2015 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 518

BY REPRESENTATIVE STOKES

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS: (Constitutional Amendment) Provides for matters which may be considered in a regular session convening in an odd-numbered year

1	A JOINT RESOLUTION		
2	Proposing to amend Article III, Section $2(A)(4)(b)$ of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative		
3	to regular sessions of the legislature; to provide for the consideration of certain		
4	matters during certain regular sessions; 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		
9	amend Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:		
10	§2. Sessions		
11	Section 2.(A) Annual Session.		
12	* * *		
13	(4)		
14	* * *		
15	(b) During any session convening in an odd-numbered year, no matter		
16	intended to have the effect of law, including any suspension of law, shall be		
17	introduced or considered unless its object is to enact the General Appropriation Bill;		
18	enact the comprehensive capital budget; make an appropriation; levy or authorize a		

Page 1 of 3

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

1	new tax; increase an existing tax; levy, authorize, increase, decrease, or repeal a fee;		
2	dedicate legislate with regard to the dedication of revenue; legislate with regard to		
3	tax exemptions, exclusions, deductions, reductions, repeals, or credits taxes; or		
4	legislate with regard to the issuance of bonds. In addition, a matter intended to have		
5	the effect of law, including a measure proposing a suspension of law, which is not		
6	within the subject matter restrictions provided in this Subparagraph may be		
7	considered at any such session if:		
8	(i) It is prefiled no later than the deadline provided in Subparagraph (2) of		
9	this Paragraph, provided that the member shall not prefile more than five such		
10	matters pursuant to this Subsubparagraph; or		
11	(ii) Its object is to enact a local or special law which is required to be and has		
12	been advertised in accordance with Section 13 of this Article and which is not		
13	prohibited by the provisions of Section 12 of this Article.		
14	* * *		
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 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 	Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on October 24, 2015. Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at the election, there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as follows: Do you support an amendment to eliminate certain restrictions on legislation regarding the dedication of revenue and taxes during a regular legislative session held in an odd-numbered year and to allow such legislation to be		

Page 2 of 3

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 518 Reengrossed	2015 Regular Session	Stokes
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Abstract: Allows the consideration of any legislation regarding taxes or the dedication of revenue during a regular session convening in an odd-numbered year.

<u>Present constitution</u> provides that during any session convening in an odd-numbered year, no matter shall be introduced or considered unless its object is to enact the General Appropriation Bill or the comprehensive capital budget, to make an appropriation, levy or authorize a new tax, increase an existing tax, levy, authorize, increase, decrease, or repeal a fee, dedicate revenue, legislate with regard to tax exemptions, exclusions, deductions, reductions, repeals, or credits, or legislate with regard to the issuance of bonds. Provides exceptions to this subject matter limitation.

<u>Proposed constitutional amendment</u> regarding the subject matters which may be considered during a regular session convening in an odd-numbered year, replaces "dedicate revenue" with the broader "legislate with regard to the dedication of revenue" and replaces "levy or authorize a new tax, increase an existing tax, and legislate with regard to tax exemptions, exclusions, deductions, reductions, repeals, or credits" with the broader "legislate with regard to taxes" and otherwise retains present constitution.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held Oct. 24, 2015.

(Amends Const. Art. III, §2(A)(4)(b))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

- The Committee Amendments Proposed by <u>House Committee on House and</u> <u>Governmental Affairs</u> to the <u>original</u> bill:
- 1. Remove the proposed additions of tax abatements, incentives, and rebates and tax administration, collection, imputation, and reporting to the subject matter jurisdiction of the regular session convening in an odd-numbered year.
- 2. Change "dedicate revenue" to "legislate with regard to the dedication of revenue" and change "levy or authorize a new tax, increase an existing tax, and legislate with regard to tax exemptions, exclusions, deductions, reductions, repeals, or credits" to "legislate with regard to taxes" in the subject matter jurisdiction regular session convening in an odd-numbered year.
- 3. Make conforming changes to the ballot language.
- The Committee Amendments Proposed by <u>House Committee on Civil Law and</u> <u>Procedure</u> to the <u>engrossed</u> bill:
- 1. Add technical change to ballot language specifying that certain restrictions on legislation introduced in odd-numbered years are being eliminated.