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By the Committees on Budget; Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax; and Budget Subcommittee on Finance and Tax

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A bill to be entitled An act relating to tax administration; amending s. 211.3103, F.S.; revising the excise tax rates levied upon each ton of phosphate rock severed; specifying the period during which the rates apply; revising the distribution of the revenues received; deleting obsolete provisions; amending s. 212.03, F.S.; providing that charges for the storage of towed vehicles are taxable, unless the vehicles are impounded by a local, state, or federal law enforcement agency; amending s. 212.07, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference to changes made by the act; subjecting a dealer to monetary and criminal penalties for the willful failure to collect certain taxes or fees after notice of the duty to collect the taxes or fees by the Department of Revenue; amending s. 212.08, F.S.; providing an exemption from the tax on sales, use, and other transactions for the sale or lease of accessible taxicabs; providing a definition of the term "accessible taxicab"; amending s. 212.12, F.S.; deleting provisions relating to the imposition of criminal penalties after notice by the Department of Revenue of requirements to register as a dealer or to collect taxes; making technical and grammatical changes to provisions specifying penalties for making a false or fraudulent return with the intent to evade payment of a tax or fee; amending s. 212.14, F.S.; defining the term "person"; authorizing the Department of Revenue to adopt rules relating to requirements for

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a person to deposit cash, a bond, or other security with the department in order to ensure compliance with sales tax laws; making technical and grammatical changes; amending s. 212.18, F.S.; subjecting a person to criminal penalties for willfully failing to register as a dealer after notice of the duty to register by the Department of Revenue; making technical and grammatical changes; amending s. 213.13, F.S.; revising the due date for funds collected by the clerks of court to be transmitted to the Department of Revenue; creating s. 213.295, F.S.; providing definitions; subjecting a person to criminal penalties and monetary penalties for knowingly selling an automated sales suppression device, zapper, or phantom-ware; defining sales suppression devices and phantom-ware as contraband articles under the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act; amending s. 213.756, F.S.; providing an absolute defense by a retailer against a purchaser's claim for a refund; amending s. 220.153, F.S.; redefining the term "qualified capital expenditures" for purposes of apportionment by sales factor; amending s. 322.142, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to release photographs or digital images to the Department of Revenue in order to identify individuals for purposes of tax administration; amending s. 336.021, F.S.; revising the date for imposing the ninth-cent fuel tax; amending s. 336.025, F.S.; revising the date when impositions and rate changes of 576-04366-12 20121304c2

the local option fuel tax are levied; amending s. 443.131, F.S.; imposing a requirement on employers to produce records for the Department of Economic Opportunity or its tax collection service provider as a prerequisite for a reduction in the rate of unemployment tax; amending s. 443.141, F.S.; providing a method to calculate the interest rate for past due contributions and reimbursements, and delinquent, erroneous, incomplete, or insufficient reports; providing for application; providing effective dates.

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

Section 1. Section 211.3103, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

211.3103 Levy of tax on severance of phosphate rock; rate, basis, and distribution of tax.—

(1) There is hereby levied an excise tax upon <u>each every</u> person engaging in the business of severing phosphate rock from the soils or waters of this state for commercial use. The tax shall be collected, administered, and enforced by the department.

(2) The tax rate shall be \$1.61 per ton severed, except for the time period from January 1, 2015, to December 31, 2022, when the tax rate shall be \$1.80 per ton severed.

(2) Beginning July 1, 2004, the proceeds of all taxes, interest, and penalties imposed under this section shall be paid into the State Treasury as follows:

(a) The first \$10 million in revenue collected from the tax

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during each fiscal year shall be paid to the credit of the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund.

(b) The remaining revenues collected from the tax during that fiscal year, after the required payment under paragraph (a), shall be paid into the State Treasury as follows:

1. To the credit of the General Revenue Fund of the state,
40.1 percent.

2. For payment to counties in proportion to the number of tons of phosphate rock produced from a phosphate rock matrix located within such political boundary, 16.5 percent. The department shall distribute this portion of the proceeds annually based on production information reported by the producers on the annual returns for the taxable year. Any such proceeds received by a county shall be used only for phosphate-related expenses.

3. For payment to counties that have been designated a rural area of critical economic concern pursuant to s. 288.0656 in proportion to the number of tons of phosphate rock produced from a phosphate rock matrix located within such political boundary, 13 percent. The department shall distribute this portion of the proceeds annually based on production information reported by the producers on the annual returns for the taxable year. Payments under this subparagraph shall be made to the counties unless the Legislature by special act creates a local authority to promote and direct the economic development of the county. If such authority exists, payments shall be made to that authority.

4. To the credit of the Phosphate Research Trust Fund in the Division of Universities of the Department of Education, 9.3

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117 percent.

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5. To the credit of the Minerals Trust Fund, 10.7 percent.

6. To the credit of the Nonmandatory Land Reclamation Trust Fund, 10.4 percent.

(3) Beginning July 1, 2003, and annually thereafter, the Department of Environmental Protection may use up to \$2 million of the funds in the Nonmandatory Land Reclamation Trust Fund to purchase a surety bond or a policy of insurance, the proceeds of which would pay the cost of restoration, reclamation, and cleanup of any phosphogypsum stack system and phosphate mining activities in the event that an operator or permittee thereof has been subject to a final order of bankruptcy and all funds available therefrom are determined to be inadequate to accomplish such restoration, reclamation, and cleanup. This section does not imply that such operator or permittee is thereby relieved of its obligations or relieved of any liabilities pursuant to any other remedies at law, administrative remedies, statutory remedies, or remedies pursuant to bankruptcy law. The department shall adopt rules to implement this subsection, including the purchase and oversight of the bond or policy.

