1

A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to tax administration; amending s. 95.091, 3 F.S.; adding a cross reference; amending s. 198.32, F.S.; 4 allowing an estate that is not required to file a federal 5 tax return to file with the clerk of the court an affidavit attesting that no Florida estate tax is due, 6 7 regardless of the decedent's date of death; amending s. 8 199.135, F.S.; providing special provisions for the 9 imposition of the nonrecurring intangibles tax imposed by this section on the sale of a timeshare interest in a 10 timeshare plan; amending s. 201.02, F.S.; providing 11 12 special provisions for the imposition of the tax on deeds 13 or other instruments relating to real property or interests in real property imposed by this section on the 14 sale of a timeshare interest in a timeshare plan; amending 15 16 s. 201.08, F.S.; providing special provisions for the imposition of the tax on promissory or nonnegotiable notes 17 18 or written obligations to pay money imposed by this 19 section on the sale of a timeshare interest in a timeshare 20 plan; amending s. 202.11, F.S.; providing an additional 21 definition of the term "service address" for the purposes 22 of the tax on communications services; amending ss. 206.09, 206.095, 206.14, and 206.485, F.S., relating to 23 24 fuel taxes; providing for the distribution of penalties; 25 amending s. 206.27, F.S.; allowing the Department of 26 Revenue the option of posting the list of active and 27 canceled fuel licenses on the departmental web site or mailing it to licensees; amending s. 212.05, F.S.; 28 Page 1 of 35

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29 clarifying the tax treatment of nonresident purchasers of 30 airplanes; amending s. 212.06, F.S.; clarifying that sales 31 tax is not due on any vessel imported into this state for 32 the sole purpose of being offered for retail sale by a registered yacht broker or dealer in this state under 33 certain conditions; amending s. 212.11, F.S.; correcting a 34 35 cross reference; amending s. 212.12, F.S.; including in 36 the definition of tax fraud willful attempts to evade a 37 tax, surcharge, or fee imposed by chapter 212, F.S.; 38 providing penalties; amending s. 213.053, F.S.; authorizing expanded sharing of confidential information 39 40 between the Department of Revenue and the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for the Bill of Lading 41 42 Program; amending s. 213.21, F.S.; specifying which taxes 43 qualify for the automatic penalty compromise or settlement 44 of liability; providing for retroactivity; amending s. 45 213.27, F.S.; clarifying that the notification by the 46 Department of Revenue to the taxpayer that the taxpayer's account is being referred to a debt collection agency must 47 48 be at least 30 days before the referral; amending s. 49 215.26, F.S.; adding a cross reference; amending s. 252.372, F.S.; authorizing the Florida Surplus Lines 50 51 Service Office to collect the Emergency Management, 52 Preparedness, and Assistance Trust Fund surcharge and 53 deposit the proceeds into the trust fund; providing 54 applicability; amending s. 443.131, F.S.; requiring 55 employers who transfer their business to a related entity 56 to retain their unemployment experience history under Page 2 of 35

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57 certain circumstances; providing penalties; amending s. 58 443.141, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Revenue to 59 send to employers by regular mail notices of unemployment tax assessments and notices of the filing of liens; 60 amending s. 624.509, F.S.; revising a definition to 61 clarify that adjusters, managing general agents, and 62 service representatives are employees; creating s. 63 64 624.50921, F.S.; creating a statute of limitations for 65 assessments of the insurance premium tax if the amount of corporate income tax or a workers' compensation 66 administrative assessment paid by the insurer is adjusted 67 through an amended return or refund; reviving and 68 readopting s. 213.21, F.S., relating to informal 69 70 conference procedures within the Department of Revenue; 71 providing effective dates. 72 73 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 74 75 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 95.091, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 76 77 95.091 Limitation on actions to collect taxes.--(3)(a) With the exception of taxes levied under chapter 78 79 198 and tax adjustments made pursuant to ss. s. 220.23 and 624.50921, the Department of Revenue may determine and assess 80 81 the amount of any tax, penalty, or interest due under any tax 82 enumerated in s. 72.011 which it has authority to administer and 83 the Department of Business and Professional Regulation may determine and assess the amount of any tax, penalty, or interest 84 Page 3 of 35

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85 due under any tax enumerated in s. 72.011 which it has authority 86 to administer:

87 1.a. For taxes due before July 1, 1999, within 5 years 88 after the date the tax is due, any return with respect to the 89 tax is due, or such return is filed, whichever occurs later; and 90 for taxes due on or after July 1, 1999, within 3 years after the 91 date the tax is due, any return with respect to the tax is due, 92 or such return is filed, whichever occurs later;

b. Effective July 1, 2002, notwithstanding subsubparagraph a., within 3 years after the date the tax is due,
any return with respect to the tax is due, or such return is
filed, whichever occurs later;

97 2. For taxes due before July 1, 1999, within 6 years after 98 the date the taxpayer either makes a substantial underpayment of 99 tax, or files a substantially incorrect return;

100 3. At any time while the right to a refund or credit of101 the tax is available to the taxpayer;

102 4. For taxes due before July 1, 1999, at any time after103 the taxpayer has filed a grossly false return;

5. At any time after the taxpayer has failed to make any required payment of the tax, has failed to file a required return, or has filed a fraudulent return, except that for taxes due on or after July 1, 1999, the limitation prescribed in subparagraph 1. applies if the taxpayer has disclosed in writing the tax liability to the department before the department has contacted the taxpayer; or

111 6. In any case in which there has been a refund of tax112 erroneously made for any reason:

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a. For refunds made before July 1, 1999, within 5 years after making such refund; and

b. For refunds made on or after July 1, 1999, within 3 years after making such refund,

118 or at any time after making such refund if it appears that any 119 part of the refund was induced by fraud or the misrepresentation 120 of a material fact.

Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 198.32, FloridaStatutes, is amended to read:

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198.32 Prima facie liability for tax.--

Whenever an estate is not subject to tax under this 124 (2) chapter and is not required to file a return, the personal 125 126 representative may execute an affidavit attesting that the estate is not taxable. The form of the affidavit shall be 127 128 prescribed by the department, and shall include, but not be 129 limited to, statements regarding the decedent's domicile and whether a federal estate tax return will be filed, and 130 131 acknowledgment of the personal representative's personal liability under s. 198.23. This affidavit shall be subject to 132 133 record and admissible in evidence to show nonliability for tax. This subsection applies to all estates, regardless of the date 134 of death of the decedent. 135

136 Section 3. Subsection (5) is added to section 199.135,137 Florida Statutes, to read:

138 199.135 Due date and payment of nonrecurring tax.--The 139 nonrecurring tax imposed on notes, bonds, and other obligations 140 for payment of money secured by a mortgage, deed of trust, or Page 5 of 35

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other lien evidenced by a written instrument presented for recordation shall be due and payable when the instrument is presented for recordation. If there is no written instrument or if it is not so presented within 30 days following creation of the obligation, then the tax shall be due and payable within 30 days following creation of the obligation.

147 (5)(a) In recognition of the special escrow requirements 148 that apply to sales of timeshare interests in timeshare plans 149 pursuant to s. 721.08, tax on notes or other obligations secured 150 by a mortgage, deed of trust, or other lien upon real property 151 situated in this state executed in conjunction with the sale by 152 a developer of a timeshare interest in a timeshare plan is due 153 and payable on the earlier of the date on which:

1541. The mortgage, deed of trust, or other lien is recorded;155or

156 <u>2. All of the conditions precedent to the release of the</u>
157 <u>purchaser's escrowed funds or other property pursuant to s.</u>
158 <u>721.08(2)(c) have been met, regardless of whether the developer</u>
159 <u>has posted an alternative assurance. Tax due under this</u>
160 <u>subparagraph is due and payable on or before the 20th day of the</u>
161 <u>month following the month in which these conditions were met.</u>

(b)1. If tax has been paid to the department under subparagraph (a)2., and the note, other written obligation, mortgage, deed of trust, or other lien with respect to which the tax was paid is subsequently recorded, a notation reflecting the prior payment of the tax must be made upon the mortgage or other lien.

2. Notwithstanding paragraph (a), if funds are designated Page 6 of 35

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169	on a closing statement as tax collected from the purchaser, but
170	the mortgage, deed of trust, or other lien with respect to which
171	the tax was collected has not been recorded or filed in this
172	state, the tax must be paid to the department on or before the
173	20th day of the month following the month in which the funds are
174	available for release from escrow, unless the funds have been
175	refunded to the purchaser.
176	(c) The department may adopt rules to administer the
177	method for reporting tax due under this subsection.
178	Section 4. Subsection (10) is added to section 201.02,
179	Florida Statutes, to read:
180	201.02 Tax on deeds and other instruments relating to real
181	property or interests in real property
182	(10)(a) In recognition of the special escrow requirements
183	that apply to sales of timeshare interests in timeshare plans
184	pursuant to s. 721.08, tax on deeds or other instruments
185	conveying any interest in real property in this state which are
186	executed in conjunction with the sale by a developer of a
187	timeshare interest in a timeshare plan is due and payable on the
188	earlier of the date on which:
189	1. The deed or other instrument conveying the interest in
190	real property in this state is recorded; or
191	2. All of the conditions precedent to the release of the
192	purchaser's escrowed funds or other property pursuant to s.
193	721.08(2)(c) have been met, regardless of whether the developer
194	has posted an alternative assurance. Tax due pursuant to this
195	subparagraph is due and payable on or before the 20th day of the
196	month following the month in which these conditions were met.
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197	(b)1. If tax has been paid to the department pursuant to
198	subparagraph (a)2. and the deed or other instrument conveying
199	the interest in real property in this state with respect to
200	which the tax was paid is subsequently recorded, a notation
201	reflecting the prior payment of the tax must be made upon the
202	deed or other instrument conveying the interest in real property
203	in this state.
204	2. Notwithstanding paragraph (a), if funds are designated
205	on a closing statement as tax collected from the purchaser but a
206	default or cancellation occurs pursuant to s. 721.08(2)(a) or s.
207	721.08(2)(b) and no deed or other instrument conveying interest
208	in real property in this state has been recorded or delivered to
209	the purchaser, the tax must be paid to the department on or
210	before the 20th day of the month following the month in which
211	the funds are available for release from escrow unless the funds
212	have been refunded to the purchaser.
213	(c) The department may adopt rules to administer the
214	method for reporting tax due under this subsection.
215	Section 5. Subsection (8) is added to section 201.08,
216	Florida Statutes, to read:
217	201.08 Tax on promissory or nonnegotiable notes, written
218	obligations to pay money, or assignments of wages or other
219	compensation; exception
220	(8)(a) In recognition of the special escrow requirements
221	that apply to sales of timeshare interests in timeshare plans
222	pursuant to s. 721.08, tax on notes or other written obligations
223	and mortgages or other evidences of indebtedness executed in
224	conjunction with the sale by a developer of a timeshare interest
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225	in a timeshare plan is due and payable on the earlier of the
226	date on which:
227	1. The note, other written obligation, mortgage, or other
228	evidence of indebtedness is recorded or filed in this state; or
229	2. All of the conditions precedent to the release of the
230	purchaser's escrowed funds or other property pursuant to s.
231	721.08(2)(c) have been met, regardless of whether the developer
232	has posted an alternative assurance. Tax due under this
233	subparagraph is due and payable on or before the 20th day of the
234	month following the month in which these conditions were met.
235	(b)1. If tax has been paid to the department pursuant to
236	subparagraph (a)2. and the note, other written obligation,
237	mortgage, or other evidence of indebtedness with respect to
238	which the tax was paid is subsequently recorded or filed in this
239	state, a notation reflecting the prior payment of the tax must
240	be made upon the note, other written obligation, mortgage, or
241	other evidence of indebtedness recorded or filed in this state.
242	2. Notwithstanding paragraph (a), if funds are designated
243	on a closing statement as tax collected from the purchaser, but
244	the note, other written obligation, mortgage, or other evidence
245	of indebtedness with respect to which the tax was collected has
246	not been recorded or filed in this state, the tax shall be paid
247	to the department on or before the 20th day of the month
248	following the month in which the funds are available for release
249	from escrow, unless the funds have been refunded to the
250	purchaser.
251	(c) The department may adopt rules to administer the
252	method for reporting tax due under this subsection.
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253 Section 6. Paragraph (a) of subsection (15) of section 254 202.11, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

