By the Committee on Finance and Tax; and Senator Haridopolos

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A bill to be entitled 1 2 An act relating to tax administration; amending s. 72.011, 3 F.S.; revising the time for commencing actions to contest a tax matter; amending s. 125.0104, F.S.; revising the 4 5 list of living quarters or accommodations that are subject 6 to taxation; providing definitions; providing for taxation 7 of regulated short-term products; providing that the 8 occupancy of a timeshare resort and membership or 9 transaction fee paid by a timeshare owner are not a 10 privilege subject to taxation; providing that 11 consideration paid for the purchase of a timeshare license 12 in a timeshare plan is rent subject to taxation; 13 authorizing the Department of Revenue to establish audit 14 procedures and to access for delinquent taxes; requiring 15 the person operating transient accommodations to 16 separately state the tax charged on a receipt or other 17 documentation; providing that persons facilitating the booking of reservations are not required to separately 18 19 state tax amounts charged; requiring that such amounts be remitted as tax and classified as county funds; providing 20 21 additional specified uses for certain tourist tax revenue 22 by certain counties; specifying that certain provisions of 23 the act are clarifying and remedial in nature and are not 24 a basis for assessments of tax or for refunds of tax for 25 periods before the effective date of the act; amending s. 26 192.0105, F.S.; revising the list of tax-related forms 27 that a taxpayer has a right to keep confidential; amending 28 s. 196.192; providing that educational institutions owned 29 by exempt entities are also exempt from ad valorem

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taxation; amending s. 201.02, F.S.; requiring a notation indicating a nonprofit's exemption from the documentary stamp tax; amending s. 202.125, F.S.; providing an exemption from the communications services tax for communications services used for a pari-mutuel permitholder's simulcasting and intertrack wagering activities; providing for retroactive application; amending ss. 212.03 and 212.0305, F.S.; revising the list of living quarters or sleeping or housekeeping accommodations that are subject to taxation; providing definitions; providing for taxation of regulated shortterm products; providing that the occupancy of an accommodation of a timeshare resort and membership or transaction fee paid by a timeshare owner is not a privilege subject to taxation; providing that consideration paid for the purchase of a timeshare license in a timeshare plan is rent subject to taxation; requiring the person operating transient accommodations to separately state the tax charged on a receipt or other documentation; providing that persons facilitating the booking of reservations are not required to separately state tax amounts charged; requiring that such amounts be remitted as tax and classified as county funds; specifying that certain provisions of the act are clarifying and remedial in nature and are not a basis for assessments of tax or for refunds of tax for periods before the effective date of the act; amending s. 212.031, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 212.055, F.S.; authorizing certain counties to levy a hospital surtax subject to

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referendum approval; providing for the allocation and uses of the surtax proceeds; amending s. 212.07, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; providing penalties for knowingly failing to collect taxes due; amending s. 212.08, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the tax exemption for building materials used to rehabilitate real property in enterprise zones; providing an exemption from the sales and use tax for an aircraft that is temporarily used in this state; providing that proof of temporary usage may be shown by specific documentation; amending s. 212.12, F.S.; revising penalties for failing to report taxes due; amending s. 212.18, F.S.; revising penalties for failing to register as a dealer; amending s. 213.015, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 213.053, F.S.; revising provisions relating to confidentiality; authorizing the Department of Revenue to send certain general information to taxpayers by electronic means; deleting a provision that allows the disclosure of certain information to the Chief Financial Officer; authorizing the department to provide taxpayer information to the Division of Hotels and Restaurants; providing an additional exception from the public-records exemption; authorizing the Department of Revenue to publish a list of delinquent taxpayers; authorizing the department to adopt rules; creating s. 213.0532, F.S.; requiring financial institutions to enter into agreements with the department to conduct data matches to identify delinquent taxpayers; providing definitions; requiring the department to pay a fee to cover the cost to the institution; providing

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immunity from liability for certain actions by the institution; authorizing the department to institute civil actions; authorizing the department to adopt rules; amending s. 213.25, F.S.; clarifying that the department's authority to reduce tax refunds or credits by the amount of other taxes owed applies to unemployment compensation taxes; amending s. 213.67, F.S.; revising the time for commencing actions to contest a tax levy; creating s. 213.691, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Revenue to issue or file integrated warrants and judgment lien certificates; creating s. 213.692, F.S.; authorizing the department to file a single consolidated tax warrant for multiple taxes due and to revoke a taxpayer's certificate of registration if the taxpayer owes any taxes to the state; requiring a cash deposit or other security for issuing a new certificate of registration; authorizing the department to adopt rules; authorizing emergency rules; creating s. 213.758, F.S.; assigning tax liability when property is transferred; requiring a taxpayer who quits the business without benefit of a purchaser to make a final return and full payment within a specified period; providing for the Department of Legal Affairs to issue an injunction; specifying a transferee's liability for tax, interest, and penalties; authorizing the Department of Revenue to adopt rules; amending s. 220.193, F.S.; allowing a corporation that owns a partnership or limited liability company that produces and sells electricity from a new or expanded renewable energy facility to claim a renewable energy production credit; providing for

proration among multiple owners; providing for retroactive application; amending s. 220.21, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the electronic filing of corporate taxes; providing for retroactivity; amending s. 336.021, F.S.; revising the order for distributing the local option fuel tax revenues; amending s. 443.1215, F.S.; revising a cross-reference; amending s. 443.1316, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 443.141, F.S.; providing penalties for erroneous, incomplete, or insufficient unemployment compensation tax reports filed by employers; providing a statute of limitation on liens for the collection of unpaid unemployment taxes; amending s. 509.261, F.S.; authorizing the Division of Hotels and Restaurants to fine, suspend, or revoke a license for violating state tax laws; amending s. 624.509, F.S.; deleting the alternative salary tax credit calculation for mutual holding companies; amending s. 695.22, F.S.; requiring the actual purchase price to be included on deeds and conveyances filed for record; amending s. 695.26, F.S.; requiring the actual purchase price to be shown on an instrument by which the title to real property or any interest therein is conveyed; repealing s. 213.054, F.S., relating to a report naming persons who claim a deduction for the net earnings of an international banking facility; providing for retroactive application of specified provisions; providing effective dates.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 72.011, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

72.011 Jurisdiction of circuit courts in specific tax matters; administrative hearings and appeals; time for commencing action; parties; deposits.--

(2) (a) An action may not be brought to contest an assessment of any tax, interest, or penalty assessed under a section or chapter specified in subsection (1) if the petition is postmarked or the action is filed more than 60 days after the date the assessment becomes final. An action may not be brought to contest a denial of refund of any tax, interest, or penalty paid under a section or chapter specified in subsection (1) if the petition is postmarked or the action is filed more than 60 days after the date the denial becomes final.

Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 125.0104, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

125.0104 Tourist development tax; procedure for levying; authorized uses; referendum; enforcement.--

- (3) TAXABLE PRIVILEGES; EXEMPTIONS; LEVY; RATE.--
- (a) It is declared to be the intent of the Legislature that every person who rents, leases, or lets for consideration any living quarters or accommodations in any hotel, apartment hotel, motel, resort motel, apartment, apartment motel, roominghouse, mobile home park, recreational vehicle park, or condominium, or timeshare resort for a term of 6 months or less is exercising a privilege which is subject to taxation under this section, unless such person rents, leases, or lets for consideration any living quarters or accommodations which are exempt according to the

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(b) As used in this section, the terms "consideration," "rental," and "rents" mean the amount received by a person operating transient accommodations for the use or securing the use of any living quarters or sleeping or housekeeping accommodations in, from, or a part of, or in connection with any hotel, apartment house, roominghouse, timeshare resort, tourist or trailer camp, mobile home park, recreational vehicle park, or condominium. The term "person operating transient accommodations" means the person conducting the daily affairs of the physical facilities furnishing transient accommodations who is responsible for providing the services commonly associated with operating the facilities furnishing transient accommodations regardless of whether such commonly associated services are provided by third parties. The terms "consideration" and "rents" do not include payments received by unrelated persons for facilitating the booking of reservations for or on behalf of the lessees or licensees at hotels, apartment houses, roominghouses, timeshare resorts, tourist or trailer camps, mobile home parks, recreational vehicle parks, or condominiums in this state. "Unrelated person" means a person who is not in the same affiliated group of corporations pursuant to s. 1504 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

(c) Tax shall be due on the consideration paid for occupancy in the county pursuant to a regulated short-term product, as defined in chapter 721, or occupancy in the county pursuant to a product that would be deemed a regulated short-term product if the agreement to purchase the short-term right were executed in this state. Such tax shall be collected on the last

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day of occupancy within the county unless the consideration is applied to the purchase of a timeshare estate. Notwithstanding paragraphs (a) and (b), the occupancy of an accommodation of a timeshare resort pursuant to a timeshare plan, a multisite timeshare plan, or an exchange transaction in an exchange program, as defined in chapter 721, by the owner of a timeshare interest or such owner's guest, which guest is not paying monetary consideration to the owner or to a third party for the benefit of the owner, is not a privilege subject to taxation under this section. A membership or transaction fee paid by a timeshare owner which does not provide the timeshare owner with the right to occupy any specific timeshare unit but merely provides the timeshare owner with the opportunity to exchange a timeshare interest through an exchange program is a service charge and is not subject to taxation.

- (d) Consideration paid for the purchase of a timeshare license in a timeshare plan, as defined in chapter 721, is rent subject to taxation under this section.
- (e) (b) Subject to the provisions of this section, any county in this state may levy and impose a tourist development tax on the exercise within its boundaries of the taxable privilege described in paragraph (a), except that there shall be no additional levy under this section in any cities or towns presently imposing a municipal resort tax as authorized under chapter 67-930, Laws of Florida, and this section shall not in any way affect the powers and existence of any tourist development authority created pursuant to chapter 67-930, Laws of Florida. No county authorized to levy a convention development tax pursuant to s. 212.0305, or to s. 8 of chapter 84-324, Laws of Florida, shall be allowed to levy more than

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the 2-percent tax authorized by this section. A county may elect to levy and impose the tourist development tax in a subcounty special district of the county. However, if a county so elects to levy and impose the tax on a subcounty special district basis, the district shall embrace all or a significant contiguous portion of the county, and the county shall assist the Department of Revenue in identifying the rental units subject to tax in the district.

<u>(f) (c)</u> The tourist development tax shall be levied, imposed, and set by the governing board of the county at a rate of 1 percent or 2 percent of each dollar and major fraction of each dollar of the total consideration charged for such lease or rental. When receipt of consideration is by way of property other than money, the tax shall be levied and imposed on the fair market value of such nonmonetary consideration.

<u>(g) (d)</u> In addition to any 1-percent or 2-percent tax imposed under paragraph <u>(f)</u> <del>(e)</del>, the governing board of the county may levy, impose, and set an additional 1 percent of each dollar above the tax rate set under paragraph <u>(f)</u> <del>(e)</del> by the extraordinary vote of the governing board for the purposes set forth in subsection (5) or by referendum approval by the registered electors within the county or subcounty special district. No county shall levy, impose, and set the tax authorized under this paragraph unless the county has imposed the 1-percent or 2-percent tax authorized under paragraph <u>(f)</u> <del>(e)</del> for a minimum of 3 years prior to the effective date of the levy and imposition of the tax authorized by this paragraph. Revenues raised by the additional tax authorized under this paragraph shall not be used for debt service on or refinancing of existing facilities as specified in subparagraph (5) (a) 1. unless approved

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by a resolution adopted by an extraordinary majority of the total membership of the governing board of the county. If the 1-percent or 2-percent tax authorized in paragraph (f) (e) is levied within a subcounty special taxing district, the additional tax authorized in this paragraph shall only be levied therein. The provisions of paragraphs (4)(a)-(d) shall not apply to the adoption of the additional tax authorized in this paragraph. The effective date of the levy and imposition of the tax authorized under this paragraph shall be the first day of the second month following approval of the ordinance by the governing board or the first day of any subsequent month as may be specified in the ordinance. A certified copy of such ordinance shall be furnished by the county to the Department of Revenue within 10 days after approval of such ordinance.

