

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 263

BY REPRESENTATIVE STOKES

TAX/CORP INCOME: Levies a flat tax on corporations and eliminates the deduction for federal income taxes paid for purposes of computing corporate income taxes

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 47:93(B), 241, 287.12, 287.69, 287.442(B)(1), 293(4)(b)(ii),

3 300.6(A), and 300.7(A), to enact R.S. 47:55(6), and to repeal R.S. 47:287.79, 287.83,

4 and 287.85, relative to income tax; to provide relative to the rate of the corporation

5 income tax; to provide relative to the deductibility of federal income taxes; to repeal

6 deductibility of federal income taxes paid for purposes of calculating corporate

7 income taxes; to provide for applicability; to provide for effectiveness; and to

8 provide for related matters.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. R.S. 47:93(B), 241, 287.12, 287.69, 287.442(B)(1), 293(4)(b)(ii),

11 300.6(A), and 300.7(A) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 47:55(6) is hereby

12 enacted to read as follows:

13 §55. Deductions from gross income; taxes generally

14 In computing net income, there shall be allowed as deductions all taxes paid

15 or accrued within the taxable year except:

16 * * *

17 (6) Federal income taxes paid by corporations and entities taxed as

18 corporations.

19 * * *

1 §93. Period for which deductions and credits shall be taken

2 * * *

3 B. The proper year in which to claim deductions for federal income and
4 excess profits taxes allowable under the provisions of R.S. 47:55 shall be determined
5 as follows, regardless of the method of accounting regularly employed by the
6 taxpayer:

7 (1) The amount of tax shown to be due upon the federal income tax return
8 of the individual or fiduciary taxpayer, as filed, shall be allowed as a deduction ~~in~~ on
9 the state individual or fiduciary income tax return for the same period as that for
10 which such federal return is filed.

11 (2) Federal income and excess profits taxes paid after the filing of the federal
12 return in addition to the amount disclosed to be due by the return as filed shall be
13 allowed as a deduction ~~in~~ on the state individual or fiduciary income tax return for
14 that period if it is not prescribed. If it is prescribed, the deduction for such additional
15 taxes shall be allowed as a deduction in the state return for the period in which such
16 additional tax is paid. ~~This Subsection shall apply to all such payments after~~
17 ~~December 31, 1973.~~

18 * * *

19 §241. Net income subject to tax

20 A. The net income of a nonresident individual ~~or a corporation~~ subject to the
21 tax imposed by this Chapter shall be the sum of the net allocable income earned
22 within or derived from sources within this state, as defined in R.S. 47:243, and the
23 net apportionable income derived from sources in this state, as defined in R.S.
24 47:244, less the amount of federal income taxes attributable to the net allocable
25 income and net apportionable income derived from sources in this state. The amount
26 of federal income taxes to be so deducted shall be that portion of the total federal
27 income tax which is levied with respect to the particular income derived from
28 sources in this state to be computed in accordance with rules and regulations of the
29 collector of revenue. Proper adjustment shall be made for the actual tax rates

1 applying to different classes of income and for all differences in the computation of
2 net income for purposes of federal income taxation as compared to the computation
3 of net income under this Chapter. Where the allocation of the tax is to be based on
4 a ratio of the amount of net income of a particular class, both the numerator and the
5 denominator of the fraction used in determining the ratio shall be computed on the
6 basis that such net income is determined for federal income tax purposes.

7 B. The net income of a corporation subject to the tax imposed by this
8 Chapter shall be the sum of the net allocable income earned within or derived from
9 sources within this state, as defined in R.S. 47:243, and the net apportionable income
10 derived from sources in this state, as defined in R.S. 47:244.

11 * * *

12 §287.12. Rates of tax

13 The tax to be assessed, levied, collected, and paid upon the Louisiana taxable
14 income of every corporation shall be computed at the rate of:

15 ~~(1) Four percent upon the first twenty-five thousand dollars of Louisiana~~
16 ~~taxable income.~~

17 ~~(2) Five percent upon the amount of Louisiana taxable income above twenty-~~
18 ~~five thousand dollars but not in excess of fifty thousand dollars.~~

19 ~~(3) Six percent on the amount of Louisiana taxable income above fifty~~
20 ~~thousand dollars but not in excess of one hundred thousand dollars.~~

21 ~~(4) Seven percent on the amount of Louisiana taxable income above one~~
22 ~~hundred thousand dollars but not in excess of two hundred thousand dollars.~~

23 ~~(5) Eight percent~~ three and ninety-five one hundredths of one percent on all
24 Louisiana taxable income ~~in excess of two hundred thousand dollars.~~

25 * * *

26 §287.69. Louisiana taxable income defined

27 "Louisiana taxable income" means Louisiana net income, after adjustments;
28 ~~less the federal income tax deduction allowed by R.S. 47:287.85. "After adjustments"~~

1 means after the application of the net operating loss adjustment allowed by R.S.
2 47:287.86.

