By the Committee on Business Regulation & Consumer Affairs and Representatives Wiles, Hafner, Ritchie, Turnbull, Ryan, Levine and Henriquez

A bill to be entitled
An act relating to tax on sales, use, and other transactions; amending s. 212.12, F.S.; revising provisions which authorize the Department of Revenue to sample a dealer's records when such records are adequate but voluminous, in order to determine the dealer's tax liability; providing that overpayments and deficiencies shall be projected over the entire audit period, and the tax deficiency reduced or refund made as necessary; providing intent; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (c) of subsection (6) of section 212.12, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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.--

(6)

(c)<u>1.</u> If the records of a dealer are adequate but voluminous in nature and substance, the department may statistically sample such records, except for fixed assets, and project the audit findings derived therefrom over the entire audit period to determine the proportion that taxable retail sales bear to total retail sales or the proportion that taxable purchases bear to total purchases. In order to conduct such a sample, the department must first make a good faith effort to reach an agreement with the dealer, which

agreement provides for the means and methods to be used in the sampling process. In the event that no agreement is reached, the dealer is entitled to a review by the executive director.

2. For the purposes of sampling pursuant to subparagraph 1., the department shall project any deficiencies and overpayments derived therefrom over the entire audit period. In determining the dealer's compliance, the department shall reduce any tax deficiency as derived from the sample by the amount of any overpayment derived from the sample. In the event the department determines from the sample results that the dealer has a net tax overpayment, the department shall provide the findings of this overpayment to the Comptroller for repayment of funds paid into the State Treasury through error pursuant to s. 215.26.

Section 2. It is the intent of the Legislature that this act clarify rather than change existing law. Further, this act shall apply to all tax periods that are still open for assessment or refund when this act takes effect, including tax periods that are the subject of assessment or refund claims that are pending in administrative or judicial proceedings when this act takes effect.

Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.