- $\underline{\text{(h)}}$  (e) The tourist development tax shall be in addition to any other tax imposed pursuant to chapter 212 and in addition to all other taxes and fees and the consideration for the rental or lease.
- <u>(i)</u> (f) The tourist development tax shall be charged by the person receiving the consideration for the lease or rental, and it shall be collected from the lessee, tenant, or customer at the time of payment of the consideration for such lease or rental.
- <u>(j) (g)</u> The person receiving the consideration for such rental or lease shall receive, account for, and remit the tax to the Department of Revenue at the time and in the manner provided for persons who collect and remit taxes under s. 212.03. The same duties and privileges imposed by chapter 212 upon dealers in tangible property, respecting the collection and remission of tax; the making of returns; the keeping of books, records, and

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accounts; and compliance with the rules of the Department of Revenue in the administration of that chapter shall apply to and be binding upon all persons who are subject to the provisions of this section. However, the Department of Revenue may authorize a quarterly return and payment when the tax remitted by the dealer for the preceding quarter did not exceed \$25.

(k) (h) The Department of Revenue shall keep records showing the amount of taxes collected, which records shall also include records disclosing the amount of taxes collected for and from each county in which the tax authorized by this section is applicable. These records shall be open for inspection during the regular office hours of the Department of Revenue, subject to the provisions of s. 213.053.

(1)(i) Collections received by the Department of Revenue from the tax, less costs of administration of this section, shall be paid and returned monthly to the county which imposed the tax, for use by the county in accordance with the provisions of this section. They shall be placed in the county tourist development trust fund of the respective county, which shall be established by each county as a condition precedent to receipt of such funds.

 $\underline{\text{(m)}}$  (j) The Department of Revenue  $\underline{\text{may}}$  is authorized to employ persons and incur other expenses for which funds are appropriated by the Legislature.

(n) (k) The Department of Revenue shall adopt promulgate such rules and shall prescribe and publish such forms as may be necessary to effectuate the purposes of this section. The department may establish audit procedures to assess for delinquent taxes. The person operating transient accommodations shall state the tax separately from the rental charged on the

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receipt, invoice, or other documentation issued with respect to charges for transient accommodations. Persons facilitating the booking of reservations who are unrelated to the person operating the transient accommodations in which the reservation is booked are not required to separately state amounts charged on the receipt, invoice, or other documentation issued by the person facilitating the booking of the reservation. Any amounts specifically collected as a tax are county funds and must be remitted as tax.

- (o) (1) In addition to any other tax which is imposed pursuant to this section, a county may impose up to an additional 1-percent tax on the exercise of the privilege described in paragraph (a) by majority vote of the governing board of the county in order to:
- 1. Pay the debt service on bonds issued to finance the construction, reconstruction, or renovation of a professional sports franchise facility, or the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, or renovation of a retained spring training franchise facility, either publicly owned and operated, or publicly owned and operated by the owner of a professional sports franchise or other lessee with sufficient expertise or financial capability to operate such facility, and to pay the planning and design costs incurred prior to the issuance of such bonds.
- 2. Pay the debt service on bonds issued to finance the construction, reconstruction, or renovation of a convention center, and to pay the planning and design costs incurred prior to the issuance of such bonds.
- 3. Pay the operation and maintenance costs of a convention center for a period of up to 10 years. Only counties that have

elected to levy the tax for the purposes authorized in subparagraph 2. may use the tax for the purposes enumerated in this subparagraph. Any county that elects to levy the tax for the purposes authorized in subparagraph 2. after July 1, 2000, may use the proceeds of the tax to pay the operation and maintenance costs of a convention center for the life of the bonds.

- c. For counties designated as high tourism impact counties pursuant to subparagraph (p)2., the acquisition, construction, extension, enlargement, remodeling, repair, improvement, maintenance, operation, or promotion of one or more publicly owned and operated sports stadiums, arenas, or other sports venues within the boundaries of the county.
- 4. Promote and advertise tourism in the State of Florida and nationally and internationally; however, if tax revenues are expended for an activity, service, venue, or event, the activity, service, venue, or event shall have as one of its main purposes the attraction of tourists as evidenced by the promotion of the activity, service, venue, or event to tourists.

The provision of paragraph (e) (b) which prohibits any county authorized to levy a convention development tax pursuant to s. 212.0305 from levying more than the 2-percent tax authorized by this section, and the provisions of paragraphs (4)(a)-(d), shall not apply to the additional tax authorized in this paragraph. The effective date of the levy and imposition of the tax authorized under this paragraph shall be the first day of the second month following approval of the ordinance by the governing board or the first day of any subsequent month as may be specified in the ordinance. A certified copy of such ordinance shall be furnished

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by the county to the Department of Revenue within 10 days after approval of such ordinance.

- (p) (m)1. In addition to any other tax which is imposed pursuant to this section, a high tourism impact county may impose an additional 1-percent tax on the exercise of the privilege described in paragraph (a) by extraordinary vote of the governing board of the county. The tax revenues received pursuant to this paragraph shall be used for one or more of the authorized uses pursuant to subsection (5).
- 2. A county is considered to be a high tourism impact county after the Department of Revenue has certified to such county that the sales subject to the tax levied pursuant to this section exceeded \$600 million during the previous calendar year, or were at least 18 percent of the county's total taxable sales under chapter 212 where the sales subject to the tax levied pursuant to this section were a minimum of \$200 million, except that no county authorized to levy a convention development tax pursuant to s. 212.0305 shall be considered a high tourism impact county. Once a county qualifies as a high tourism impact county, it shall retain this designation for the period the tax is levied pursuant to this paragraph.
- 3. The provisions of paragraphs (4)(a)-(d) shall not apply to the adoption of the additional tax authorized in this paragraph. The effective date of the levy and imposition of the tax authorized under this paragraph shall be the first day of the second month following approval of the ordinance by the governing board or the first day of any subsequent month as may be specified in the ordinance. A certified copy of such ordinance shall be furnished by the county to the Department of Revenue

within 10 days after approval of such ordinance.

(q)(n) In addition to any other tax that is imposed under this section, a county that has imposed the tax under paragraph (o) (1) may impose an additional tax that is no greater than 1 percent on the exercise of the privilege described in paragraph (a) by a majority plus one vote of the membership of the board of county commissioners in order to:

- 1. Pay the debt service on bonds issued to finance:
- a. The construction, reconstruction, or renovation of a facility either publicly owned and operated, or publicly owned and operated by the owner of a professional sports franchise or other lessee with sufficient expertise or financial capability to operate such facility, and to pay the planning and design costs incurred prior to the issuance of such bonds for a new professional sports franchise as defined in s. 288.1162.
- b. The acquisition, construction, reconstruction, or renovation of a facility either publicly owned and operated, or publicly owned and operated by the owner of a professional sports franchise or other lessee with sufficient expertise or financial capability to operate such facility, and to pay the planning and design costs incurred prior to the issuance of such bonds for a retained spring training franchise.
- 2. Promote and advertise tourism in the State of Florida and nationally and internationally; however, if tax revenues are expended for an activity, service, venue, or event, the activity, service, venue, or event shall have as one of its main purposes the attraction of tourists as evidenced by the promotion of the activity, service, venue, or event to tourists.

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A county that imposes the tax authorized in this paragraph may not expend any ad valorem tax revenues for the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, or renovation of a facility for which tax revenues are used pursuant to subparagraph 1. The provision of paragraph (e) (b) which prohibits any county authorized to levy a convention development tax pursuant to s. 212.0305 from levying more than the 2-percent tax authorized by this section shall not apply to the additional tax authorized by this paragraph in counties which levy convention development taxes pursuant to s. 212.0305(4)(a). Subsection (4) does not apply to the adoption of the additional tax authorized in this paragraph. The effective date of the levy and imposition of the tax authorized under this paragraph is the first day of the second month following approval of the ordinance by the board of county commissioners or the first day of any subsequent month specified in the ordinance. A certified copy of such ordinance shall be furnished by the county to the Department of Revenue within 10 days after approval of the ordinance.

Section 3. The amendments made by this act to s. 125.0104, Florida Statutes, are intended as clarifying and remedial in nature and are not a basis for assessments of tax for periods before July 1, 2008, or for refunds of tax for periods before July 1, 2008.

Section 4. Effective January 1, 2009, paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section 192.0105, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

192.0105 Taxpayer rights.--There is created a Florida Taxpayer's Bill of Rights for property taxes and assessments to guarantee that the rights, privacy, and property of the taxpayers

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of this state are adequately safeguarded and protected during tax levy, assessment, collection, and enforcement processes administered under the revenue laws of this state. The Taxpayer's Bill of Rights compiles, in one document, brief but comprehensive statements that summarize the rights and obligations of the property appraisers, tax collectors, clerks of the court, local governing boards, the Department of Revenue, and taxpayers. Additional rights afforded to payors of taxes and assessments imposed under the revenue laws of this state are provided in s. 213.015. The rights afforded taxpayers to assure that their privacy and property are safeguarded and protected during tax levy, assessment, and collection are available only insofar as they are implemented in other parts of the Florida Statutes or rules of the Department of Revenue. The rights so guaranteed to state taxpayers in the Florida Statutes and the departmental rules include:

- (4) THE RIGHT TO CONFIDENTIALITY. --
- (a) The right to have information kept confidential, including federal tax information, ad valorem tax returns, social security numbers, all financial records produced by the taxpayer, Form DR-219 Return for Transfers of Interest in Real Property, returns required by s. 201.022 for documentary stamp tax information, and sworn statements of gross income, copies of federal income tax returns for the prior year, wage and earnings statements (W-2 forms), and other documents (see ss. 192.105, 193.074, 193.114(5), 195.027(3) and (6), and 196.101(4)(c)).
- Section 5. Section 196.192, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
  - 196.192 Exemptions from ad valorem taxation. -- Subject to

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the provisions of this chapter:

- (1) All property owned by an exempt entity, including an educational institution, and used exclusively for exempt purposes shall be totally exempt from ad valorem taxation.
- (2) All property owned by an exempt entity, including an educational institution, and used predominantly for exempt purposes shall be exempted from ad valorem taxation to the extent of the ratio that such predominant use bears to the nonexempt use.
- (3) All tangible personal property loaned or leased by a natural person, by a trust holding property for a natural person, or by an exempt entity to an exempt entity for public display or exhibition on a recurrent schedule is exempt from ad valorem taxation if the property is loaned or leased for no consideration or for nominal consideration.

For purposes of this section, each use to which the property is being put must be considered in granting an exemption from ad valorem taxation, including any economic use in addition to any physical use. For purposes of this section, property owned by a limited liability company, the sole member of which is an exempt entity, shall be treated as if the property were owned directly by the exempt entity. This section does not apply in determining the exemption for property owned by governmental units pursuant to s. 196.199.

Section 6. Effective January 1, 2009, subsection (6) of section 201.02, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

201.02 Tax on deeds and other instruments relating to real property or interests in real property.--

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Taxes imposed by this section shall not apply to any assignment, transfer, or other disposition, or any document, which arises out of a transfer of real property from a nonprofit organization to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, to any state agency, to any water management district, or to any local government. For purposes of this subsection, "nonprofit organization" means an organization whose purpose is the preservation of natural resources and which is exempt from federal income tax under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The following notation must be placed on the document assigning, transferring, or otherwise disposing of the property, adjacent to the official record stamp of the county, at the time of its recording in the public records: "This document is exempt from documentary stamp tax pursuant to s. 201.02(6), F.S." The Department of Revenue shall provide a form, or a place on an existing form, for the nonprofit organization to indicate its exempt status.

