A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the tax on sales, use, and other transactions; amending s. 212.0596, F.S.; revising the term "mail order sale" to specifically include sales of tangible personal property ordered through the Internet or from a dealer who receives the order in a foreign country; providing that certain persons who make mail order sales and who have a nexus with this state are subject to this state's power to levy and collect the sales and use tax when they engage in certain enumerated activities; specifying that certain dealers are not required to collect and remit sales and use tax unless certain circumstances exist; creating a rebuttable presumption that a dealer is subject to the state's power to levy and collect the sales or use tax under specified circumstances; specifying evidentiary proof that may be submitted to rebut the presumption; amending s. 212.06, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "dealer"; creating s. 212.0802, F.S.; creating an annual sales tax holiday; providing for determining the length of such sales tax holiday; providing for permanent reductions in the state tax rates imposed on sales, use, and other transactions under specified circumstances; requiring that the Department of Revenue develop a tracking system, in consultation with the Revenue Estimating Conference, to determine the amount of sales tax remitted by out-of-state dealers who would

Page 1 of 15

PCB FTSC 13-02

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

1617

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

otherwise not be required to collect and remit sales taxes but for the amendments made by the act; requiring the department to submit an annual report to the Governor and Legislature; providing effective dates.

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

Section 1. Section 212.0596, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

212.0596 Taxation of mail order sales.-

- (1) For purposes of this chapter, a "mail order sale" is a sale of tangible personal property, ordered by mail, the Internet, or other means of communication, from a dealer who receives the order in another state of the United States, or in a commonwealth, territory, or other area under the jurisdiction of the United States, or in a foreign country, and transports the property or causes the property to be transported, whether or not by mail, from any jurisdiction of the United States, including this state, to a person in this state, including the person who ordered the property.
- (2) Every dealer as defined in s. 212.06(2)(c) who makes a mail order sale is subject to the power of this state to levy and collect the tax imposed by this chapter <u>if</u> when:
- (a) The dealer is a corporation doing business under the laws of this state or is a person domiciled in, a resident of, or a citizen of, this state;
 - (b) The dealer maintains retail establishments or offices

Page 2 of 15

PCB FTSC 13-02

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

in this state, whether the mail order sales thus subject to taxation by this state result from or are related in any other way to the activities of such establishments or offices;

- (c) The dealer has agents or representatives in this state who solicit business or transact business on behalf of the dealer, whether the mail order sales thus subject to taxation by this state result from or are related in any other way to such solicitation or transaction of business, except that a printer who mails or delivers for an out-of-state print purchaser material the printer printed for it is shall not be deemed to be the print purchaser's agent or representative for purposes of this paragraph;
- (d) The property was delivered in this state in fulfillment of a sales contract that was entered into in this state, in accordance with applicable conflict of laws rules, when a person in this state accepted an offer by ordering the property;
- (e) The dealer, by purposefully or systematically exploiting the market provided by this state by any media-assisted, media-facilitated, or media-solicited means, including, but not limited to, direct mail advertising, unsolicited distribution of catalogs, computer-assisted shopping, television, radio, or other electronic media, or magazine or newspaper advertisements or other media, creates nexus with this state;
- (f) Through compact or reciprocity with another jurisdiction of the United States, that jurisdiction uses its taxing power and its jurisdiction over the retailer in support

of this state's taxing power;

- (g) The dealer consents, expressly or by implication, to the imposition of the tax imposed by this chapter;
- (h) The dealer is subject to service of process under s. 48.181;
- (i) The dealer's mail order sales are subject to the power of this state to tax sales or to require the dealer to collect use taxes <u>pursuant to federal law</u> under a statute or statutes of the United States;
- (j) The dealer owns real property or tangible personal property that is physically in this state, except that a dealer whose only property, (including property owned by an affiliate,) in this state is located at the premises of a printer with which the vendor has contracted for printing, and is either a final printed product, or property that which becomes a part of the final printed product, or property from which the printed product is produced, is not deemed to own such property for purposes of this paragraph;
- (k) The dealer, while not having nexus with this state on any of the bases described in paragraphs (a)-(j) or paragraph (m) (1), is a corporation that is a member of an affiliated group of corporations, as defined in s. 1504(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, whose members are includable under s. 1504(b) of the Internal Revenue Code and whose members are eligible to file a consolidated tax return for federal corporate income tax purposes and any parent or subsidiary corporation in the affiliated group has nexus with this state on one or more of the bases described in paragraphs (a)-(j) or paragraph (m) (1); or

(1) A person, other than a person acting in the capacity of a common carrier, has nexus with this state and:

- 1. Sells a similar line of products as the dealer and does so under the same or a similar business name;
- 2. Maintains an office, distribution facility, warehouse, storage place, or similar place of business in this state to facilitate the delivery of property or services sold by the dealer to the dealer's customers;
- 3. Uses trademarks, service marks, or trade names in this state which are the same or substantially similar to those used by the dealer;
- 4. Delivers, installs, assembles, or performs maintenance services for the dealer's customers in this state;
- 5. Facilitates the dealer's delivery of property to customers in this state by allowing the dealer's customers to pick up property sold by the dealer at an office, distribution facility, warehouse, storage place, or similar place of business maintained by the person in this state; or
- 6. Conducts any other activities in this state which are significantly associated with the dealer's ability to establish and maintain a market in this state for the dealer's sales; or
- $\underline{\text{(m)}}$ (1) The dealer or the dealer's activities have sufficient connection with or relationship to this state or its residents of some type other than those described in paragraphs (a)-(k) to create \underline{a} nexus empowering this state to tax its mail order sales or to require the dealer to collect sales tax or accrue use tax.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a dealer, other than a dealer described in paragraphs (g) and (i), is not required to collect and remit sales or use tax under this subsection unless the dealer has a physical presence in this state or the activities conducted in this state on the dealer's behalf are significantly associated with the dealer's ability to establish and maintain a market for sales in this state.

(3) (a) Notwithstanding this section or any other provision of law, there is a rebuttable presumption that every dealer, as defined in s. 212.06, who makes a mail order sale is also subject to the power of this state to levy and collect the tax imposed by this chapter if the dealer enters into an agreement with one or more persons in this state under which the person in this state, for a commission or other consideration, directly or indirectly refers potential customers, whether by a link on an Internet website, an in-person oral presentation, telemarketing, or otherwise, to the dealer, if the cumulative gross receipts from sales by the dealer to customers in this state who are referred to the dealer by all persons in this state having this type of an agreement with the dealer is in excess of \$10,000 during the 12 months immediately before the rebuttable presumption arose.

(b) The presumption in paragraph (a) may be rebutted by the submission of evidence proving that the persons in this state with whom the dealer has an agreement did not engage in any activity within this state which was significantly associated with the dealer's ability to establish or maintain the dealer's market in this state during the 12 months

immediately before the rebuttable presumption arose. The evidence may consist of sworn affidavits, obtained and given in good faith, from each person in this state with whom the dealer has an agreement attesting that he or she did not engage in any solicitation in this state on the dealer's behalf during the previous year.

- $\underline{(4)}$ $\underline{(3)}$ \underline{A} Every dealer engaged in the business of making mail order sales is subject to the requirements of this chapter for cooperation of dealers in collection of taxes and in administration of this chapter, except that \underline{a} \underline{no} fee \underline{may} not shall be imposed upon such dealer for carrying out any required activity.
- $\underline{(5)}$ (4) The department shall, with the consent of another jurisdiction of the United States whose cooperation is needed, enforce this chapter in that jurisdiction, either directly or, at the option of that jurisdiction, through its officers or employees.
- $\underline{(6)}$ The tax required under this section to be collected and any amount unreturned to a purchaser which that is not tax but was collected from the purchaser under the representation that it was tax constitute funds of this the state of Florida from the moment of collection.
- (7) (6) Notwithstanding other provisions of law, a dealer who makes a mail order sale in this state is exempt from collecting and remitting any local option surtax on the sale, unless the dealer is located in a county that imposes a surtax within the meaning of s. 212.054(3)(a), the order is placed through the dealer's location in such county, and the property

purchased is delivered into such county or into another county in this state $\underline{\text{which}}$ that levies the surtax, in which case the provisions of s. 212.054(3)(a) are applicable.

- (8) (7) The department may establish by rule procedures for collecting the use tax from unregistered persons who but for their mail order purchases would not be required to remit sales or use tax directly to the department. The procedures may provide for waiver of registration and registration fees, provisions for irregular remittance of tax, elimination of the collection allowance, and nonapplication of local option surtaxes.
- Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 212.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 212.06 Sales, storage, use tax; collectible from dealers; "dealer" defined; dealers to collect from purchasers; legislative intent as to scope of tax.—
- (2) (a) The term "dealer," as used in this chapter, means a includes every person who:
- (a) Manufactures or produces tangible personal property for sale at retail; for use, consumption, or distribution; or for storage to be used or consumed in this state.
- (b) The term "dealer" is further defined to mean every person, as used in this chapter, who Imports, or causes to be imported, tangible personal property from any state or foreign country for sale at retail; for use, consumption, or distribution; or for storage to be used or consumed in this state.
 - (c) The term "dealer" is further defined to mean every

Page 8 of 15

person, as used in this chapter, who Sells at retail or who offers for sale at retail, or who has in his or her possession for sale at retail; or for use, consumption, or distribution; or for storage to be used or consumed in this state, tangible personal property as defined herein, including a retailer who transacts a mail order sale.

