HLS 22RS-548 ORIGINAL

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2022 Regular Session

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 6

BY REPRESENTATIVE MCCORMICK

TAX EXEMPTIONS: Removes wind and solar farms from ITEP

2 To amend the Louisiana Economic Development rule LAC 13:I.502, which provides for 3 definitions for purposes of the ad valorem industrial tax exemption program; to 4 provide for related matters; and to direct the Office of the State Register to print the 5 amendments in the Louisiana Administrative Code. 6 WHEREAS, Article VII, Section 21(F) of the Constitution of Louisiana provides that 7 the Louisiana Board of Commerce and Industry "with the approval of the governor, may 8 enter into contracts for the exemption from ad valorem taxes of a new manufacturing 9 establishment or an addition to an existing manufacturing establishment, on such terms and 10 conditions as the board, with approval of the governor, deems in the best interest of the 11 state"; and 12 WHEREAS, in June of 2017 and August of 2018, the Department of Economic 13 Development promulgated rules in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to 14 govern the application process for the Industrial Tax Exemption Program established in 15 Article VII, Section 21(F) of the Constitution of Louisiana; and 16 WHEREAS, R.S. 49:969 authorizes the legislature, by Concurrent Resolution, to 17 suspend, amend, or repeal any rule or regulation or body of rules or regulations adopted by 18 a state department, agency, board, or commission. 19 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of Louisiana that LAC 20 13:I.502 is hereby amended to read as follows:

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CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words <u>underscored</u> are additions.

1	§502. Definitions
2	Addition to a Manufacturing Establishment -
3	1.a. a capital expenditure for property that would meet the standard of a new
4	manufacturing establishment if the addition were treated as a stand-alone
5	establishment;
6	b. a capital expenditure for property that is directly related to the
7	manufacturing operations of an existing manufacturing establishment; or
8	c. an installation or physical change made to a manufacturing establishment
9	that increases its value, utility or competitiveness;
10	2. maintenance capital, required environmental capital upgrades, and
11	replacement parts, except those replacements required in the rehabilitation or
12	restoration of an establishment, to conserve as nearly, and as long as possible,
13	original condition, shall not qualify as an addition to a manufacturing establishment;
14	3. expenses associated with the rehabilitation or restoration of an
15	establishment as provided for in §511 shall be included as an addition to a
16	manufacturing establishment.
17	Beginning of Construction—the first day on which foundations are started or,
18	where foundations are unnecessary, the first day on which installations of the
19	manufacturing establishment begins.
20	Board—Board of Commerce and Industry.
21	Capital Expenditure—the cost associated with a new manufacturing
22	establishment or an addition to an existing manufacturing establishment, including
23	purchasing or improving real property and tangible personal property, whose useful
24	life exceeds one year and which is used in the conduct of business.
25	Department—Louisiana Department of Economic Development.
26	Establishment—an economic unit at a single physical location.
27	Exhibit A—a fully executed agreement between the department and the
28	applicant specifying the terms and conditions of the granting of the exemption
29	contract.

1	Integral—required to make whole the product being produced.
2	ITEP Ready—a parish that has provided for continuous local governmental
3	entity approval or rejection for all industrial ad valorem tax exemption applications
4	within the parish.
5	Job—positions of employment that are:
6	1. new (not previously existing in the state) or retained;
7	2. permanent (without specific term);
8	3. full-time (working 30 or more hours per week);
9	4. employed directly, by an affiliate or through contract labor;
10	5. based at the manufacturing establishment;
11	6. filled by a United States citizen who is domiciled in Louisiana or who
12	becomes domiciled in Louisiana within 60 days of employment; and
13	7. any other terms of employment as negotiated in the exhibit A
14	including a requirement that in order to qualify as a job, a basic health benefits plan
15	is or has been offered in conjunction with the position of employment.
16	Local Governmental Entity—the parish governing authority, school board,
17	sheriff, and any municipality in which the manufacturing establishment is or will be
18	located.
19	Maintenance Capital—costs incurred to conserve as nearly as possible the
20	original condition.
21	Manufacturer—a person or business who engages in manufacturing at a
22	manufacturing establishment. A manufacturer shall not include a wind or solar farm.
23	Manufacturing—working raw materials by means of mass or custom
24	production, including fabrication, applying manual labor or machinery into wares
25	suitable for use or which gives new shapes, qualities or combinations to matter which
26	already has gone through some artificial process. The resulting products must be
27	suitable for use as manufactured products that are placed into commerce for sale or
28	sold for use as a component of another product to be placed, and placed into

