

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	•	House
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Senator Lynn moved the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Subsections (8), (9), and (10) are added to section 212.03, Florida Statutes, to read:

212.03 Transient rentals tax; rate, procedure, enforcement, exemptions.-

(8) For purposes of this section, ss. 125.0104, 125.0108, and 212.0305, and chapter 67-930, Laws of Florida, as amended, the business of renting, leasing, letting, or granting a license to use transient rental accommodations includes any activity in which a person offers information about the availability of

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accommodations to a customer, arranges for the customer's occupancy of the accommodations, establishes the total rent the customer pays for the accommodations, or collects the rental payments from the customer.

- (9) (a) The terms "total rent" as used in this section, "total consideration" as used in ss. 125.0104 and 125.0108, "consideration" as used in s. 212.0305, and "rent" as used in chapter 67-930, Laws of Florida, as amended, have the same meaning and include:
- 1. The total amount a customer pays for the right to occupy a transient accommodation.
- 2. Charges that must be paid as a condition of the right of occupancy, except for mandatory fees imposed for the availability of communications services.
- 3. Charges paid by a customer to the person collecting the rent or consideration as a condition of the right of occupancy, even if the charges are separately stated or are for tangible personal property or services provided by a third party.
- 4. Charges for the use of tangible personal property or services as a condition of the right of occupancy, even if separately stated.
- (b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), the department may adopt rules that exclude separately stated charges for tangible personal property and services from the definition of total rent or total consideration.
- (10) Persons engaging in activities described in subsection (8) shall register with the department and collect and remit taxes on the total rent charged to their customers, unless the registered owners or operators of the accommodations agree in

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writing to report and remit taxes on their behalf. Any written agreement must require the person collecting the rent to report total taxable sales and taxes due and pay the taxes collected to the owner or operator by the last day of the month in which the customer pays the rent or the last day of the month in which the customer completes the occupancy of the accommodation. The owner or operator shall report and remit the taxes along with the owner or operator's return, which is due in the month following the month in which the taxes are paid to the owner or operator. The owner or operator is not liable for any tax, penalty, or interest due as a result of the failure of the person who arranged the occupancy and collected the rent to accurately report and remit the taxes imposed by this section or by s. 125.0104, s. 125.0108, or s. 212.0305, or s. 2 of chapter 67-930, Laws of Florida, as amended. If the owner or operator does not agree to report and remit taxes on behalf of the person who rents the accommodations as provided in subsection (8), that person shall extend his or her annual resale certificate in lieu of paying taxes on the amounts he or she pays to the owner or operator for the accommodations. A person engaged in the activities described in subsection (8) may file with the department a single application for registration. Such application for registration must identify each county in which transient accommodations are located. Such person must also file a separate registration with each county that self-administers any local transient accommodations tax. A person engaged in the activities described in subsection (8) may file a consolidated return as provided in s. 212.11(1)(e).

Section 2. (1) The Department of Revenue shall provide for

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an amnesty for unpaid taxes, penalties, and interest imposed under chapter 125 or chapter 212, Florida Statutes, or chapter 67-930, Laws of Florida, as amended, on transient rentals if:

- (a) The rentals subject to amnesty were made prior to July 1, 2011.
- (b) The rental payments were collected by persons who are not owners, operators, or managers of the transient rental facilities or their agents.
- (c) The person who collected the rental payments registers with the department and any applicable local jurisdictions to pay taxes on transient rentals on or before October 1, 2011.
- (d) The person who collected the rental payments applies for amnesty by October 1, 2011, pursuant to rules of the department.
- (2) (a) The amnesty is not available for taxes, penalties, or interest assessed if the assessment is final and has not been timely challenged, or for any taxes, penalties, or interest that have been paid to the department or other jurisdiction unless the payment is the subject of an assessment that is not final or that has been timely challenged.
- (b) The amnesty is not available for tax billed to or collected from the consumer who pays for occupancy of the transient rental facility. The amnesty applies, however, to such amounts to the extent that the person who collected the rental payments documents that such taxes were remitted to the owner or operator of the transient rental facility.
- (3) The Department of Revenue may adopt emergency rules to implement the provisions of this act. Such rules may provide forms and procedures for applying for amnesty, for reporting the



rentals for which amnesty is sought, and for ensuring the applicant's ongoing commitment to registration, collection, and remittance of the taxes imposed by state law on transient rentals. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the emergency rules shall remain effective until 6 months after the date of adoption of the rule or the date of final resolution of all amnesty applications filed pursuant to this section, whichever occurs later. These rules may be renewed during the pendency of procedures to adopt rules addressing the subject of the emergency rules.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.

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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 transient rentals; amending s. 212.03, F.S.; requiring that persons who engage in certain business activities related to transient rentals collect the tax; providing definitions; authorizing the Department of Revenue to adopt rules to exclude certain charges from the definition of the terms "total rent" or "total consideration"; requiring certain persons to report and remit the tax on certain transient rentals; providing requirements, procedures, and limitations; requiring the Department of Revenue to provide for an amnesty for certain unpaid taxes, penalties, and

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interest; providing criteria for qualifying for the amnesty; providing exclusions from application of the amnesty; authorizing the department to adopt emergency rules to implement the amnesty; providing for the effective period of such rules; providing an effective date.