HB 1519 2008

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to fuel-efficient vehicles; providing definitions; requiring state agencies, state universities, and certain local governments to purchase hybrid, flexfuel, or biodiesel vehicles if such vehicles are available; requiring the Department of Management Services to adopt rules establishing criteria for the purchase of such vehicles; amending s. 212.08, F.S.; exempting the sale or lease of gasoline-electric hybrid vehicles and vehicles powered by certain other alternative fuels from the tax on sales, rental, use, consumption, storage, or distribution imposed by state law; providing certain mileage requirements for the vehicle; limiting the amount of the tax exemption; providing for future expiration of the exemption; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

- Section 1. (1) As used in this section, the term:
- (a) "Hybrid vehicle" means a hybrid vehicle, as defined in s. 316.0741, Florida Statutes.
- (b) "Flex-fuel vehicle" means a vehicle that is designed to run on gasoline or a blend of up to 85 percent ethanol (E85).
- (c) "Biodiesel vehicle" means a vehicle that is designed to run on mono-alkyl esters of long-chain fatty acids derived from vegetable oils or animal fats which conform to ASTM D6751 specifications for use in diesel engines. Biodiesel refers to the pure fuel before blending with diesel fuel. Biodiesel blends

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are denoted as "BXX" with "XX," representing the percentage of biodiesel contained in the blend. For example, B100 is pure biodiesel and B20 is a blend of 20 percent biodiesel and 80 percent petroleum diesel.

- (2) Any new motor vehicle purchased after January 1, 2009, by a state agency, state university, or local government through any state purchasing plan must be a hybrid, flex-fuel, or biodiesel vehicle if the type of vehicle being purchased is available with such propulsion system and otherwise meets the requirements for the vehicle's intended use.
- (3) The Department of Management Services, by October 1, 2008, shall adopt rules that establish criteria for the purchase of hybrid, flex-fuel, and biodiesel vehicles.
- Section 2. Paragraph (ggg) is added to subsection (7) of section 212.08, Florida Statutes, to read:
- 212.08 Sales, rental, use, consumption, distribution, and storage tax; specified exemptions.--The sale at retail, the rental, the use, the consumption, the distribution, and the storage to be used or consumed in this state of the following are hereby specifically exempt from the tax imposed by this chapter.
- (7) MISCELLANEOUS EXEMPTIONS.--Exemptions provided to any entity by this chapter do not inure to any transaction that is otherwise taxable under this chapter when payment is made by a representative or employee of the entity by any means, including, but not limited to, cash, check, or credit card, even when that representative or employee is subsequently reimbursed by the entity. In addition, exemptions provided to any entity by

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this subsection do not inure to any transaction that is otherwise taxable under this chapter unless the entity has obtained a sales tax exemption certificate from the department or the entity obtains or provides other documentation as required by the department. Eligible purchases or leases made with such a certificate must be in strict compliance with this subsection and departmental rules, and any person who makes an exempt purchase with a certificate that is not in strict compliance with this subsection and the rules is liable for and shall pay the tax. The department may adopt rules to administer this subsection.

(ggg) Gasoline-electric hybrid vehicles and vehicles powered by other alternative fuels.--Also exempt from the tax imposed by this chapter are sales or leases of gasoline-electric hybrid vehicles, or vehicles powered by other alternative fuels, and having at least a 25-miles-per-gallon combined city and highway mileage rating. The exemption shall inure at the time of sale or lease to any entity meeting the requirements of this subsection but may not exceed \$1,500. This paragraph does not apply to hydrogen-powered vehicles as described in subparagraph (ccc) 2. This paragraph expires July 1, 2013.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.