255

202.11 Definitions.--As used in this chapter:

256 (15) "Service address" means:

257

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section:

258 <u>1.</u> The location of the communications equipment from which 259 communications services originate or at which communications 260 services are received by the customer;-

261 <u>2.</u> In the case of a communications service paid through a 262 credit or payment mechanism that does not relate to a service 263 address, such as a bank, travel, debit, or credit card, and in 264 the case of third-number and calling-card calls, the <u>term</u> 265 <u>"service address" means</u> is the address of the central office, as 266 determined by the area code and the first three digits of the 267 seven-digit originating telephone number; or-

268 3. If the location of the equipment described in subparagraph 1. is not known and subparagraph 2. is 269 270 inapplicable, the term "service address" means the location of 271 the customer's primary use of the communications service. For 272 the purposes of this subparagraph, the location of the 273 customer's primary use of a communications service is the 274 residential street address or the business street address of the 275 customer.

276 Section 7. Subsection (6) is added to section 206.09,
277 Florida Statutes, to read:
278 206.09 Reports from carriers transporting motor fuel or

279 similar products.--

280

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(6) All moneys derived from the penalties imposed by this

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281	section shall be deposited into the Fuel Tax Collection Trust
282	Fund and allocated in the same manner as provided by s. 206.875.
283	Section 8. Subsection (4) is added to section 206.095,
284	Florida Statutes, to read:
285	206.095 Reports from terminal operators
286	(4) All moneys derived from the penalties imposed by this
287	section shall be deposited into the Fuel Tax Collection Trust
288	Fund and allocated in the same manner as provided by s. 206.875.
289	Section 9. Subsection (6) is added to section 206.14,
290	Florida Statutes, to read:
291	206.14 Inspection of records; audits; hearings; forms;
292	rules and regulations
293	(6) All moneys derived from the penalties imposed by this
294	section shall be deposited into the Fuel Tax Collection Trust
295	Fund and allocated in the same manner as provided by s. 206.875.
296	Section 10. Subsection (1) of section 206.27, Florida
297	Statutes, is amended to read:
298	206.27 Records and files as public records
299	(1) The records and files in the office of the department
300	appertaining to parts I and II of this chapter shall be
301	available in Tallahassee to the public at any time during
302	business hours. The department shall prepare and make available
303	a list each month of all current licensed terminal suppliers,
304	importers, exporters, and wholesalers which also shall include
305	all new licenses issued and all licenses canceled during the
306	past 12 months, and mail a copy thereof to each licensee. Such
307	list shall be used to verify license numbers of purchasers
308	issuing exemption certificates or affidavits.
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309 Section 11. Subsection (3) is added to section 206.485, 310 Florida Statutes, to read:

311

206.485 Tracking system reporting requirements.--

312 (3) All moneys derived from the penalties imposed by this
 313 section shall be deposited into the Fuel Tax Collection Trust
 314 Fund and allocated in the same manner as provided by s. 206.875.
 315 Section 12. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section

316 212.05, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

317 212.05 Sales, storage, use tax.--It is hereby declared to 318 be the legislative intent that every person is exercising a taxable privilege who engages in the business of selling 319 tangible personal property at retail in this state, including 320 the business of making mail order sales, or who rents or 321 322 furnishes any of the things or services taxable under this 323 chapter, or who stores for use or consumption in this state any 324 item or article of tangible personal property as defined herein 325 and who leases or rents such property within the state.

(1) For the exercise of such privilege, a tax is levied on
each taxable transaction or incident, which tax is due and
payable as follows:

(a)1.a. At the rate of 6 percent of the sales price of each item or article of tangible personal property when sold at retail in this state, computed on each taxable sale for the purpose of remitting the amount of tax due the state, and including each and every retail sale.

b. Each occasional or isolated sale of an <u>airplane</u>
aircraft, boat, mobile home, or motor vehicle of a class or type
which is required to be registered, licensed, titled, or
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337 documented in this state or by the United States Government 338 shall be subject to tax at the rate provided in this paragraph. 339 The department shall by rule adopt any nationally recognized 340 publication for valuation of used motor vehicles as the 341 reference price list for any used motor vehicle which is 342 required to be licensed pursuant to s. 320.08(1), (2), (3)(a), 343 (b), (c), or (e), or (9). If any party to an occasional or 344 isolated sale of such a vehicle reports to the tax collector a 345 sales price which is less than 80 percent of the average loan 346 price for the specified model and year of such vehicle as listed in the most recent reference price list, the tax levied under 347 this paragraph shall be computed by the department on such 348 average loan price unless the parties to the sale have provided 349 350 to the tax collector an affidavit signed by each party, or other 351 substantial proof, stating the actual sales price. Any party to 352 such sale who reports a sales price less than the actual sales 353 price is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable 354 as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. The department shall 355 collect or attempt to collect from such party any delinquent 356 sales taxes. In addition, such party shall pay any tax due and 357 any penalty and interest assessed plus a penalty equal to twice 358 the amount of the additional tax owed. Notwithstanding any 359 other provision of law, the Department of Revenue may waive or 360 compromise any penalty imposed pursuant to this subparagraph.

