

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE BILL NO. 537

BY REPRESENTATIVE KATRINA JACKSON

TAX/TOBACCO TAX: (Constitutional Amendment) Levies an additional tax on cigarettes and other tobacco products and authorizes the dedication of such monies

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION

2 Proposing to add Article VII, Section 4.2 of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to taxes
3 on tobacco products; to authorize an additional tax to be levied on certain tobacco
4 products; to provide for an effective date; to provide for submission of the proposed
5 amendment to the electors; and to provide for related matters.

6 Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members
7 elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of
8 Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to add
9 Article VII, Section 4.2 of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

10 §4.2. Cigarette and Tobacco Tax Rates

11 Section 4.2.(A) Imposition of tax. In addition to the tax levied in R.S.
12 47:841, there is hereby levied an additional tax upon the sale, use, consumption,
13 handling, or distribution of all cigarettes and other tobacco products, as defined by
14 law, within the state of Louisiana, according to the classification and rates
15 hereinafter set forth:

16 (1) Cigarettes. Upon cigarettes, an additional tax of sixty-eight twentieths of
17 one cent per cigarette.

18 (2) Other tobacco products. Upon other tobacco products, including cigars,
19 smoking tobacco, and smokeless tobacco, an additional tax of fifteen percent of the
20 manufacturer's invoice price.

1 (B) The monies generated as a result of this additional tax may be dedicated
2 as provided by law.

3 Section 2. Be it further resolved that the provisions of the amendment contained in
4 this Joint Resolution shall become effective on January 1, 2015.

5 Section 3. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted
6 to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 4,
7 2014.

8 Section 4. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at the election,
9 there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted
10 to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as
11 follows:

12 Do you support an amendment to levy an additional tax on cigars, cigarettes,
13 smoking tobacco, and smokeless tobacco and to authorize the dedication of
14 such monies? (January 1, 2015) (Adds Article VII, Section 4.2)

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)]

Katrina Jackson

HB No. 537

Abstract: To levy an additional tax on cigarettes and other tobacco products and to authorize the dedication of such monies.

Present law (R.S. 47:841) provides for the levy of a tax upon the sale, use, consumption, handling, or distribution of all cigars, cigarettes, and smoking and smokeless tobacco in La.

Proposed constitutional amendment provides for the levying of an additional tax upon cigarettes and other tobacco products as follows:

- (1) Upon cigarettes, a tax of sixty-eight twentieths of one cent per cigarette, or 3.4¢ per cigarette or 68¢ per pack of 20 cigarettes.
- (2) Upon other tobacco products, including cigars, smoking tobacco, and smokeless tobacco, a tax of 15% of the manufacturer's invoice price.

Proposed constitutional amendment authorizes the dedication of the monies generated as a result of this additional tax as provided by law.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held November 4, 2014.

Effective Jan. 1, 2015.

(Adds Const. Art. VII, Section 4.2)