

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 585

BY REPRESENTATIVE JIMMY HARRIS AND SENATOR MORRELL

TAX/AD VALOREM-EXEMPTION: Adds structures located in opportunity zones to the property eligible to participate in the Restoration Tax Abatement program

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 47:4312(3) and to enact R.S. 47:4315(A)(6), relative to ad
3 valorem taxes; to provide for certain definitions; to add opportunity zones to
4 properties eligible to participate in the Restoration Tax Abatement program; to
5 provide for certain limitations and requirements; to provide for an effective date; and
6 to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 47:4312(3) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 47:4315(A)(6))
9 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §4312. Definitions

11 For purposes of this Chapter, the following terms shall have the meaning
12 indicated unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

13 * * *

14 (3) "Economic development district" means a district created for the purpose
15 of economic development established by a local governing authority, ~~or~~ in
16 accordance with law, or for applications received on or after July 1, 2019, an
17 opportunity zone as designated by the federal government pursuant to the provisions
18 of 26 U.S.C. 1400Z-1, 1400Z-2, and federal regulations. The board may determine
19 whether or not a district complies with this definition.

20 * * *

1 §4315. Requirements for exemption
2 A. A contract of exemption from taxation may be entered into by the board
3 under this Chapter only if each of the following requirements are met:

4 * * *

5 (6) In addition to requirements and rules and regulations established pursuant
6 to this Chapter, the expansion, restoration, improvement, or development of a
7 structure in a federally designated opportunity zone shall also be required to meet the
8 requirements for investments under the provisions of 26 U.S.C. 1400Z-1, 1400Z-2,
9 and federal regulations relative to opportunity zones.

10 * * *

11 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
12 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
13 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
14 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
15 effective on the day following such approval.

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 585 Original

2019 Regular Session

Jimmy Harris

Abstract: Adds structures located in opportunity zones established pursuant to federal law to the property eligible to participate in the Restoration Tax Abatement program.

Present law authorizes the Restoration Tax Abatement program which allows owners of commercial structures or an owner-occupied residence in a downtown, historic, or economic development district who expand, restore, improve, or develop eligible property to pay ad valorem taxes for five years based on the assessed valuation of the property for the year prior to the commencement of the expansion, restoration, improvement, or development.

Proposed law retains present law and adds opportunity zones established pursuant to federal law and federal regulations to the types of property eligible to participate in the Restoration Tax Abatement program.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 47:4312(3); Adds R.S. 47:4315(A)(6))