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March 15, 2016

Dear Legislators:

I write to offer our support of extending the sunset provision of the Louisiana Tax-Free Shopping Program. As you may already know, ACT 435 of the 2012 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature is set to expire, and a new bill to renew the LTFS Program is being submitted in the upcoming 2016 regular session. The Tax-Free Shopping Program is an essential tool used to encourage international tourists to visit Louisiana by offering a sales tax refund on qualified purchases. International travelers, on average, spend 20% more than their domestic counterparts and stay two to three days longer at their destination.

Tourism is Louisiana's top industry, generating \$11.2 billion in annual spending for Louisiana businesses, it is for these reasons that the BRAC supports the extension of the sunset provision of the Louisiana Tax-Free Shopping Program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "AK" with a large flourish underneath.

Adam Knapp
President and CEO