Section 7. Effective upon this act becoming a law and applicable to charges for communications services incurred on or after October 1, 2001, subsection (5) is added to section 202.125, Florida Statutes, to read:

202.125 Sales of communications services; specified exemptions.--

(5) The sale of communications services to a pari-mutuel permitholder licensed under chapter 550 is exempt from the taxes imposed or administered pursuant to ss. 202.12 and 202.19 if the communications services are used for the permitholder's simulcasting and intertrack wagering activities.

Section 8. Section 212.03, Florida Statutes, is amended to

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212.03 Transient rentals tax; rate, procedure, enforcement, exemptions.--

- It is hereby declared to be the legislative intent that every person is exercising a taxable privilege who engages in the business of renting, leasing, letting, or granting a license to use any living quarters or sleeping or housekeeping accommodations in, from, or a part of, or in connection with any hotel, apartment house, roominghouse, or tourist or trailer camp, mobile home park, recreational vehicle park, condominium, or timeshare resort. However, any person who rents, leases, lets, or grants a license to others to use, occupy, or enter upon any living quarters or sleeping or housekeeping accommodations in apartment houses, roominghouses, tourist camps, or trailer camps, mobile home park, recreational vehicle park, condominium, or timeshare resort, and who exclusively enters into a bona fide written agreement for continuous residence for longer than 6 months in duration at such property is not exercising a taxable privilege. For the exercise of such taxable privilege, a tax is hereby levied in an amount equal to 6 percent of and on the total rental charged for such living quarters or sleeping or housekeeping accommodations by the person charging or collecting the rental. Such tax shall apply to hotels, apartment houses, roominghouses, or tourist or trailer camps, mobile home parks, recreational vehicle parks, condominiums, or timeshare resorts whether or not these facilities have there is in connection with any of the same any dining rooms, cafes, or other places where meals or lunches are sold or served to quests.
  - (2) As used in this section, the terms "rent," "rental,"

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"rentals," and "rental payments" mean the amount received by a person operating transient accommodations for the use or securing of any living quarters or sleeping or housekeeping accommodations in, from, or a part of, or in connection with any hotel, apartment house, roominghouse, mobile home park, recreational vehicle park, condominium, timeshare resort, or tourist or trailer camp. The phrase "person operating transient accommodations" means the person conducting the daily affairs of the physical facilities furnishing transient accommodations who is responsible for providing the services commonly associated with operating the facilities furnishing transient accommodations regardless of whether such commonly associated services are provided by third parties. The terms "consideration" and "rents" do not include payments received by unrelated persons for facilitating the booking of reservations for or on behalf of the lessees or licensees at hotels, apartment houses, roominghouses, mobile home parks, recreational vehicle parks, condominiums, timeshare resorts, or tourist or trailer camps in this state. "Unrelated person" means a person who is not in the same affiliated group of corporations pursuant to s. 1504 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

(3) Tax shall be due on the consideration paid for occupancy in this state pursuant to a regulated short-term product, as defined in chapter 721, or occupancy in this state pursuant to a product that would be deemed a regulated short-term product if the agreement to purchase the short-term right was executed in this state. Such tax shall be collected on the last day of occupancy within the state unless such consideration is applied to the purchase of a timeshare estate. Notwithstanding

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subsections (1) and (2), the occupancy of an accommodation of a timeshare resort pursuant to a timeshare plan, a multisite timeshare plan, or an exchange transaction in an exchange program, as defined in chapter 721, by the owner of a timeshare interest or such owner's guest, which guest is not paying monetary consideration to the owner or to a third party for the benefit of the owner, is not a privilege subject to taxation under this section. A membership or transaction fee paid by a timeshare owner which does not provide the timeshare owner with the right to occupy any specific timeshare unit but merely provides the timeshare owner with the opportunity to exchange a timeshare interest through an exchange program is a service charge and not subject to tax.

- (4) Consideration paid for the purchase of a timeshare license in a timeshare plan, as defined in chapter 721, is rent subject to tax under this section.
- (5)(2) The tax provided for herein shall be in addition to the total amount of the rental, shall be charged by the lessor or person operating transient accommodations subject to the tax under this chapter receiving the rent in and by said rental arrangement to the lessee or person paying the rental, and shall be due and payable at the time of the receipt of such rental payment by the lessor or person operating transient accommodations, as defined in this chapter, who receives said rental or payment. The owner, lessor, or person operating transient accommodations receiving the rent shall remit the tax to the department on the amount of rent received at the times and in the manner hereinafter provided for dealers to remit taxes under this chapter. The same duties imposed by this chapter upon

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dealers in tangible personal property respecting the collection and remission of the tax; the making of returns; the keeping of books, records, and accounts; and the compliance with the rules and regulations of the department in the administration of this chapter shall apply to and be binding upon all persons who manage or operate hotels, apartment houses, roominghouses, tourist and trailer camps, and the rental of condominium units, and to all persons who collect or receive such rents on behalf of such owner or lessor taxable under this chapter. The person operating transient accommodations shall separately state the tax from the rental charged on the receipt, invoice, or other documentation issued with respect to charges for transient accommodations. Persons facilitating the booking of reservations who are unrelated to the person operating the transient accommodations in which the reservation is booked are not required to separately state amounts charged on the receipt, invoice, or other documentation issued by the person facilitating the booking of the reservation. Any amounts specifically collected as a tax are state funds and must be remitted as tax.

- (6) (3) When rentals are received by way of property, goods, wares, merchandise, services, or other things of value, the tax shall be at the rate of 6 percent of the value of the property, goods, wares, merchandise, services, or other things of value.
- (7) (4) The tax levied by this section shall not apply to, be imposed upon, or collected from any person who shall have entered into a bona fide written lease for longer than 6 months in duration for continuous residence at any one hotel, apartment house, roominghouse, tourist or trailer camp, or condominium, or to any person who shall reside continuously longer than 6 months

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at any one hotel, apartment house, roominghouse, tourist or trailer camp, or condominium and shall have paid the tax levied by this section for 6 months of residence in any one hotel, roominghouse, apartment house, tourist or trailer camp, or condominium. Notwithstanding other provisions of this chapter, no tax shall be imposed upon rooms provided guests when there is no consideration involved between the quest and the public lodging establishment. Further, any person who, on the effective date of this act, has resided continuously for 6 months at any one hotel, apartment house, roominghouse, tourist or trailer camp, or condominium, or, if less than 6 months, has paid the tax imposed herein until he or she shall have resided continuously for 6 months, shall thereafter be exempt, so long as such person shall continuously reside at such location. The Department of Revenue shall have the power to reform the rental contract for the purposes of this chapter if the rental payments are collected in other than equal daily, weekly, or monthly amounts so as to reflect the actual consideration to be paid in the future for the right of occupancy during the first 6 months.

(8) (5) The tax imposed by this section shall constitute a lien on the property of the lessee or rentee of any sleeping accommodations in the same manner as and shall be collectible as are liens authorized and imposed by ss. 713.68 and 713.69.

(9)(6) It is the legislative intent that every person is engaging in a taxable privilege who leases or rents parking or storage spaces for motor vehicles in parking lots or garages, who leases or rents docking or storage spaces for boats in boat docks or marinas, or who leases or rents tie-down or storage space for aircraft at airports. For the exercise of this privilege, a tax

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is hereby levied at the rate of 6 percent on the total rental charged.

- (10)(7)(a) Full-time students enrolled in an institution offering postsecondary education and military personnel currently on active duty who reside in the facilities described in subsection (1) shall be exempt from the tax imposed by this section. The department shall be empowered to determine what shall be deemed acceptable proof of full-time enrollment. The exemption contained in this subsection shall apply irrespective of any other provisions of this section. The tax levied by this section shall not apply to or be imposed upon or collected on the basis of rentals to any person who resides in any building or group of buildings intended primarily for lease or rent to persons as their permanent or principal place of residence.
- (b) It is the intent of the Legislature that this subsection provide tax relief for persons who rent living accommodations rather than own their homes, while still providing a tax on the rental of lodging facilities that primarily serve transient guests.
- (c) The rental of facilities, as defined in s. 212.02(10)(f), which are intended primarily for rental as a principal or permanent place of residence is exempt from the tax imposed by this chapter. The rental of such facilities that primarily serve transient guests is not exempt by this subsection. In the application of this law, or in making any determination against the exemption, the department shall consider the facility as primarily serving transient guests unless the facility owner makes a verified declaration on a form prescribed by the department that more than half of the total

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rental units available are occupied by tenants who have a continuous residence in excess of 3 months. The owner of a facility declared to be exempt by this paragraph must make a determination of the taxable status of the facility at the end of the owner's accounting year using any consecutive 3-month period at least one month of which is in the accounting year. The owner must use a selected consecutive 3-month period during each annual redetermination. In the event that an exempt facility no longer qualifies for exemption by this paragraph, the owner must notify the department on a form prescribed by the department by the 20th day of the first month of the owner's next succeeding accounting year that the facility no longer qualifies for such exemption. The tax levied by this section shall apply to the rental of facilities that no longer qualify for exemption under this paragraph beginning the first day of the owner's next succeeding accounting year. The provisions of this paragraph do not apply to mobile home lots regulated under chapter 723.

- (d) The rental of living accommodations in migrant labor camps is not taxable under this section. "Migrant labor camps" are defined as one or more buildings or structures, tents, trailers, or vehicles, or any portion thereof, together with the land appertaining thereto, established, operated, or used as living quarters for seasonal, temporary, or migrant workers.
- Section 9. Subsection (3) of section 212.0305, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 212.0305 Convention development taxes; intent; administration; authorization; use of proceeds.--
  - (3) APPLICATION; ADMINISTRATION; PENALTIES. --
  - (a) The convention development tax on transient rentals

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imposed by the governing body of any county authorized to so levy shall apply to the amount of any payment made by any person to rent, lease, or use for a period of 6 months or less any living quarters or accommodations in a hotel, apartment hotel, motel, resort motel, apartment, apartment motel, roominghouse, timeshare resort, tourist or trailer camp, mobile home park, recreational vehicle park, or condominium. When receipt of consideration is by way of property other than money, the tax shall be levied and imposed on the fair market value of such nonmonetary consideration. Any payment made by a person to rent, lease, or use any living quarters or accommodations which are exempt from the tax imposed under s. 212.03 shall likewise be exempt from any tax imposed under this section.

(b) As used in this section, the terms "payment" and "consideration" mean the amount received by a person operating transient accommodations for the use or securing the use of any living quarters or sleeping or housekeeping accommodations in, from, or a part of, or in connection with any hotel, apartment house, roominghouse, timeshare resort, or tourist or trailer camp. The phrase "person operating transient accommodations" means the person conducting the daily affairs of the physical facilities furnishing transient accommodations who is responsible for providing the services commonly associated with operating the facilities furnishing transient accommodations regardless of whether such commonly associated services are provided by third parties. The terms "consideration" and "rents" do not include payments received by unrelated persons for facilitating the booking of reservations for or on behalf of the lessees or licensees at hotels, apartment houses, roominghouses, mobile home

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parks, recreational vehicle parks, condominiums, timeshare resorts, or tourist or trailer camps in this state. "Unrelated person" means a person who is not in the same affiliated group of corporations pursuant to s. 1504 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

- (c) Tax shall be due on the consideration paid for occupancy in the county pursuant to a regulated short-term product, as defined in chapter 721, or occupancy in the county pursuant to a product that would be deemed a regulated short-term product if the agreement to purchase the short-term right was executed in this state. Such tax shall be collected on the last day of occupancy within the county unless such consideration is applied to the purchase of a timeshare estate. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (b), the occupancy of an accommodation of a timeshare resort pursuant to a timeshare plan, a multisite timeshare plan, or an exchange transaction in an exchange program, as defined in chapter 721, by the owner of a timeshare interest or such owner's guest, which guest is not paying monetary consideration to the owner or to a third party for the benefit of the owner, is not a privilege subject to taxation under this section. A membership or transaction fee paid by a timeshare owner which does not provide the timeshare owner with the right to occupy any specific timeshare unit but merely provides the timeshare owner with the opportunity to exchange a timeshare interest through an exchange program is a service charge and not subject to tax.
- (d) Consideration paid for the purchase of a timeshare license in a timeshare plan, as defined in chapter 721, is rent subject to tax under this section.

