


2011 Legislative Package



Education

 **Higher Education - S.B. 241 - Chaisson, H.B. 549 - Tucker** - Provides relative to the La. Granting Resources and Autonomy for Diplomas Act, including additional operational autonomies to be granted to public postsecondary education institutions and reporting requirements for such institutions and the Board of Regents.

Position - Major Issue to Support

Tuition - HB 526 - Robideaux - Authorizes the Louisiana Community and Technical Colleges System Board of Supervisors to increase tuition and mandatory fee amounts at institutions under its supervision and management and permits the uniform imposition of tuition and mandatory fee amounts on a per credit hour basis.

Position - Support

Education Accountability - S.B. 201 - Perry - Delays implementation of a system to assign performance-based letter grades to public schools and school districts.

Position - Oppose

Compressed Natural Gas

 **Alternative Fuel Vehicles - H.B. 70 - J. Smith** - Authorizes local government use of hybrid or alternative fuel vehicles by law enforcement agencies and emergency vehicles.


Position - Major Issue to Support

 *indicates major issue*

Energy

 **La. Oilfield Site Restoration Law - H.B. 563 - Cortez** - Provides that the jurisdiction of the office of conservation includes claims for certain environmental damages resulting from oil and gas activity and authorizes the secretary of the Department of Natural Resources to take legal action to meet the purpose of the La. Oilfield Site Restoration Law.

Position - Major Issue to Support

 **La. Oilfield Site Restoration Law - H.B. 564 - Seabaugh** - Authorizes the secretary of the Department of Natural Resources to take legal action to meet the purpose of the La. Oilfield Site Restoration Law and provides that specific performance is the preferred remedy in a case of failure to restore the property subject to a mineral lease or mineral servitude.

Position - Major Issue to Support

Coastal Resources - S.B. 145 - Claitor - Provides that the coastline of Louisiana shall be the line of ordinary low water along the portion of the coast which is in direct contact with the open sea and the line marking the seaward limit of inland waters. Adds that the state of Louisiana shall be entitled to all the lands, minerals and other natural resources underlying the Gulf of Mexico, extending seaward from its coastline for a distance of three marine leagues.

Position - Support

Oilfield Site Restoration Fund - S.B. 146 - Adley - Provides relative to oilfield sites or exploration and production sites.

Position - Support

Natural Gas Tax - H.B. 422 - Henderson - (Constitutional Amendment) Removes the prohibition related to the imposition of an additional tax or license on gas, authorizes the levy of a tax, fee, permit, or license on natural gas transported in Louisiana, and creates the Fair Share Fund.

Position - Oppose

Natural Gas Tax - H.B. 436 - Henderson - Levies a tax (50¢ per 1,000 cubic feet) upon the use of a transportation facility (pipeline) more than one mile in length for the transportation of natural gas through Louisiana.

Position - Oppose

 *indicates major issue*

Incentives

Tax Exemption - S.B. 219 - Mills - Creates the Acadiana Cultural and Entertainment Special District. Authorizes certain parishes within the district to provide an exemption from their sales tax for purchases by a motion picture production company for a specific state-certified movie production by that company.

Position - Support

Angel Investor Tax Credit - H.B. 269 - Hines - Authorizes issuance of the angel investor tax credit for all taxable periods beginning on and after January 1, 2012, through all taxable periods ending on December 31, 2016. Requires the tax credit amount to be based on the percentage of money invested by the taxpayer in a Louisiana entrepreneurial business.

Position - Support

Research Tax Credit - H.B. 441 - Carter - Extends the research and development tax credit program from December 31, 2013, to December 31, 2019, and changes the refundable tax credit to a tax rebate.

Position - Support


Technology Commercialization and Jobs Tax Credit - H.B. 467 - Carter - Extends the Technology Commercialization and Jobs Tax Credit Program from December 31, 2011, to December 31, 2017, and converts it to a tax rebate.

Position - Support

Angel Investor Tax Credit - H.B. 597 - M. Jackson - Converts the Angel Investor Tax Credit Program to the Angel Investor Rebate Program and provides for the rebate program.

Position - Support

Local

 **Lafayette Parish Redevelopment Authority - H.B. 531 - Robideaux** - Creates the Lafayette Parish Redevelopment Authority to provide for the utilization of appropriate private and public resources to eliminate and prevent the development or spread of blighted and distressed areas. Defines the duties, liabilities, authority and functions of such redevelopment authority, including the power to levy ad valorem taxes and sales and use taxes.

Position - Major Issue to Support

 *indicates major issue*