(4) Funds distributed pursuant to subparagraphs (2) (b) 3. and (11) (e) 4. shall be used for:

(a) Planning, preparing, and financing of infrastructure projects for job creation and capital investment, especially those related to industrial and commercial sites. Infrastructure investments may include the following public or public-private partnership facilities: stormwater systems, telecommunications facilities, roads or other remedies to transportation

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impediments, nature-based tourism facilities, or other physical requirements necessary to facilitate trade and economic development activities.

- (b) Maximizing the use of federal, local, and private resources, including, but not limited to, those available under the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program.
- (c) Projects that improve inadequate infrastructure that has resulted in regulatory action that prohibits economic or community growth, if such projects are related to specific job creation or job retention opportunities.
- (5) Beginning January 1, 2004, the tax rate shall be the base rate of \$1.62 per ton severed.
- (6) Beginning January 1, 2005, and annually thereafter, the tax rate shall be the base rate times the base rate adjustment for the tax year as calculated by the department in accordance with subsection (8).
- (3)(7) The excise tax levied by this section applies shall apply to the total production of the producer during the taxable year, measured on the basis of bone-dry tons produced at the point of severance.
- (8) (a) On or before March 30, 2004, and annually thereafter, the department shall calculate the base rate adjustment, if any, for phosphate rock based on the change in the unadjusted annual producer price index for the prior calendar year in relation to the unadjusted annual producer price index for calendar year 1999.
- (b) For the purposes of determining the base rate adjustment for any year, the base rate adjustment shall be a fraction, the numerator of which is the unadjusted annual

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producer price index for the prior calendar year and the denominator of which is the unadjusted annual producer price index for calendar year 1999.

- (c) The department shall provide the base rate, the base rate adjustment, and the resulting tax rate to affected producers by written notice on or before April 15 of the current year.
- (d) If the producer price index for phosphate rock is substantially revised, the department shall make appropriate adjustment in the method used to compute the base rate adjustment under this subsection which will produce results reasonably consistent with the result that would have been obtained if the producer price index for phosphate rock had not been revised. However, the tax rate shall not be less than \$1.51 per ton severed.
- (e) If the producer price index for phosphate rock is discontinued, a comparable index shall be selected by the department and adopted by rule.
- $\underline{(4)}$  (9) The excise tax levied on the severance of phosphate rock  $\underline{is}$  shall be in addition to any ad valorem taxes levied upon the separately assessed mineral interest in the real property upon which the site of severance is located, or any other tax, permit, or license fee imposed by the state or its political subdivisions.
- (5) (10) The tax levied by this section shall be collected in the manner prescribed in s. 211.33.
- (11) (a) Beginning July 1, 2008, there is hereby levied a surcharge of \$1.38 per ton severed in addition to the excise tax levied by this section. The surcharge shall be levied until the

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last day of the calendar quarter in which the total revenue generated by the surcharge equals \$60 million. Revenues derived from the surcharge shall be deposited into the Nonmandatory Land Reclamation Trust Fund and shall be exempt from the general revenue service charge provided in s. 215.20. Revenues derived from the surcharge shall be used to augment funds appropriated for the rehabilitation, management, and closure of the Piney Point and Mulberry sites and for approved reclamation of nonmandatory lands in accordance with chapter 378. A minimum of 75 percent of the revenues from the surcharge shall be dedicated to the Piney Point and Mulberry sites.

(b) Beginning July 1, 2008, the excise tax rate shall be \$1.945 per ton severed and the base rate adjustment provided in subsection (6) shall not apply.

(c)1. Beginning July 1 of the 2010-2011 fiscal year, the tax rate shall be the base rate of \$1.71 per ton severed.

2. Beginning July 1 of the 2011-2012 fiscal year, the tax rate shall be the base rate of \$1.61 per ton severed.

3. The base rate adjustment provided in subsection (6) shall not apply until the conditions of paragraph (d) are met.

(d) Beginning July 1 of the fiscal year following the date on which a taxpayer's surcharge offset equals or exceeds the total amount of surcharge remitted by such taxpayer under paragraph (a), and each year thereafter, the excise tax rate levied on such taxpayer shall be adjusted as provided in subsection (6). The surcharge offset for each taxpayer is an amount calculated by the department equal to the cumulative difference between the amount of excise tax that would have been collected under subsections (5) and (6) and the excise tax

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collected under subparagraphs (c) 1. and 2. from such taxpayer.

(e) Beginning July 1 of the 2010-2011 fiscal year, the proceeds of all taxes, interest, and penalties imposed under this section shall be exempt from the general revenue service charge provided in s. 215.20, and shall be paid into the State Treasury as follows:

1. To the credit of the Conservation and Recreation Lands
Trust Fund, 21.9 percent.

2. To the credit of the General Revenue Fund of the state, 37.1 percent.

3. For payment to counties in proportion to the number of tons of phosphate rock produced from a phosphate rock matrix located within such political boundary, 12 percent. The department shall distribute this portion of the proceeds annually based on production information reported by the producers on the annual returns for the taxable year. Any such proceeds received by a county shall be used only for phosphate-related expenses.