361 2. This paragraph does not apply to the sale of a boat or 362 airplane by or through a registered dealer under this chapter to 363 a purchaser who, at the time of taking delivery, is a 364 nonresident of this state, does not make his or her permanent Page 13 of 35

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place of abode in this state, and is not engaged in carrying on 365 366 in this state any employment, trade, business, or profession in 367 which the boat or airplane will be used in this state, or is a 368 corporation none of the officers or directors of which is a 369 resident of, or makes his or her permanent place of abode in, 370 this state, or is a noncorporate entity that has no individual 371 vested with authority to participate in the management, 372 direction, or control of the entity's affairs who is a resident of, or makes his or her permanent abode in, this state. For 373 374 purposes of this exemption, either a registered dealer acting on his or her own behalf as seller, a registered dealer acting as 375 broker on behalf of a seller, or a registered dealer acting as 376 broker on behalf of the purchaser may be deemed to be the 377 selling dealer. This exemption shall not be allowed unless: 378

a. The purchaser removes a qualifying boat, as described in sub-subparagraph f., from the state within 90 days after the date of purchase or the purchaser removes a nonqualifying boat or an airplane from this state within 10 days after the date of purchase or, when the boat or airplane is repaired or altered, within 20 days after completion of the repairs or alterations;

385 The purchaser, within 30 days from the date of b. departure, shall provide the department with written proof that 386 the purchaser licensed, registered, titled, or documented the 387 388 boat or airplane outside the state. If such written proof is 389 unavailable, within 30 days the purchaser shall provide proof that the purchaser applied for such license, title, 390 391 registration, or documentation. The purchaser shall forward to the department proof of title, license, registration, or 392 Page 14 of 35

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393 documentation upon receipt.

394 c. The purchaser, within 10 days of removing the boat or 395 airplane from Florida, shall furnish the department with proof 396 of removal in the form of receipts for fuel, dockage, slippage, 397 tie-down, or hangaring from outside of Florida. The information 398 so provided must clearly and specifically identify the boat or 399 aircraft;

d. The selling dealer, within 5 days of the date of sale,
shall provide to the department a copy of the sales invoice,
closing statement, bills of sale, and the original affidavit
signed by the purchaser attesting that he or she has read the
provisions of this section;

405 e. The seller makes a copy of the affidavit a part of his406 or her record for as long as required by s. 213.35; and

407 f. Unless the nonresident purchaser of a boat of 5 net 408 tons of admeasurement or larger intends to remove the boat from 409 this state within 10 days after the date of purchase or when the boat is repaired or altered, within 20 days after completion of 410 411 the repairs or alterations, the nonresident purchaser shall apply to the selling dealer for a decal which authorizes 90 days 412 413 after the date of purchase for removal of the boat. The department is authorized to issue decals in advance to dealers. 414 The number of decals issued in advance to a dealer shall be 415 consistent with the volume of the dealer's past sales of boats 416 417 which qualify under this sub-subparagraph. The selling dealer or his or her agent shall mark and affix the decals to 418 419 qualifying boats in the manner prescribed by the department, 420 prior to delivery of the boat.

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(I) The department is hereby authorized to charge dealersa fee sufficient to recover the costs of decals issued.

(II) The proceeds from the sale of decals will bedeposited into the administrative trust fund.

425 (III) Decals shall display information to identify the
426 boat as a qualifying boat under this sub-subparagraph,
427 including, but not limited to, the decal's date of expiration.

(IV) The department is authorized to require dealers who purchase decals to file reports with the department and may prescribe all necessary records by rule. All such records are subject to inspection by the department.

Any dealer or his or her agent who issues a decal 432 (V) falsely, fails to affix a decal, mismarks the expiration date of 433 434 a decal, or fails to properly account for decals will be 435 considered prima facie to have committed a fraudulent act to evade the tax and will be liable for payment of the tax plus a 436 437 mandatory penalty of 200 percent of the tax, and shall be liable for fine and punishment as provided by law for a conviction of a 438 439 misdemeanor of the first degree, as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 440 775.083.

441 Any nonresident purchaser of a boat who removes a (VI) decal prior to permanently removing the boat from the state, or 442 defaces, changes, modifies, or alters a decal in a manner 443 444 affecting its expiration date prior to its expiration, or who 445 causes or allows the same to be done by another, will be considered prima facie to have committed a fraudulent act to 446 447 evade the tax and will be liable for payment of the tax plus a 448 mandatory penalty of 200 percent of the tax, and shall be liable Page 16 of 35

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for fine and punishment as provided by law for a conviction of a misdemeanor of the first degree, as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

452 (VII) The department is authorized to adopt rules
453 necessary to administer and enforce this subparagraph and to
454 publish the necessary forms and instructions.

455 (VIII) The department is hereby authorized to adopt
456 emergency rules pursuant to s. 120.54(4) to administer and
457 enforce the provisions of this subparagraph.

458

If the purchaser fails to remove the qualifying boat from this 459 460 state within 90 days after purchase or a nonqualifying boat or an airplane from this state within 10 days after purchase or, 461 462 when the boat or airplane is repaired or altered, within 20 days 463 after completion of such repairs or alterations, or permits the 464 boat or airplane to return to this state within 6 months from 465 the date of departure, or if the purchaser fails to furnish the 466 department with any of the documentation required by this 467 subparagraph within the prescribed time period, the purchaser shall be liable for use tax on the cost price of the boat or 468 469 airplane and, in addition thereto, payment of a penalty to the Department of Revenue equal to the tax payable. This penalty 470 shall be in lieu of the penalty imposed by s. 212.12(2) and is 471 mandatory and shall not be waived by the department. The 90-day 472 473 period following the sale of a qualifying boat tax exempt to a 474 nonresident may not be tolled for any reason. Notwithstanding 475 other provisions of this paragraph to the contrary, an aircraft 476 purchased in this state under the provisions of this paragraph Page 17 of 35

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477 may be returned to this state for repairs within 6 months after 478 the date of its departure without being in violation of the law 479 and without incurring liability for the payment of tax or 480 penalty on the purchase price of the aircraft if the aircraft is 481 removed from this state within 20 days after the completion of 482 the repairs and if such removal can be demonstrated by invoices 483 for fuel, tie-down, hangar charges issued by out-of-state 484 vendors or suppliers, or similar documentation.

