

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 524

BY REPRESENTATIVE AMEDEE

BUDGETARY CONTROLS: (Constitutional Amendment) Provides relative to the expenditure limit

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20

A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing to amend Article VII, Section 10(C)(1) and (2) of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to the expenditure limit; to provide for changing the expenditure limit; to provide for the determination of the growth factor of the expenditure limit; to limit the growth of the expenditure limit; to provide for submission of the proposed amendment to the electors; and to provide for related matters.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to amend Article VII, Section 10(C)(1) and (2) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

§10. Expenditure of State Funds

Section 10.

* * *

(C) Expenditure Limit. (1) The legislature shall provide for the determination of an expenditure limit for each fiscal year to be established during the first quarter of the calendar year for the next fiscal year. However, the expenditure limit for the 1991-1992 Fiscal Year shall be the actual appropriations from the state general fund and dedicated funds for that year except funds allocated by Article VII, Section 4, Paragraphs (D) and (E). For subsequent fiscal years, the limit shall not

1 exceed the expenditure limit for the current fiscal year plus an amount equal to that
 2 limit ~~times~~ multiplied by a positive growth factor. The ~~growth factor is the average~~
 3 ~~annual percentage rate of change of personal income for Louisiana as defined and~~
 4 ~~reported by the United States Department of Commerce for the three calendar years~~
 5 ~~prior to the fiscal year for which the limit is calculated~~ legislature by law shall
 6 establish a procedure to determine the growth factor, which shall not exceed six
 7 percent. Any law establishing a procedure to determine the growth factor, once
 8 enacted, shall not be changed except by specific legislative instrument which
 9 received a favorable vote of two-thirds of the elected members of each house of the
 10 legislature.

11 (2) The expenditure limit may be changed in any fiscal year by ~~a favorable~~
 12 ~~vote of consent of~~ two-thirds of the elected members of each house. ~~Any~~ If the
 13 legislature is in session, any such change in the expenditure limit shall be approved
 14 by passage of a specific legislative instrument which clearly states the intent to
 15 change the limit. If the legislature is not in session, the two-thirds requirement may
 16 be satisfied upon obtaining written consent of two-thirds of the elected members of
 17 each house in a manner provided by law.

18 * * *

19 Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted
 20 to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 3,
 21 2020.

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

26 Do you support an amendment to limit the annual growth of the expenditure
 27 limit, and to allow the legislature to establish in law the method of
 28 determining the expenditure limit? (Amends Article VII, Section 10(C)(1)
 29 and (2))

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)]

HB 524 Original

2020 Regular Session

Amedee

Abstract: Caps the annual growth factor of the expenditure limit at 6%, allows the growth factor to be established by law that requires 2/3 vote of each house of the legislature to change, and provides for changing the expenditure limit when the legislature is not in session.

Present constitution provides for the determination of the expenditure limit for the next fiscal year to be determined in the first quarter of the calendar year for the current fiscal year. The expenditure limit for the next fiscal year is based on the expenditure limit for the current fiscal year multiplied by a growth factor based on the change of personal income in the state.

Present constitution defines the growth factor as the average annual percentage rate of change of personal income for La. as defined and reported by the U.S. Dept. of Commerce for the three calendar years prior to the fiscal year for which the limit is calculated.

Proposed constitutional amendment removes the definition of the growth factor in present constitution and instead requires the legislature to establish a procedure to determine the growth factor, which shall not exceed 6%. Once established, the growth factor shall not be changed except by specific legislative instrument receiving a favorable 2/3 vote of the elected members of each house of the legislature.

Present constitution authorizes the legislature to change the expenditure limit any fiscal year by a favorable vote of 2/3 of the elected members of each house by a specific legislative instrument.

Proposed constitutional amendment authorizes the legislature to change the expenditure limit with written consent of 2/3 of the elected members of each house when the legislature is not in session.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held November 3, 2020.

(Amends Const. Art. VII, §10(C)(1) and (2))