SLS 25RS-142 ORIGINAL

2025 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 20

BY SENATOR WHEAT

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Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS. Constitutional Amendment to change the number of certain legislative instruments that a legislator may file during regular sessions that occur during odd-numbered years. (2/3-CA13sl(A))

A JOINT RESOLUTION

2 Proposing to amend Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b) of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to the legislature; to provide for the consideration of certain legislative instruments 3 during regular sessions convened in odd-numbered years; to provide with respect to 4 5 legislation regarding taxes or fees; to provide for legislation to repurpose or restrict 6 the use of the proceeds of an existing tax or fee; to provide for the number of 7 legislative instruments that may be prefiled during regular sessions convened in odd-8 numbered years; and to specify an election for submission of the proposition to 9 electors and provide a ballot proposition. 10 Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members 11 elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to amend Article III, 12 13 Section 2(A)(4)(b) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows: 14 §2. Sessions Section 2. (A) Annual Session. 15 16 17 **(4)**

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Coding: Words which are struck through are deletions from existing law; words in **boldface type and underscored** are additions.

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(b) During any session convening in an odd-numbered year, no matter 2 intended to have the effect of law, including any suspension of law, shall be introduced or considered unless its object is to enact the General Appropriation Bill; 3 enact the comprehensive capital budget; make an appropriation; levy or authorize a 4 5 new tax; increase an existing tax; levy, authorize, increase, decrease, or repeal a fee; 6 dedicate revenue; legislate with regard to tax exemptions, exclusions, deductions, 7 reductions, repeals, or credits legislate with regard to taxes or fees; repurpose or 8 restrict the use of the proceeds of an existing tax or fee; or legislate with regard 9 to the issuance of bonds. In addition, a matter intended to have the effect of law, 10 including a measure proposing a suspension of law, which is not within the subject 11 matter restrictions provided in this Subparagraph may be considered at any such 12 session if: 13 (i) It is prefiled no later than the deadline provided in Subparagraph (2) of this Paragraph, provided that the member shall not prefile more than five seven such 14 matters pursuant to this Subsubparagraph; or 15 16 (ii) Its object is to enact a local or special law which is required to be and has been advertised in accordance with Section 13 of this Article and which is not 17 prohibited by the provisions of Section 12 of this Article. 18 19 20 Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 15, 21 22 2025. Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at said election 23 24 there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as 25 follows: 26 27 Do you support an amendment to change the number of bills that a legislator

may prefile in an odd-numbered year from five to seven and expand the

subject matter restriction in odd-numbered years to include bills that

SB NO. 20

ORIGINAL

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(Amends Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b))

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, 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)]

repurpose or restrict the use of the proceeds of an existing tax or fee?

DIGEST 2025 Regular Session

SB 20 Original

Wheat

<u>Present constitution</u> (Art. III, Sec. 2(A)(4)(b)) provides that all regular sessions convening in odd-numbered years shall be restricted, by subject matter, to the following:

- (1) Enacting the General Appropriation Bill, implementing a capital budget, or making an appropriation.
- (2) Levying or authorizing a new tax or increasing an existing tax.
- (3) Levying, authorizing, increasing, decreasing, or repealing a fee.
- (4) Dedicating revenue.
- (5) Legislating with regard to tax exemptions, exclusions, deductions, reductions, repeals, or credits.
- (6) Legislating with regard to the issuance of bonds.
- (7) Considering five prefiled general bills per legislator that are not fiscal in nature.

<u>Proposed constitutional amendment</u> retains <u>present constitution</u> and increases the number of nonfiscal, general, prefiled bills that may be filed by each legislator <u>from</u> five <u>to</u> seven.

<u>Proposed constitutional amendment</u> retains <u>present constitution</u> and provides that a fiscal bill may include the repurposing or restricting the use of the proceeds of an existing tax or fee.

Specifies submission of the amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held on November 15, 2025.

(Amends Const. Art. III, Sec. 2(A)(4)(b))