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(e) (b) The tax shall be charged by the person receiving the consideration for the lease or rental, and the tax shall be collected from the lessee, tenant, or customer at the time of payment of the consideration for such lease or rental. The person operating transient accommodations shall separately state the tax from the rental charged on the receipt, invoice, or other documentation issued with respect to charges for transient accommodations. Persons facilitating the booking of reservations who are unrelated to the person operating the transient accommodations in which the reservation is booked are not required to separately state amounts charged on the receipt, invoice, or other documentation issued by the person facilitating the booking of the reservation. Any amounts specifically collected as a tax are county funds and must be remitted as tax.

(f) (e) The person receiving the consideration for such rental or lease shall receive, account for, and remit the tax to the department at the time and in the manner provided for persons who collect and remit taxes under s. 212.03. The same duties and privileges imposed by this chapter upon dealers in tangible property respecting the collection and remission of tax; the making of returns; the keeping of books, records, and accounts; and compliance with the rules of the department in the administration of this chapter apply to and are binding upon all persons who are subject to the provisions of this section. However, the department may authorize a quarterly return and payment when the tax remitted by the dealer for the preceding quarter did not exceed \$25.

 $\underline{(g)}$  (d) The department shall keep records showing the amount of taxes collected, which records shall disclose the taxes

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collected from each county in which a local government resort tax is levied. These records shall be subject to the provisions of s. 213.053 and are confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1).

- (h) (e) The collections received by the department from the tax, less costs of administration, shall be paid and returned monthly to the county which imposed the tax, for use by the county as provided in this section. Such receipts shall be placed in a specific trust fund or funds created by the county.
- <u>(i) (f)</u> The department shall <u>adopt</u> <del>promulgate such</del> rules and <del>shall</del> prescribe and publish <del>such</del> forms as <del>may be</del> necessary to effectuate the purposes of this section. The department is authorized to establish audit procedures and to assess for delinquent taxes.
- $\underline{\text{(j)}}$  The estimated tax provisions contained in s. 212.11 do not apply to the administration of any tax levied under this section.
- (k) (h) Any person taxable under this section who, either by himself or herself or through the person's agents or employees, fails or refuses to charge and collect the taxes herein provided from the person paying any rental or lease is, in addition to being personally liable for the payment of the tax, guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- (1)(i) A No person may not shall advertise or hold out to the public in any manner, directly or indirectly, that he or she will absorb all or any part of the tax; that he or she will relieve the person paying the rental of the payment of all or any part of the tax; or that the tax will not be added to the rental

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or lease consideration or, if added, that the tax or any part thereof will be refunded or refused, either directly or indirectly, by any method whatsoever. Any person who willfully violates any provision of this paragraph is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

(m) (j) The tax shall constitute a lien on the property of the lessee, customer, or tenant in the same manner as, and shall be collectible as are, liens authorized and imposed by ss. 713.67, 713.68, and 713.69.

 $\underline{\text{(n)}}_{\text{(k)}}$  Any tax levied pursuant to this section shall be in addition to any other tax imposed pursuant to this chapter and in addition to all other taxes and fees and the consideration for the rental or lease.

(o) (1) The department shall administer the taxes levied herein as increases in the rate of the tax authorized in s. 125.0104. The department shall collect and enforce the provisions of this section and s. 125.0104 in conjunction with each other in those counties authorized to levy the taxes authorized herein. The department shall distribute the proceeds received from the taxes levied pursuant to this section and s. 125.0104 in proportion to the rates of the taxes authorized to the appropriate trust funds as provided by law. In the event of underpayment of the total amount due by a taxpayer pursuant to this section and s. 125.0104, the department shall distribute the amount received in proportion to the rates of the taxes authorized to the appropriate trust funds as provided by law and the penalties and interest due on both of said taxes shall be applicable.

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Section 10. The amendments made by this act to ss. 212.03 and 212.0305, Florida Statutes, are intended as clarifying and remedial in nature and are not a basis for assessments of tax for periods before July 1, 2008, or for refunds of tax for periods before July 1, 2008.

Section 11. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 212.031, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

212.031 Tax on rental or license fee for use of real property.--

- (1) (a) It is declared to be the legislative intent that every person is exercising a taxable privilege who engages in the business of renting, leasing, letting, or granting a license for the use of any real property unless such property is:
  - 1. Assessed as agricultural property under s. 193.461.
  - 2. Used exclusively as dwelling units.
- 3. Property subject to tax on parking, docking, or storage spaces under  $\underline{s.\ 212.03(9)}$   $\underline{s.\ 212.03(6)}$ .
- 4. Recreational property or the common elements of a condominium when subject to a lease between the developer or owner thereof and the condominium association in its own right or as agent for the owners of individual condominium units or the owners of individual condominium units. However, only the lease payments on such property shall be exempt from the tax imposed by this chapter, and any other use made by the owner or the condominium association shall be fully taxable under this chapter.
- 5. A public or private street or right-of-way and poles, conduits, fixtures, and similar improvements located on such streets or rights-of-way, occupied or used by a utility or

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provider of communications services, as defined by s. 202.11, for utility or communications or television purposes. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term "utility" means any person providing utility services as defined in s. 203.012. This exception also applies to property, wherever located, on which the following are placed: towers, antennas, cables, accessory structures, or equipment, not including switching equipment, used in the provision of mobile communications services as defined in s. 202.11. For purposes of this chapter, towers used in the provision of mobile communications services, as defined in s. 202.11, are considered to be fixtures.

- 6. A public street or road which is used for transportation purposes.
- 7. Property used at an airport exclusively for the purpose of aircraft landing or aircraft taxiing or property used by an airline for the purpose of loading or unloading passengers or property onto or from aircraft or for fueling aircraft.
- 8.a. Property used at a port authority, as defined in s. 315.02(2), exclusively for the purpose of oceangoing vessels or tugs docking, or such vessels mooring on property used by a port authority for the purpose of loading or unloading passengers or cargo onto or from such a vessel, or property used at a port authority for fueling such vessels, or to the extent that the amount paid for the use of any property at the port is based on the charge for the amount of tonnage actually imported or exported through the port by a tenant.
- b. The amount charged for the use of any property at the port in excess of the amount charged for tonnage actually imported or exported shall remain subject to tax except as

provided in sub-subparagraph a.

- 9. Property used as an integral part of the performance of qualified production services. As used in this subparagraph, the term "qualified production services" means any activity or service performed directly in connection with the production of a qualified motion picture, as defined in s. 212.06(1)(b), and includes:
- a. Photography, sound and recording, casting, location managing and scouting, shooting, creation of special and optical effects, animation, adaptation (language, media, electronic, or otherwise), technological modifications, computer graphics, set and stage support (such as electricians, lighting designers and operators, greensmen, prop managers and assistants, and grips), wardrobe (design, preparation, and management), hair and makeup (design, production, and application), performing (such as acting, dancing, and playing), designing and executing stunts, coaching, consulting, writing, scoring, composing, choreographing, script supervising, directing, producing, transmitting dailies, dubbing, mixing, editing, cutting, looping, printing, processing, duplicating, storing, and distributing;
- b. The design, planning, engineering, construction, alteration, repair, and maintenance of real or personal property including stages, sets, props, models, paintings, and facilities principally required for the performance of those services listed in sub-subparagraph a.; and
- c. Property management services directly related to property used in connection with the services described in subsubparagraphs a. and b.

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This exemption will inure to the taxpayer upon presentation of the certificate of exemption issued to the taxpayer under the provisions of s. 288.1258.

- 10. Leased, subleased, licensed, or rented to a person providing food and drink concessionaire services within the premises of a convention hall, exhibition hall, auditorium, stadium, theater, arena, civic center, performing arts center, publicly owned recreational facility, or any business operated under a permit issued pursuant to chapter 550. A person providing retail concessionaire services involving the sale of food and drink or other tangible personal property within the premises of an airport shall be subject to tax on the rental of real property used for that purpose, but shall not be subject to the tax on any license to use the property. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term "sale" shall not include the leasing of tangible personal property.
- 11. Property occupied pursuant to an instrument calling for payments which the department has declared, in a Technical Assistance Advisement issued on or before March 15, 1993, to be nontaxable pursuant to rule 12A-1.070(19)(c), Florida Administrative Code; provided that this subparagraph shall only apply to property occupied by the same person before and after the execution of the subject instrument and only to those payments made pursuant to such instrument, exclusive of renewals and extensions thereof occurring after March 15, 1993.
- 12. Rented, leased, subleased, or licensed to a concessionaire by a convention hall, exhibition hall, auditorium, stadium, theater, arena, civic center, performing arts center, or publicly owned recreational facility, during an event at the

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facility, to be used by the concessionaire to sell souvenirs, novelties, or other event-related products. This subparagraph applies only to that portion of the rental, lease, or license payment which is based on a percentage of sales and not based on a fixed price. This subparagraph is repealed July 1, 2009.

13. Property used or occupied predominantly for space flight business purposes. As used in this subparagraph, "space flight business" means the manufacturing, processing, or assembly of a space facility, space propulsion system, space vehicle, satellite, or station of any kind possessing the capacity for space flight, as defined by s. 212.02(23), or components thereof, and also means the following activities supporting space flight: vehicle launch activities, flight operations, ground control or ground support, and all administrative activities directly related thereto. Property shall be deemed to be used or occupied predominantly for space flight business purposes if more than 50 percent of the property, or improvements thereon, is used for one or more space flight business purposes. Possession by a landlord, lessor, or licensor of a signed written statement from the tenant, lessee, or licensee claiming the exemption shall relieve the landlord, lessor, or licensor from the responsibility of collecting the tax, and the department shall look solely to the tenant, lessee, or licensee for recovery of such tax if it determines that the exemption was not applicable.

Section 12. Present paragraph (f) of subsection (7) of section 212.055, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph (g), and a new paragraph (f) is added to that subsection, to read:

212.055 Discretionary sales surtaxes; legislative intent;

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authorization and use of proceeds.—It is the legislative intent that any authorization for imposition of a discretionary sales surtax shall be published in the Florida Statutes as a subsection of this section, irrespective of the duration of the levy. Each enactment shall specify the types of counties authorized to levy; the rate or rates which may be imposed; the maximum length of time the surtax may be imposed, if any; the procedure which must be followed to secure voter approval, if required; the purpose for which the proceeds may be expended; and such other requirements as the Legislature may provide. Taxable transactions and administrative procedures shall be as provided in s. 212.054.

- (7) VOTER-APPROVED INDIGENT CARE SURTAX. --
- (f) Notwithstanding any provision of this subsection except paragraphs (b) and (g), a hospital surtax may be levied upon approval of a referendum by the electors in a county that has more than one independent special hospital district and a population of fewer than 50,000 residents, not including inmates and patients residing in institutions operated by the Federal Government, the Department of Corrections, the Department of Health, or the Department of Children and Family Services.

  Subject to the cap in paragraph (g), the surtax may be levied at a rate not to exceed 1 percent.
- 1. At least 90 days before submitting the referendum to the voters, the governing body of the county shall certify to the Department of Revenue the populations of each special hospital district. If the surtax referendum is approved, the surtax proceeds shall be allocated to each district in proportion to the relative populations certified by the county governing body.
  - 2. In addition to the uses authorized by this subsection,

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an independent special hospital district may pledge surtax proceeds to service new or existing bond indebtedness and may use surtax proceeds to pay the direct costs incurred to finance, plan, construct, or reconstruct a public or not-for-profit hospital in the county; the land acquisition, land improvement, design, engineering costs, equipment, and furnishing costs related to the hospital; or the direct costs associated therewith. An independent hospital district may use the services of the Division of Bond Finance of the State Board of Administration pursuant to the State Bond Act to issue bonds under this paragraph.