4. For payment to counties that have been designated a rural area of critical economic concern pursuant to s. 288.0656 in proportion to the number of tons of phosphate rock produced from a phosphate rock matrix located within such political boundary, 9.4 percent. The department shall distribute this portion of the proceeds annually based on production information reported by the producers on the annual returns for the taxable year. Payments under this subparagraph shall be made to the counties unless the Legislature by special act creates a local authority to promote and direct the economic development of the county. If such authority exists, payments shall be made to that

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262 authority.

- 5. To the credit of the Nonmandatory Land Reclamation Trust Fund, 5.8 percent.
- 6. To the credit of the Phosphate Research Trust Fund in the Division of Universities of the Department of Education, 5.8 percent.
  - 7. To the credit of the Minerals Trust Fund, 8.0 percent.
- (6)(a)(f) Beginning July 1 of the 2011-2012 fiscal year, the proceeds of all taxes, interest, and penalties imposed under this section are exempt from the general revenue service charge provided in s. 215.20, and such proceeds shall be paid into the State Treasury as follows:
- 1. To the credit of the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund, 25.5 percent.
- To the credit of the General Revenue Fund of the state,35.7 percent.
- 3. For payment to counties in proportion to the number of tons of phosphate rock produced from a phosphate rock matrix located within such political boundary, 12.8 percent. The department shall distribute this portion of the proceeds annually based on production information reported by the producers on the annual returns for the taxable year. Any such proceeds received by a county shall be used only for phosphate-related expenses.
- 4. For payment to counties that have been designated as a rural area of critical economic concern pursuant to s. 288.0656 in proportion to the number of tons of phosphate rock produced from a phosphate rock matrix located within such political boundary, 10.0 percent. The department shall distribute this

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portion of the proceeds annually based on production information reported by the producers on the annual returns for the taxable year. Payments under this subparagraph shall be made to the counties unless the Legislature by special act creates a local authority to promote and direct the economic development of the county. If such authority exists, payments shall be made to that authority.

- 5. To the credit of the Nonmandatory Land Reclamation Trust Fund, 6.2 percent.
- 6. To the credit of the Phosphate Research Trust Fund in the Division of Universities of the Department of Education, 6.2 percent.
  - 7. To the credit of the Minerals Trust Fund, 3.6 percent.
- (b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), from January 1, 2015, until December 31, 2022, the proceeds of all taxes, interest, and penalties imposed under this section are exempt from the general revenue service charge provided in s. 215.20, and such proceeds shall be paid to the State Treasury as follows:
- 1. To the credit of the Conservation and Recreation Lands
  Trust Fund, 22.8 percent.
- 2. To the credit of the General Revenue Fund of the state, 31.9 percent.
  - 3. For payment to counties pursuant to subparagraph (a)3., 11.5 percent.
  - 4. For payment to counties pursuant to subparagraph (a)4., 8.9 percent.
- 5. To the credit of the Nonmandatory Land Reclamation Trust Fund, 16.1 percent.
  - 6. To the credit of the Phosphate Research Trust Fund in

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the Division of Universities of the Department of Education, 5.6 percent.

7. To the credit of the Minerals Trust Fund, 3.2 percent.

(c) (g) For purposes of this section, "phosphate-related expenses" means those expenses that provide for infrastructure or services in support of the phosphate industry, reclamation or restoration of phosphate lands, community infrastructure on such reclaimed lands, and similar expenses directly related to support of the industry.

Section 2. Subsection (6) of section 212.03, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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

- (6) (a) It is the legislative intent that every person is engaging in a taxable privilege who leases or rents parking or storage spaces for motor vehicles in parking lots or garages, including storage facilities for towed vehicles, who leases or rents docking or storage spaces for boats in boat docks or marinas, or who leases or rents tie-down or storage space for aircraft at airports. For the exercise of this privilege, a tax is hereby levied at the rate of 6 percent on the total rental charged.
- (b) Charges for parking, docking, tie-down, or storage arising from a lawful impoundment are not taxable. As used in this paragraph, the term "lawful impoundment" means the storing of or having custody over an aircraft, boat, or motor vehicle by, or at the direction of, a local, state, or federal law enforcement agency which the owner or the owner's representative is not authorized to enter upon, have access to, or remove

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without the consent of the law enforcement agency.

Section 3. Effective upon this act becoming a law, subsections (1) and (3) of section 212.07, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

212.07 Sales, storage, use tax; tax added to purchase price; dealer not to absorb; liability of purchasers who cannot prove payment of the tax; penalties; general exemptions.—

- (1) (a) The privilege tax herein levied measured by retail sales shall be collected by the dealers from the purchaser or consumer.
- (b) A resale must be in strict compliance with s. 212.18 and the rules and regulations, and any dealer who makes a sale for resale which is not in strict compliance with s. 212.18 and the rules and regulations is <del>shall himself or herself be</del> liable for and shall pay the tax. Any dealer who makes a sale for resale shall document the exempt nature of the transaction, as established by rules promulgated by the department, by retaining a copy of the purchaser's resale certificate. In lieu of maintaining a copy of the certificate, a dealer may document, before prior to the time of sale, an authorization number provided telephonically or electronically by the department, or by such other means established by rule of the department. The dealer may rely on a resale certificate issued pursuant to s. 212.18(3)(d) s. 212.18(3)(c), valid at the time of receipt from the purchaser, without seeking annual verification of the resale certificate if the dealer makes recurring sales to a purchaser in the normal course of business on a continual basis. As used in For purposes of this paragraph, the term "recurring sales to a purchaser in the normal course of business" refers to a sale

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in which the dealer extends credit to the purchaser and records the debt as an account receivable, or in which the dealer sells to a purchaser who has an established cash or C.O.D. account, similar to an open credit account. For purposes of this paragraph, purchases are made from a selling dealer on a continual basis if the selling dealer makes, in the normal course of business, sales to the purchaser at least no less frequently than once in every 12-month period. A dealer may, through the informal protest provided for in s. 213.21 and the rules of the Department of Revenue, provide the department with evidence of the exempt status of a sale. Consumer certificates of exemption executed by those exempt entities that were registered with the department at the time of sale, resale certificates provided by purchasers who were active dealers at the time of sale, and verification by the department of a purchaser's active dealer status at the time of sale in lieu of a resale certificate shall be accepted by the department when submitted during the protest period, but may not be accepted in any proceeding under chapter 120 or any circuit court action instituted under chapter 72.

