

Louisiana Industrial Development Executives Association
2008 Regular Legislative Session
Legislative Actions on 6/16/08

BILL	AUTHOR	COMMITTEE	DESCRIPTION / DIGEST	CATEGORY	NOTES	STATUS			POSITION
HB 1	Fannin	Appropriations	Provides for the ordinary operating expenses of state government.	Budget		Passed House	Senate Finance 6/17/08		Monitor
HB 2	Greene	Appropriations; Previously Ways & Means	Provides for the capital outlay budget and program for FY 2008-2009.	Capital Outlay	Recommitted to Appropriations	Passed House	Recommitted to Senate Finance 6/17/08		Monitor
HB 208	Arnold	Governmental Affairs	Changes the name of the First Stop Shop to the office of Geauxbiz within the Department of State.	Workforce	Similar to SB 174	Passed House	Passed Senate	Signed by the Governor Act 127	Support
HB 334	Guillory	Criminal Justice	Creates the inmate rehabilitation and workforce development program.	Workforce	Review Position	Passed House	Passed Senate	Signed by the Governor Act 106	Monitor
HB 370	Henry	Health & Welfare	Prohibits use of public funds for human cloning.	Cloning	Amended to mirror federal guidelines; Covers SB 248 & SB 738	Passed House	Passed Senate	Signed by the Speaker of the House & President of the Senate	Oppose
HB 416	Ellington	Ways & Means	Requires a state or local taxing authority to pay sales and use tax rebates for allowed items within 90 days of receipt of the rebate request from a taxpayer.	Tax Rebates	State Rebates: 80% paid within 10 days, audited and completed within 90 days or interest owed; Local Rebates: claim paid within 90 days or interest owed (Same as HB 749 & SB 570)	Passed House	Passed Senate	Pending House Concurrence	Support

BILL	AUTHOR	COMMITTEE	DESCRIPTION / DIGEST	CATEGORY	NOTES	STATUS			POSITION
HB 422	Greene	Ways & Means	Repeals the obsolete statutes dealing with the inheritance tax effective January 1, 2010.	Inheritance Tax		Passed House	Passed Senate	House Rejected Senate Amendments ; Pending in Conference Committee	Support
HB 579	J.H. Smith	Ways & Means	Provides that refunds of tax overpayments shall be paid not later than 30 days after the entitlement to the refund has been finally determined either through administrative or court decision.	Tax Rebates		Passed House	Pending Senate Floor Action; Pending in Legislative Bureau		Support
HB 747	Robideaux	Ways & Means	Prohibits contingency fee contracts with private auditing firms and private counsel and requires certification of auditing firms. Limits the services that an auditing firm may provide to local tax collector and limits taxpayer costs with respect to additional taxes due as a result of certain audits.	Auditing Firms	Same as SB 289	Passed House	Senate Revenue & Fiscal Affairs		Monitor
HB 1018	Tucker	Appropriations	Creates and establishes the Workforce Education Fund to be used by the Board of Supervisors of the Community and Technical College System in accordance with a strategic plan to be developed exclusively for workforce education.	Workforce	Covers SB 420	Passed House	Pending Senate Final Passage		Support
HB 1072	Morrell	Ways & Means	Authorizes all port districts owning facilities along the Mississippi River to utilize tax increment financing to fund port expansion projects.	Ports		Passed House	Senate Revenue & Fiscal Affairs		Monitor
HB 1165	Honey	Labor & Industrial Relations	Relative to unemployment compensation, provides for an increase in the weekly benefit amount, establishes the duration of benefits, and creates a reduction in unemployment compensation contributions for employees.	Unemployment	Similar to SB 714	Passed House	Passed Senate	Signed by the Governor Act 169	Monitor

