By Senator Grant

13-339A-98

1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to the tax on sales, use, and 3 other transactions; amending s. 212.031, F.S.; 4 excluding certain pass-through charges on 5 commercial real estate leases from such taxes; 6 providing an effective date. 7 8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 9 10 Section 1. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section 212.031, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 11 212.031 Lease or rental of or license in real 12 13 property.--14 (1)(c) For the exercise of such privilege, as tax is 15 levied in an amount equal to 6 percent of and on the total 16 rent or license fee charged for such real property by the 17 person charging or collecting the rental or license fee. The 18 19 total rent or license fee charged for such real property shall 20 include payments for the granting of a privilege to use or 21 occupy real property for any purpose and shall include base 22 rent, percentage rents, or similar charges. Such charges shall 23 be included in the total rent or license fee subject to tax under this section whether or not they can be attributed to 24 25 the ability of the lessor's or licensor's property as used or 26 operated to attract customers. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "total rent or license fee" does not include ad 27 28 valorem taxes, maintenance charges, or insurance premiums paid 29 for the benefit and protection of the landlord when the 30 proportionate share of each of those items is separately billed on an invoice by the landlord. Payments for

intrinsically valuable personal property such as franchises, trademarks, service marks, logos, or patents are not subject to tax under this section. In the case of a contractual arrangement that provides for both payments taxable as total rent or license fee and payments not subject to tax, the tax shall be based on a reasonable allocation of such payments and shall not apply to that portion which is for the nontaxable payments.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1998.

Provides that the total rent and license fee for a commercial real estate lease subject to the sales tax does not include a proportionate share of pass-through charges comprised of ad valorem taxes, maintenance charges, and certain insurance premiums.