TAX/FRANCHISE/CORPORATE. Phases-out the corporate franchise tax. (See Act)

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 47:601(D)(2) and 1675(J) and to enact R.S. 47:601(E) and 1675(K), relative to the corporation franchise tax; to provide for the reduction of franchise tax under certain circumstances; to provide for the utilization of credits against repealed taxes; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 47:601(D)(2) and 1675(J) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 47:601(E) and 1675(K) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§601. Imposition of tax

D.(1) Except as otherwise provided in R.S. 47:601.1 or 601.2, for taxable periods beginning on or after January 1, 2023, the annual rate of tax shall be two dollars and seventy-five cents for each one thousand dollars, or major fraction thereof, in excess of three hundred thousand dollars of taxable capital, as modified by Subsection E of this Section.

by Subsection E of this Section.

Coding: Words which are struck through are deletions from existing law; words in boldface type and underscored are additions.
E. (1) For franchise tax periods beginning on or after January 1, 2025, and before January 1, 2031, the tax levied pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter shall be reduced by twenty-five percent for each year that monies are deposited into the Revenue Stabilization Trust Fund in accordance with Article VII, Section 10.15(D) of the Constitution of Louisiana and R.S. 39:100.112(D).

(2) The reduction shall be effective for taxable periods beginning on or after January first of the year following the monies being deposited into the Revenue Stabilization Trust Fund in accordance with Paragraph (1) of this Subsection.

(3) If the tax levied pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter is reduced by one hundred percent, no franchise tax shall be assessed, levied, or collected by the state nor paid by domestic or foreign corporations on taxable capital.

§1675. General administrative provisions for credits against income and corporation franchise tax

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J. Credit utilization against repealed taxes. Tax credits that were available to be applied against a tax that was repealed and that were earned in a tax period prior to the repeal of the tax, may continue to be applied against that tax for any applicable period prior to the repeal of the tax until the credit either expires or is exhausted. Nothing in this Subsection shall be interpreted to authorize an expansion of any provision of any tax credit.

K. Documentation for tax credits.

(1) Record retention.

(a) For credits with no carry forward provision, original records supporting any credit claimed must be maintained for four years following the date the return was filed claiming the credit.

(b) For credits with a carry forward provision, original records supporting the credit must be maintained for four years following the date on which the last return
was filed claiming the credit.

(2) Documentation supporting a tax credit shall be provided by a taxpayer claiming a tax credit as required by rule or on forms or instructions provided by the secretary.

Section 2. This Act shall take effect and become operative if and when the Act which originated as Senate Bill No. 6 of this 2023 Regular Session of the Legislature becomes effective.

The original instrument was prepared by Leonore Heavey. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Danielle Clapinski.

DIGEST
SB 1 Reengrossed 2023 Regular Session Allain

Present law levies a corporation franchise tax on domestic corporations and foreign corporations that exercise their charter, or are qualified to do business or actually do business in this state, or own or use any part or all of their capital, plant, or any other property in this state.

Proposed law provides for a 25 percent reduction in the corporation franchise tax rate in each year the combined corporation income and franchise tax collections exceed $600 million and money is deposited into the Revenue Stabilization Trust fund. The rate reduction shall be effective January first of the year following money being deposited into the Revenue Stabilization Trust Fund. Further provides the reductions are only allowed based upon collections during franchise tax periods beginning on or after January 1, 2025, and before January 1, 2031.

Proposed law clarifies that credits that were earned in a tax period prior to the repeal of the tax may continue to be used against that tax for any applicable period prior to the repeal of the tax.

Effective when the Act which originated as Senate Bill No. 6 of this 2023 Regular Session of the Legislature becomes effective.

(Amends R.S. 47:601(D)(2) and 1675(J); adds R.S. 47:601(E) and 1675(K))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Revenue and Fiscal Affairs to the original bill

1. Phases-out the franchise tax over a four-year period instead of repealing it.
2. Removes provisions of proposed law that disallow utilization of tax credits against franchise tax.
3. Changes effectiveness of proposed law to when the Act which originated as Senate Bill No. 6 of this 2023 Regular Session of the Legislature becomes effective.
4. Makes technical changes.

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Removes the automatic phase-out of the franchise tax and provides for a 25 percent per year rate reduction when certain requirements are met within a six year window.