

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

## FORM S-6

Initial registration statement filed on Form S-6 for unit investment trusts

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### FILER

#### FT 2494

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C/O FIRST TRUST  
PORTFOLIOS L.P.  
120 EAST LIBERTY DRIVE,  
SUITE 400  
WHEATON IL 60187

Business Address  
C/O FIRST TRUST  
PORTFOLIOS L.P.  
120 EAST LIBERTY DRIVE,  
SUITE 400  
WHEATON IL 60187  
630 765 8000

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM S-6

For Registration Under the Securities Act of 1933 of Securities  
of Unit Investment Trusts Registered on Form N-8B-2

- A. Exact Name of Trust: FT 2494
- B. Name of Depositor: FIRST TRUST PORTFOLIOS L.P.
- C. Complete Address of Depositor's Principal Executive Offices: 120 East Liberty Drive  
Wheaton, Illinois 60187
- D. Name and Complete Address of Agents for Service: FIRST TRUST PORTFOLIOS L.P.  
Attention: James A. Bowen  
120 East Liberty Drive  
Suite 400  
Wheaton, Illinois 60187
- CHAPMAN & CUTLER LLP  
Attention: Eric F. Fess  
111 West Monroe Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60603
- E. Title of Securities Being Registered: An indefinite number of  
Units pursuant to Rule  
24f-2 promulgated under  
the Investment Company Act  
of 1940, as amended.
- F. Approximate Date of Proposed Sale to the Public: \_\_\_\_\_ Check if it is  
proposed that this filing  
will become effective on  
\_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ p.m.  
pursuant to Rule 487.

The registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 or until the Registration Statement shall become effective on such date as the Commission, acting

pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

Preliminary Prospectus Dated June 1, 2010

FT 2494

10,000 Units

(A Unit Investment Trust)

The attached final Prospectus for a prior Series of the Fund is hereby used as a preliminary Prospectus for the above stated Series. The narrative information and structure of the attached final Prospectus will be substantially the same as that of the final Prospectus for this Series. Information with respect to pricing, the number of Units, dates and summary information regarding the characteristics of securities to be deposited in this Series is not now available and will be different since each Series has a unique Portfolio. Accordingly the information contained herein with regard to the previous Series should be considered as being included for informational purposes only. Ratings of the securities in this Series are expected to be comparable to those of the securities deposited in the previous Series.

A registration statement relating to the units of this Series will be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission but has not yet become effective. Information contained herein is subject to completion or amendment. Such Units may not be sold nor may offer to buy be accepted prior to the time the registration statement becomes effective. This Prospectus shall not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy nor shall there be any sale of the Units in any state in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such state. (Incorporated herein by reference is the final prospectus for FT 2473 (Registration No. 333-166819) as filed May 19, 2010 which shall be used as the preliminary prospectus for the current series of the Fund.)

MEMORANDUM

Re: FT 2494

The only difference of consequence (except as described below) between FT 2473 which is the current fund, and FT 2494,

the filing of which this memorandum accompanies, is the change in the series number. The list of securities comprising the Fund, the evaluation, record and distribution dates and other changes pertaining specifically to the new series, such as size and number of Units in the Fund and the statement of condition of the new Fund, will be filed by amendment.

#### 1940 ACT

#### FORMS N-8A AND N-8B-2

These forms were not filed, as the Form N-8A and Form N-8B-2 filed in respect of Templeton Growth and Treasury Trust, Series 1 and subsequent series (File No. 811-05903) related also to the subsequent series of the Fund.

#### 1933 ACT

#### PROSPECTUS

The only significant changes in the Prospectus from the FT 2473 Prospectus relate to the series number and size and the date and various items of information which will be derived from and apply specifically to the securities deposited in the Fund.

#### CONTENTS OF REGISTRATION STATEMENT

##### ITEM A Bonding Arrangements of Depositor:

First Trust Portfolios L.P. is covered by a Broker's Fidelity Bond, in the total amount of \$2,000,000, the insurer being National Union Fire Insurance Company of Pittsburgh.

##### ITEM B This Registration Statement on Form S-6 comprises the following papers and documents:

The facing sheet

The Prospectus

The signatures

Exhibits

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the Registrant, FT 2494 has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Wheaton and State of Illinois on June 1, 2010.