3 * * *
4 §287.442. Exceptions to taxable year of inclusion; taxable year deductions taken

5 * * *

6 B. Period for which deductions and credits shall be taken.

7 (1) ~~The taxable year in which to claim the federal income tax deduction~~
8 ~~allowed by R.S. 47:287.85 shall be determined as follows, regardless of the method~~
9 ~~of accounting regularly employed by the taxpayer:~~

10 (a) ~~The federal income tax deduction may be claimed for the same taxable~~
11 ~~year in which the federal income tax sought to be deducted is incurred, provided the~~
12 ~~taxpayer files a federal income tax return for such taxable year or is included with~~
13 ~~affiliates in a consolidated federal income tax return for such taxable year.~~

14 ~~(b)(i)~~ Taxable year for adjustments to taxpayer's federal income tax return.
15 Except as otherwise provided in this Subparagraph, adjustments affecting federal
16 taxable income which are made to the taxpayer's income tax return subsequent to
17 filing, whether made because of a deficiency proposed by the government, a court
18 order, an amended return, or other appropriate instrument or act, showing an
19 overpayment or a deficiency shall be taken into account for purposes of this Part in
20 the period for which the return was filed, unless the prescriptive period for the
21 collection of tax or the refund or credit of overpayments, as the case may be, has
22 expired. If the applicable prescriptive period has expired, the additional tax paid by
23 the taxpayer in the case of an underpayment or the refund or credit received by the
24 taxpayer in the case of an overpayment shall be for the taxable year such tax was
25 paid, such refund was received, or such credit was allowed, as the case may be.

26 ~~(ii)~~(b) When a federal refund results from transactions or conditions which
27 arise after the close of the taxable year for which the refund is made, such federal
28 refund shall be taken into account, for purposes of this Part, for the taxable year in
29 which arose the transactions or conditions causing the refund.

1 (c) Taking federal adjustments into account. ~~A payment of additional federal~~
 2 ~~tax upon income which has borne Louisiana tax shall be taken into account by~~
 3 ~~decreasing taxable income. That portion, if any, of such additional federal tax~~
 4 ~~payment which would be disallowed as a deduction under either R.S. 47:287.81 or~~
 5 ~~R.S. 47:287.83 shall be excluded from such adjustment.~~ Refunds or credits of
 6 federal overpayments, including refunds or credits created by the carryback of a
 7 federal net operating loss, shall be taken into account by increasing Louisiana net
 8 income or decreasing the Louisiana net loss, as the case may be. That portion, if any,
 9 of the federal refund or credit of an overpayment which has not previously been
 10 charged against or deducted from Louisiana net income shall be excluded from such
 11 adjustment.

12 (d) Adjustments made to the Louisiana return. Adjustments to a return filed
 13 pursuant to this Part, whether initiated by the secretary or the taxpayer, shall be taken
 14 into account in the taxable year for which the return was filed in accordance with
 15 rules, regulations, or forms prescribed by the secretary.

* * *

17 §293. Definitions

18 The following definitions shall apply throughout this Part, unless the context
 19 requires otherwise:

20 * * *

21 (4) "Federal income tax liability", for the purpose of this Part, means the
 22 total amount of tax due to the United States for the taxable period on the individual
 23 income tax return required to be filed by any taxpayer, except that:

24 * * *

25 (b)

26 * * *

27 (ii) Any determination to be made by the secretary as provided for in this
 28 Subparagraph ~~and in R.S. 47:287.85(C)(2)~~ shall be made in accordance with rules
 29 and regulations promulgated by the secretary and approved by the Senate Revenue

1 and Fiscal Affairs Committee and the House Committee on Ways and Means
2 meeting jointly.

3 * * *

4 §300.6. Louisiana taxable income of resident estate or trust

5 A. Definition. "Louisiana taxable income" of a resident estate or trust means
6 the taxable income of the estate or trust determined in accordance with federal law
7 for the same taxable year, as specifically modified by the provisions contained in
8 Subsection B of this Section, less a federal income tax deduction to be computed
9 ~~following the provisions of R.S. 47:287.83 and 287.85.~~ in accordance with the
10 following provisions:

11 (1) In computing Louisiana taxable income, no federal income tax deduction
12 shall be allowed on net income upon which no Louisiana income tax has been
13 incurred, or upon which, for any reason whatsoever, no Louisiana income tax will
14 be paid. For purposes of this Section, the federal income tax deduction may be
15 recomputed and reduced to reflect the application of a net operating loss adjustment.
16 When computing Louisiana taxable income, the secretary may consider reductions
17 to the federal income tax deduction in accordance with the provisions of this
18 Paragraph.

