

SENATE BILL NO. 201

BY SENATOR ALLAIN

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A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing to amend Article VII, Section 10(F)(2)(b) of the Constitution of Louisiana and to enact Article VII, Section 10(F)(4)(h), (i), (j), (k), and (l) of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to eliminating deficits in the current and ensuing fiscal year; to revise the circumstances that would allow the reduction of constitutionally protected expenditures and reductions to eliminate a projected deficit in an ensuing fiscal year; to provide for additional exceptions; to provide and to specify an election for submission of the proposition to electors and provide a ballot proposition.

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, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to amend Article VII, Section 10(F)(2)(b) of the Constitution of Louisiana and to enact Article VII, Section 10(F)(4)(h), (i), (j), (k), and (l) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

§10. Expenditure of State Funds

Section 10.

* * *

(F) Projected Deficit.

* * *

(2)

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(b)~~(i)~~ Notwithstanding any other provision of this constitution to the contrary, for the purposes of the budget estimate and enactment of the budget for the next fiscal year, when the official forecast of recurring revenues for the next fiscal year is at least one percent less than the official forecast for the current fiscal year, or at any time when the official forecast of recurring revenues for the next fiscal year

1 has been reduced by at least one percent from the most recently adopted
2 estimate for the ensuing fiscal year, the following ~~procedure~~ **procedures** may be
3 employed to avoid a budget deficit in the next fiscal year.:

4 (aa) An amount not to exceed five percent of the total appropriations or
5 allocations for the current fiscal year from any fund established by law or this
6 constitution shall be available for expenditure in the next fiscal year for a purpose
7 other than as specifically provided by law or this constitution.

8 (bb) An amount not to exceed one percent of the balance in the current
9 fiscal year from any fund established by this constitution shall be available in
10 the next fiscal year for a purpose other than as specifically provided by law or
11 this constitution.

12 (ii) For the purposes of this Subsubparagraph, an amount not to exceed one
13 percent of the current fiscal year appropriation for expenditures required by Article
14 VIII, Section 13(B) of this constitution shall be available for expenditures for other
15 purposes in the next fiscal year. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this
16 constitution to the contrary, monies made available as authorized under this
17 Subsubparagraph may be transferred to a fund for which revenues have been forecast
18 to be less than the revenues in the current fiscal year for such fund, or at any time
19 when the official forecast of recurring revenues for the next fiscal year has been
20 reduced by at least one percent from the most recently adopted estimate for the
21 ensuing fiscal year. Monies transferred as a result of the budget actions authorized
22 by this Subsubparagraph are deemed available for appropriation and expenditure, but
23 in no event shall the aggregate amount of any such transfers exceed the amount of
24 ~~the difference between the official forecast for the current fiscal year and the next~~
25 ~~fiscal year~~ projected deficit for the next fiscal year due to the reduction in the
26 official forecast as contained in this Subsubparagraph.

27 * * *

28 (4) The provisions of Subparagraphs (1) and (2) of this Paragraph shall not
29 be applicable to, nor affect:

30 * * *

1 (Amends Article VII, Section 10(F)(2)(b); adds Article VII, Section
2 10(F)(4)(h), (i), (j), (k), and (l))

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES