

**HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS****HB 354****2017 Regular Session****Thibaut**

TAX/GASOLINE TAX: (Constitutional Amendment) Provides relative to the dedication of proceeds of the tax levied on motor fuels

**Synopsis of Senate Amendments**

1. Reinserts present constitution relative to the authority to appropriate funds in the Transportation Trust Fund for state police for traffic control purposes.
2. Deletes the prohibition on using monies in the Construction Subfund as funding for administrative costs for operation of the Dept. of Transportation and Development in favor of prohibiting the funds for the payment of employee wages and related benefits or employee retirement benefits.
3. Makes technical changes to the ballot language.

**Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate**

Present constitution establishes the Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) as a special treasury fund and requires that all state taxes levied on gasoline and motor fuels be deposited annually into the fund. The current state excise taxes on gasoline and motor fuels total 20¢ per gallon. Monies in the fund are used to provide for construction and maintenance of roads and bridges of the state and federal highway systems, the Statewide Flood-Control Program, ports, airports, transit, state police for traffic control purposes, and the Parish Transportation Fund.

Proposed constitution establishes the "Construction Subfund" as a special subfund within the TTF and requires the avails of any new tax levied on gasoline, diesel, and special motor fuels that become effective on or after July 1, 2017, to be deposited into the subfund for use on direct costs associated with actual project delivery, construction, and maintenance of transportation and capital transit infrastructure projects of the state and local government.

Proposed constitution prohibits any monies in the subfund from being used by the Dept. of Transportation and Development for the payment of employee wages and related benefits or employee retirement benefits.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held Oct. 14, 2017.

(Amends Const. Art. VII, §27(B))