

CHAPTER 2010-128

Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 173

An act relating to the tax on sales, use, and other transactions; amending s. 212.05, F.S.; deleting a requirement that a certain penalty is mandatory and not waivable by the Department of Revenue; deleting authorization to return certain aircraft to the state for repairs without liability for taxes and penalty under certain circumstances; amending s. 212.08, F.S.; exempting from the use tax aircraft owned by nonresidents and entering and remaining in the state for certain purposes under certain circumstances; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 212.05, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

212.05 Sales, storage, use tax.—It is hereby declared to be the legislative intent that every person is exercising a taxable privilege who engages in the business of selling tangible personal property at retail in this state, including the business of making mail order sales, or who rents or furnishes any of the things or services taxable under this chapter, or who stores for use or consumption in this state any item or article of tangible personal property as defined herein 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 aircraft, boat, mobile home, or motor vehicle of a class or type which is required to be registered, licensed, titled, or documented in this state or by the United States Government shall be subject to tax at the rate provided in this paragraph. The department shall by rule adopt any nationally recognized publication for valuation of used motor vehicles as the reference price list for any used motor vehicle which is required to be licensed pursuant to s. 320.08(1), (2), (3)(a), (b), (c), or (e), or (9). If any party to an occasional or isolated sale of such a vehicle reports to the tax collector a sales price which is less than 80 percent of the average loan price for the specified model and year of such vehicle as listed in the most recent reference price list, the tax levied under this paragraph shall be computed by the department on such average loan price unless the parties to the sale have provided to the tax collector an affidavit signed by each party, or other substantial proof, stating the actual sales price. Any party to such sale who reports a sales price less than the actual sales price is guilty of a

misdeemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. The department shall collect or attempt to collect from such party any delinquent sales taxes. In addition, such party shall pay any tax due and any penalty and interest assessed plus a penalty equal to twice the amount of the additional tax owed. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Department of Revenue may waive or compromise any penalty imposed pursuant to this subparagraph.

2. This paragraph does not apply to the sale of a boat or aircraft by or through a registered dealer under this chapter to a purchaser who, at the time of taking delivery, is a nonresident of this state, does not make his or her permanent place of abode in this state, and is not engaged in carrying on in this state any employment, trade, business, or profession in which the boat or aircraft will be used in this state, or is a corporation none of the officers or directors of which is a resident of, or makes his or her permanent place of abode in, this state, or is a noncorporate entity that has no individual vested with authority to participate in the management, direction, or control of the entity's affairs who is a resident of, or makes his or her permanent abode in, this state. For purposes of this exemption, either a registered dealer acting on his or her own behalf as seller, a registered dealer acting as broker on behalf of a seller, or a registered dealer acting as broker on behalf of the purchaser may be deemed to be the selling dealer. This exemption shall not be allowed unless:

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

b. The purchaser, within 30 days from the date of departure, shall provide the department with written proof that the purchaser licensed, registered, titled, or documented the boat or aircraft outside the state. If such written proof is unavailable, within 30 days the purchaser shall provide proof that the purchaser applied for such license, title, registration, or documentation. The purchaser shall forward to the department proof of title, license, registration, or documentation upon receipt;

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

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

f. Unless the nonresident purchaser of a boat of 5 net tons of admeasurement or larger intends to remove the boat from this state within 10 days after the date of purchase or when the boat is repaired or altered, within 20 days after completion of the repairs or alterations, the nonresident purchaser shall apply to the selling dealer for a decal which authorizes 90 days after the date of purchase for removal of the boat. The nonresident purchaser of a qualifying boat may apply to the selling dealer within 60 days after the date of purchase for an extension decal that authorizes the boat to remain in this state for an additional 90 days, but not more than a total of 180 days, before the nonresident purchaser is required to pay the tax imposed by this chapter. The department is authorized to issue decals in advance to dealers. The number of decals issued in advance to a dealer shall be consistent with the volume of the dealer's past sales of boats which qualify under this sub-subparagraph. The selling dealer or his or her agent shall mark and affix the decals to qualifying boats in the manner prescribed by the department, prior to delivery of the boat.

(I) The department is hereby authorized to charge dealers a fee sufficient to recover the costs of decals issued, except the extension decal shall cost \$425.

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

(III) Decals shall display information to identify the boat as a qualifying boat under this sub-subparagraph, 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.

(V) Any dealer or his or her agent who issues a decal falsely, fails to affix a decal, mismarks the expiration date of a decal, or fails to properly account for decals will be considered prima facie to have committed a fraudulent act to evade the tax and will be liable for payment of the tax plus a 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 misdemeanor of the first degree, as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

(VI) Any nonresident purchaser of a boat who removes a decal prior to permanently removing the boat from the state, or defaces, changes, modifies, or alters a decal in a manner affecting its expiration date prior to its expiration, or who causes or allows the same to be done by another, will be considered prima facie to have committed a fraudulent act to evade the tax and will be liable for payment of the tax plus a 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 misdemeanor of the first degree, as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

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

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

If the purchaser fails to remove the qualifying boat from this state within the maximum 180 days after purchase or a nonqualifying boat or an aircraft from this state within 10 days after purchase or, when the boat or aircraft is repaired or altered, within 20 days after completion of such repairs or alterations, or permits the boat or aircraft to return to this state within 6 months from the date of departure, except as provided in s. 212.08(7)(ggg), or if the purchaser fails to furnish the department with any of the documentation required by this subparagraph within the prescribed time period, the purchaser shall be liable for use tax on the cost price of the boat or aircraft and, in addition thereto, payment of a penalty to the Department of Revenue equal to the tax payable. This penalty shall be in lieu of the penalty imposed by s. 212.12(2) and is mandatory and shall not be waived by the department. The maximum 180-day period following the sale of a qualifying boat tax-exempt to a nonresident may not be tolled for any reason. ~~Notwithstanding other provisions of this paragraph to the contrary, an aircraft purchased in this state under the provisions of this paragraph may be returned to this state for repairs within 6 months after the date of its departure without being in violation of the law and without incurring liability for the payment of tax or penalty on the purchase price of the aircraft if the aircraft is removed from this state within 20 days after the completion of the repairs and if such removal can be demonstrated by invoices for fuel, tie-down, hangar charges issued by out-of-state vendors or suppliers, or similar documentation.~~

Section 2. Paragraph (ggg) is added to subsection (7) of section 212.08, Florida Statutes, 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.

(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.

(ggg) Aircraft temporarily in the state.—

1. An aircraft owned by a nonresident is exempt from the use tax imposed under this chapter if the aircraft enters and remains in this state for less than a total of 21 days during the 6-month period after the date of purchase. The temporary use of the aircraft and subsequent removal from this state may be proven by invoices for fuel, tie-down, or hangar charges issued by out-of-state vendors or suppliers or similar documentation that clearly and specifically identifies the aircraft. The exemption provided in this subparagraph is in addition to the exemptions provided in subparagraph 2. and s. 212.05(1)(a).

2. An aircraft owned by a nonresident is exempt from the use tax imposed under this chapter if the aircraft enters or remains in this state exclusively for purposes of flight training, repairs, alterations, refitting, or modification. Such purposes shall be supported by written documentation issued by in-state vendors or suppliers which clearly and specifically identifies the aircraft. The exemption provided in this subparagraph is in addition to the exemptions provided in subparagraph 1. and s. 212.05(1)(a).

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

Approved by the Governor May 27, 2010.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 27, 2010.