BILL	AUTHOR	COMMITTEE	DESCRIPTION / DIGEST	CATEGORY	NOTES	STATUS			POSITION
HB 1347	A. Badon	Senate Finance; House Education	Creates the Student Scholarships for Educational Excellence Program to provide scholarships to eligible students to attend participating public and nonpublic schools.	Scholarships	Similar to SB 795	Passed House	Passed Senate	Pending House Concurrence	Monitor
HCR 9	Peterson	Ways & Means	Urges and requests the Department of Economic Development to annually review and report on the effectiveness of certain tax exemptions and tax credits.	Tax Exemptions and Credits		Adopted by House	Adopted by the Senate	Signed by the Speaker of the House and President of the Senate: Filed with the Secretary of State	

BILL	AUTHOR	COMMITTEE	DESCRIPTION / DIGEST	CATEGORY	NOTES	STATUS			POSITION
SB 44	Cravins	Insurance	Authorizes a third invitation for grant applications under the Insure Louisiana Incentive Program and provides for the recovery of unearned grants.	Insurance		Passed Senate	Passed House	Signed by the President of the Senate & Speaker of the House; Sent to the Governor	Support
SB 56	Michot	Governmental Affairs	Allows a member of an appointed board or commission to recuse himself in the case of a conflict of interest.	Ethics		Passed Senate	Pending House Final Passage		Support
SB 87	Shaw	Revenue & Fiscal Affairs	Phases out the tax on incomes of individuals, estates, and trusts over a 10-year period at 10% per year beginning in 2008, and provides that certain refundable credits are still refundable even if there is little or no individual income tax.	Income Tax		Passed Senate	Passed House	Signed by the President of the Senate & Speaker of the House; Sent to the Governor	
SB 160	Cravins	Insurance	Provides for changes in homeowner's insurance policy deductibles and the application of deductibles in the event of loss.	Insurance		Passed Senate	Passed House	Senate Rejected House Amendments ; Pending in Conference Committee	Support
SB 174	Duplessis	Commerce, Consumer Protection, & International Affairs	Provides for a name change of the First Stop Shop within the Department of State to the Office of Geauxbiz.	Workforce	Similar to HB 208	Passed Senate	House & Governmental Affairs		Support
SB 186	Marionneaux	Judiciary A	Provides relative to certain prescriptive periods.	Prescriptive Periods		Pending Senate Final Passage			Monitor

BILL	AUTHOR	COMMITTEE	DESCRIPTION / DIGEST	CATEGORY	NOTES	STATUS			POSITION
SB 188	Marionneaux	Revenue & Fiscal Affairs	Recreates the Tax Free Shopping (Refund) Program set to terminate on 7/1/09.	Tax Free Shopping	Covers HB 423	Passed Senate	Passed House	Signed by the President of the Senate & Speaker of the House; Sent to the Governor	Support
SB 268	Duplessis	Education	Prohibits renewal of the charter of a failing school unless the school meets certain criteria.	Education		Passed Senate	House Education		Support
SB 286	Duplessis	Finance; Previously in Education	Provides for phased in universal access to the LA 4 Early Childhood Program and for participation by non-school system providers of early childhood education.	Education	Covers HB 722; Recommitted to Senate Finance	Passed Senate	Recommitted to House Appropriations		Support
SB 288	Kostelka	Revenue & Fiscal Affairs	Requires up to 10% of tax, penalty, and interest required to be transferred to the tax commission as a result of audits for deposit in its expense fund and prohibits the employment of private counsel by the tax commission on a contingency fee basis.	Tax Commission	Same as HB 435	Passed Senate	Pending House Final Passage		
SB 290	Kostelka	Finance; Previously in Revenue & Fiscal Affairs	Prohibits the Department of Revenue from hiring private counsel to 10% of tax due or on any contingency fee basis and authorizes payment of tax specialists at market rates from the Department of Revenue Tax Enforcement Equalization Fund; excludes local tax authorities but prohibits them from imposing attorney fees on a tax debtor.	Auditing Firms	Same as HB 692	Passed Senate	House Ways and Means		Monitor
SB 343	Duplessis	Commerce, Consumer Protection, & International Affairs	Extends the sunset for confidentiality of economic development negotiations from July 1, 2008, to July 1, 2012.	Extends Sunset		Passed Senate	Passed House		Support