485 Section 13. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1) of section 486 212.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

487 212.06 Sales, storage, use tax; collectible from dealers;
488 "dealer" defined; dealers to collect from purchasers;
489 legislative intent as to scope of tax.--

(1)

490

491 (e)1. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, 492 tax shall not be imposed on any vessel registered under pursuant 493 to s. 328.52 by a vessel dealer or vessel manufacturer with 494 respect to a vessel used solely for demonstration, sales 495 promotional, or testing purposes. The term "promotional 496 purposes" shall include, but not be limited to, participation in 497 fishing tournaments. For the purposes of this paragraph, 498 "promotional purposes" means the entry of the vessel in a 499 marine-related event where prospective purchasers would be in 500 attendance, where the vessel is entered in the name of the 501 dealer or manufacturer, and where the vessel is clearly marked 502 as for sale, on which vessel the name of the dealer or 503 manufacturer is clearly displayed, and which vessel has never 504 been transferred into the dealer's or manufacturer's accounting Page 18 of 35

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505 books from an inventory item to a capital asset for depreciation 506 purposes.

2. The provisions of this paragraph do not apply to any vessel when used for transporting persons or goods for compensation; when offered, let, or rented to another for consideration; when offered for rent or hire as a means of transportation for compensation; or when offered or used to provide transportation for persons solicited through personal contact or through advertisement on a "share expense" basis.

514 3. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, tax may not be imposed on any vessel imported into this state 515 516 for the sole purpose of being offered for sale at retail by a 517 yacht broker or yacht dealer registered in this state if the 518 vessel remains under the care, custody, and control of the 519 registered broker or dealer and the owner of the vessel does not 520 make personal use of the vessel during that time. The provisions 521 of this chapter govern the taxability of any sale or use of the 522 vessel subsequent to its importation under this provision.

523 Section 14. Paragraph (e) of subsection (4) of section 524 212.11, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

525 212.11 Tax returns and regulations.--

526 (4)

(e) The penalty provisions of this chapter, except s.
212.12(2)(f)(e), apply to the provisions of this subsection.
Section 15. Present paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of
section 212.12, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph
(f), present paragraph (f) of that subsection is redesignated as
paragraph (g) and amended, and a new paragraph (e) is added to
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533 that subsection, to read:

534 212.12 Dealer's credit for collecting tax; penalties for 535 noncompliance; powers of Department of Revenue in dealing with 536 delinquents; brackets applicable to taxable transactions; 537 records required.--

538 (2)

(e) A person who willfully attempts in any manner to evade any tax, surcharge, or fee imposed under this chapter or the payment thereof is, in addition to any other penalties provided by law, liable for a specific penalty in the amount of 100 percent of the tax, surcharge, or fee and commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

(g)(f) A dealer who files Dealers filing a consolidated 546 547 return pursuant to s. 212.11(1)(e) is shall be subject to the 548 penalty established in paragraph (f) (-) unless the dealer has 549 paid the required estimated tax for his or her consolidated 550 return as a whole without regard to each location. If the dealer fails to pay the required estimated tax for his or her 551 552 consolidated return as a whole, each filing location shall stand 553 on its own with respect to calculating penalties pursuant to 554 paragraph (f) (e).

555 Section 16. Paragraph (1) of subsection (7) of section 556 213.053, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

557

213.053 Confidentiality and information sharing.--

558 (7) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section,559 the department may provide:

560 (1) Information relative to chapter 212 <u>and the Bill of</u> Page 20 of 35

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561 <u>Lading Program</u> to the Office of Agriculture Law Enforcement of 562 the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in the 563 conduct of <u>its official duties</u> the Bill of Lading Program. This 564 information is limited to the business name and whether the 565 business is in compliance with chapter 212.

566 Section 17. Subsection (10) of section 213.21, Florida 567 Statutes, is amended to read:

568

213.21 Informal conferences; compromises.--

(10)(a) Effective July 1, 2003, Notwithstanding any other provision of law and solely for the purpose of administering the <u>taxes tax</u> imposed by <u>ss. 125.0104 and 125.0108 and</u> chapter 212, <u>except s. 212.0606</u>, under the circumstances set forth in this subsection, the department shall settle or compromise a taxpayer's liability for penalty without requiring the taxpayer to submit a written request for compromise or settlement.

576 (b) For taxpayers who file returns and remit tax on a 577 monthly basis:

5781. Any penalty related to a noncompliant filing event579shall be settled or compromised if the taxpayer has:

a. No noncompliant filing event in the immediately
preceding 12-month period and no unresolved chapter 212
liability under s. 125.0104, s. 125.0108, or chapter 212
resulting from a noncompliant filing event; or

584 b. One noncompliant filing event in the immediately 585 preceding 12-month period, resolution of the current 586 noncompliant filing event through payment of tax and interest 587 and the filing of a return within 30 days after notification by 588 the department, and no unresolved chapter 212 liability <u>under s.</u> Page 21 of 35

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589 <u>125.0104, s. 125.0108, or chapter 212</u> resulting from a 590 noncompliant filing event.

591 2. If a taxpayer has two or more noncompliant filing 592 events in the immediately preceding 12-month period, the 593 taxpayer shall be liable, absent a showing by the taxpayer that 594 the noncompliant filing event was due to extraordinary 595 circumstances, for the penalties provided in <u>s. 125.0104 or s.</u> 596 <u>125.0108 and</u> s. 212.12, including loss of collection allowance, 597 and shall be reported to a credit bureau.

(c) For taxpayers who file returns and remit tax on a quarterly basis, any penalty related to a noncompliant filing event shall be settled or compromised if the taxpayer has no noncompliant filing event in the immediately preceding 12-month period and no unresolved chapter 212 liability under s. <u>125.0104, s. 125.0108, or chapter 212</u> resulting from a noncompliant filing event.

605

(d) For purposes of this subsection:

1. "Noncompliant filing event" means a failure to timely
file a complete and accurate return required under <u>s. 125.0104</u>,
<u>s. 125.0108</u>, or chapter 212 or a failure to timely pay the
amount of tax reported on a return required by <u>s. 125.0104</u>, <u>s.</u>
125.0108, or chapter 212.