- 3. Any county having a population of fewer than 50,000 residents at the time bonds authorized in this paragraph are issued shall retain the authority granted under this paragraph throughout the term of such bonds, including the term of any refinancing bonds, regardless of any subsequent increase in population which results in the county having 50,000 or more residents.
- 4. If the indebtedness issued by one hospital district expires before the indebtedness issued by the other hospital district, the full amount of the surtax proceeds shall be applied to service the remaining indebtedness until it is extinguished.

Section 13. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and subsection

(3) of section 212.07, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

212.07 Sales, storage, use tax; tax added to purchase price; dealer not to absorb; liability of purchasers who cannot prove payment of the tax; penalties; general exemptions.--

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A resale must be in strict compliance with s. 212.18 and the rules and regulations, and any dealer who makes a sale for resale which is not in strict compliance with s. 212.18 and the rules and regulations shall himself or herself be liable for and pay the tax. Any dealer who makes a sale for resale shall document the exempt nature of the transaction, as established by rules promulgated by the department, by retaining a copy of the purchaser's resale certificate. In lieu of maintaining a copy of the certificate, a dealer may document, prior to the time of sale, an authorization number provided telephonically or electronically by the department, or by such other means established by rule of the department. The dealer may rely on a resale certificate issued pursuant to s. 212.18(3)(d) s. 212.18(3)(c), valid at the time of receipt from the purchaser, without seeking annual verification of the resale certificate if the dealer makes recurring sales to a purchaser in the normal course of business on a continual basis. For purposes of this paragraph, "recurring sales to a purchaser in the normal course of business" refers to a sale in which the dealer extends credit to the purchaser and records the debt as an account receivable, or in which the dealer sells to a purchaser who has an established cash or C.O.D. account, similar to an open credit account. For purposes of this paragraph, purchases are made from a selling dealer on a continual basis if the selling dealer makes, in the normal course of business, sales to the purchaser no less frequently than once in every 12-month period. A dealer may, through the informal protest provided for in s. 213.21 and the rules of the Department of Revenue, provide the department with evidence of the exempt status of a sale. Consumer

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certificates of exemption executed by those exempt entities that were registered with the department at the time of sale, resale certificates provided by purchasers who were active dealers at the time of sale, and verification by the department of a purchaser's active dealer status at the time of sale in lieu of a resale certificate shall be accepted by the department when submitted during the protest period, but may not be accepted in any proceeding under chapter 120 or any circuit court action instituted under chapter 72.

- (3) (a) A Any dealer who fails, neglects, or refuses to collect the tax or fees imposed under this chapter herein provided, either by himself or herself or through the dealer's agents or employees, is, in addition to the penalty of being liable for and paying the tax or fees himself or herself, commits guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- (b) A dealer who willfully fails to collect the tax or fees imposed under this chapter after the department provides notice of the duty to collect the tax or fees shall, in addition to being liable for and paying the tax or fees and for any other penalties provided by law, be liable for a specific penalty of 100 percent of any uncollected tax or fees and, upon conviction, for fine and punishment as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084:
- 1. If the total amount of uncollected taxes or fees is less than \$300, the first offense is a misdemeanor of the second degree, the second offense is a misdemeanor of the first degree, and the third and all subsequent offenses are felonies of the third degree.

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2. If the total amount of the uncollected taxes or fees is \$300 or more but less than \$20,000, the offense is a felony of the third degree.

- 3. If the total amount of the uncollected taxes or fees is \$20,000 or more but less than \$100,000, the offense is a felony of the second degree.
- 4. If the total amount of the uncollected taxes or fees is \$100,000 or more, the offense is a felony of the first degree.
- (c) For the purposes of this subsection, "willful" means a voluntary, intentional violation of a known legal duty.
- (d) The department shall give written notice of the duty to collect taxes or fees to the dealer by personal service; or by sending notice to the dealer by registered mail, to the dealer's last known address; or by both personal service and mailing.
- Section 14. Paragraph (g) of subsection (5) of section 212.08, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (ggg) is added to subsection (7) of that section, 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.
  - (5) EXEMPTIONS; ACCOUNT OF USE. --
- (g) Building materials used in the rehabilitation of real property located in an enterprise zone.--
- 1. Building materials used in the rehabilitation of real property located in an enterprise zone <u>are shall be</u> exempt from the tax imposed by this chapter upon an affirmative showing to the satisfaction of the department that the items have been used

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for the rehabilitation of real property located in an enterprise zone. Except as provided in subparagraph 2., this exemption inures to the owner, lessee, or lessor at the time of the rehabilitated real property located in an enterprise zone is rehabilitated, but only through a refund of previously paid taxes. To receive a refund pursuant to this paragraph, the owner, lessee, or lessor of the rehabilitated real property <del>located in</del> an enterprise zone must file an application under oath with the governing body or enterprise zone development agency having jurisdiction over the enterprise zone where the business is located, as applicable. A single application for refund may be submitted for multiple, contiguous parcels that were parts of a single parcel that was divided as part of the rehabilitation of the property. All other requirements of this paragraph apply to each parcel on an individual basis. The application must include auwhich includes:

- a. The name and address of the person claiming the refund.
- b. An address and assessment roll parcel number of the rehabilitated real property in an enterprise zone for which a refund of previously paid taxes is being sought.
- c. A description of the improvements made to accomplish the rehabilitation of the real property.
- d. A copy of <u>a valid</u> the building permit issued <u>by the</u> county or municipal building department for the rehabilitation of the real property.
- e. A sworn statement, under the penalty of perjury, from the general contractor, licensed in this state, with whom the applicant contracted to make the improvements necessary to rehabilitate accomplish the rehabilitation of the real property,

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which statement lists the building materials used in the rehabilitation of the real property, the actual cost of the building materials, and the amount of sales tax paid in this state on the building materials. If In the event that a general contractor has not been used, the applicant shall provide the this information in a sworn statement, under the penalty of perjury. Copies of the invoices which evidence the purchase of the building materials used in the such rehabilitation and the payment of sales tax on the building materials shall be attached to the sworn statement provided by the general contractor or by the applicant. Unless the actual cost of building materials used in the rehabilitation of real property and the payment of sales taxes due are thereon is documented by a general contractor or by the applicant in this manner, the cost of such building materials shall be an amount equal to 40 percent of the increase in assessed value for ad valorem tax purposes.

- f. The identifying number assigned pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the enterprise zone in which the rehabilitated real property is located.
- g. A certification by the local building code inspector that the improvements necessary <u>for rehabilitating</u> to accomplish the rehabilitation of the real property are substantially completed.
- h. Whether the business is a small business as defined by  $s.\ 288.703(1)$ .
- i. If applicable, the name and address of each permanent employee of the business, including, for each employee who is a resident of an enterprise zone, the identifying number assigned

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pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the enterprise zone in which the employee resides.

- This exemption inures to a municipality city, county, other governmental unit or agency, or nonprofit community-based organization through a refund of previously paid taxes if the building materials used in the rehabilitation of real property located in an enterprise zone are paid for from the funds of a community development block grant, State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program, or similar grant or loan program. To receive a refund of previously paid taxes pursuant to this paragraph, a municipality city, county, other governmental unit or agency, or nonprofit community-based organization must file an application that which includes the same information required to be provided in subparagraph 1. by an owner, lessee, or lessor of rehabilitated real property. In addition, the application must include a sworn statement signed by the chief executive officer of the municipality city, county, other governmental unit or agency, or nonprofit community-based organization seeking a refund which states that the building materials for which a refund is sought were paid for from the funds of a community development block grant, State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program, or similar grant or loan program.
- 3. Within 10 working days after receipt of an application, the governing body or enterprise zone development agency shall review the application to determine if it contains all the information required <u>under pursuant to</u> subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2. and meets the criteria set out in this paragraph. The governing body or agency shall certify all applications that contain the required information <del>required pursuant to</del>

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subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2. and meet the criteria set out in this paragraph as eligible to receive a refund. If applicable, the governing body or agency shall also certify that if 20 percent of the employees of the business are residents of an enterprise zone, excluding temporary and part-time employees. The certification must shall be in writing, and a copy of the certification shall be transmitted to the executive director of the department of Revenue. The applicant is shall be responsible for forwarding a certified application to the department within the time specified in subparagraph 4.

- 4. An application for a refund pursuant to this paragraph must be submitted to the department within 6 months after the rehabilitation of the property is deemed to be substantially completed by the local building code inspector or by September 1 after the rehabilitated property is first subject to assessment.
- 5. Only Not more than one exemption through a refund of previously paid taxes for the rehabilitation of real property is allowed shall be permitted for any single parcel of property unless there is a change in ownership, a new lessor, or a new lessee of the real property. A No refund may not shall be granted pursuant to this paragraph unless the amount to be refunded exceeds \$500. The No refund may not granted pursuant to this paragraph shall exceed the lesser of 97 percent of the Florida sales or use tax paid on the cost of the building materials used in the rehabilitation of the real property as determined pursuant to sub-subparagraph 1.e. or \$5,000, or, if at least no less than 20 percent of the employees of the business are residents of an enterprise zone, excluding temporary and part-time employees, the amount of refund may granted pursuant to this paragraph shall not

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1304 exceed the lesser of 97 percent of the sales tax paid on the cost of such building materials or \$10,000. A refund approved pursuant 1306 to this paragraph must shall be made within 30 days after of formal approval by the department of the application for the refund. This subparagraph shall apply retroactively to July 1, 2005.

- The department shall adopt rules governing the manner and form of refund applications and may establish guidelines as to the requisites for an affirmative showing of qualification for exemption under this paragraph.
- The department shall deduct an amount equal to 10 percent of each refund granted under the provisions of this paragraph from the amount transferred into the Local Government Half-cent Sales Tax Clearing Trust Fund pursuant to s. 212.20 for the county area in which the rehabilitated real property is located and shall transfer that amount to the General Revenue Fund.
- For the purposes of the exemption provided in this paragraph:
- "Building materials" means tangible personal property that which becomes a component part of improvements to real property.
- b. "Real property" has the same meaning as in s. 192.001 provided in s. 192.001(12).
- "Rehabilitation of real property" means the reconstruction, renovation, restoration, rehabilitation, construction, or expansion of improvements to real property.
- "Substantially completed" has the same meaning as provided in s. 192.042(1).

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9. This paragraph expires on the date specified in s. 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act.

- (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 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) Aircraft temporarily in state. Notwithstanding paragraph (8)(a), an aircraft owned by a nonresident is exempt from the use tax under this chapter if it enters and remains in this state for less than a total of 21 days during the 6-month period after the date of purchase. The temporary use of the aircraft and subsequent removal from the state may be proven by invoices for fuel, tie-down, or hangar charges issued by out-of-state vendors or suppliers or similar documentation.

Section 15. Paragraph (d) of subsection (2) of section 212.12, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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212.12 Dealer's credit for collecting tax; penalties for noncompliance; powers of Department of Revenue in dealing with delinquents; brackets applicable to taxable transactions; records required.—

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Any person who makes a false or fraudulent return with a willful intent to evade payment of any tax or fee imposed under this chapter; any person who, after the department's delivery of a written notice to the person's last known address specifically alerting the person of the requirement to register the person's business as a dealer, intentionally fails to register the business; and any person who, after the department's delivery of a written notice to the person's last known address specifically alerting the person of the requirement to collect tax on specific transactions, intentionally fails to collect such tax, shall, in addition to the other penalties provided by law, be liable for a specific penalty of 100 percent of any unreported or any uncollected tax or fee and, upon conviction, for fine and punishment as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. Delivery of written notice may be made by certified mail, or by the use of such other method as is documented as being necessary and reasonable under the circumstances. The civil and criminal penalties imposed herein for failure to comply with a written notice alerting the person of the requirement to register the person's business as a dealer or to collect tax on specific transactions shall not apply if the person timely files a written challenge to such notice in accordance with procedures established by the department by rule or the notice fails to clearly advise that failure to comply with or timely challenge

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the notice will result in the imposition of the civil and criminal penalties imposed herein.