BILL	AUTHOR	COMMITTEE	DESCRIPTION / DIGEST	CATEGORY	NOTES	STATUS			POSITION
SB 445	J.R. Smith	Revenue & Fiscal Affairs	Requires the payment of interest on refunds not disallowed and not paid within ninety days of request.	Tax Rebates	Industry Assistance Program	Passed Senate	Passed House	Adopted in Senate Concurrence	Support
SB 482	Cassidy	Education	Provides for the participation of certain students in the Board of Regents' dual enrollment program.	Workforce		Passed Senate	Passed House	Adopted in Senate Concurrence	Support
SB 499	Crowe	Governmental Affairs	Provides exception to the definition of lobbyist.	Lobbying		Passed Senate	Pending House Final Passage		
SB 612	Chaisson	Finance	Creates and provides for Louisiana Workforce Commission.	Workforce	Includes HB 1104	Passed Senate	Recommitted to House Appropriations		Support
SB 714	Scalise	Labor & Industrial Relations	Provides for changes in unemployment compensation benefits and employer contributions.	Unemployment	Similar to HB 1165	Passed Senate	House Labor & Industrial Relations		Monitor
SB 795	Duplessis	Finance; Previously in Education	Provides for the Student Scholarships for Educational Excellence Act.	Scholarships	Similar to HB 1347	Recommitted to Senate Finance			Monitor

The following bills will not move through the Legislature.

BILL	AUTHOR	COMMITTEE	DESCRIPTION / DIGEST	CATEGORY	NOTES	STATUS			POSITION
HB 364	White	Ways & Means	Expands definition of "new direct job" in the Quality Jobs Program Act to include facility management contractor's employees in certain circumstances.	Quality Jobs	Pending Study Results				Support
HB 381	Chandler	Ways & Means	(Constitutional Amendment) Increases the homestead exemption from \$7,500 to \$15,000 and requires the homestead exemption to be adjusted annually in accordance with increases in the Consumer Price Index.	Homestead Exemption	Similar to SB 19				Oppose
HB 423	Greene	Ways & Means	Changes the termination date of the La Tax Free Shopping Program from 2009 to 2013.	Tax Free Shopping	See SB 188				Support
HB 435	Robideaux	Ways & Means	Clarifies that itemized expense vouchers for tax commission appeals shall include but not be limited to the expenses related to the employment of legal counsel and expert appraiser expenses. Provides that the employment of private counsel by the tax commission shall not be on a contingency fee or any other basis dependent on the outcome of the matter. Prohibits the tax commission from receiving 10% of the additional tax, penalty, and interest collected as a result of its audits or examinations.	Tax Commission Vouchers	Same as SB 288				
HB 436	Arnold	Ways & Means	(Constitutional Amendment) Provides that a taxing authority shall have 45 days from the date that millages are adjusted downward, as required by present constitution, in which to vote on an increase in the millages.	Millage	Covers SB 609; Failed House Final Passage	Failed House Final Passage			Support

BILL	AUTHOR	COMMITTEE	DESCRIPTION / DIGEST	CATEGORY	NOTES	STATUS			POSITION
HB 440	Lorusso	Ways & Means	Provides that all sales and use taxes levied by any political subdivision in the state shall be collected, administered, and enforced by the state Dept. of Revenue.	Sales and Use Tax Collection	Stalled in Committee				Support
HB 442	Tucker	Ways & Means	(Constitutional Amendment) Provides that, effective July 1, 2009, sales and use taxes levied by political subdivisions shall be collected, administered, and enforced by the state Dept. of Revenue or its successor.	Sales and Use Tax Collection	Withdrawn				Support
HB 453	Tucker	Ways & Means	Provides that all sales and use taxes levied by any political subdivision in the state shall be collected, administered, and enforced by the state Dept. of Revenue.	Sales and Use Tax Collection	Withdrawn				Support
HB 454	Ellington	Pending House Referral	Provides that certain jobs shall qualify for certain economic development incentives without regard to whether the employees filling such jobs are reported by the applicant employer on the Dept. of Labor ES-4 Form.	Quality Jobs & Enterprise Zone	Ruled Non-germane				Support
HB 480	Ellington	Commerce	Provides for the Economic Development Award Program.	EDAP	Same as SB 322; On hold pending LED				Support
HB 573	Peterson	Commerce	Creates the Louisiana Exports and Foreign Investments Act; Allows the Dept. of Economic Development to provide financial assistance to businesses seeking to begin exporting and requires the department to develop a marketing plan to promote and sponsor international events to be held in the state of Louisiana and to plan and implement annual foreign recruitment missions to develop business recruitment leads and to attract foreign investment into the state.	Foreign Investment	On hold pending LED				Support

