



State of Louisiana

Department of Health and Hospitals
Bureau of Primary Care and Rural Health

From: D'Andra Bradford, Policy Analyst

Louisiana Tobacco Control Program

Date: June 17, 2011

RE: 2011 Legislative Session (Fiscal)

Summary

House Bill 591 was introduced to the 2011 Louisiana Legislature by Representative Harold Ritchie. House Bill 591 was introduced to remove the sunset in the previous tobacco tax legislation which would expire July 2012. HB 591 passed both the House and the Senate, however, on June 13, 2011, Governor Jindal sent HB 591 back to the House with an attached veto message. The House voted on June 16, 2011, to override the Governor's veto, however the attempt failed by a vote of 58-48. A two-thirds vote is required from both the House and the Senate to override a veto from the Governor. As a result, the Louisiana Tobacco Excise tax will *decrease* by \$0.04 upon sunset of the current law. This will make Louisiana's tobacco excise tax reduce from \$0.36 to \$0.32.