1	commerce for sale. Manufacturing shall not include the creation of any product by
2	a wind or solar farm.
3	Mega-Project—a manufacturing establishment that provides all of the
4	following:
5	1. 500 jobs, employed directly, only, and otherwise meeting the
6	definition of jobs, which shall generate a minimum of \$20,000,000 in net new
7	payroll within three years of the beginning of operations; and
8	a minimum of \$100,000,000 in capital expenditures. A wind or solar
9	farm shall not be considered a mega-project.
10	Obsolescence—the inadequacy, disuse, outdated or non-functionality of
11	facilities, infrastructure, equipment or product technologies due to the effects of
12	time, decay, changing market conditions, invention and adoption of new product
13	technologies or changing consumer demands.
14	Qualified Disaster—
15	1. a disaster which results from:
16	a. an act of terror directed against the United States or any of its allies;
17	or
18	b. any military action involving the Armed Forces of the United States
19	and resulting from violence or aggression against the United States or any of its
20	allies (or threat thereof), but not including training exercises;
21	2. any disaster which, with respect to the area in which the
22	manufacturing establishment is located, resulted in a subsequent determination by
23	the president of the United States that such area warrants assistance by the federal
24	government under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance
25	Act;
26	3. a disaster which is determined by an applicable federal, state, or local
27	authority (as determined by the secretary) to warrant assistance from the federal,
28	state, or local government, or agency or instrumentality thereof; or

1	4. any other extraordinary event that destroys or renders all or a portion
2	of the manufacturing establishment inoperable.
3	Rehabilitation—the extensive renovation of a building or project that is
4	intended to cure obsolescence or to repurpose a facility.
5	Required Environmental Capital Upgrades—upgrades required by any state
6	or federal governmental agency in order to avoid fines, closures or other penalty.
7	Environmental upgrades demonstrated to be in excess of state and federal
8	governmental agency requirements shall not be considered required environmental
9	capital upgrades.
0	Restoration—repairs to bring a building or structure to at least its original
1	form or an improved condition.
12	Secretary—secretary of the Louisiana Department of Economic
13	Development.
4	Site—one or more contiguous parcels of land which are under the control of
15	the manufacturing establishment or which contains certain assets of the
16	manufacturing establishment.
17	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the rules as amended by the provisions of this
18	Resolution shall apply to industrial ad valorem tax exemption applications filed on or after
9	July 1, 2022.
20	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
21	Office of the State Register.
22	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the office of the state register is hereby directed
23	to have the amendments to LAC 13:I.502 printed and incorporated into the Louisiana
24	Administrative Code.

## **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)]

HCR 6 Original

2022 Regular Session

**McCormick** 

**Abstract:** Removes wind farms and solar farms from the Industrial Ad Valorem Tax Exemption (ITEP).

<u>Present law</u> comes from administrative rules promulgated by the Department of Economic Development.

The rules comprising <u>present law</u> serve as the regulatory framework for a state incentive program which offers a tax incentive for manufacturers that make a commitment to jobs and payroll in the state.

<u>Present law</u> defines terms, including "manufacturer", "manufacturing", and "mega-project" as follows:

- (1) "Manufacturer" means a person or business who engages in manufacturing at a manufacturing establishment.
- (2) "Manufacturing" means raw materials by means of mass or custom production, including fabrication, applying manual labor or machinery into wares suitable for use or which gives new shapes, qualities or combinations to matter which already has gone through some artificial process. The resulting products must be suitable for use as manufactured products that are placed into commerce for sale or sold for use as a component of another product to be placed, and placed into commerce for sale.
- (3) "Mega-Project" means a manufacturing establishment that provides all of the following:
  - (a) Five hundred jobs, employed directly, only, and otherwise meeting the definition of jobs, which shall generate a minimum of \$20,000,000 in net new payroll within three years of the beginning of operations; and
  - (b) A minimum of \$100,000,000 in capital expenditures.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains the definitions in <u>present law</u> but amends the three definitions listed above to provide the following, respectively:

- (1) A "manufacturer" shall not include a wind or solar farm.
- (2) "Manufacturing" shall not include the creation of any product by a wind or solar farm.
- (3) A wind or solar farm shall not be considered a "mega-project".

<u>Proposed law</u> would apply to industrial ad valorem tax exemption applications filed on or after July 1, 2022.

The changes made to <u>present law</u> in <u>proposed law</u> have the net effect of removing wind and solar farms from the ITEP incentive program.

(Amends LAC 13:I.502)

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