



# CITY OF KENNER

## OFFICE OF THE ACTING MAYOR

**MICHAEL G. SIGUR**  
ACTING MAYOR

Denise Thevenot  
Director, LTFS

Dear Legislators,

I am writing this letter in support of extending the sunset provision of the Louisiana Tax Free Shopping Program. 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.

Tourism is one of Louisiana's top industries, generating \$11.2 billion in annual spending for Louisiana businesses, and shopping is a top activity of all travelers. International visitors, on average, spend 20% more than their domestic counterparts and stay at a destination two to three days longer. From statistics gathered for 2015 we showed that 3437 international travelers used the tax free program and collectively spent \$685,995.78 in the City of Kenner. This meant an increase in business for 69 of the City of Kenner's businesses.

In closing I encourage this program to continue and hope that you will approve extending the sunset provision of the Louisiana Tax Free Shopping Program.

If I can be of further assistance to you, please feel free to contact me.

Regards,

Michael Sigur  
Acting Mayor of Kenner

MGS/msl