

HB 0951 2003 CS

CHAMBER ACTION

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The Committee on Finance & Tax recommends the following:

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## Committee Substitute

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Remove the entire bill and insert:

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A bill to be entitled 11 An act relating to the tax on sales, use, and other

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transactions; amending s. 212.08, F.S.; providing an exemption for the purchase or rental of a guide dog for the deaf, a dog for a paraplegic or quadriplegic, or a dog

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for a person with epilepsy or a seizure disorder; providing an exemption for the sale of food and other

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items for such dogs; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Paragraph (h) of subsection (7) of section 212.08, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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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

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chapter.

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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.

- (h) Guide dogs for the blind or deaf and dogs for paraplegics, quadriplegics, and persons with epilepsy or seizure disorders.—Also exempt are the sale or rental of guide dogs for the blind, commonly referred to as "seeing-eye dogs," guide dogs for the deaf, also referred to as "hearing-ear dogs," and dogs trained to assist paraplegics, quadriplegics, and persons with epilepsy or seizure disorders and the sale of food or other items for such guide dogs.
- 1. The department shall issue a consumer's certificate of exemption to any blind person who holds an identification card

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as provided for in s. 413.091 and who either owns or rents, or contemplates the ownership or rental of, a guide dog for the blind. The consumer's certificate of exemption shall be issued without charge and shall be of such size as to be capable of being carried in a wallet or billfold.

- 2. The department shall issue a consumer's certificate of exemption, without charge, to any person who is medically certified as being deaf or hearing-impaired and who either owns or rents, or contemplates the ownership or rental of, a guide dog for the deaf. The consumer's certificate of exemption must be of such size as to be capable of being carried in a wallet or billfold.
- 3. The department shall issue a consumer's certificate of exemption, without charge, to any paraplegic or quadriplegic or any person who is medically certified as having epilepsy or a seizure disorder and who either owns or rents, or contemplates the ownership or rental of, a dog for the purpose of assisting such person. The consumer's certificate of exemption must be of such size as to be capable of being carried in a wallet or billfold.
- $\underline{4.2.}$  The department shall make such rules concerning items exempt from tax under the provisions of this paragraph as  $\underline{\text{are}}$  may be necessary to provide that any person authorized to have a consumer's certificate of exemption need only present such a certificate at the time of paying for exempt goods and shall not be required to pay any tax thereon.
  - Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003.