- (c) Unless the purchaser of tangible personal property that is incorporated into tangible personal property manufactured, produced, compounded, processed, or fabricated for one's own use and subject to the tax imposed under s. 212.06(1)(b) or is purchased for export under s. 212.06(5)(a)1. extends a certificate in compliance with the rules of the department, the dealer <u>is shall himself or herself be</u> liable for and <u>shall</u> pay the tax.
  - (3) (a) A Any dealer who fails, neglects, or refuses to

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collect the tax <u>or fees imposed under this chapter</u> herein provided, either by himself or herself or through the dealer's agents or employees, is, in addition to the penalty of being liable for and paying the tax himself or herself, <u>commits guilty</u> of a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

- (b) A dealer who willfully fails to collect a tax or fee after the department provides notice of the duty to collect the tax or fee is liable for a specific penalty of 100 percent of the uncollected tax or fee. This penalty is in addition to any other penalty that may be imposed by law. A dealer who willfully fails to collect taxes or fees totaling:
  - 1. Less than \$300:
- a. For a first offense, commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- <u>b. For a second offense, commits a misdemeanor of the first</u> degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- c. For a third or subsequent offense, commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
- 2. An amount equal to \$300 or more, but less than \$20,000, commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
- 3. An amount equal to \$20,000 or more, but less than \$100,000, commits a felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
- 4. An amount equal to \$100,000 or more, commits a felony of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

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(c) The department shall give written notice of the duty to collect taxes or fees to the dealer by personal service, by sending notice to the dealer's last known address by registered mail, or by both personal service and mail.

Section 4. Paragraph (hhh) 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

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(hhh) Accessible taxicabs.—The sale or lease of accessible taxicabs is exempt from the tax imposed by this chapter. As used in this paragraph, the term "accessible taxicab" means a chauffeur-driven taxi, limousine, sedan, van, or other passenger vehicle for which an operator is hired for the transportation of persons for compensation; which transports eight passengers or fewer; is equipped with a lift or ramp designed specifically to transport physically disabled persons or contains any other device designed to permit access to, and enable the transportation of, physically disabled persons, including persons who use wheelchairs, motorized wheelchairs, or similar mobility aids; which complies with the accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 49 C.F.R. ss. 38.23, 38.25, and 38.31, as amended, regardless of whether such requirements would apply under federal law; and meets all applicable federal motor vehicle safety standards and regulations adopted thereunder. If the lift or ramp or any other device is installed through an aftermarket conversion of a stock vehicle, only the value of the conversion is exempt from the tax imposed by this chapter.

Section 5. Effective upon this act becoming a law, paragraph (d) of subsection (2) of section 212.12, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

212.12 Dealer's credit for collecting tax; penalties for noncompliance; powers of Department of Revenue in dealing with delinquents; brackets applicable to taxable transactions; records required.—

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(d) A Any person who makes a false or fraudulent return with a willful intent to evade payment of any tax or fee imposed under this chapter is; any person who, after the department's delivery of a written notice to the person's last known address specifically alerting the person of the requirement to register the person's business as a dealer, intentionally fails to register the business; and any person who, after the department's delivery of a written notice to the person's last known address specifically alerting the person of the requirement to collect tax on specific transactions, intentionally fails to collect such tax, shall, in addition to the other penalties provided by law, be liable for a specific penalty of 100 percent of any unreported or any uncollected tax or fee. This penalty is in addition to any other penalty provided by law. A person who makes a false or fraudulent return with a willful intent to evade payment of taxes or fees totaling:

- 1. Less than \$300:
- <u>a. For a first offense, commits a misdemeanor of the second</u> degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- b. For a second offense, commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- c. For a third or subsequent offense, commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
- 2. An amount equal to \$300 or more, but less than \$20,000, commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
  - 3. An amount equal to \$20,000 or more, but less than

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\$100,000, commits a felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

4. An amount equal to \$100,000 or more, commits a felony of the first degree, punishable and, upon conviction, for fine and punishment as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. Delivery of written notice may be made by certified mail, or by the use of such other method as is documented as being necessary and reasonable under the circumstances. The civil and criminal penalties imposed herein for failure to comply with a written notice alerting the person of the requirement to register the person's business as a dealer or to collect tax on specific transactions shall not apply if the person timely files a written challenge to such notice in accordance with procedures established by the department by rule or the notice fails to clearly advise that failure to comply with or timely challenge the notice will result in the imposition of the civil and criminal penalties imposed herein.

1. If the total amount of unreported or uncollected taxes or fees is less than \$300, the first offense resulting in conviction is a misdemeanor of the second degree, the second offense resulting in conviction is a misdemeanor of the first degree, and the third and all subsequent offenses resulting in conviction is a misdemeanor of the first degree, and the third and all subsequent offenses resulting in conviction are felonies of the third degree.