611 2. "Extraordinary circumstances" means the occurrence of 612 events beyond the control of the taxpayer, such as, but not 613 limited to, the death of the taxpayer, acts of war or terrorism, 614 natural disasters, fire, or other casualty, or the nonfeasance 615 or misfeasance of the taxpayer's employees or representatives 616 responsible for compliance with <u>s. 125.0104, s. 125.0108, or the</u> Page 22 of 35

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617 provisions of chapter 212. With respect to the acts of an 618 employee or representative, the taxpayer must show that the 619 principals of the business lacked actual knowledge of the 620 noncompliance and that the noncompliance was resolved within 30 621 days after actual knowledge.

622 Section 18. <u>The amendment to section 213.21(10)</u>, Florida
623 <u>Statutes, made by this act, shall operate retroactively to July</u>
624 <u>1, 2003.</u>

625 Section 19. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 213.27,626 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

627 213.27 Contracts with debt collection agencies and certain628 vendors.--

The Department of Revenue may, for the purpose of 629 (1)630 collecting any delinquent taxes due from a taxpayer, including 631 taxes for which a bill or notice has been generated, contract 632 with any debt collection agency or attorney doing business within or without this state for the collection of such 633 634 delinquent taxes including penalties and interest thereon. The 635 department may also share confidential information pursuant to the contract necessary for the collection of delinquent taxes 636 637 and taxes for which a billing or notice has been generated. Contracts will be made pursuant to chapter 287. The taxpayer 638 639 must be notified by mail by the department, its employees, or 640 its authorized representative at least 30 days prior to 641 commencing any litigation to recover any delinquent taxes. The taxpayer must be notified by mail by the department at least 30 642 643 days prior to the initial assignment by the department of the 644 taxpayer's account for assigning the collection of any taxes by Page 23 of 35

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645 to the debt collection agency.

646 (2) The department may enter into contracts with any 647 individual or business for the purpose of identifying intangible 648 personal property tax liability. Contracts may provide for the 649 identification of assets subject to the tax on intangible 650 personal property, the determination of value of such property, 651 the requirement for filing a tax return and the collection of taxes due, including applicable penalties and interest thereon. 652 653 The department may share confidential information pursuant to 654 the contract necessary for the identification of taxable intangible personal property. Contracts shall be made pursuant 655 656 to chapter 287. The taxpayer must be notified by mail by the department at least 30 days prior to the department assigning 657 658 identification of intangible personal property to an individual or business. 659

660 Section 20. Subsection (2) of section 215.26, Florida661 Statutes, is amended to read:

662 215.26 Repayment of funds paid into State Treasury through663 error.--

664 Application for refunds as provided by this section (2) 665 must be filed with the Chief Financial Officer, except as 666 otherwise provided in this subsection, within 3 years after the right to the refund has accrued or else the right is barred. 667 668 Except as provided in chapter 198, and s. 220.23, and s. 624.50921, an application for a refund of a tax enumerated in s. 669 670 72.011, which tax was paid after September 30, 1994, and before 671 July 1, 1999, must be filed with the Chief Financial Officer within 5 years after the date the tax is paid, and within 3 672 Page 24 of 35

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673 years after the date the tax was paid for taxes paid on or after 674 July 1, 1999. The Chief Financial Officer may delegate the 675 authority to accept an application for refund to any state 676 agency, or the judicial branch, vested by law with the 677 responsibility for the collection of any tax, license, or account due. The application for refund must be on a form 678 679 approved by the Chief Financial Officer and must be supplemented with additional proof the Chief Financial Officer deems 680 necessary to establish the claim; provided, the claim is not 681 682 otherwise barred under the laws of this state. Upon receipt of an application for refund, the judicial branch or the state 683 agency to which the funds were paid shall make a determination 684 of the amount due. If an application for refund is denied, in 685 686 whole or in part, the judicial branch or such state agency shall 687 notify the applicant stating the reasons therefor. Upon approval 688 of an application for refund, the judicial branch or such state 689 agency shall furnish the Chief Financial Officer with a properly 690 executed voucher authorizing payment.

691 Section 21. Effective for policies issued or renewed on or
692 after January 1, 2006, section 252.372, Florida Statutes, is
693 amended to read:

694 252.372 Imposition and collection of surcharge.--In order 695 to provide funds for emergency management, preparedness, and 696 assistance, an annual surcharge of \$2 per policy shall be 697 imposed on every homeowner's, mobile home owner's, tenant 698 homeowner's, and condominium unit owner's policy, and an annual 699 \$4 surcharge shall be imposed on every commercial fire, 700 commercial multiple peril, and business owner's property Page 25 of 35

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701 insurance policy, issued or renewed on or after May 1, 1993. The 702 surcharge shall be paid by the policyholder to the insurer. The 703 insurer shall collect the surcharge and remit it to the 704 Department of Revenue, which shall collect, administer, audit, 705 and enforce the surcharge pursuant to s. 624.5092. The 706 surcharge is not to be considered premiums of the insurer; 707 however, nonpayment of the surcharge by the insured may be a 708 valid reason for cancellation of the policy. For those policies 709 in which the surplus lines tax and the service fee are collected 710 and remitted to the Florida Surplus Lines Service Office as created under s. 626.921, the surcharge must be remitted to the 711 712 service office at the same time as the surplus lines tax is 713 remitted. All penalties for failure to remit the surplus lines 714 tax and service fee are applicable for those surcharges required 715 to be remitted to the service office. The service office shall 716 deposit all surcharges that it collects into the Emergency 717 Management, Preparedness, and Assistance Trust Fund at least 718 monthly. All proceeds of the surcharge shall be deposited in the 719 Emergency Management, Preparedness, and Assistance Trust Fund 720 and may not be used to supplant existing funding.

