HLS 18RS-179 ORIGINAL

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 202

BY REPRESENTATIVE HAVARD

LOCAL GOVERNMENT: (Constitutional Amendment) Authorizes any political subdivision to charge discount rates to certain residents of the political subdivision for utility services

A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing to amend Article I, Section 3 of the Constitution of Louisiana and to add Article

VII, Section 14(F) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to authorize any political subdivision of the state to charge lower rates to certain residents of the political subdivision for utility services provided by the political subdivision; to provide for submission of the proposed amendment to the electors; and to provide for related matters.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to amend Article I, Section 3 of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

§3. Right to Individual Dignity

Section 3. No Except as otherwise provided in Article VII, Section 14(F) of this constitution, no person shall be denied the equal protection of the laws. No law shall discriminate against a person because of race or religious ideas, beliefs, or affiliations. No law shall arbitrarily, capriciously, or unreasonably discriminate against a person because of birth, age, sex, culture, physical condition, or political ideas or affiliations. Slavery and involuntary servitude are prohibited, except in the latter case as punishment for crime.

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

1	Section 2. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members
2	elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of
3	Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to add
4	Article VII, Section 14(F) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:
5	§14. Donation, Loan, or Pledge of Public Credit
6	* * *
7	(F) Nothing in this Section shall prevent a political subdivision from
8	charging residents over the age of sixty-five lower rates for utility services provided
9	by the political subdivision than those charged to residents under the age of sixty-
10	five.
11	Section 3. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted
12	to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 6,
13	2018.
14	Section 4. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at the election,
15	there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted
16	to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as
17	follows:
18	Do you support an amendment to authorize a political subdivision to charge
19	lower rates for utilities to residents over the age of sixty-five than those
20	charged to residents under the age of sixty-five? (Amends Article I, Section
21	3; Adds Article VII, Section 14(F))

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 202 Original

2018 Regular Session

Havard

Abstract: Authorizes any political subdivision to charge lower rates to certain residents of the political subdivision for utility services provided by the political subdivision.

<u>Present constitution</u> provides that no person shall be denied the equal protection of the laws.

<u>Proposed constitutional amendment</u> makes an exception with respect to certain charges imposed by political subdivisions.

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<u>Present constitution</u> prohibits the loan, pledge, or donation of funds, credit, property, or things of value of the state or any political subdivision of the state. Provides an extensive list of exceptions to this prohibition.

<u>Proposed constitutional amendment</u> retains <u>present constitution</u> and adds an exception for political subdivisions by authorizing them to charge lower rates to residents over the age of 65 than those charged to residents under the age of 65 for utility services provided by the political subdivision.

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

(Amends Const. Art I, §3; Adds Const. Art VII, §14(F))