2. If the total amount of unreported or uncollected taxes or fees is \$300 or more but less than \$20,000, the offense is a felony of the third degree.

3. If the total amount of unreported or uncollected taxes

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or fees is \$20,000 or more but less than \$100,000, the offense is a felony of the second degree.

4. If the total amount of unreported or uncollected taxes or fees is \$100,000 or more, the offense is a felony of the first degree.

Section 6. Subsection (4) of section 212.14, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

212.14 Departmental powers; hearings; distress warrants; bonds; subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum.—

(4) (a) In all cases where it is necessary to ensure compliance with the provisions of this chapter, The department shall require a cash deposit, bond, or other security as a condition to a person obtaining or retaining a dealer's certificate of registration under this chapter, if necessary, to ensure compliance with this chapter. The Such bond must shall be in the form and such amount as the department deems appropriate under the particular circumstances. A Every person who fails failing to produce such cash deposit, bond, or other security as required in this subsection may provided for herein shall not be entitled to obtain or retain a dealer's certificate of registration under this chapter. If requested by the department, and the Department of Legal Affairs may is hereby authorized to proceed by injunction, when so requested by the Department of Revenue, to prevent the such person from doing business subject to the provisions of this chapter until the such cash deposit, bond, or other security is posted with the department. The, and any temporary injunction for this purpose may be granted by any judge or chancellor authorized by law to grant injunctions. The department may sell any security required to be deposited

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pursuant to this section may be sold by the department at public sale if it becomes necessary so to do in order to recover any tax, interest, or penalty due. Notice of the such sale may be served personally or by mail upon the person who deposited the such security. Notice If by mail is sufficient if the, notice is sent to the last known address of the person as shown the same appears on the records of the department shall be sufficient for the purpose of this requirement. Upon the such sale, the department shall return the surplus, if any, above the amount due under this chapter shall be returned to the person who deposited the security.

- (b) As used in this subsection, the term "person" has the same meaning as defined in s. 212.02(12) and also includes:
- 1. An individual or entity owning a controlling interest in an entity;
- 2. An individual or entity who has acquired an ownership interest or a controlling interest in a business that would be otherwise liable for posting a cash deposit, bond, or other security, unless the department has determined that the individual or entity is not liable for taxes, interest, or penalties under s. 213.758; or
- 3. An individual or entity seeking to obtain a dealer's certificate of registration for a business that will be operated at the same location as a previous business that otherwise would have been liable for posting a cash deposit, bond, or other security, and the individual or entity does not provide evidence that the business was acquired for consideration in an armslength transaction.
  - (c) The department may adopt rules to administer this

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610 subsection.

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Section 7. Effective upon this act becoming a law, subsection (3) of section 212.18, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

212.18 Administration of law; registration of dealers; rules.—

(3) (a) Every person desiring to engage in or conduct business in this state as a dealer, as defined in this chapter, or to lease, rent, or let or grant licenses in living quarters or sleeping or housekeeping accommodations in hotels, apartment houses, roominghouses, or tourist or trailer camps that are subject to tax under s. 212.03, or to lease, rent, or let or grant licenses in real property, as defined in this chapter, and every person who sells or receives anything of value by way of admissions, must file with the department an application for a certificate of registration for each place of business. The application must include, showing the names of the persons who have interests in the such business and their residences, the address of the business, and such other data reasonably required by as the department may reasonably require. However, owners and operators of vending machines or newspaper rack machines are required to obtain only one certificate of registration for each county in which the  $\frac{1}{2}$  machines are located. The department by rule, may authorize by rule a dealer that uses independent sellers to sell its merchandise to remit tax on the retail sales price charged to the ultimate consumer in lieu of having the independent seller register as a dealer and remit the tax. The department may appoint the county tax collector as the department's agent to accept applications for registrations. The

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application must be made to the department before the person, firm, copartnership, or corporation engages may engage in such business, and it must be accompanied by a registration fee of \$5. However, a registration fee is not required to accompany an application to engage in or conduct business to make mail order sales. The department may waive the registration fee for applications submitted through the department's Internet registration process.

(b) The department, upon receipt of the such application, shall will grant to the applicant a separate certificate of registration for each place of business, which certificate may be canceled by the department or its designated assistants for any failure by the certificateholder to comply with any of the provisions of this chapter. The certificate is not assignable and is valid only for the person, firm, copartnership, or corporation to which the certificate is issued. The certificate must be displayed at all times placed in a conspicuous place in the business or businesses for which it is issued and must be displayed at all times. Except as provided in this subsection, a no person may not shall engage in the business of selling or leasing tangible personal property or services or as a dealer or in leasing, renting, or letting of or granting licenses in living quarters or sleeping or housekeeping accommodations in hotels, apartment houses, roominghouses, tourist or trailer camps, or real property, or in selling as hereinbefore defined, nor shall any person sell or receiving receive anything of value by way of admissions, without  $\underline{a}$  valid  $\underline{first}$  having obtained such a certificate. A or after such certificate has been canceled; no person may not <del>shall</del> receive a <del>any</del> license from any authority

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within the state to engage in any such business without <u>a valid</u> <u>certificate</u> <u>first having obtained such a certificate or after</u> <u>such certificate has been canceled</u>. The engaging in the business of selling or leasing tangible personal property or services or as a dealer, as defined in this chapter, or the engaging in leasing, renting, or letting of or granting licenses in living quarters or sleeping or housekeeping accommodations in hotels, apartment houses, roominghouses, or tourist or trailer camps that are taxable under this chapter, or real property, or the engaging in the business of selling or receiving anything of value by way of admissions, without such certificate first being obtained or after such certificate has been canceled by the department, is prohibited.