Section 22. Effective January 1, 2006, present paragraphs (g), (h), (i), and (j) of subsection (3) of section 443.131, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as paragraphs (h), (i), (j), and (k), respectively, and a new paragraph (g) is added to said subsection to read:

726

443.131 Contributions.--

727 (3) VARIATION OF CONTRIBUTION RATES BASED ON BENEFIT
 728 EXPERIENCE.--

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729 (q) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the following conditions apply to the assignment of rates and to 730 731 transfers of experience: 732 1.a. If an employer transfers its trade or business, or a 733 portion thereof, to another employer and, at the time of the 734 transfer, there is any common ownership, management, or control 735 of the two employers, the unemployment experience attributable 736 to the transferred trade or business shall be transferred to the 737 employer to whom the business is so transferred. The rates of 738 both employers shall be recalculated and made effective as of 739 the beginning of the calendar guarter immediately following the 740 date of the transfer of the trade or business. However, if the 741 transfer occurred on the first day of a calendar quarter, the 742 rate shall be recalculated as of that date. 743 b. If, following a transfer of experience under subsubparagraph 1.a., the Agency for Workforce Innovation or the 744 745 tax collection service provider determines that a substantial 746 purpose of the transfer of trade or business was to obtain a 747 reduced liability for contributions, the experience rating 748 account of the employers involved must be combined into a single 749 account, and a single rate must be assigned to the account. 750 2. If a person is not an employer under this chapter at 751 the time it acquires the trade or business of an employer, the 752 unemployment experience of the acquired business shall not be 753 transferred to the person if the Agency for Workforce Innovation 754 or the tax collection service provider finds that the person 755 acquired the business solely or primarily for the purpose of 756 obtaining a lower rate of contributions. Instead, the person Page 27 of 35

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757 shall be assigned the new employer rate under paragraph (2)(a). 758 In determining whether the business was acquired solely or 759 primarily for the purpose of obtaining a lower rate of 760 contributions, the tax collection service provider shall 761 consider: 762 a. Whether the person continued the business enterprise of the acquired business and, if so, how long the business 763 764 enterprise was continued; or 765 b. Whether a substantial number of new employees were 766 hired to perform duties unrelated to the business activity 767 conducted before the acquisition. 768 3.a. A person who knowingly violates or attempts to violate subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2. or any other 769 770 provision of this chapter relating to determining the assignment 771 of a contribution rate or a person who knowingly advises another 772 person to violate the law, is subject to the following 773 penalties: 774 (I) If the person is an employer, he or she shall be 775 assigned the highest rate assignable under this chapter for the 776 rate year during which the violation or attempted violation 777 occurred and for the 3 rate years immediately following this 778 rate year. However, if the person's business is already at the 779 highest rate for any year or if the amount of increase in the 780 person's rate would be less than 2 percent for that year, a 781 penalty rate of contribution of 2 percent of taxable wages shall 782 be imposed for the year and the next 3 years. 783 (II) If the person is not an employer, he or she is 784 subject to a civil monetary penalty of not more than \$5,000. The Page 28 of 35

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785	procedures for the assessment of a penalty must be in accordance
786	with the procedures set forth in s. 443.141(2) and (3) as
787	applied to the collection of the penalty. The proceeds from any
788	such penalty must be deposited in the penalty and interest
789	account established under s. 443.211(2).
790	b. For the purposes of this paragraph, the term
791	"knowingly" means having actual knowledge of or acting with
792	deliberate ignorance or reckless disregard for the prohibition
793	involved.
794	c. For the purposes of this paragraph, the term "violates
795	or attempts to violate" includes, but is not limited to, intent
796	to evade, misrepresent, or willfully nondisclose.
797	d. In addition to the penalty imposed by sub-subparagraph
798	a., a violation of this paragraph is a felony of the third
799	degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s.
800	775.084.
801	4. The Agency for Workforce Innovation and the tax
802	collection service provider shall establish procedures to
803	identify the transfer or acquisition of a business for the
804	purposes of this paragraph and shall adopt any rules necessary
805	to administer this paragraph.
806	5. For the purposes of this paragraph, the term:
807	a. "Person" has the meaning given to the term by s.
808	7701(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and
809	b. "Trade or business" includes the employer's workforce.
810	6. This paragraph shall be interpreted and applied in such
811	a manner as to meet the minimum requirements contained in any
812	guidance or regulations issued by the United States Department
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813 of Labor.

814 Section 23. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) and paragraph 815 (a) of subsection (3) of section 443.141, Florida Statutes, are 816 amended to read:

817

818

443.141 Collection of contributions and reimbursements.--(2) REPORTS, CONTRIBUTIONS, APPEALS.--

819 Failure to make reports and pay contributions.--If an (a) 820 employing unit determined by the tax collection service provider 821 to be an employer subject to this chapter fails to make and file 822 any report as and when required by this chapter or by any rule of the Agency for Workforce Innovation or the state agency 823 providing tax collection services, for the purpose of 824 determining the amount of contributions due by the employer 825 826 under this chapter, or if any filed report is found by the 827 service provider to be incorrect or insufficient, and the 828 employer, after being notified in writing by the service 829 provider to file the report, or a corrected or sufficient 830 report, as applicable, fails to file the report within 15 days 831 after the date of the mailing of the notice, the tax collection service provider may: 832

833 1. Determine the amount of contributions due from the 834 employer based on the information readily available to it, which 835 determination is deemed to be prima facie correct;

836 2. Assess the employer the amount of contributions837 determined to be due; and

3. Immediately notify the employer by registered or
 certified mail of the determination and assessment including
 penalties as provided in this chapter, if any, added and
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841 assessed, and demand payment together with interest on the 842 amount of contributions from the date that amount was due and 843 payable.

