

Session Wrap

2024 3rd Extraordinary Session

Louisiana Legislature



House Legislative Services Louisiana House of Representatives

December 4, 2024

All included legislation completed the legislative process.

2024 3rd Extraordinary Session

Convened November 6 Adjourned November 22

- "Called" by Governor's Proclamation No. 73

 JML 2024 to address revenue and taxation.
 - Legislators limited to filing and debating bills that fall within the 23 items included in the Governor's "call."
- Instruments Filed
 - 34 bills (25 House/9 Senate)
 - 3 resolutions



Taxes

Corporate Taxes

- <u>HB 3</u> repeals the corporate franchise tax and limits eligibility of certain credits claimed against corporate franchise tax applicable to tax years beginning January 1, 2026.
- <u>HB 2</u> replaces the graduated corporate income tax rates into a single rate of 5.5% with a standard deduction of \$20,000, beginning in tax year 2025.
- Repeals applicability of certain credits or exemptions to corporate income tax liabilities.
- Repeals or reduces granting of certain credits unless applied for or earned prior to July 1, 2025.
- Authorizes bonus depreciation and amortization for certain capital investments.
- Repeals refundability for certain credits.

Individual Income Tax

HB 10 applies a flat 3% individual income tax rate with increased standard deductions effective January 1, 2025.

- Increases the standard deductions from \$4,500 to \$12,500 for single individual and married-separate filers; from \$9,000 to \$25,000 for married-joint return, qualified surviving spouse, and head of household filers; and further adjusts standard deductions by CPI-U inflation in subsequent years.
- Doubles the pension and annuity income exemption for filers aged 65+ from \$6,000 to \$12,000, and further adjusts by CPI-U inflation in subsequent years.
- Authorizes bonus depreciation and amortization for certain capital investments.
- Sunsets claiming certain credits against individual income tax.

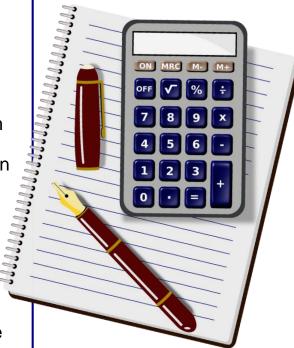
Sales Tax

- <u>HB 8</u> adds digital products, beginning on January 1, 2025, to the sales and use tax base. Digital products include digital audio or audiovisual works, books, games, applications, periodicals, other information services, and access to certain software services.
- HB 10 increases the combined state sales tax rate to 5%, effective January 1, 2025.

Ad Valorem Tax

HB 11

- Redesignates and statutorily enacts all sections of law regarding ad valorem taxes including the homestead exemption, special assessment level, millage adjustments, and other property tax exemptions in statute.
- Also authorizes an optional property tax exemption in parishes where the sheriff, school board, and the parish governing authority elect to exempt business inventory from ad valorem taxation.
 - Any parish that elects to exempt 100% of business inventory from ad valorem tax will receive a payment from the state equal to the greater of three times the amount of ad valorem taxes collected on business inventory within the parish for the 2023 tax year or \$1M.
 - Any parish that elects to phase-in the exemption shall receive a payment equal to the greater of the amount of ad valorem taxes collected on business inventory within the parish for the 2023 tax year or \$500,000.
 - Allows a parish to elect to reduce the percentage of fair market value applicable to business inventory if approved by the sheriff, school board, and parish governing authority. Any decrease in the total amount of ad valorem tax collected by the taxing authority as a result of the reduction be absorbed by the taxing authority.



Government Finance

<u>HB 7</u>

Revises Article VII of the Constitution to lower the maximum rate of income tax, increase income tax deductions for citizens over 65, provide for a government growth limit, modify operation of certain constitutional funds, provide for property tax exemptions retaining the homestead exemption and exemption for religious organizations, provide a permanent teacher salary increase by requiring a surplus payment to teacher retirement debt, and make other modifications.