(c) 1. A The failure or refusal of any person who engages in acts requiring a certificate of registration under this subsection who fails or refuses to register, commits, firm, copartnership, or corporation to so qualify when required hereunder is a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. Such acts are, or subject to injunctive proceedings as provided by law. A person who engages in acts requiring a certificate of registration and who fails or refuses to register is also subject Such failure or refusal also subjects the offender to a \$100 initial registration fee in lieu of the \$5 registration fee required by authorized in paragraph (a). However, the department may waive the increase in the registration fee if it finds is determined by the department that the failure to register was due to reasonable cause and not to willful negligence, willful neglect, or fraud.

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2. A person who willfully fails to register as a dealer after the department provides notice of the duty to register commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. The department shall give written notice of the duty to register to the person by personal service, by sending notice by registered mail to the person's last known address, or by both personal service and mail.

(d) (e) In addition to the certificate of registration, the department shall provide to each newly registered dealer an initial resale certificate that is will be valid for the remainder of the period of issuance. The department shall provide each active dealer with an annual resale certificate. As used in For purposes of this section, the term "active dealer" means a person who is currently registered with the department and who is required to file at least once during each applicable reporting period.

(e) (d) The department may revoke a any dealer's certificate of registration if when the dealer fails to comply with this chapter. Before the Prior to revocation of a dealer's certificate of registration, the department must schedule an informal conference at which the dealer may present evidence regarding the department's intended revocation or enter into a compliance agreement with the department. The department must notify the dealer of its intended action and the time, place, and date of the scheduled informal conference by written notice notification sent by United States mail to the dealer's last known address of record furnished by the dealer on a form prescribed by the department. The dealer is required to attend the informal conference and present evidence refuting the

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department's intended revocation or enter into a compliance agreement with the department which resolves the dealer's failure to comply with this chapter. The department shall issue an administrative complaint under s. 120.60 if the dealer fails to attend the department's informal conference, fails to enter into a compliance agreement with the department resolving the dealer's noncompliance with this chapter, or fails to comply with the executed compliance agreement.

(f) (e) As used in this paragraph, the term "exhibitor" means a person who enters into an agreement authorizing the display of tangible personal property or services at a convention or a trade show. The following provisions apply to the registration of exhibitors as dealers under this chapter:

- 1. An exhibitor whose agreement prohibits the sale of tangible personal property or services subject to the tax imposed in this chapter is not required to register as a dealer.
- 2. An exhibitor whose agreement provides for the sale at wholesale only of tangible personal property or services subject to the tax imposed in this chapter must obtain a resale certificate from the purchasing dealer but is not required to register as a dealer.
- 3. An exhibitor whose agreement authorizes the retail sale of tangible personal property or services subject to the tax imposed in this chapter must register as a dealer and collect the tax imposed under this chapter on such sales.
- 4. Any exhibitor who makes a mail order sale pursuant to s. 212.0596 must register as a dealer.

Any person who conducts a convention or a trade show must make

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his or her their exhibitor's agreements available to the department for inspection and copying.

Section 8. Effective upon this act becoming a law, subsection (5) of section 213.13, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 213.13 Electronic remittance and distribution of funds collected by clerks of the court.—
- (5) All court-related collections, including fees, fines, reimbursements, court costs, and other court-related funds that the clerks must remit to the state pursuant to law, must be transmitted electronically by the 10th 20th day of the month immediately following the month in which the funds are collected.

Section 9. Effective upon this act becoming a law, section 213.295, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

- 213.295 Automated sales suppression devices.—
- (1) As used in this section, the term:
- (a) "Automated sales suppression device" or "zapper" means a software program that falsifies the electronic records of electronic cash registers or other point-of-sale systems, including, but not limited to, transaction data and transaction reports. The term includes the software program, any device that carries the software program, or an Internet link to the software program.
- (b) "Electronic cash register" means a device that keeps a register or supporting documents through the use of an electronic device or computer system designed to record transaction data for the purpose of computing, compiling, or processing retail sales transaction data.

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(c) "Phantom-ware" means a hidden programming option embedded in the operating system of an electronic cash register or hardwired into the electronic cash register which can be used to create a second set of records or to eliminate or manipulate transaction records, which records may or may not be preserved in a digital format, in order to represent the true or manipulated record of a transaction in the electronic cash register.

- (d) "Transaction data" includes data identifying an item purchased by a customer; the price for an item; a taxability determination for an item; a segregated tax amount for each taxed item; the amount of cash or credit tendered; the net amount returned to the customer in change; the date and time of the purchase; the name, address, and identification number of the vendor; and the receipt or invoice number of the transaction.
  - (e) "Transaction report" means:
- 1. A report that contains, but is not limited to,
  documentation of the sales, taxes, or fees collected; media
  totals; and discount voids at an electronic cash register, and
  that is printed on a cash register tape at the end of a day or a
  shift; or
- 2. A report that documents every action at an electronic cash register and that is stored electronically.
- (2) A person may not knowingly sell, purchase, install, transfer, possess, utilize, or access any automated sales suppression device, zapper, or phantom-ware.
- (3) (a) A person who violates this section commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s.

