

## LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate House

Comm: RCS 04/05/2011

The Committee on Commerce and Tourism (Lynn) recommended the following:

## Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 3134 - 3252 and insert:

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(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law and for the purpose of compensating persons granting licenses for and the lessors of real and personal property taxed hereunder, for the purpose of compensating dealers in tangible personal property, for the purpose of compensating dealers providing communication services and taxable services, for the purpose of compensating owners of places where admissions are collected, and for the purpose of compensating remitters of any taxes or fees reported

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on the same documents utilized for the sales and use tax, as compensation for the keeping of prescribed records, filing timely tax returns, and the proper accounting and remitting of taxes by them, such seller, person, lessor, dealer, owner, or and remitter shall be allowed a collection allowance based on a percentage of tax remitted for a reporting period. The rate of compensation is:

- 1. 0.75 percent of the first \$6,250 of tax remitted,
- 2. 0.375 percent of the tax remitted exceeding \$6,250 and less than or equal to \$62,500, and
  - 3. 0.1875 percent of the tax remitted exceeding \$62,500.
- (a) The amount of collection allowance for each seller, person, lessor, dealer, owner, or remitter is limited based on the amount of sales and use tax remitted in the twelve month period ending June 30 of the previous calendar year. No collection allowance will be allowed on the total tax remitted by any seller, person, lessor, dealer, owner, or remitter in any month in excess of:
- 1. \$750,000, if the total amount remitted by all dealers in the previous year was equal to or less than \$1,000,000,000.00;
- 2. \$1,000,000, if the total amount remitted by all dealers in the previous year was greater than \$1,000,000,000.00 but equal to or less than \$2,500,000,000.00;
- 3. \$3,000,000.00, if the total amount remitted by all dealers in the previous year was greater than \$2,500,000,000.00 but equal to or less than \$5,000,000,000.00;
- 4. \$5,000,000.00, if the total amount remitted by all dealers in the previous year was greater than \$5,000,000,000.00 but equal to or less than \$7,500,000,000.00;

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5. \$7,000,000.00, if the total amount remitted by all dealers in the previous year was greater than \$7,500,000,000.00 but equal to or less than \$10,000,000,000.00; or

6. \$10,000,000.00, if the total amount remitted by all dealers in the previous year was greater than \$10,000,000.00. (except dealers who make mail order sales) shall be allowed 2.5 percent of the amount of the tax due and accounted for and remitted to the department, in the form of a deduction in submitting his or her report and paying the amount due by him or her; the department shall allow such deduction of 2.5 percent of the amount of the tax to the person paying the same for remitting the tax and making of tax returns in the manner herein provided, for paying the amount due to be paid by him or her, and as further compensation to dealers in tangible personal property for the keeping of prescribed records and for collection of taxes and remitting the same. However, if the amount of the tax due and remitted to the department for the reporting period exceeds \$1,200, no allowance shall be allowed for all amounts in excess of \$1,200. The executive director of the department is authorized to negotiate a collection allowance, pursuant to rules promulgated by the department, with a dealer who makes mail order sales. The rules of the department shall provide quidelines for establishing the collection allowance based upon the dealer's estimated costs of collecting the tax, the volume and value of the dealer's mail order sales to purchasers in this state, and the administrative and legal costs and likelihood of achieving collection of the tax absent the cooperation of the dealer. However, in no event shall the collection allowance negotiated by the executive director exceed

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10 percent of the tax remitted for a reporting period.

(b) (a) The Department of Revenue may deny the collection allowance if a taxpayer files an incomplete return or if the required tax return or tax is delinquent at the time of payment.

- 1. An "incomplete return" is, for purposes of this chapter, a return that which is lacking such uniformity, completeness, and arrangement that the physical handling, verification, review of the return, or determination of other taxes and fees reported on the return may not be readily accomplished.
- 2. The department shall adopt rules requiring such information as it may deem necessary to ensure that the tax levied hereunder is properly collected, reviewed, compiled, reported, and enforced, including, but not limited to: the amount of gross sales; the amount of taxable sales; the amount of tax collected or due; the amount of lawful refunds, deductions, or credits claimed; the amount claimed as the dealer's collection allowance; the amount of penalty and interest; the amount due with the return; and such other information as the Department of Revenue may specify. The department shall require that transient rentals and agricultural equipment transactions be separately shown. Sales made through vending machines as defined in s. 212.0515 must be separately shown on the return. Sales made through coin-operated amusement machines as defined by s. 212.02 and the number of machines operated must be separately shown on the return or on a form prescribed by the department. If a separate form is required, the same penalties for late filing, incomplete filing, or failure to file as provided for the sales tax return shall apply to said form.

