LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate House

Comm: RCS 03/16/2010

The Committee on Finance and Tax (Bennett) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

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

212.08 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 chapter.

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- (7) 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.
- (ccc) Equipment, machinery, and other materials for renewable energy technologies.-
 - 1. As used in this paragraph, the term:
- a. "Biodiesel" means the mono-alkyl esters of long-chain fatty acids derived from plant or animal matter for use as a source of energy and meeting the specifications for biodiesel and biodiesel blends with petroleum products as adopted by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Biodiesel may refer to biodiesel blends designated BXX, where XX represents the volume percentage of biodiesel fuel in the blend.
 - b. "Ethanol" means an anhydrous denatured alcohol produced

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by the conversion of carbohydrates meeting the specifications for fuel ethanol and fuel ethanol blends with petroleum products as adopted by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Ethanol may refer to fuel ethanol blends designated EXX, where XX represents the volume percentage of fuel ethanol in the blend.

- c. "Hydrogen fuel cells" means equipment using hydrogen or a hydrogen-rich fuel in an electrochemical process to generate energy, electricity, or the transfer of heat.
- d. "Renewable diesel fuel" means liquid fuel for use in diesel-powered engines which is derived from biomass and meets the registration requirements for fuel and fuel additives established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the specifications and requirements as adopted by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.
- e. "Renewable fuel oil" means liquid fuel for use in fuel oil applications which is derived from biomass and meets the registration requirements for fuel and fuel additives established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the specifications and requirements as adopted by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.
- 2. The sale or use of the following in the state is exempt from the tax imposed by this chapter:
- a. Hydrogen-powered vehicles, materials incorporated into hydrogen-powered vehicles, and hydrogen-fueling stations, up to a limit of \$2 million in tax each state fiscal year for all taxpayers.
- b. Commercial stationary hydrogen fuel cells, up to a limit of \$1 million in tax each state fiscal year for all taxpayers.

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- c. Materials used in the distribution of biodiesel (B10-B100), and ethanol (E10-E100), renewable diesel fuel, and renewable fuel oil, including fueling infrastructure, transportation, and storage, up to a limit of \$1 million in tax each state fiscal year for all taxpayers. Gasoline fueling station pump retrofits for ethanol (E10-E100) distribution qualify for the exemption provided in this sub-subparagraph.
- 3. The Florida Energy and Climate Commission shall provide to the department a list of items eligible for the exemption provided in this paragraph.
- 4.a. The exemption provided in this paragraph shall be available to a purchaser only through a refund of previously paid taxes. An eligible item is subject to refund one time. A person who has received a refund on an eligible item shall notify the next purchaser of the item that such item is no longer eligible for a refund of paid taxes. This notification shall be provided to each subsequent purchaser on the sales invoice or other proof of purchase.
- b. To be eligible to receive the exemption provided in this paragraph, a purchaser shall file an application with the Florida Energy and Climate Commission. The application shall be developed by the Florida Energy and Climate Commission, in consultation with the department, and shall require:
 - (I) The name and address of the person claiming the refund.
- (II) A specific description of the purchase for which a refund is sought, including, when applicable, a serial number or other permanent identification number.
- (III) The sales invoice or other proof of purchase showing the amount of sales tax paid, the date of purchase, and the name

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and address of the sales tax dealer from whom the property was purchased.

- (IV) A sworn statement that the information provided is accurate and that the requirements of this paragraph have been met.
- c. Within 30 days after receipt of an application, the Florida Energy and Climate Commission shall review the application and shall notify the applicant of any deficiencies. Upon receipt of a completed application, the Florida Energy and Climate Commission shall evaluate the application for exemption and issue a written certification that the applicant is eligible for a refund or issue a written denial of such certification within 60 days after receipt of the application. The Florida Energy and Climate Commission shall provide the department with a copy of each certification issued upon approval of an application.
- d. Each certified applicant shall be responsible for forwarding a certified copy of the application and copies of all required documentation to the department within 6 months after certification by the Florida Energy and Climate Commission.
- e. A refund approved pursuant to this paragraph shall be made within 30 days after formal approval by the department.
- f. The Florida Energy and Climate Commission may adopt the form for the application for a certificate, requirements for the content and format of information submitted to the Florida Energy and Climate Commission in support of the application, other procedural requirements, and criteria by which the application will be determined by rule. The department may adopt all other rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to

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administer this paragraph, including rules establishing additional forms and procedures for claiming this exemption.

- g. The Florida Energy and Climate Commission shall be responsible for ensuring that the total amounts of the exemptions authorized do not exceed the limits as specified in subparagraph 2.
- 5. The Florida Energy and Climate Commission shall determine and publish on a regular basis the amount of sales tax funds remaining in each fiscal year.
 - 6. This paragraph expires July 1, 2015 2010.
- Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 220.192, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 220.192 Renewable energy technologies investment tax credit.-
 - (1) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section, the term:
- (a) "Biodiesel" means biodiesel as defined in s. 212.08(7)(ccc).
- (b) "Corporation" includes a general partnership, limited partnership, limited liability company, unincorporated business, or other business entity, including entities taxed as partnerships for federal income tax purposes.
 - (c) "Eligible costs" means:
- 1. Seventy-five percent of all capital costs, operation and maintenance costs, and research and development costs incurred between July 1, 2006, and June 30, 2015 2010, up to a limit of \$3 million per state fiscal year for all taxpayers, in connection with an investment in hydrogen-powered vehicles and hydrogen vehicle fueling stations in the state, including, but not limited to, the costs of constructing, installing, and

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equipping such technologies in the state.

- 2. Seventy-five percent of all capital costs, operation and maintenance costs, and research and development costs incurred between July 1, 2006, and June 30, 2015 2010, up to a limit of \$1.5 million per state fiscal year for all taxpayers, and limited to a maximum of \$12,000 per fuel cell, in connection with an investment in commercial stationary hydrogen fuel cells in the state, including, but not limited to, the costs of constructing, installing, and equipping such technologies in the state.
- 3. Seventy-five percent of all capital costs, operation and maintenance costs, and research and development costs incurred between July 1, 2006, and June 30, 2015 2010, up to a limit of \$6.5 million per state fiscal year for all taxpayers, in connection with an investment in the production, storage, and distribution of biodiesel (B10-B100), and ethanol (E10-E100), renewable diesel fuel, and renewable fuel oil in the state, including the costs of constructing, installing, and equipping such technologies in the state. Gasoline fueling station pump retrofits for ethanol (E10-E100) distribution qualify as an eligible cost under this subparagraph.
- (d) "Ethanol" means ethanol as defined in s. 212.08(7)(ccc).
- (e) "Hydrogen fuel cell" means hydrogen fuel cell as defined in s. 212.08(7)(ccc).
- (f) "Renewable diesel fuel" means renewable diesel fuel as defined in s. 212.08(7)(ccc).
- (g) "Renewable fuel oil" means renewable fuel oil as defined in s. 212.08(7)(ccc).



(h) (f) "Taxpayer" includes a corporation as defined in paragraph (b) or s. 220.03.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2010.

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

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause and insert:

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the tax on sales, use, and other transactions; amending s. 212.08, F.S.; providing additional definitions for purposes of the exemption for sales or use of equipment, machinery, and other materials for renewable energy technologies; including under the exemption materials used in distributing renewable diesel fuel and renewable fuel oil; delaying expiration of the exemption; amending s. 220.192, F.S.; providing additional definitions for purposes of the renewable energy technologies investment tax credit; extending application of the credit; providing an effective date.