19 (2) The alternative minimum tax is a federal income tax deductible to the
20 extent that it is applicable to regular federal taxable income. Any alternative
21 minimum tax paid on tax preference items shall not be deductible. In accordance
22 with the provisions of this Paragraph, the secretary may determine the deductible
23 portion of the alternative minimum tax.

24 (3) For purposes of this Section, federal income taxes shall include taxes
25 based on net income, accumulated earnings, war profits, excess profits, personal
26 holding company income, and tax from recomputation of investment credit. The
27 amount of the federal income tax deduction shall be that portion of the total federal
28 income tax, after application of all credits, which is levied on income derived solely
29 from sources in this state as computed under rules and regulations prescribed by the

1 secretary. For purposes of federal income taxation as compared to the computation
 2 of net income under this Part, proper adjustment shall be made for the actual tax
 3 rates as applied to different classes of income and for all differences in the
 4 computation of net income.

5 (4) As used in this Subsection, the term "credits" shall not include
 6 overpayments of prior year taxes allowed as a credit, estimated tax payments or
 7 similar prepayments, credit for prior year alternative minimum tax that is allowed as
 8 a credit against the current regular federal income tax, or federal income tax credits
 9 determined by the secretary to be presidential disaster area disaster relief credits.

10 * * *

11 §300.7. Louisiana taxable income of nonresident estate or trust

12 A. Definition. "Louisiana taxable income" of a nonresident estate or trust
 13 means ~~such~~ the portion of the taxable income of the nonresident estate or trust
 14 determined in accordance with federal law for the same taxable year, as specifically
 15 modified by the provisions contained in Subsection C of this Section, that was earned
 16 within or derived from sources within this state, less a federal income tax deduction
 17 to be computed following the provisions of ~~R.S. 47:287.83 and 287.85~~ R.S. 47:300.6.

18 * * *

19 Section 2. R.S. 47:287.79, 287.83, and 287.85 are hereby repealed in their entirety.

20 Section 3. The provisions of this Act shall be applicable to all tax years beginning
 21 on and after January 1, 2020.

22 Section 4. This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2020, if the proposed
 23 amendment of Article VII of the Constitution of Louisiana contained in the Act which
 24 originated as House Bill No. ____ of this 2019 Regular Session of the Legislature is adopted
 25 at a statewide election and becomes effective.

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 263 Engrossed

2019 Regular Session

Stokes

Abstract: Repeals the deductibility of federal income taxes paid for purposes of calculating corporate income taxes and changes the corporate income tax rate from a graduated schedule of rates dependent on the taxable income of the taxpayer to a flat rate of 3.95%.

Present constitution and present law authorize a state deduction for federal income taxes paid for purposes of computing income taxes for the same period.

Proposed law repeals the present law provisions that authorize a state deduction for federal income taxes paid for purposes of calculating corporate income taxes.

Present law provides for the computation of La. taxable income for a resident estate or trust, including provisions for the federal income tax deduction, limitations of deductions for net income, provisions for the federal deduction for alternative minimum tax, and the authority of the secretary of the Dept. of Revenue to consider reductions to the federal income tax deduction and the determination of the deductible portion of an alternative minimum tax.

Proposed law retains present law except as it applies to the deductibility of federal income taxes.

Present law provides that the tax to be assessed, levied, collected, and paid on the La. taxable income of every corporation shall be computed at the following rates:

- (1) 4% on the first \$25,000 of La. taxable income.
- (2) 5% on La. taxable income above \$25,000 but not in excess of \$50,000.
- (3) 6% on La. taxable income above \$50,000 but not in excess of \$100,000.
- (4) 7% on La. taxable income above \$100,000 but not in excess of \$200,000.
- (5) 8% on all La. taxable income in excess of \$200,000.

Proposed law changes present law by deleting the graduated schedule of rates dependant on the amount of taxable income of the taxpayer in favor of a flat 3.95% corporate income tax rate.

Applicable for all taxable periods beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2020.

Effective Jan. 1, 2020, if the proposed amendment of Article VII of the Constitution of La. contained in the Act which originated as House Bill No. ___ of this 2019 R.S. of the Legislature is adopted at a statewide election and becomes effective.

(Amends R.S. 47:93(B), 241, 287.12, 287.69, 287.442(B)(1), 293(4)(b)(ii), 300.6(A), and 300.7(A); Adds R.S. 47:55(6); Repeals R.S. 47:287.79, 287.83, and 287.85)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Ways and Means to the original bill:

1. Make technical amendment.