HB 12

Creates, amends, makes technical changes, and repeals certain statutory dedications in the state treasury.

HB 13

Requires the calculation and adoption each year of a Government Growth Limit that restricts the growth in the total amount of recurring monies from the State General Fund means of finance that the legislature may appropriate in any fiscal year.

<u>HB 5</u>

Requires school systems to use savings attributable to the state's payment of certain unfunded accrued liability of the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana to provide a salary increase for teachers and other school employees.

Minerals



HB 23

- Abolishes the Oilfield Site Restoration Commission and transfers its authority to the Natural Resources Trust Authority to administer with oversight of the State Mineral and Energy Board.
- Removes the average New York Mercantile
 Exchange as the benchmark used to determine the
 price of oil and natural gas.
- Increases existing site restoration fees that are imposed on wells that produce oil or natural gas.

HB 24

- Gives the State Mineral and Energy Board more authority related to leasing state-owned land for energy projects; increases the fees and deposits associated with these leases; and allows the board to include security interests in any collateral to secure payments under leases.
- Specifies that all revenues be allocated to the Mineral and Energy Operation Fund.
- Clarifies that no mineral lease shall exceed 5,000 acres and no solar production lease exceed 35 acres without oversight from the Senate Natural Resources Committee and House Natural Resources and Environment Committee.

Legislative Continuance

SB 9

- Reenacts legislative continuances and extensions of time for legislators and legislative employees that are a party or party's attorney in any criminal or civil case or administrative proceeding during legislative session or constitutional convention.
- Available any time between 21 days before the convening of and 30 days after the adjournment sine die of any session of the legislature or constitutional convention.
- Requires the proceeding, legal delay, or deadline to be reset to a date not less than 45 days from the date of adjournment sine die of any session of the legislature or constitutional convention.
- Outside the time frame of a legislative session or constitutional convention, a member of the legislature or legislative employee that is a party or an attorney for a party to an action may obtain a legislative continuance upon a showing of good cause.
- Civil prescriptive or preemptive periods, criminal statutes of limitations, and criminal cases where the death penalty is sought are excluded from legislative continuances.
- Prospective and retroactive to all actions filed or pending on or after October 25, 2024.

Constitutional Amendments

December 7, 2024

- <u>SB 177</u> increases the membership of the Judiciary Commission, allows the Supreme Court to sanction a judge upon an investigation by the Judiciary Commission, and specifies that the recommended sanction be instituted by the Judiciary Commission or a majority of the Supreme Court.
- <u>HB 48</u> requires that the legislature wait at least forty-eight hours after receipt of a conference committee report or amendments to a bill appropriating money before concurring in the report or the amendments.
- <u>HB 49</u> allows the legislature to extend a regular session in increments of two days up to a maximum of six days if necessary to pass a bill appropriating money.
- <u>SB 119</u> eliminates mandatory tax sales for nonpayment of property taxes and requires the legislature to provide for such procedures by law. It also limits the amount of penalty and interest on delinquent property taxes and allows for the postponement of property tax payments under certain circumstances.

March 29, 2025

- HB 7 revises Article VII of the Constitution to lower the maximum rate of income tax, increase
 income tax deductions for citizens over 65, provide for a government growth limit, modify
 operation of certain constitutional funds, provide for property tax exemptions retaining the homestead
 exemption and exemption for religious organizations, provide a permanent teacher salary increase by
 requiring a surplus payment to teacher retirement debt, and make other modifications.
- <u>SB 1</u> allows the Supreme Court to discipline out-of-state lawyers for unethical legal practices in the state of Louisiana and allows the legislature to establish trial courts of limited and specialized jurisdiction.
- <u>SB 5</u> requires the use of the earliest election date to fill judicial vacancies.
- <u>SB 2</u> allows the legislature to statutorily specify which felony crimes, when committed by a person under the age of 17, may be transferred for criminal prosecution as an adult.