844

(3) COLLECTION PROCEEDINGS. --

845 Lien for payment of contributions or reimbursements.--(a) There is created a lien in favor of the tax collection 846 1. 847 service provider upon all the property, both real and personal, 848 of any employer liable for payment of any contribution or 849 reimbursement levied and imposed under this chapter for the 850 amount of the contributions or reimbursements due, together with interest, costs, and penalties. If any contribution or 851 852 reimbursement imposed under this chapter or any portion of that contribution, reimbursement, interest, or penalty is not paid 853 854 within 60 days after becoming delinguent, the tax collection 855 service provider may subsequently issue a notice of lien that 856 may be filed in the office of the clerk of the circuit court of 857 any county in which the delinquent employer owns property or has conducted business. The notice of lien must include the periods 858 859 for which the contributions, reimbursements, interest, or 860 penalties are demanded and the amounts due. A copy of the notice 861 of lien must be mailed to the employer at her or his last known address by registered mail. The notice of lien may not be issued 862 and recorded until 15 days after the date the assessment becomes 863 864 final under subsection (2). Upon presentation of the notice of lien, the clerk of the circuit court shall record it in a book 865 866 maintained for that purpose, and the amount of the notice of 867 lien, together with the cost of recording and interest accruing upon the amount of the contribution or reimbursement, becomes a 868 Page 31 of 35

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869 lien upon the title to and interest, whether legal or equitable, 870 in any real property, chattels real, or personal property of the 871 employer against whom the notice of lien is issued, in the same 872 manner as a judgment of the circuit court docketed in the office 873 of the circuit court clerk, with execution issued to the sheriff 874 for levy. This lien is prior, preferred, and superior to all 875 mortgages or other liens filed, recorded, or acquired after the 876 notice of lien is filed. Upon the payment of the amounts due, or upon determination by the tax collection service provider that 877 878 the notice of lien was erroneously issued, the lien is satisfied when the service provider acknowledges in writing that the lien 879 is fully satisfied. A lien's satisfaction does not need to be 880 acknowledged before any notary or other public officer, and the 881 882 signature of the director of the tax collection service provider 883 or his or her designee is conclusive evidence of the 884 satisfaction of the lien, which satisfaction shall be recorded by the clerk of the circuit court who receives the fees for 885 those services. 886

887 2. The tax collection service provider may subsequently issue a warrant directed to any sheriff in this state, 888 889 commanding him or her to levy upon and sell any real or personal 890 property of the employer liable for any amount under this chapter within his or her jurisdiction, for payment, with the 891 892 added penalties and interest and the costs of executing the warrant, together with the costs of the clerk of the circuit 893 894 court in recording and docketing the notice of lien, and to 895 return the warrant to the service provider with payment. The 896 warrant may only be issued and enforced for all amounts due to Page 32 of 35

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897 the tax collection service provider on the date the warrant is 898 issued, together with interest accruing on the contribution or 899 reimbursement due from the employer to the date of payment at 900 the rate provided in this section. In the event of sale of any 901 assets of the employer, however, priorities under the warrant 902 shall be determined in accordance with the priority established 903 by any notices of lien filed by the tax collection service 904 provider and recorded by the clerk of the circuit court. The 905 sheriff shall execute the warrant in the same manner prescribed 906 by law for executions issued by the clerk of the circuit court for judgments of the circuit court. The sheriff is entitled to 907 the same fees for executing the warrant as for a writ of 908 909 execution out of the circuit court, and these fees must be 910 collected in the same manner.

911 Section 24. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section 912 624.509, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

913

624.509 Premium tax; rate and computation.--

914 (5) There shall be allowed a credit against the net tax 915 imposed by this section equal to 15 percent of the amount paid 916 by the insurer in salaries to employees located or based within 917 this state and who are covered by the provisions of chapter 443. 918 For purposes of this subsection:

919 (b) The term "employees" does not include independent 920 contractors or any person whose duties require that the person 921 hold a valid license under the Florida Insurance Code, except 922 <u>adjusters, managing general agents, and service representatives,</u> 923 <u>as persons</u> defined in s. 626.015(1), (14), and (16). 924 Section 25. Section 624.50921, Florida Statutes, is

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	HB 1813 2005
925	created to read:
926	624.50921 Adjustments
927	(1) If a taxpayer is required to amend its corporate
928	income tax liability under chapter 220 or the taxpayer receives
929	a refund of its workers' compensation administrative assessment
930	paid under chapter 440, the taxpayer shall file an amended
931	insurance premium tax return not later than 60 days after such
932	an occurrence.
933	(2) If an amended insurance premium tax return is required
934	under subsection (1), notwithstanding any other provision of s.
935	<u>95.091(3):</u>
936	(a) A notice of deficiency may be issued at any time
937	within 3 years after the date the amended insurance premium tax
938	return is given; or
939	(b) If a taxpayer fails to file an amended insurance
940	premium tax return, a notice of deficiency may be issued at any
941	time.
942	
943	The amount of any proposed assessment set forth in such a notice
944	of deficiency shall be limited to the amount of any deficiency
945	resulting under this code from recomputation of the taxpayer's
946	insurance premium tax and retaliatory tax for the taxable year
947	after giving effect only to the change in corporate income tax
948	paid and the change in the amount of the workers' compensation
949	administrative assessment paid. Interest in accordance with s.
950	624.5092 is due on the amount of any deficiency from the date
951	fixed for filing the original insurance premium tax return for
952	the taxable year until the date of payment of the deficiency.
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953 (3) If an amended insurance premium tax return is required by subsection (1), a claim for refund may be filed within 2 954 955 years after the date on which the amended insurance premium tax 956 return was due, regardless of whether such notice was given, 957 notwithstanding any other provision of s. 215.26. However, the 958 amount recoverable pursuant to such a claim shall be limited to 959 the amount of any overpayment resulting under this code from 960 recomputation of the taxpayer's insurance premium tax and retaliatory tax for the taxable year after giving effect only to 961 962 the change in corporate income tax paid and the change in the 963 amount of the workers' compensation administrative assessment 964 paid. Section 26. Notwithstanding section 11 of chapter 2000-965 966 312, Laws of Florida, s. 213.21, Florida Statutes, shall not 967 stand repealed on October 1, 2005, but is revived and readopted. 968 Section 27. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act, this act shall take effect July 1, 2005. 969

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