- The term "dealer" is further defined to mean any person who Has sold at retail; or used, or consumed, or distributed; or stored for use or consumption in this state, tangible personal property and $\frac{1}{2}$ cannot prove that the tax levied by this chapter has been paid on the sale at retail, the use, the consumption, the distribution, or the storage of such tangible personal property. However, The term "dealer" does not include mean a person who is not a "dealer" as otherwise defined in under the definition of any other paragraph of this subsection and whose only owned or leased property, tincluding property owned or leased by an affiliate, + in this state is located at the premises of a printer with which it has contracted for printing, if such property consists of the final printed product, property which becomes a part of the final printed product, or property from which the printed product is produced.
- (e) The term "dealer" is further defined to mean any person, as used in this chapter, who Leases or rents tangible personal property, as defined in this chapter, for a consideration, permitting the use or possession of such property without transferring title thereto, except as expressly provided in this chapter for to the contrary herein.

225

226

227

228

229

230

231

232

233

234

235

236

237

238

239

240

241

242

243244

245

246

247

248

249

250251

(f) The term "dealer" is further defined to mean any person, as used in this chapter, who Maintains or has within this state, directly or by a subsidiary, an office, distributing house, salesroom, or house, warehouse, or other place of business, or uses within this state an office, distributing house, salesroom, or house, warehouse, or other place of business operated by any person other than a common carrier acting in the capacity of a common carrier.

- Solicits business either by direct representatives, indirect representatives, or manufacturers' agents within this state; by distribution of catalogs or other advertising matter; or by any other means whatsoever, and by reason thereof receives orders for tangible personal property from consumers for use, consumption, distribution, and storage for use or consumption in the state. Such dealer shall collect the tax imposed by this chapter from the purchaser, and no action, either in law or in equity, on a sale or transaction as provided by the terms of this chapter may be had in this state by any such dealer unless it is affirmatively shown that the provisions of this chapter have been fully complied with.
- (h) "Dealer" also means and includes every person who, As a representative, agent, or solicitor of an out-of-state principal or principals, solicits, receives, and accepts orders from consumers in the state for future delivery and whose principal refuses to register as a dealer.
- (i) <u>Constitutes</u> "Dealer" also means and includes the state or any, county, municipality, district any political

Page 10 of 15

subdivision, agency, bureau, or department, or other state or local governmental instrumentality.

- The term "dealer" is further defined to mean any person who Leases, or grants a license to use, occupy, or enter upon, living quarters, sleeping or housekeeping accommodations in hotels, apartment houses, roominghouses, tourist or trailer camps, real property, space or spaces in parking lots or garages for motor vehicles, docking or storage space or spaces for boats in boat docks or marinas, or tie-down or storage space or spaces for aircraft at airports. The term includes "dealer" also means any person who has leased, occupied, or used or was entitled to use any living quarters, sleeping or housekeeping accommodations in hotels, apartment houses, roominghouses, tourist or trailer camps, real property, space or spaces in parking lots or garages for motor vehicles, or docking or storage space or spaces for boats in boat docks or marinas, or who has purchased communication services or electric power or energy, and who cannot prove that the tax levied by this chapter has been paid to the vendor or lessor on any such transactions. The term "dealer" does not include a any person who leases, lets, rents, or grants a license to use, occupy, or enter upon any living quarters, sleeping quarters, or housekeeping accommodations in apartment houses, roominghouses, tourist camps, or trailer camps, and who exclusively enters into a bona fide written agreement for continuous residence for longer than 6 months $\frac{1}{100}$ duration with a any person who leases, lets, rents, or is granted a license to use such property.
 - (k) "Dealer" also means any person who Sells, provides, or

Page 11 of 15

281

282

283

284

285

286

287

288

289

290

291

292

293

294

295

296

297

298

299

300

301

302

303

304

305

306

307

performs a service taxable under this chapter. The term includes a "Dealer" also means any person who purchases, uses, or consumes a service taxable under this chapter who cannot prove that the tax levied by this chapter has been paid to the seller of the taxable service.