- 1. If the total amount of unreported or uncollected taxes or fees is less than \$300, the first offense resulting in conviction is a misdemeanor of the second degree, the second offense resulting in conviction is a misdemeanor of the first degree, and the third and all subsequent offenses resulting in conviction is a misdemeanor of the first degree, and the third and all subsequent offenses resulting in conviction are felonies of the third degree.
- 2. If the total amount of unreported or uncollected taxes or fees is \$300 or more but less than \$20,000, the offense is a felony of the third degree.
- 3. If the total amount of unreported <del>or uncollected</del> taxes or fees is \$20,000 or more but less than \$100,000, the offense is a felony of the second degree.
- 4. If the total amount of unreported <del>or uncollected</del> taxes or fees is \$100,000 or more, the offense is a felony of the first degree.
- Section 16. Paragraphs (c), (d), and (e) of subsection (3) of section 212.18, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as paragraphs (d), (e), and (f), respectively, and paragraph (b) of that subsection is amended, to read:
- 1414 212.18 Administration of law; registration of dealers; 1415 rules.--
- 1416 (3)
- 1417 (b) The department, upon receipt of such application, <u>shall</u>
  1418 will grant to the applicant a separate certificate of
  1419 registration for each place of business, which certificate may be

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1420 canceled by the department or its designated assistants for any 1421 failure by the certificateholder to comply with any of the 1422 provisions of this chapter. The certificate is not assignable and is valid only for the person, firm, copartnership, or corporation 1423 1424 to which issued. The certificate must be placed in a conspicuous 1425 place in the business or businesses for which it is issued and 1426 must be displayed at all times. Except as provided in this 1427 subsection, no person shall engage in business as a dealer or in 1428 leasing, renting, or letting of or granting licenses in living 1429 quarters or sleeping or housekeeping accommodations in hotels, 1430 apartment houses, roominghouses, tourist or trailer camps, or 1431 real property as hereinbefore defined, nor shall any person sell 1432 or receive anything of value by way of admissions, without first having obtained such a certificate or after such certificate has 1433 1434 been canceled; no person shall receive any license from any 1435 authority within the state to engage in any such business without 1436 first having obtained such a certificate or after such 1437 certificate has been canceled. The engaging in the business of 1438 selling or leasing tangible personal property or services or as a 1439 dealer, as defined in this chapter, or the engaging in leasing, 1440 renting, or letting of or granting licenses in living quarters or 1441 sleeping or housekeeping accommodations in hotels, apartment 1442 houses, roominghouses, or tourist or trailer camps that are 1443 taxable under this chapter, or real property, or the engaging in 1444 the business of selling or receiving anything of value by way of 1445 admissions, without such certificate first being obtained or 1446 after such certificate has been canceled by the department, is 1447 prohibited.

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(c)1. The failure or refusal of any person, firm, copartnership, or corporation to register so qualify when required hereunder is a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, or subject to injunctive proceedings as provided by law. Such failure or refusal also subjects the offender to a \$100 initial registration fee in lieu of the \$5 registration fee authorized in paragraph (a). However, the department may waive the increase in the registration fee if it determines is determined by the department that the failure to register was due to reasonable cause and not to willful negligence, willful neglect, or fraud.

- 2. Any person who willfully fails to register after the department provides notice of the duty to register as a dealer for the purpose of engaging in or conducting business in the state, commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
- a. For the purposes of this section, "willful" means a voluntary, intentional violation of a known legal duty.
- b. The department shall give written notice of the duty to register to the person by personal service, by sending notice by registered mail to the person's last known address, or by personal service and mailing.

Section 17. Subsection (6) of section 213.015, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

213.015 Taxpayer rights.--There is created a Florida Taxpayer's Bill of Rights to guarantee that the rights, privacy, and property of Florida taxpayers are adequately safeguarded and protected during tax assessment, collection, and enforcement processes administered under the revenue laws of this state. The

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Taxpayer's Bill of Rights compiles, in one document, brief but comprehensive statements which explain, in simple, nontechnical terms, the rights and obligations of the Department of Revenue and taxpayers. Section 192.0105 provides additional rights afforded to payors of property taxes and assessments. The rights afforded taxpayers to ensure that their privacy and property are safeguarded and protected during tax assessment and collection are available only insofar as they are implemented in other parts of the Florida Statutes or rules of the Department of Revenue. The rights so guaranteed Florida taxpayers in the Florida Statutes and the departmental rules are:

(6) The right to be informed of impending collection actions which require sale or seizure of property or freezing of assets, except jeopardy assessments, and the right to at least 30 days' notice in which to pay the liability or seek further review (see ss. 198.20, 199.262, 201.16, 206.075, 206.24, 211.125(5), 212.03(5),  $\frac{212.0305(3)}{(m)}$   $\frac{212.0305(3)}{(m)}$ , 212.04(7), 212.14(1), 213.73(3), 213.731, and 220.739).

Section 18. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2), subsection (5), and paragraph (d) of subsection (8) of section 213.053, Florida Statutes, are amended, paragraph (z) is added to subsection (8) of that section, and subsection (19) is added to that section, to read:

213.053 Confidentiality and information sharing.--

(2) (a) All information contained in returns, reports, accounts, or declarations received by the department, including investigative reports and information, and including letters of technical advice, telephone numbers, and electronic mail addresses collected and maintained by the department for the

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purpose of communicating with taxpayers, is confidential except for official purposes and is exempt from s. 119.07(1).

- (5) Nothing contained in this section shall prevent the department from:
- (a) Publishing statistics so  $\frac{\text{classified}}{\text{classified}}$  as to prevent the identification of particular accounts, reports, declarations, or returns.  $\frac{1}{100}$
- (b) <u>Using telephone</u>, electronic mail, facsimile, or other electronic means to:
- 1. Distribute tax information regarding changes in law, tax rates, or interest rates, or other information that is not specific to a particular taxpayer;
  - 2. Provide reminders of due dates;
- 3. Respond to a taxpayer that has provided and authorized the department to use an electronic mail address that does not support encryption; or
- 4. Request taxpayers to contact the department Disclosing to the Chief Financial Officer the names and addresses of those taxpayers who have claimed an exemption pursuant to former s. 199.185(1)(i) or a deduction pursuant to s. 220.63(5).
- (8) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the department may provide:
- (d) <u>Information relating to chapter 212 and chapter 509</u>

  Names, addresses, and sales tax registration information to the Division of Hotels and Restaurants of the Department of Business and Professional Regulation in the conduct of its official duties.

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(z) Names and taxpayer identification numbers relating to information sharing agreements with financial institutions pursuant to s. 213.0532.

- Disclosure of information under this subsection shall be pursuant to a written agreement between the executive director and the agency. Such agencies, governmental or nongovernmental, shall be bound by the same requirements of confidentiality as the Department of Revenue. Breach of confidentiality is a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided by s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- whom it has issued a warrant or filed a judgment lien against a taxpayer's property if the taxpayers are delinquent in the payment of any tax, fee, penalty, interest, or surcharge administered by the department. The list shall identify each taxpayer by name, address, amounts and types of taxes, fees, or surcharges and the employer identification number or other taxpayer identification number.
- (a) The list shall be available for public inspection at the department or by other means of publication, including the Internet. The department may provide a copy of the list to any agency of the state for similar publication.
- (b) The department shall update the list at least monthly to reflect payments for resolution of deficiencies and to otherwise add or remove taxpayers from the list.
- (c) The department may adopt rules for the administration of this subsection.

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Section 19. Section 213.0532, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

- 213.0532 Agreements with financial institutions.--
- (1) As used in this section, the term:
  - (a) "Financial institution" means:
- 1566 <u>1. A depository institution as defined in 12 U.S.C. s.</u>
  1567 1813(c);
  - 2. An institution-affiliated party as defined in 12 U.S.C.
    s. 1813(u);
  - 3. Any federal credit union or state credit union as defined in 12 U.S.C. s. 1752, including an institution-affiliated party of such a credit union as defined in 12 U.S.C s. 1786(r); and
  - 4. Any benefit association, insurance company, safe-deposit company, money market mutual fund, or similar entity authorized to do business in this state.
  - (b) "Account" means a demand deposit account, checking or negotiable withdrawal order account, savings account, time deposit account, or money-market mutual fund account.
    - (c) "Department" means the Department of Revenue.
  - (d) "Obligor" means any person against whose property the department has issued a warrant or filed a judgment lien certificate.
    - (e) "Person" has the same meaning as in s. 212.02.
  - (2) The department shall request information and assistance from a financial institution as necessary to enforce the tax laws of the state. Pursuant to such purpose, financial institutions doing business in the state shall enter into agreements with the department to develop and operate a data match system, using an

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automated data exchange to the maximum extent feasible, in which the financial institution must provide for each calendar quarter the name, record address, social security number or other taxpayer identification number, average daily account balance, and other identifying information for:

- (a) Each obligor who maintains an account at the financial institution as identified to the institution by the department by name and social security number or other taxpayer identification number; or
- (b) At the financial institution's option, each person who maintains an account at the institution.

The department shall use the information received pursuant to this section only for the purpose of enforcing the collection of taxes and fees administered by the department.

- (3) The department shall, to the extent possible and in compliance with state and federal law, administer this section in conjunction with s. 409.25657 in order to avoid duplication and reduce the burden on financial institutions.
- (4) The department shall pay a reasonable fee to the financial institution for conducting the data match provided for in this section, which may not exceed actual costs incurred by the financial institution.
- (5) A financial institution is not required to provide notice to its customers and is not liable to any person for:
- (a) Disclosure to the department of any information required under this section.
- (b) Encumbering or surrendering any assets held by the financial institution in response to a notice of lien or levy

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1619 issued by the department.

- (c) Disclosing any information in connection with a data match.
- (d) Any other action taken in good faith to comply with the requirements of this section.
- (6) Any financial records obtained pursuant to this section may be disclosed only for the purpose of, and to the extent necessary to administer and enforce, the tax laws of this state.
- (7) The department may institute civil proceedings against financial institutions, as necessary, to enforce the provisions of this section.
- (8) The department may adopt rules establishing the procedures and requirements for conducting automated data matches with financial institutions under this section.
- Section 20. Section 213.25, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 213.25 Refunds; credits; right of setoff.-- If In any instance that a taxpayer has a refund or credit due for an overpayment of taxes assessed under chapter 443 or any of the chapters specified in s. 72.011(1), the department may reduce such refund or credit to the extent of any billings not subject to protest under chapter 443 or s. 213.21 for the same or any other tax owed by the same taxpayer.
- Section 21. Subsection (8) of section 213.67, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
  - 213.67 Garnishment.--
- (8) An action may not be brought to contest a notice of intent to levy under chapter 120 or in circuit court <u>if the</u>

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petition is postmarked or the action is filed more, later than 21 days after the date of receipt of the notice of intent to levy.

Section 22. Section 213.691, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

213.691 Integrated warrants and judgment lien
certificates.--In addition to the department's authority to issue
warrants and file judgment lien certificates for any unpaid tax,
fee, or surcharge it administers, the department may issue a
single integrated warrant and file a single integrated judgment
lien certificate evidencing a taxpayer's total liability for all
taxes, fees, or surcharges administered by the department. Each
integrated warrant or integrated judgment lien certificate issued
or filed must separately identify and itemize the total amount
due for each tax, fee, or surcharge, including any related
interest and penalty. In order for a taxpayer's total liability
to be included in an integrated warrant or judgment lien
certificate, the department must have authority to file a warrant
or judgment lien certificate for each tax, fee, or surcharge.