FT 2494  
(Registrant)

By: FIRST TRUST PORTFOLIOS L.P.  
(Depositor)

By: Jason T. Henry  
Senior Vice President

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Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this Registration Statement has been signed below by the following person in the capacity and on the date indicated:

| NAME                       | TITLE*   | DATE |
|----------------------------|--|------|
| Judith M. Van Kampen       | Director )<br>of The Charger )<br>Corporation, the ) June 1, 2010<br>General Partner of )<br>First Trust )<br>Portfolios L.P. )                      |      |
| Karla M. Van Kampen-Pierre | Director )<br>of The Charger )<br>Corporation, the ) Jason T. Henry<br>General Partner of ) Attorney-in-Fact**<br>First Trust )<br>Portfolios L.P. ) |      |
| David G. Wisen             | Director )<br>of The Charger )<br>Corporation, the )<br>General Partner of )<br>First Trust )<br>Portfolios L.P. )                                   |      |

\* The title of the person named herein represents his or her capacity in and relationship to First Trust Portfolios L.P., Depositor.

\*\* An executed copy of the related power of attorney was filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission in connection with the Amendment No. 1 to Form S-6 of FT 597 (File No. 333-76518) and the same is hereby incorporated herein by this reference.

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#### CONSENTS OF COUNSEL

The consents of counsel to the use of their names in the Prospectus included in this Registration Statement will be contained in their respective opinions to be filed as Exhibits 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3 of the Registration Statement.

#### CONSENT OF DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP

The consent of Deloitte & Touche LLP to the use of its name and to the reference to such firm in the Prospectus included in this Registration Statement will be filed by amendment.

#### CONSENT OF FIRST TRUST ADVISORS L.P.

The consent of First Trust Advisors L.P. to the use of its name in the Prospectus included in the Registration Statement is filed as Exhibit 4.1 to the Registration Statement.

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#### EXHIBIT INDEX

- 1.1 Form of Standard Terms and Conditions of Trust for FT 785 among First Trust Portfolios L.P., as Depositor, The Bank of New York Mellon, as Trustee and First Trust Advisors L.P., as Evaluator and Portfolio Supervisor (incorporated by reference to Amendment No. 1 to Form S-6 [File No. 333-110799] filed on behalf of FT 785).
- 1.1.1\* Form of Trust Agreement for FT 2494 among First Trust Portfolios L.P., as Depositor, The Bank of New York Mellon, as Trustee and First Trust Advisors L.P., as Evaluator and Portfolio Supervisor and FTP Services LLC, as FTPS Unit Servicing Agent.

- 1.2 Copy of Certificate of Limited Partnership of First Trust Portfolios L.P. (incorporated by reference to Amendment No. 1 to Form S-6 [File No. 33-42683] filed on behalf of The First Trust Special Situations Trust, Series 18).
- 1.3 Copy of Amended and Restated Limited Partnership Agreement of First Trust Portfolios L.P. (incorporated by reference to Amendment No. 1 to Form S-6 [File No. 33-42683] filed on behalf of The First Trust Special Situations Trust, Series 18).
- 1.4 Copy of Articles of Incorporation of The Charger Corporation, the general partner of First Trust Portfolios L.P., Depositor (incorporated by reference to Amendment No. 1 to Form S-6 [File No. 33-42683] filed on behalf of The First Trust Special Situations Trust, Series 18).
- 1.5 Copy of By-Laws of The Charger Corporation, the general partner of First Trust Portfolios L.P., Depositor (incorporated by reference to Amendment No. 1 to Form S-6 [File No. 33-42683] filed on behalf of The First Trust Special Situations Trust, Series 18).
- 1.6 Underwriter Agreement (incorporated by reference to Amendment No. 1 to Form S-6 [File No. 33-42755] filed on behalf of The First Trust Special Situations Trust, Series 19).
- 2.1 Copy of Certificate of Ownership (included in Exhibit 1.1 filed herewith on page 2 and incorporated herein by reference).

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- 2.2 Copy of Code of Ethics (incorporated by reference to Amendment No. 1 to form S-6 [File No. 333-156964] filed on behalf of FT 1987).
- 3.1\* Opinion of counsel as to legality of Securities being registered.
- 3.2\* Opinion of counsel as to Federal income tax status of Securities being registered.
- 3.3\* Opinion of counsel as to New York income tax status of Securities being registered.
- 4.1\* Consent of First Trust Advisors L.P.
- 6.1 List of Directors and Officers of Depositor and other related information (incorporated by reference to

Amendment No. 1 to Form S-6 [File No. 33-42683] filed on behalf of The First Trust Special Situations Trust, Series 18).

7.1 Power of Attorney executed by the Directors listed on page S-3 of this Registration Statement (incorporated by reference to Amendment No. 1 to Form S-6 [File No. 333-76518] filed on behalf of FT 597).

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\* To be filed by amendment.

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