PCB FTC 12-05 ORIGINAL 2012

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the tax on communications and utility services; amending s. 202.12, F.S.; changing the rate at which the sales price of certain communications services are taxed; amending ss. 202.12001 and 203.001, F.S.; conforming cross-references; amending s. 203.01, F.S.; changing the rate of the additional tax on certain communications services; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 202.12, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

202.12 Sales of communications services.—The Legislature finds that every person who engages in the business of selling communications services at retail in this state is exercising a taxable privilege. It is the intent of the Legislature that the tax imposed by chapter 203 be administered as provided in this chapter.

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

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, at a rate of  $\underline{6.2}$  6.65 percent applied to the sales price of the communications service which:

1. Originates and terminates in this state, or

2. Originates or terminates in this state and is charged

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to a service address in this state,

when sold at retail, computed on each taxable sale for the purpose of remitting the tax due. The gross receipts tax imposed by chapter 203 shall be collected on the same taxable transactions and remitted with the tax imposed by this paragraph. If no tax is imposed by this paragraph by reason of s. 202.125(1), the tax imposed by chapter 203 shall nevertheless be collected and remitted in the manner and at the time prescribed for tax collections and remittances under this chapter.

Section 2. Section 202.12001, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

202.12001 Combined rate for tax collected pursuant to ss. 202.12(1)(a) and 203.01(1)(b).—A In complying with ss. 1-3, ch. 2010-149, Laws of Florida, the dealer of communication services may collect a combined rate of 6.8 percent comprised of  $\underline{6.2}$  6.65 percent and  $\underline{0.6}$  0.15 percent required by ss. 202.12(1)(a) and 203.01(1)(b)3., respectively, as long as the provider properly reflects the tax collected with respect to the two provisions as required in the return to the Department of Revenue.

Section 3. Section 203.001, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

203.001 Combined rate for tax collected pursuant to ss. 202.12(1)(a) and 203.01(1)(b). $-\underline{A}$  In complying with ss. 1-3, ch. 2010-149, Laws of Florida, the dealer of communication services may collect a combined rate of 6.8 percent comprised of  $\underline{6.2}$  6.65 percent and 0.6 0.15 percent required by ss. 202.12(1)(a) and

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203.01(1)(b)3., respectively, as long as the provider properly reflects the tax collected with respect to the two provisions as required in the return to the Department of Revenue.

Section 4. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 203.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

203.01 Tax on gross receipts for utility and communications services.—

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- (b)1. The rate applied to utility services shall be 2.5 percent.
- 2. The rate applied to communications services shall be 2.37 percent.
- 3. There shall be an additional rate of 0.6 0.15 percent applied to communication services subject to the tax levied pursuant to s. 202.12(1)(a), (c), and (d). The exemption provided in s. 202.125(1) applies to the tax levied pursuant to this subparagraph.
- Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.

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