2018 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 179

### BY REPRESENTATIVE STEVE CARTER

# TAX/GASOLINE TAX: (Constitutional Amendment) Authorizes political subdivisions in certain parishes to levy taxes on motor fuel

1	A JOINT RESOLUTION
2	Proposing to amend Article VII, Sections 4(C) and 27(A) and (B)(2) of the Constitution of
3	Louisiana, to provide an exception, applicable in specified parishes, to the
4	prohibition on the levy of taxes on motor fuel by local governments; to provide for
5	submission of the proposed amendment to the electors; and to provide for related
6	matters.
7	Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members
8	elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of
9	Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to
10	amend Article VII, Sections 4(C) and 27(A) and (B)(2) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to
11	read as follows:
12	§4. Income Tax; Severance Tax; Political Subdivisions
13	* * *
14	(C) Political Subdivisions; Prohibitions. (1) A Except as provided in
15	Subparagraph (2) of this Paragraph, a political subdivision of the state shall not levy
16	a severance tax, income tax, inheritance tax, or tax on motor fuel.
17	(2) The legislature may, by local law, authorize a political subdivision to levy
18	a tax on motor fuel in the following parishes: Ascension, East Baton Rouge,
19	Iberville, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge.
20	* * *

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

1

§27. Transportation Trust Fund

2 Section 27.(A) Creation of fund. Effective January 1, 1990, there shall be 3 established in the state treasury as a special permanent trust fund the Transportation 4 Trust Fund ("the trust fund") in which shall be deposited the "excess revenues" as defined herein which are a portion of the avails received in each year from all taxes 5 6 levied by the state on gasoline and motor fuels and on special fuels (said avails being 7 referred to as the "revenues") as provided herein. After satisfying pledges respecting 8 that portion of the revenues attributable to the tax rates in effect at the time of such 9 pledges for the payment of obligations for bonds or other evidences of indebtedness 10 on the effective date of this Section, the treasurer shall allocate such portion of the 11 revenues received in each year as necessary to pay all principal, interest, premium, 12 if any, and other obligations incident to the issuance, security, and payment in 13 respect of bonds as authorized in Paragraph (C) hereof. Thereafter, the portion of the 14 revenues remaining shall be deposited in the Bond Security and Redemption Fund 15 in the state treasury. After (1) the payment of any obligations for bonds or other 16 evidences of indebtedness in existence on the effective date of this Section which are 17 secured by revenues; (2) payments in respect of bonds authorized in Paragraph (C) 18 hereof; and (3) credit to the Bond Security and Redemption Fund, the treasurer shall 19 deposit in and credit to the trust fund all of the revenues remaining (the "excess 20 revenues") from the avails of all taxes levied by the state on gasoline and motor fuels 21 and on special fuels, as follows: for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1989, the avails 22 of twelve cents per gallon of said taxes received on and after January 1, 1990; for the 23 fiscal year beginning on July 1, 1990, the avails of fourteen cents per gallon of said 24 taxes; for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 1991, and thereafter, the avails of all 25 taxes levied by the state on gasoline and motor fuels and on special fuels. Purchases 26 of gasoline, diesel fuel, or special fuels which are subject to excise tax under Chapter 27 7 of Subtitle II of Title 47 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950 shall be exempt 28 from the state sales tax and any sales tax levied by a political subdivision as defined 29 by Article VI, Section 44(2). All monies appropriated by the Federal Highway

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1	Administration and the Federal Aviation Administration, or their successors, eithe			
2	reimbursed or paid directly, shall be paid directly or deposited in and credited to the			
3	trust fund.			
4	(B)			
5	* * *			
6	(2) There is hereby established in the Transportation Trust Fund a special			
7	subfund to be known as the "Construction Subfund", hereinafter referred to as "the			
8	subfund", in which shall be deposited the avails of any new taxes that becom			
9	effective and are levied by the state on gasoline, motor fuels, or special fuels on o			
10	after July 1, 2017. The monies in the subfund shall be appropriated and dedicated			
11	solely for the direct costs associated with actual project delivery, construction, and			
12	maintenance of transportation and capital transit infrastructure projects of the state			
13	and local government. The monies in the subfund that are appropriated by the			
14	legislature to the Department of Transportation and Development, or its successor			
15	shall not be utilized by the department for the payment of employee wages an			
16	related benefits or employee retirement benefits.			
17	* * *			
18	Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted			
19	to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 6			
20	2018.			
21	Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at the election,			
22	there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitte			
23	to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read a			
24	follows:			
25	Do you support an amendment to allow the legislature to authorize local			
26	governments to levy a tax on motor fuel in the parishes of Ascension, East			
27	Baton Rouge, Iberville, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge? (Amends Article			
28	VII, Sections 4(C) and 27(A) and (B)(2))			

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#### 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 179 Original	2018 Regular Session	Steve Carter
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Abstract: Authorizes the legislature to authorize local governments in the following parishes to levy a tax on motor fuel: Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Iberville, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge.

Present constitution prohibits a local government from levying a tax on motor fuel.

<u>Proposed constitutional amendment</u> provides an exception to the prohibition; authorizes the legislature, by local law, to allow local governments in Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Iberville, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge to levy a tax on motor fuel.

<u>Present constitution</u>, retained by <u>proposed constitutional amendment</u>, also prohibits local governments from levying a severance tax, income tax, or inheritance tax.

<u>Present constitution</u> creates a Transportation Trust Fund and a Construction Subfund of the trust fund and provides for deposit of specified revenues from motor fuel taxes into such funds. Dedicates money in these funds to specified purposes relating to transportation infrastructure projects, state police, and flood control. <u>Proposed constitutional amendment</u> provides that only state taxes on motor fuel are dedicated to these funds.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held November 6, 2018.

(Amends Const. Art. VII, §§ 4(C) and 27(A) and (B)(2))