

**ORLEANS PARISH SCHOOL BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 09-18**

The following resolution was offered by _____ and seconded by _____.

A resolution that the Orleans Parish School Board shall deny all requests for approval of applications for Industrial Ad Valorem Tax Exemption until June 30, 2021, so that those tax dollars may be made available for educational needs of children and families in New Orleans.

WHEREAS, Article 7, §21 of the Louisiana Constitution sets forth numerous exemptions from ad valorem taxes, establishes the Industrial Ad Valorem Tax Exemption Program (“ITEP”), and vests the State Board of Commerce and Industry and the governor with the authority to approve ad valorem tax exemptions for new manufacturing establishments or any additions to existing manufacturing establishments; and,

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Constitution further vests the State Board of Commerce and Industry and the governor with the authority to determine the terms and conditions under which industrial ad valorem tax exemption is allowed for manufacturing establishments; and,

WHEREAS, in 2016, Governor John Bel Edwards issued executive orders JBE 2016-26 and 2016-73 setting forth terms and conditions upon which the governor’s office would approve contracts for ad valorem tax exemption; and,

WHEREAS, Governor Edwards’ executive orders and Louisiana Administrative Code § 13:501, which codified those executive orders, state that an important policy for the ITEP is to provide for input from “local parish and municipal governments, school boards and sheriffs as to the extent of, and other terms and conditions for the industrial tax exemption;” and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to JBE 2016-26, JBE 2016-73, and the Louisiana Administrative Code, an applicant for industrial tax exemption must request a resolution from OPSB setting forth OPSB’s approval of the tax exemption, and any conditions thereof, and the applicant must attach that resolution to its application to the State Board of Commerce and Industry and the governor; and,

WHEREAS, JBE 2016-73 explicitly states that “[a]ll contracts providing for the Industrial Tax Exemption shall also include Exhibit “B” consisting of approvals of the relevant [local governing authorities];” and,

WHEREAS, in 2017, industrial tax exemptions led to a loss to the OPSB of approximately \$3.0 million; and,

WHEREAS, while the intent of the Industrial Tax Exemption program is to create jobs and stimulate the economy, recipient companies of industrial tax exemptions in Orleans Parish promised to create over 4,500 jobs since 2000, but the actual change in jobs was a net decline of 76 jobs; and,

WHEREAS, 98% of industrial tax exemptions awarded since 2000 were to businesses that already were operating in the parish, and were mostly for capital projects that were already complete; and,

WHEREAS, the resources lost through industrial tax exemptions could be better used to address the educational needs of children and families in Orleans Parish, resulting in improved life outcomes for children and greater impact to the local economy; and,

WHEREAS, upon conclusion of the three-year pilot period, OPSB will evaluate the impact of the denial of the ITEP requests.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that OPSB shall deny any and all requests for Orleans Parish School Board approval of applications for Industrial Ad Valorem Tax Exemption until June 30, 2021.

This resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSENTS:

ABSTENTIONS:

PASSED AND ADOPTED AT THE ORLEANS PARISH SCHOOL BOARD BUSINESS MEETING held at Timbers, 3520 General deGaulle Drive, Multi-purpose Room 1050, New Orleans, Louisiana, on the ____ day of _____, 2018.

ORLEANS PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

John A. Brown, Sr., President

CERTIFICATE

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF ORLEANS

I, the undersigned Secretary-Treasurer of the Orleans Parish School Board, State of Louisiana, do hereby certify that the foregoing two (2) pages constitute a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 09-18, adopted by said Orleans Parish School Board on _____.

IN FAITH WHEREOF, witness my official signature and the impress of the official seal of the School Board at New Orleans, Louisiana, on this _____ the day of _____, 2018.

(SEAL)

Henderson Lewis, Jr., Ph.D., Secretary-Treasurer