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(c) (b) The collection allowance and other credits or deductions provided in this chapter shall be applied proportionally to any taxes or fees reported on the same documents used for the sales and use tax.

(d) <del>(c)</del>1. A dealer entitled to the collection allowance provided in this section may elect to forego the collection allowance and direct that said amount be transferred into the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund. Such an election must be made with the timely filing of a return and may not be rescinded once made. If a dealer who makes such an election files a delinquent return, underpays the tax, or files an incomplete return, the amount transferred into the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund shall be the amount of the collection allowance remaining after resolution of liability for all of the tax, interest, and penalty due on that return or underpayment of tax. The Department of Education shall distribute the remaining amount from the trust fund to the school districts that have adopted resolutions stating that those funds will be used to ensure that up-to-date technology is purchased for the classrooms in the district and that teachers are trained in the use of that technology. Revenues collected in districts that do not adopt such a resolution shall be equally distributed to districts that have adopted such resolutions.

2. This paragraph applies to all taxes, surtaxes, and any local option taxes administered under this chapter and remitted directly to the department. This paragraph does not apply to any locally imposed and self-administered convention development tax, tourist development tax, or tourist impact tax administered under this chapter.



3. Revenues from the dealer-collection allowances shall be transferred quarterly from the General Revenue Fund to the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund. The Department of Revenue shall provide to the Department of Education quarterly information about such revenues by county to which the collection allowance was attributed.

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Notwithstanding any provision of chapter 120 to the contrary, the Department of Revenue may adopt rules to carry out the amendment made by chapter 2006-52, Laws of Florida, to this section.

- (e) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), a small remote seller may elect to receive a collection allowance of 20 percent of the tax to be remitted to the state, not to exceed compensation of \$85.00 in any month in lieu of compensation provided in subparagraph (b). Such election shall be effective for a sixmonth period beginning with the first month that such seller collects Florida tax. After six months, the collection allowance shall be those rates established in subsection (b). The increased amount of collection allowance by this paragraph shall be available to a small remote seller which begins collecting tax for the state within the first 12 months following the date of registration.
- 1. "Small remote seller" means a new remote seller which has gross national remote sales of no more than \$5,000,000.00 and would not otherwise be required to register in this state.
- 2. "New remote seller" means a remote seller who registers under the agreement, as provided in s. 213.2567, and who was not previously required to collect sales or use tax. A seller merely



reincorporating, changing its name, or having a change in ownership or any other similar change in its business structure or operation is not a new remote seller.

- 3. "Remote seller" means a seller not that would not be registered in this state but for the ability of this state to require the seller to collect sales or use tax under federal authority.
- (f) If sales and use tax collection from remote sellers is not greater than 20 percent of the amount determined by the Revenue Estimating Conference of potential collections by July 1, 2014, then the collection allowance shall be reduced to 2.5 percent of tax collected, not to exceed \$30.
- (q) Notwithstanding paragraphs (a) and (b), a Model 1 seller, as defined in s. 213.256 is not entitled to the collection allowance described in paragraphs (a) and (b).
- (h)1. In addition to any collection allowance that may be provided under this subsection, the department may provide the monetary allowances required to be provided by the state to certified service providers and voluntary sellers pursuant to Article VI of the Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement, as amended.
- 2. Such monetary allowances must be in the form of collection allowances that certified service providers or voluntary sellers are permitted to retain from the tax revenues collected on remote sales to be remitted to the state pursuant to this chapter.

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185 ======== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =========

186 And the title is amended as follows:



187	Between lines 79 and 80
188	insert:
189	authorizing collection allowances; setting
190	requirements for a collection allowance to be allowed;
191	authorizing collection allowances for certain remote
192	sellers; providing for a reduction;