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(b) A person who violates this section is liable for all taxes, fees, penalties, and interest due the state as a result of the use of an automated sales suppression device, zapper, or phantom-ware and shall forfeit to the state as an additional penalty all profits associated with the sale or use of an automated sales suppression device, zapper, or phantom-ware.

(4) An automated sales suppression device, zapper, phantomware, or any device containing such device or software is a contraband article under ss. 932.701-932.706, the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act.

Section 10. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 213.756, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 213.756 Funds collected are state tax funds.-
- (2) (a) In any action by a purchaser against a retailer, dealer, or vendor to obtain a refund of or to otherwise recover taxes, fees, or surcharges collected by the retailer, dealer, or vendor from the purchaser:
- 1. The purchaser in the action has the burden of proving all elements of its claim for a refund by clear and convincing evidence;
- 2. The <u>purchaser's</u> sole remedy in the action is damages measured by the difference between what the retailer, dealer, or vendor collected as a tax, fee, or surcharge and what the retailer, dealer, or vendor paid to the taxing authority, plus any discount or collection allowance authorized by law and taken by the retailer, dealer, or vendor; and
- 3. It is an affirmative defense to the action  $\underline{\text{if}}$  when the retailer, dealer, or vendor remitted the amount collected from

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the purchaser to the appropriate taxing authority, less any discount or collection allowance authorized by law; and  $\div$ 

4. It is an absolute defense to any claim if the retailer, dealer, or vendor collected the amount pursuant to an agreement with the Department of Revenue and remitted the amount collected from the purchaser to the appropriate taxing authority, less any discount or collection allowance authorized by law.

Section 11. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 220.153, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

220.153 Apportionment by sales factor.-

- (1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:
- (b) "Qualified capital expenditures" means expenditures in this state for purposes substantially related to a business's production or sale of goods or services. The expenditure must fund the acquisition of additional real property (land, buildings, including appurtenances, fixtures and fixed equipment, structures, etc.), including additions, replacements, major repairs, and renovations to real property which materially extend its useful life or materially improve or change its functional use and the furniture and equipment necessary to furnish and operate a new or improved facility. The term "qualified capital expenditures" does not include an expenditure for a passive investment or for an investment intended for the accumulation of reserves or the realization of profit for distribution to any person holding an ownership interest in the business. The term "qualified capital expenditures" does not include expenditures to acquire an existing business or expenditures in excess of \$125 million to acquire land or buildings.

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Section 12. Subsection (4) of section 322.142, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

322.142 Color photographic or digital imaged licenses.

(4) The department may maintain a film negative or print file. The department shall maintain a record of the digital image and signature of the licensees, together with other data required by the department for identification and retrieval. Reproductions from the file or digital record are exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) and shall be made and issued only for departmental administrative purposes; for the issuance of duplicate licenses; in response to law enforcement agency requests; to the Department of Business and Professional Regulation pursuant to an interagency agreement for the purpose of accessing digital images for reproduction of licenses issued by the Department of Business and Professional Regulation; to the Department of State pursuant to an interagency agreement to facilitate determinations of eligibility of voter registration applicants and registered voters in accordance with ss. 98.045 and 98.075; to the Department of Revenue pursuant to an interagency agreement for use in establishing paternity and establishing, modifying, or enforcing support obligations in Title IV-D cases; to the Department of Revenue for use in establishing positive identification for tax administration purposes; to the Department of Children and Family Services pursuant to an interagency agreement to conduct protective investigations under part III of chapter 39 and chapter 415; to the Department of Children and Family Services pursuant to an interagency agreement specifying the number of employees in each of that department's regions to be granted access to the records

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for use as verification of identity to expedite the determination of eligibility for public assistance and for use in public assistance fraud investigations; or to the Department of Financial Services pursuant to an interagency agreement to facilitate the location of owners of unclaimed property, the validation of unclaimed property claims, and the identification of fraudulent or false claims.

Section 13. Subsection (5) of section 336.021, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

336.021 County transportation system; levy of ninth-cent fuel tax on motor fuel and diesel fuel.—

October July 1 of each year to be effective January 1 of the following year. However, levies of the tax which were in effect on July 1, 2002, and which expire on August 31 of any year may be reimposed at the current authorized rate to be effective September 1 of the year of expiration. All impositions shall be required to end on December 31 of a year. A decision to rescind the tax may shall not take effect on any date other than December 31 and requires shall require a minimum of 60 days' notice to the department of such decision.

Section 14. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (1) and paragraph (a) of subsection (5) of section 336.025, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

336.025 County transportation system; levy of local option fuel tax on motor fuel and diesel fuel.—

(1) (a) In addition to other taxes allowed by law, there may be levied as provided in ss. 206.41(1) (e) and 206.87(1) (c) a 1-cent, 2-cent, 3-cent, 4-cent, 5-cent, or 6-cent local option

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fuel tax upon every gallon of motor fuel and diesel fuel sold in a county and taxed under the provisions of part I or part II of chapter 206.