BILL	AUTHOR	COMMITTEE	DESCRIPTION / DIGEST	CATEGORY	NOTES	STATUS			POSITION
HB 646	Lorusso	Ways & Means	(Constitutional Amendment) Provides that, effective July 1, 2009, sales and use taxes levied by political subdivisions shall be collected, administered, and enforced by the state Dept. of Revenue or its successor.	Sales and Use Tax					Support
HB 692	Robideaux	Ways & Means	Authorizes the secretary for the Dept. of Revenue for the state of LA to employ private counsel only on an hourly basis, to assist in the collection of any taxes, penalties, or interest due or to represent him in any proceedings under this Subtitle.	Auditing Firms	Same as SB 290				
HB 722	Trahan	Education	Provides for a gradual phase-in of universal access to the Cecil J. Picard LA 4 Early Childhood Program and for participation by non-school system early childhood education providers.	School Redesign	Covered under SB 286				Support
HB749	Ellington	Ways & Means	Requires a state or local taxing authority to pay refunds for allowed items within 90 days of receipt of the refund request from a taxpayer under the Exemptions for Manufacturing Establishments program. Requires the Department of Economic Development to pay rebates for allowed items within 90 days of receipt of the rebate request from an employer under the Quality Jobs Program.	Tax Rebates	Covered under HB 416				Support
HB 782	Tucker	Transportation, Highways, and Public Works	(Constitutional Amendment) Authorizes the legislature to abolish for consolidation purposes a deep-water port commission, port, harbor and terminal districts, and an economic development and port district.	Ports					Monitor

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HB 816	Peterson	Pending House Referral	Prohibits tax exemptions and tax credits enacted after April 1, 2008, to be effective for a period in excess of five taxable years and requires the legislature to review such exemptions and credits at least once every five years.	Tax Exemptions and Credits	Ruled Non-germane; See HCR 9				Oppose
HB 1104	Tucker	Appropriations	Changes the La. Department of Labor and thereby renaming it the La. Workforce Commission.	Workforce	Recommitted to Appropriations from Labor & Industrial Relations; Should move forward through SB 612	Passed House	Pending Senate Final Passage		Support
HB 1197	Lafonta	Commerce	Establishes the capital access program to assist participating financial institutions in making loans to businesses and nonprofit organizations that face barriers in accessing capital.	Capital Access	Already exists in Capital Access Program rules				
HB 1222	Hoffman	Education	Requires BESE, in conjunction with the High School Redesign Commission, beginning with students entering the ninth grade in the 2009-2010 school year and thereafter, to develop and implement two separate curriculum tracks and two diploma versions (one specifically designed for each track) for high school students.	Education					
HB 1315	T. Burns	Ways & Means	Changes the employer contribution for insurance coverage for participation in the Louisiana Quality Jobs Program Act.	Quality Jobs	Pending discussion with LED				Support
SB 19	Alario	Revenue & Fiscal Affairs	(Constitutional Amendment) Increase the homestead exemption to \$15,000 of assessed valuation.	Homestead Exemption	Similar to HB 381				Oppose

