Senate amendments to:**

1. Revise the definition of "well cost statement" and "qualified accountant" in present law relative to the horizontal well exemption.
2. Make corrections in references to statutory law and to present constitution relative to disposition of severance tax collections.

**Report amends the bill to:**

1. Further revise the definition of "qualified accountant" in present law relative to the horizontal well exemption.

**Digest of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee**

Present law provides for the levy of a tax, known as severance tax, on natural resources severed from the soil or water. Provides that the rate of the severance tax is predicated on the quantity or value of the products or resources severed. Proposed law retains and makes technical corrections in present law.

Present law establishes rates of severance tax that apply to the various natural resources that are subject to the tax. Proposed law retains and makes technical corrections in present law.

Present law authorizes special severance tax rates and exemptions from severance tax for oil and gas. Provides for conditions and requirements relative to these special rates and exemptions. Proposed law retains and makes technical corrections in present law.

Present law establishes a severance tax exemption for production of oil and gas from any horizontally drilled well or horizontally drilled recompletion well, known commonly as the horizontal well exemption. Provides that production from a horizontal well shall be exempt from severance tax for 24 months or until payout of the well cost is achieved, whichever comes first. Provides for definitions and requirements applicable to the horizontal well exemption.

Proposed law retains present law with respect to the exemption but revises the definition of "well cost statement" and "qualified accountant".

Present law provides relative to severance tax administration. Proposed law retains and makes technical corrections in present law.

(Amends R.S. 47:633 and 645(A) and (B))