

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 32

BY REPRESENTATIVE TARVER

APPROPRIATIONS: Requests the Louisiana Legislature to prioritize spending monies received by the state from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 on certain existing obligations

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Louisiana Legislature to prioritize spending the state portion of
3 monies received pursuant to the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (P.L. 117-2) in
4 a strategic manner on certain key state obligations.

5 WHEREAS, earlier this year, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic that continues
6 to disrupt daily life for millions of Americans, congress passed the American Rescue Plan
7 Act of 2021 (P.L. 117-2); and

8 WHEREAS, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 is a multi-trillion dollar package
9 of relief legislation that will send billions of dollars directly to states and local governments
10 for COVID-relief efforts; and

11 WHEREAS, Louisiana anticipates receiving \$3.2 billion from this Act which the Act
12 dedicated for costs incurred to respond to the COVID-19 health emergency, to supplement
13 incomes of eligible workers; to provide government services; and to make necessary
14 investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure; and

15 WHEREAS, Louisiana faces multiple sizeable expenditures in the next several years,
16 including infusing capital into a completely depleted Unemployment Compensation Fund
17 and liquidating a steadily increasing loan balance with the Federal government in order to
18 continue paying unemployment benefits to eligible recipients; an outstanding debt of over
19 \$1 billion to the federal government for the Hurricane and Storm Drainage Risk Reduction
20 System; and required debt defeasance payments on over \$7 billion in state debt; and

1 WHEREAS, despite these looming and potentially devastating payments, Louisiana
2 is in a fortunate position in that it is scheduled to receive an unprecedented amount of federal
3 dollars at a time when it is facing crippling expenditures.

4 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
5 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby declare that it is a priority to spend monies allocated
6 to the state by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 in a responsible manner and further
7 urges and requests the full legislature to prioritize spending these monies on shoring up the
8 state's Unemployment Compensation Fund, making payments on the Hurricane and Storm
9 Drainage Risk Reduction System, and liquidating outstanding state debt obligations.

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)]

HR 32 Original

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Tarver

Declares that it is a priority to spend monies allocated to the state by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (P.L. 117-2) in a responsible manner and further urges and requests the full legislature to prioritize spending these monies on shoring up the state's Unemployment Compensation Fund, making payments on the Hurricane and Storm Drainage Risk Reduction System, and liquidating outstanding state debt obligations