BILL	AUTHOR	COMMITTEE	DESCRIPTION / DIGEST	CATEGORY	NOTES	STATUS			POSITION
SB 24	Crowe	Governmental Affairs	(Constitutional Amendment) Create the Department of Ports, Maritime, and International Trade in the executive branch of government.	Ports	Complementary Statute is SB 658				Monitor
SB 31	Shepherd	Governmental Affairs	Provides for recusal from voting and requires public disclosure by certain public servants.	Ethics					
SB 169	Duplessis	Education	Gives BESE discretion as to when to return certain schools transferred to the Recovery School District back to the transferring school system.	Workforce					Support
SB 170	Duplessis	Education	Changes the renewal period for an approved charter school from a 10-year period to a period of up to 10 years.	Workforce					Support
SB 171	Duplessis	Education	Allows the Recovery School District to enroll any Louisiana student in a school or educational program under the district's jurisdiction.	Workforce					Support
SB 200	Alario	Revenue & Fiscal Affairs	(Constitutional Amendment) Adjust the homestead exemption in accordance with changes in the Consumer Price Index.	Homestead Exemption					Oppose
SB 205	Walsworth	Commerce, Consumer Protection, & International Affairs	Provides for definition of "employee" in the Quality Jobs Act and the Enterprise Zone Act.	Quality Jobs & Enterprise Zone	Ruled Non-germane				Support
SB 248	Morrish	Health & Welfare	Prohibits human cloning and provides for definitions, exceptions and criminal penalty for violation.	Cloning	See HB 370				Oppose
SB 254	Thompson	Commerce, Consumer Protection, & International Affairs	(Constitutional Amendment) Authorize the Department of Economic Development to contract with developers of retirement communities for exemptions from ad valorem taxation.	Retirement Community Tax Exemption	Complementary Statute is SB 584				Support

BILL	AUTHOR	COMMITTEE	DESCRIPTION / DIGEST	CATEGORY	NOTES	STATUS			POSITION
SB 289	Kostelka	Revenue & Fiscal Affairs	Places requirements and restrictions on the use of private auditing firms by local sales tax collectors and limits "specific penalties" which may be charged to taxpayers who fail to make a return, make a grossly incorrect report or a false or fraudulent r	Auditing Firms	Same as HB 747				
SB 322	Walsworth	Commerce, Consumer Protection, & International Affairs	Provides for the Economic Development Award Program.	EDAP	Same as HB 480; On hold pending LED				Support
SB 403	Nevers	Education	Requires the Louisiana Community and Technical College System to develop and institute a system of competency-based testing for community and technical college students who earn industry-based certifications.	Workforce					Support
SB 420	Chaisson	Finance	Creates and establishes the Workforce Education Fund.	Workforce	Same as HB 1018				Support
SB 487	Nevers	Education	Requires the TOPS-Tech core curriculum to be the same as the Louisiana Core Curriculum adopted by BESE beginning with the high school graduating class of 2011-2012.	High School Redesign					Support
SB 504	Nevers	Education	Requires BESE to develop and implement competency-based testing for secondary school students who earn industry-based certifications.	Workforce					Support
SB 570	Morrish	Commerce, Consumer Protection, & International Affairs	Requires Enterprise Zone tax rebates to be paid with interest if a rebate request which is not disallowed is not issued within ninety days.	Tax Rebates	Covered under HB 416				Support
SB 584	Thompson	Revenue & Fiscal Affairs	Authorizes the Board of Commerce and Industry to enter into ad valorem property tax exemption contracts for development of retirement communities.	Retirement Community Tax Exemption	Constitutional Amendment is SB 254				Support

BILL	AUTHOR	COMMITTEE	DESCRIPTION / DIGEST	CATEGORY	NOTES	STATUS			POSITION
SB 609	Crowe	Revenue & Fiscal Affairs	To require tax recipient bodies to adopt a third ordinance or resolution levying millages which have been "rolled forward" by a 2/3's vote of the tax recipient body.	Millage	See HB 436				Support
SB 658	Crowe	Governmental Affairs	Creates the Department of Ports, Maritime and International Trade.	Ports	Constitutional Amendment is SB 24				Monitor
SB 738	Morrish	Health & Welfare	Prohibits human cloning and human-animal hybrids.	Cloning	See HB 370				Oppose