- 1. All impositions and rate changes of the tax shall be levied before October July 1 to be effective January 1 of the following year for a period not to exceed 30 years, and the applicable method of distribution shall be established pursuant to subsection (3) or subsection (4). However, levies of the tax which were in effect on July 1, 2002, and which expire on August 31 of any year may be reimposed at the current authorized rate effective September 1 of the year of expiration. Upon expiration, the tax may be relevied if provided that a redetermination of the method of distribution is made as provided in this section.
- 2. County and municipal governments shall <u>use</u> utilize moneys received pursuant to this paragraph only for transportation expenditures.
- 3. Any tax levied pursuant to this paragraph may be extended on a majority vote of the governing body of the county. A redetermination of the method of distribution shall be established pursuant to subsection (3) or subsection (4), if, after July 1, 1986, the tax is extended or the tax rate changed, for the period of extension or for the additional tax.
- (b) In addition to other taxes allowed by law, there may be levied as provided in s. 206.41(1)(e) a 1-cent, 2-cent, 3-cent, 4-cent, or 5-cent local option fuel tax upon every gallon of motor fuel sold in a county and taxed under the provisions of part I of chapter 206. The tax shall be levied by an ordinance adopted by a majority plus one vote of the membership of the

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958 governing body of the county or by referendum.

- 1. All impositions and rate changes of the tax shall be levied before October July 1, to be effective January 1 of the following year. However, levies of the tax which were in effect on July 1, 2002, and which expire on August 31 of any year may be reimposed at the current authorized rate effective September 1 of the year of expiration.
- 2. The county may, prior to levy of the tax, establish by interlocal agreement with one or more municipalities located therein, representing a majority of the population of the incorporated area within the county, a distribution formula for dividing the entire proceeds of the tax among county government and all eligible municipalities within the county. If no interlocal agreement is adopted before the effective date of the tax, tax revenues shall be distributed pursuant to the provisions of subsection (4). If no interlocal agreement exists, a new interlocal agreement may be established before prior to June 1 of any year pursuant to this subparagraph. However, any interlocal agreement agreed to under this subparagraph after the initial levy of the tax or change in the tax rate authorized in this section may not shall under no circumstances materially or adversely affect the rights of holders of outstanding bonds that which are backed by taxes authorized by this paragraph, and the amounts distributed to the county government and each municipality may shall not be reduced below the amount necessary for the payment of principal and interest and reserves for principal and interest as required under the covenants of any bond resolution outstanding on the date of establishment of the new interlocal agreement.

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3. County and municipal governments shall use moneys received pursuant to this paragraph for transportation expenditures needed to meet the requirements of the capital improvements element of an adopted comprehensive plan or for expenditures needed to meet immediate local transportation problems and for other transportation-related expenditures that are critical for building comprehensive roadway networks by local governments. For purposes of this paragraph, expenditures for the construction of new roads, the reconstruction or resurfacing of existing paved roads, or the paving of existing graded roads shall be deemed to increase capacity and such projects shall be included in the capital improvements element of an adopted comprehensive plan. Expenditures for purposes of this paragraph may shall not include routine maintenance of roads.

(5) (a) By July 1 of each year, the county shall notify the Department of Revenue of the rate of the taxes levied pursuant to paragraphs (1) (a) and (b), and of its decision to rescind or change the rate of a tax, if applicable, and shall provide the department with a certified copy of the interlocal agreement established under subparagraph (1) (b) 2. or subparagraph (3) (a) 1. with distribution proportions established by such agreement or pursuant to subsection (4), if applicable. A decision to rescind a tax may shall not take effect on any date other than December 31 and requires shall require a minimum of 60 days' notice to the Department of Revenue of such decision.

Section 15. Effective upon this act becoming a law, paragraph (h) of subsection (3) of section 443.131, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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443.131 Contributions.

- (3) VARIATION OF CONTRIBUTION RATES BASED ON BENEFIT EXPERIENCE.—
- (h) Additional conditions for variation from the standard rate.—An employer's contribution rate may not be reduced below the standard rate under this section unless:
- 1. All contributions, reimbursements, interest, and penalties incurred by the employer for wages paid by him or her in all previous calendar quarters, except the 4 calendar quarters immediately preceding the calendar quarter or calendar year for which the benefit ratio is computed, are paid; and
- 2. The employer has produced for inspection and copying all work records in his or her possession, custody, or control which were requested by the Department of Economic Opportunity or its tax collection service provider pursuant to s. 443.171(5); and
- 3.2. The employer <u>has</u> entitled to a rate reduction must have at least one annual payroll as defined in subparagraph (b)1. unless the employer is eligible for additional credit under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act. If the Federal Unemployment Tax Act is amended or repealed in a manner affecting credit under the federal act, this section applies only to the extent that additional credit is allowed against the payment of the tax imposed by the Federal Unemployment Tax Act.

The tax collection service provider shall assign an earned contribution rate to an employer under subparagraph 1. the quarter immediately after the quarter in which all contributions, reimbursements, interest, and penalties are paid in full and all work records requested pursuant to s. 443.171(5)

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have been produced for inspection and copying to the Department of Economic Opportunity or the tax collection service provider.

Section 16. Effective January 1, 2013, and applicable to contributions or reimbursements made on or after that date, paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 443.141, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 443.141 Collection of contributions and reimbursements.-
- (1) PAST DUE CONTRIBUTIONS AND REIMBURSEMENTS; DELINQUENT, ERRONEOUS, INCOMPLETE, OR INSUFFICIENT REPORTS.—
- (a) Interest.—Contributions or reimbursements unpaid on the date due bear interest at the rate <u>calculated pursuant to s.</u>

  213.235. However, the rate may not exceed of 1 percent per month. Interest shall accrue from and after that date until payment plus accrued interest is received by the tax collection service provider, unless the service provider finds that the employing unit has good reason for failing to pay the contributions or reimbursements when due. Interest collected under this subsection must be paid into the Special Employment Security Administration Trust Fund.

Section 17. 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 July 1, 2012.