Section 23. Section 213.692, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

213.692 Integrated enforcement authority.--

(1) If a taxpayer is delinquent in the payment of any tax, fee, or surcharge administered by the department, the department may revoke all of the taxpayer's certificates of registration, permits, or licenses issued by the department. For the purposes of this section, a taxpayer is considered delinquent only if the department has issued a warrant or filed a judgment lien certificate against the taxpayer's property.

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(a) Prior to revocation of the taxpayer's certificates of registration, permits, or licenses, the department must schedule an informal conference, which the taxpayer is required to attend and at which the taxpayer may present evidence regarding the department's intended revocation or may enter into a compliance agreement with the department. The department must provide written notice to the taxpayer at the taxpayer's last known address of its intended action and the time, place, and date of the scheduled informal conference. The department shall issue an administrative complaint under chapter 120 if the taxpayer fails to attend the department's informal conference, fails to enter into a compliance agreement with the department, or fails to comply with the executed compliance agreement.

- (b) A taxpayer whose certificates of registration, permits, or licenses have been revoked may not be issued a new certificate of registration, permit, or license unless:
- 1. The taxpayer's outstanding liabilities have been satisfied; or
- 2. The department enters into a written agreement with the taxpayer regarding the liability and, as part of such agreement, agrees to issue a new certificate of registration, permit, or license to the taxpayer.
- (c) The department shall require a cash deposit, bond, or other security as a condition of issuing a new certificate of registration pursuant to the requirements of s. 212.14(4).
- (d) If the department issues a warrant or files a judgment lien certificate in connection with a jeopardy assessment, the procedures specified in s. 213.732 must be complied with prior to or in conjunction with those provided in this section.

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1704 (2) The department may adopt rules to administer this section.

Revenue is authorized, and all conditions are deemed met, to adopt emergency rules under ss. 120.563(1) and 120.54(4), Florida Statutes, to administer s. 213.692, Florida Statutes.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the emergency rules shall remain effective for 6 months after the date of their adoption and may be renewed during the pendency of procedures to adopt rules addressing the subject of the emergency rules.

Section 25. Section 213.758, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

- 213.758 Transfer of tax liabilities.--
- (1) As used in this section, the term:
- (a) "Involuntary transfers" means transfers made without the consent of the transferor, including, but not limited to:
- 1. Transfers that occur due to the foreclosure of a security interest issued to a person who is not an insider as defined by s. 726.102;
- 2. Transfers that result from eminent domain and condemnation actions; and
- 3. Transfers made under the authority of chapter 61, chapter 702, chapter 727, or the United States Bankruptcy Code.
- (b) "Transfer" means every mode, direct or indirect, with or without consideration, of disposing of or parting with a business or stock of goods, and includes, but is not limited to, assigning, conveying, devising, gifting, granting, or selling.
- (2) Any taxpayer who is liable for any tax, interest, or penalty administered by the department in accordance with chapter

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443 or s. 72.011(1), excluding corporate income tax, and who quits the business without the benefit of a purchaser, successors, or assigns or without transferring the business or stock of goods to a transferee, must make a final return and full payment within 15 days after quitting the business. A taxpayer failing to file a final return and make payment may not engage in any business in the state until the final return has been filed and the all tax, interest, and penalties due have been paid. If requested by the department, the Department of Legal Affairs may proceed by injunction to prevent further business activity until such tax, interest, or penalties are paid, and a temporary injunction enjoining further business activity shall be granted without notice by any court of competent jurisdiction.

- (3) Any taxpayer liable for any tax, interest, or penalty levied under chapter 443 or any of the chapters specified in s. 213.05, excluding corporate income tax, who transfers the taxpayer's business or stock of goods, must file a final return and make full payment within 15 days after the date of transfer.
- (4) Unless a taxpayer who transfers a business or stock of goods provides a receipt or certificate from the department to the transferee showing that the taxpayer has no further liability for tax, interest, or penalty, the transferee must pay the tax, interest, or penalty due or, if consideration is part of the transfer, withhold a sufficient portion of the purchase money to pay the taxes, interest, or penalties due.
- (a) If the transferee withholds any portion of the consideration pursuant to this subsection, the transferee shall pay that portion of the consideration to the department within 30 days after the date of transfer.

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(b) If the consideration withheld is insufficient, the transferee is liable for the remaining amount owed.

- (c) Any transferee acquiring the business or stock of goods who fails to pay the tax, interest, and penalty due shall be denied the right to engage in any business in the state until the tax, interest, and penalty have been paid. If requested by the department, the Department of Legal Affairs may proceed by injunction to prevent further business activity until such tax, interest, and penalties are paid, and a temporary injunction enjoining further business activity shall be granted without notice by any court of competent jurisdiction.
- (d) This subsection does not apply to transfers in which parts of the business or stock of goods are transferred to various taxpayers unless more than 50 percent of the business or stock of goods are transferred to one taxpayer or a group of taxpayers acting in concert.
- without an audit of the transferring taxpayer's books and records by the department, guarantee that there is not a tax deficiency owed to the state from operation of the transferring taxpayer's business. To secure protection from transferee liability under this section, the transferring taxpayer or the transferee may request an audit of the transferring taxpayer's books and records. The department may charge for the cost of the audit if the department has not yet issued a notice of intent to audit at the time the department receives the request to perform the audit.
- (6) The transferee of a business or stock of goods is jointly and severally liable with any former owner for the

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payment of the taxes, interest, or penalties accruing and unpaid on account of the operation of the business by any former owner up to the fair market value of the property transferred or the total purchase price, whichever is higher.

- (7) This section does not apply to involuntary transfers.
- (8) After notice by the department of transferee liability under this section, the taxpayer shall have 60 days within which to file an action as provided in chapter 72.
- (9) The department may adopt rules necessary to administer and enforce this section.

Section 26. Paragraph (j) is added to subsection (3) of section 220.193, Florida Statutes, to read:

220.193 Florida renewable energy production credit.--

- (3) An annual credit against the tax imposed by this section shall be allowed to a taxpayer, based on the taxpayer's production and sale of electricity from a new or expanded Florida renewable energy facility. For a new facility, the credit shall be based on the taxpayer's sale of the facility's entire electrical production. For an expanded facility, the credit shall be based on the increases in the facility's electrical production that are achieved after May 1, 2006.
- (j) The credit shall be allowed to a corporation that owns a partnership or limited liability company that has elected to be treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes when the partnership or limited liability company produces and sells electricity from a new or expanded renewable energy facility. If the partnership or limited liability company that produces or sells the electricity is owned by more than one corporation, the value of the credit shall be prorated among the owners in the

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same manner as items of income and expense are prorated for federal income tax purposes. If an entity applies for a credit that the entity received by a pass through, the application must identify the taxpayer that passed through the credit, all taxpayers that received the credit, the percentage of the credit that passes through to each recipient, and such other information as the department requires.

Section 27. It is the intent of the Legislature that s. 220.193(3)(j), Florida Statutes, as created by this act, is remedial in nature and applies retroactively to the effective date of the law establishing the credit.

Section 28. Subsection (2) of section 220.21, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

220.21 Returns and records; regulations .--

tax return by electronic means on a separate or consolidated basis shall <u>also</u> file returns required by this chapter by electronic means. <u>Pursuant to</u> For the reasons described in s. 213.755(9), the department may waive the requirement to file a return by electronic means for taxpayers that are unable to comply despite good faith efforts or due to circumstances beyond the taxpayer's reasonable control. The provisions of this subsection are in addition to the requirements of s. 213.755 to electronically file returns and remit payments required under this chapter. The department may prescribe by rule the format and instructions necessary for electronic filing to ensure a full collection of taxes due. In addition to the authority granted under s. 213.755, the acceptable method of transfer, the method, form, and content of the electronic data interchange, and the

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means, if any, by which the taxpayer <u>is</u> will be provided with an acknowledgment may be prescribed by the department. <u>If the taxpayer fails</u> In the case of any failure to comply with the electronic filing requirements of this subsection, a penalty shall be added to the amount of tax due with the such return equal to 5 percent of the amount of such tax for the first 30 days the return is not filed electronically, with an additional 5 percent of such tax for each additional month or fraction thereof, not to exceed \$250 in the aggregate. The department may settle or compromise the penalty pursuant to s. 213.21. This penalty is in addition to any other penalty that may be applicable and shall be assessed, collected, and paid in the same manner as taxes.

Section 29. <u>Subsection (2) of section 220.21, Florida</u>

<u>Statutes, as amended by this act, shall take effect and apply to returns due on or after January 1, 2008.</u>

Section 30. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section 336.021, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

336.021 County transportation system; levy of ninth-cent fuel tax on motor fuel and diesel fuel.--

(1)

- (c) Local option taxes collected on sales or use of diesel fuel in this state shall be distributed in the following manner:
- 1. The fiscal year of July 1, 1995, through June 30, 1996, shall be the base year for all distributions.
- 2. Each year the tax collected, less the service and administrative charges enumerated in s. 215.20 and the allowances allowed under s. 206.91, on the number of gallons reported, up to the total number of gallons reported in the base year, shall be

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distributed to each county using the distribution percentage calculated for the base year.

3. After the distribution of taxes pursuant to subparagraph 4. 2., additional taxes available for distribution shall first be distributed pursuant to this subparagraph. A distribution shall be made to each county in which a qualified new retail station is located. A qualified new retail station is a retail station that began operation after June 30, 1996, and that has sales of diesel fuel exceeding 50 percent of the sales of diesel fuel reported in the county in which it is located during the 1995-1996 state fiscal year. The determination of whether a new retail station is qualified shall be based on the total gallons of diesel fuel sold at the station during each full month of operation during the 12month period ending January 31, divided by the number of full months of operation during those 12 months, and the result multiplied by 12. The amount distributed pursuant to this subparagraph to each county in which a qualified new retail station is located shall equal the local option taxes due on the gallons of diesel fuel sold by the new retail station during the year ending January 31, less the service charges enumerated in s. 215.20 and the dealer allowance provided for by s. 206.91. Gallons of diesel fuel sold at the qualified new retail station shall be certified to the department by the county requesting the additional distribution by June 15, 1997, and by March 1 in each subsequent year. The certification shall include the beginning inventory, fuel purchases and sales, and the ending inventory for the new retail station for each month of operation during the year, the original purchase invoices for the period, and any other information the department deems reasonable and necessary

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to establish the certified gallons. The department may review and audit the retail dealer's records provided to a county to establish the gallons sold by the new retail station.

Notwithstanding the provisions of this subparagraph, when more than one county qualifies for a distribution pursuant to this subparagraph and the requested distributions exceed the total taxes available for distribution, each county shall receive a prorated share of the moneys available for distribution.

4. After the distribution of taxes pursuant to subparagraph 2. 3., all additional taxes available for distribution, with the exception of subparagraph 3., shall be distributed based on vehicular diesel fuel storage capacities in each county pursuant to this subparagraph. The total vehicular diesel fuel storage capacity shall be established for each fiscal year based on the registration of facilities with the Department of Environmental Protection as required by s. 376.303 for the following facility types: retail stations, fuel user/nonretail, state government, local government, and county government. Each county shall receive a share of the total taxes available for distribution pursuant to this subparagraph equal to a fraction, the numerator of which is the storage capacity located within the county for vehicular diesel fuel in the facility types listed in this subparagraph and the denominator of which is the total statewide storage capacity for vehicular diesel fuel in those facility types. The vehicular diesel fuel storage capacity for each county and facility type shall be that established by the Department of Environmental Protection by June 1, 1997, for the 1996-1997 fiscal year, and by January 31 for each succeeding fiscal year. The storage capacities so established shall be final. The storage

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capacity for any new retail station for which a county receives a distribution pursuant to subparagraph 3. shall not be included in the calculations pursuant to this subparagraph.

