CHAMBER ACTION

Senate House

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Representative Stargel offered the following:

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Amendment (with title amendment)

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Between lines 98 and 99, insert:

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Section 2. Reimbursement for sales taxes paid on mobile homes purchased to replace mobile homes damaged by a named tropical system.--

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(1) If a mobile home is purchased to replace a mobile home that experienced major damage from a named tropical system and the damaged mobile home was the permanent residence of a permanent resident of this state, an amount equal to the state sales tax paid on the purchase of the replacement mobile home shall be reimbursed in the following manner:

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(a) An application must be filed on or before May 1, 2005, by the owner with the property appraiser in the county in which

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the damaged mobile home was located. Failure to file such application on or before May 1, 2005, constitutes a waiver of any claim for reimbursement under this section. The application must be filed in the manner and form prescribed by the property appraiser.

- (b) The application, attested to under oath, must identify the mobile home that experienced major damage from a named tropical system and the date the damage occurred. Documentation of major damage and a copy of the invoice for the replacement mobile home must accompany the application. Such documentation may include, but is not limited to, insurance information or information from the Federal Emergency Management Agency or the American Red Cross attesting to the major damage of the mobile home.
- (c) Upon receipt of the application, the property appraiser shall investigate the statements contained in the application to determine whether the applicant is entitled to reimbursement under this section. If the property appraiser determines that the applicant is entitled to reimbursement, the property appraiser shall calculate the reimbursement amount. The reimbursement shall be an amount equal to the state sales tax paid on the purchase price of the replacement mobile home, as determined by the tax tables of the Department of Revenue, which amount may not exceed \$1,500.
- (d) The property appraiser shall compile a list of mobile home owners entitled to reimbursement. The list shall be

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- submitted to the Department of Revenue by June 1, 2005, through an electronic, web-based application provided by the department.
- (e) Upon receipt of the reimbursement lists from the property appraisers, the Department of Revenue shall disburse reimbursement checks from its Administrative Trust Fund in the amounts and to the persons indicated in the reimbursement lists received from the property appraisers. Before disbursing any reimbursement checks, the Department of Revenue shall determine the total of all reimbursement requests submitted by the property appraisers. If the total amount of reimbursement requested exceeds the amount appropriated for that purpose, the Department of Revenue shall reduce all reimbursement checks by a percentage sufficient to reduce total reimbursement payments to an amount equal to the appropriation.
 - (f) As used in this section, the term:
- 1. "Major damage" means that a mobile home is more than 50-percent destroyed or that a mobile home cannot be inhabited and cannot be repaired for less than the amount of its value before being damaged by the named tropical system.
- 2. "Permanent residence" and "permanent resident" have the same meanings as provided in s. 196.012, Florida Statutes.
- (2) Any person who claims reimbursement under section 1 is not eligible for the reimbursement provided by this section.
- (3) Any person who knowingly and willfully gives false information for the purpose of claiming reimbursement under this section commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as

provided in s. 775.082, Florida Statutes, or by a fine not exceeding \$5,000, or both.

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Remove line(s) 25 and insert:

information; providing for reimbursement of the state sales tax paid on the purchase of a mobile home to replace a mobile home that experienced major damage from a named tropical system; requiring that application for such reimbursement be made with the property appraiser; providing application requirements; requiring that the property owner provide documentation of damage to the mobile home; requiring each property appraiser to determine an applicant's entitlement to reimbursement and the reimbursement amount; limiting the reimbursement amount; requiring property appraisers to submit reimbursement lists to the Department of Revenue by a specified date; requiring the Department of Revenue to calculate reimbursements in conformance with the amount appropriated and disburse reimbursement checks accordingly; providing definitions; providing a limitation on claiming reimbursement; providing a penalty for giving false information for certain purposes; requiring the department to forward

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