- (1) "Dealer" also means any person who Solicits, offers, provides, enters into, issues, or delivers any service warranty taxable under this chapter, or who receives, on behalf of such a person, any consideration from a service warranty holder.
- Section 3. Effective July 1, 2014, section 212.0802, 319 Florida Statutes, is created to read:

212.0802 Annual sales tax holiday.-

- (1) The tax levied under this chapter may not be collected during the period beginning at 12:01 a.m. on the first Friday in August and continuing for the number of days determined under subsection (3) on the sale of:
- (a) Clothing, wallets, or bags, including handbags, backpacks, fanny packs, and diaper bags, but excluding briefcases, suitcases, and other garment bags, having a sales price of \$75 or less per item. As used in this paragraph, the term "clothing" means:
- 1. Any article of wearing apparel intended to be worn on or about the human body, excluding watches, watchbands, jewelry, umbrellas, and handkerchiefs; and
- 2. All footwear, excluding skis, swim fins, roller blades, and skates.
- (b) School supplies having a sales price of \$15 or less per item. As used in this paragraph, the term "school supplies"

Page 12 of 15

PCB FTSC 13-02

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

means pens, pencils, erasers, crayons, notebooks, notebook

filler paper, legal pads, binders, lunch boxes, construction

paper, markers, folders, poster board, composition books, poster

paper, scissors, cellophane tape, glue or paste, rulers,

computer disks, protractors, compasses, and calculators.

- apply to sales within a theme park or entertainment complex as defined in s. 509.013(9), Florida Statutes, within a public lodging establishment as defined in s. 509.013(4), Florida Statutes, or within an airport as defined in s. 330.27(2), Florida Statutes.
- (3) (a) As used in this subsection, the term "amount of tax reported by the department" means the amount of taxes imposed under this chapter, remitted in a 12-month period ending on April 30 immediately before the estimate required under paragraph (b) by dealers who would otherwise not be required to collect and remit taxes imposed under this chapter but for the revisions to s. 212.0596, that take effect February 1, 2014, pursuant to this act.
- (b) On or before June 1 each year, the Revenue Estimating Conference shall estimate the number of days that the tax-free period authorized under this section must continue in order to reduce total tax collections under this chapter on the items subject to the tax-free period by an amount not less than the amount of tax reported by the department.
- 1. The Revenue Estimating Conference shall use the latest methodology employed before May 1, 2013, to estimate the revenue impacts of tax-free periods on the items listed in subsection

Page 13 of 15

365 (1).

2. Except as provided in subsection (4), the result of the estimate shall determine the number of days for the tax-free period provided in subsection (1).

- (4) (a) If the number of days determined under subsection (3) is less than 3 days, then no tax-free period under this section may begin in the upcoming August, and the amount of tax used in the determination shall be retained unallocated in the General Revenue Fund for use in estimates under subsection (3) in subsequent years.
- (b) If the number of days determined under subsection (3) exceeds 365 days, then, in lieu of the tax-free period provided in subsection (1), the state tax rates imposed under this chapter shall, effective on January 1 of the upcoming year, be reduced by multiplying each state tax rate by the difference between one and a ratio:
- 1. The numerator of which shall be the sum of the amount of tax as determined by the Department of Revenue and any additional amounts carried forward from previous years; and
- 2. The denominator of which shall be the sum of the state tax collections under this chapter forecasted by the Revenue Estimating Conference for the upcoming calendar year.
- (c) Any tax rate reductions under paragraph (b) shall be permanent. After such tax rate reductions, future estimates made by the Revenue Estimating Conference for an upcoming fiscal year under subsection (3) shall decrease the amount of tax reported by the department by an amount equal to the reduction in state tax collections attributable to the tax rate reductions as

estimated by the Revenue Estimating Conference for the upcoming fiscal year.

- Section 4. (1) The Department of Revenue shall, in consultation with the Revenue Estimating Conference, determine the amount of taxes remitted by dealers who would otherwise not be required to collect and remit taxes imposed by chapter 212, Florida Statutes, but for the amendments made by this act to s. 212.0596, Florida Statutes.
- (2) By May 15, 2014, and by May 15 annually thereafter, the Department of Revenue shall report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives the amount of taxes determined pursuant to subsection (1) for the 12-month period ending on April 30 immediately before the due date of the report and the tracking system used to determine such amount.
- (3) The amount reported in subsection (2) shall be the same amount of tax that is reported by the Department of Revenue for use in making the estimate required in s. 212.0802(3), Florida Statutes.
- Section 5. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon this act becoming a law, this act shall take effect February 1, 2014.