Section 31. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 443.1215, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

443.1215 Employers.--

(2)

(b) In determining whether an employing unit for which service, other than agricultural labor, is also performed is an employer under paragraph (1)(a), paragraph (1)(b), paragraph (1)(c), or subparagraph (1)(d)2., the wages earned or the employment of an employee performing service in agricultural labor may not be taken into account. If an employing unit is determined to be an employer of agricultural labor, the employing unit is considered an employer for purposes of paragraph (1)(a) subsection (1).

Section 32. Subsection (2) of section 443.1316, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

443.1316 Unemployment tax collection services; interagency agreement.--

- (2) (a) The Department of Revenue is considered to be administering a revenue law of this state when the department implements this chapter, or otherwise provides unemployment tax collection services, under contract with the Agency for Workforce Innovation through the interagency agreement.
- (3) (b) Sections 213.015(1)-(3), (5)-(7), (9)-(19), and (21); 213.018; 213.025; 213.051; 213.053; 213.0535; 213.055; 213.071; 213.10; 213.21(4); 213.2201; 213.23; 213.24; 213.25; 213.27; 213.28; 213.285; 213.34(1), (3), and (4); 213.37; 213.50;

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213.67; 213.69; 213.691; 213.692; 213.73; 213.733; 213.74; and 213.757, and 213.758 apply to the collection of unemployment contributions and reimbursements by the Department of Revenue unless prohibited by federal law.

Section 33. Subsection (1) and paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 443.141, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

443.141 Collection of contributions and reimbursements.--

- (1) PAST DUE CONTRIBUTIONS AND REIMBURSEMENTS; DELINQUENT, ERRONEOUS, INCOMPLETE, OR INSUFFICIENT REPORTS.--
- (a) Interest.--Contributions or reimbursements unpaid on the date due shall bear interest at the rate of 1 percent per month from and after that date until payment plus accrued interest is received by the tax collection service provider, unless the service provider finds that the employing unit has or had good reason for failure to pay the contributions or reimbursements when due. Interest collected under this subsection must be paid into the Special Employment Security Administration Trust Fund.
- (b) Penalty for delinquent, erroneous, incomplete, or insufficient reports.--
- 1. An employing unit that fails to file <u>a</u> any report required by the Agency for Workforce Innovation or its tax collection service provider, in accordance with rules for administering this chapter, shall pay to the tax collection service provider for each delinquent report the sum of \$25 for each 30 days or fraction thereof that the employing unit is delinquent, unless the agency or its service provider, whichever required the report, finds that the employing unit has or had good reason for failure to file the report. The agency or its

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service provider may assess penalties only through the date of the issuance of the final assessment notice. However, additional penalties accrue if the delinquent report is subsequently filed.

- 2. An employing unit that files an erroneous, incomplete, or insufficient report required by the Agency for Workforce Innovation, or its tax collection service provider, shall pay a penalty of \$50 or 10 percent of any tax due, whichever is greater, which is added to any tax, penalty, or interest otherwise due. This penalty may not exceed \$300 per report. For purposes of this chapter, an "erroneous, incomplete, or insufficient report" is one so lacking in information, completeness, or arrangement that the report cannot be readily understood, verified, or reviewed. This includes, but is not limited to, reports having missing wage or employee information, missing or incorrect social security numbers, or illegible entries; reports submitted in a format that was not approved by the agency or its tax collection service provider; and those showing gross wages that do not equal the total of each individual's wage.
- 3.2. Sums collected as penalties under this paragraph subparagraph 1. must be deposited in the Special Employment Security Administration Trust Fund.
- <u>4.3.</u> The penalty and interest for a delinquent, erroneous, incomplete, or insufficient report may be waived if when the penalty or interest is inequitable. The provisions of s. 213.24(1) apply to any penalty or interest that is imposed under this paragraph section.
- (c) Application of partial payments.— $\underline{\text{If}}$  When a delinquency exists in the employment record of an employer not in bankruptcy,

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a partial payment less than the total delinquency <u>amount</u> shall be applied to the employment record as the payor directs. In the absence of specific direction, the partial payment shall be applied to the payor's employment record as prescribed in the rules of the Agency for Workforce Innovation or the state agency providing tax collection services.

- (3) COLLECTION PROCEEDINGS.--
- (a) Lien for payment of contributions or reimbursements. --
- There is created a lien in favor of the tax collection service provider upon all the property, both real and personal, of any employer liable for payment of any contribution or reimbursement levied and imposed under this chapter for the amount of the contributions or reimbursements due, together with any interest, costs, and penalties. If any contribution or reimbursement levied imposed under this chapter or any portion of that contribution, reimbursement, interest, or penalty is not paid within 60 days after becoming delinquent, the tax collection service provider may subsequently issue a notice of lien that may be filed in the office of the clerk of the circuit court of the any county in which the delinquent employer owns property or conducts has conducted business. The notice of lien must include the periods for which the contributions, reimbursements, interest, or penalties are demanded and the amounts due. A copy of the notice of lien must be mailed to the employer at her or his last known address. The notice of lien may not be issued and recorded until 15 days after the date the assessment becomes final under subsection (2). Upon presentation of the notice of lien, the clerk of the circuit court shall record it in a book maintained for that purpose, and the amount of the notice of

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lien, together with the cost of recording and interest accruing upon the amount of the contribution or reimbursement, becomes a lien upon the title to and interest, whether legal or equitable, in any real property, chattels real, or personal property of the employer against whom the notice of lien is issued, in the same manner as a judgment of the circuit court docketed in the office of the circuit court clerk, with execution issued to the sheriff for levy. This lien is prior, preferred, and superior to all mortgages or other liens filed, recorded, or acquired after the notice of lien is filed. Upon the payment of the amounts due, or upon determination by the tax collection service provider that the notice of lien was erroneously issued, the lien is satisfied when the service provider acknowledges in writing that the lien is fully satisfied. A lien's satisfaction does not need to be acknowledged before any notary or other public officer, and the signature of the director of the tax collection service provider or his or her designee is conclusive evidence of the satisfaction of the lien, which satisfaction shall be recorded by the clerk of the circuit court who receives the fees for those services.

2. The tax collection service provider may subsequently issue a warrant directed to any sheriff in this state, commanding him or her to levy upon and sell any real or personal property of the employer liable for any amount under this chapter within his or her jurisdiction, for payment, with the added penalties and interest and the costs of executing the warrant, together with the costs of the clerk of the circuit court in recording and docketing the notice of lien, and to return the warrant to the service provider with payment. The warrant may only be issued and enforced for all amounts due to the tax collection service

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provider on the date the warrant is issued, together with interest accruing on the contribution or reimbursement due from the employer to the date of payment at the rate provided in this section. In the event of sale of any assets of the employer, however, priorities under the warrant shall be determined in accordance with the priority established by any notices of lien filed by the tax collection service provider and recorded by the clerk of the circuit court. The sheriff shall execute the warrant in the same manner prescribed by law for executions issued by the clerk of the circuit court for judgments of the circuit court. The sheriff is entitled to the same fees for executing the warrant as for a writ of execution out of the circuit court, and these fees must be collected in the same manner.

- 3. The lien created under this paragraph shall expire 10 years after the notice of lien is recorded and no action may be commenced to collect the tax after the expiration of the lien.
- Section 34. Paragraph (c) is added to subsection (6) of section 509.261, Florida Statutes, to read:
- 509.261 Revocation or suspension of licenses; fines; procedure.--
- (6) The division may fine, suspend, or revoke the license of any public lodging establishment or public food service establishment when:
- (c) The licensee is delinquent in the payment of any tax, fee, or surcharge, including penalty and interest, imposed or administered under chapter 212, and the Department of Revenue has issued a warrant or filed a judgment lien certificate against the licensee's property.

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Section 35. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section 624.509, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

624.509 Premium tax; rate and computation.--

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- (b) For purposes of this subsection:
- 1. The term "salaries" does not include amounts paid as commissions.
  - 2. The term "employees" does not include independent contractors or any person whose duties require that the person hold a valid license under the Florida Insurance Code, except adjusters, managing general agents, and service representatives, as defined in s. 626.015.
  - 3. The term "net tax" means the tax imposed by this section after applying the calculations and credits set forth in subsection (4).
- 4. An affiliated group of corporations that created a service company within its affiliated group on July 30, 2002, shall allocate the salary of each service company employee covered by contracts with affiliated group members to the companies for which the employees perform services. The salary allocation is based on the amount of time during the tax year that the individual employee spends performing services or otherwise working for each company over the total amount of time the employee spends performing services or otherwise working for all companies. The total amount of salary allocated to an insurance company within the affiliated group shall be included as that insurer's employee salaries for purposes of this section.
- a. Except as provided in subparagraph (a)2., the term "affiliated group of corporations" means two or more corporations

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that are entirely owned by a single corporation and that constitute an affiliated group of corporations as defined in s. 1504(a) of the Internal Revenue Code.

- b. The term "service company" means a separate corporation within the affiliated group of corporations whose employees provide services to affiliated group members and which are treated as service company employees for unemployment compensation and common law purposes. The holding company of an affiliated group may not qualify as a service company. An insurance company may not qualify as a service company.
- c. If an insurance company fails to substantiate, whether by means of adequate records or otherwise, its eligibility to claim the service company exception under this section, or its salary allocation under this section, no credit shall be allowed.
- insurance holding company, which mutual insurance holding company was in existence on or before January 1, 2000, shall allocate the salary of each service company employee covered by contracts with members of the mutual insurance holding company system to the companies for which the employees perform services. The salary allocation is based on the ratio of the amount of time during the tax year which the individual employee spends performing services or otherwise working for each company to the total amount of time the employee spends performing services or otherwise working for each company to the total amount of time all companies. The total amount of salary allocated to an insurance company within the mutual insurance holding company system shall be included as that insurer's employee salaries for purposes of this section. However, this subparagraph does not apply for any tax year unless funds sufficient to offset the

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anticipated salary credits have been appropriated to the General Revenue Fund prior to the due date of the final return for that year.

a. The term "mutual insurance holding company system" means two or more corporations that are subsidiaries of a mutual insurance holding company and in compliance with part IV of chapter 628.

b. The term "service company" means a separate corporation within the mutual insurance holding company system whose employees provide services to other members of the mutual insurance holding company system and are treated as service company employees for unemployment compensation and common-law purposes. The mutual insurance holding company may not qualify as a service company.

c. If an insurance company fails to substantiate, whether by means of adequate records or otherwise, its eligibility to claim the service company exception under this section, or its salary allocation under this section, no credit shall be allowed.

Section 36. Section 695.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

695.22 Daily schedule of deeds and conveyances filed for record to be furnished property appraiser.—After October 1, 1945, the several clerks of the circuit courts shall keep and furnish to the respective county property appraisers in the counties where such instruments are recorded a daily schedule of the aforesaid deeds and conveyances so filed for recordation, in which schedule shall be set forth the name of the grantor or grantors, the names and addresses of each grantee, the actual purchase price or other valuable consideration paid for the

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2196 property conveyed, and a description of the land as specified in each instrument so filed.

- Section 37. Paragraph (g) is added to subsection (1) of section 695.26, Florida Statutes, to read:
- 695.26 Requirements for recording instruments affecting real property. --
- No instrument by which the title to real property or any interest therein is conveyed, assigned, encumbered, or otherwise disposed of shall be recorded by the clerk of the circuit court unless:
- (g) The actual purchase price or other valuable consideration paid for the real property or interest conveyed, assigned, encumbered, or otherwise disposed is legibly printed, typewritten, or stamped upon the instrument.
- Section 38. Section 213.054, Florida Statutes, is repealed. Section 39. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon becoming a law, this act shall take effect July 1, 2008.