HOUSE BILL No. 6241

November 5, 1998, Introduced by Rep. Profit and referred to the Committee on Tax Policy.

A bill to amend 1975 PA 228, entitled "Single business tax act,"

by amending section 4 (MCL 208.4), as amended by 1995 PA 285.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

- 1 Sec. 4. (1) "Casual transaction" means a transaction made
- 2 or engaged in other than in the ordinary course of repeated and
- 3 successive transactions of a like character, except that a trans-
- 4 action made or engaged in by a person that is incidental to that
- 5 person's regular business activity is a business activity within
- 6 the meaning of this act.
- 7 (2) "Commissioner" means the state commissioner of revenue.
- 8 (3) Except FOR TAX YEARS THAT BEGIN BEFORE JANUARY 1, 1999
- 9 AND EXCEPT as otherwise provided in this section, "compensation"
- 10 means all wages, salaries, fees, bonuses, commissions, or other
- 11 payments made in the taxable year on behalf of or for the benefit

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- 1 of employees, officers, or directors of the taxpayers and subject
- 2 to or specifically exempt from withholding under chapter 24, sec-
- 3 tions 3401 to 3406 of the internal revenue code. Compensation
- 4 includes, on a cash or accrual basis consistent with the
- 5 taxpayer's method of accounting for federal income tax purposes,
- 6 payments to state and federal unemployment compensation funds,
- 7 payments under the federal insurance contribution act and similar
- 8 social insurance programs, payments, including self-insurance,
- 9 for worker's compensation insurance, payments to individuals not
- 10 currently working, payments to dependents and heirs of individu-
- 11 als because of current or former labor services rendered by those
- 12 individuals, payments to a pension, retirement, or profit sharing
- 13 plan, and payments for insurance for which employees are the ben-
- 14 eficiaries, including payments under health and welfare and non-
- 15 insured benefit plans and payments of fees for the administration
- 16 of health and welfare and noninsured benefit plans. Compensation
- 17 does not include any of the following:
- (a) Discounts on the price of the taxpayer's merchandise or
- 19 services sold to the taxpayer's employees, officers, or directors
- 20 that are not available to other customers.
- 21 (b) Payments to an independent contractor.
- (c) For tax years beginning after December 31, 1994, pay-
- 23 ments to state and federal unemployment compensation funds.
- 24 (d) For tax years beginning after December 31, 1994, the
- 25 employer's portion of payments under the federal insurance con-
- 26 tribution act, the railroad retirement tax act, chapter 22 of

- 1 title 26 of the United States Code, 26 U.S.C. 3201 to 3233, and
- 2 similar social insurance programs.
- (e) For tax years beginning after December 31, 1994, pay-3
- 4 ments, including self-insurance payments, for worker's compensa-
- 5 tion insurance or federal employers liability act insurance pur-
- 6 suant to chapter 149, 35 Stat. 65, 45 U.S.C. 51 to 60.
- 7 (4) FOR TAX YEARS THAT BEGIN ON AND AFTER JANUARY 1, 1999,
- 8 "COMPENSATION" MEANS WAGES AS DEFINED AND DESCRIBED IN SECTION
- 9 3306 OF THE FEDERAL UNEMPLOYMENT TAX ACT, CHAPTER 23 OF SUBTITLE
- 10 C OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE, 26 U.S.C. 3306.
- 11 (5) -(4) "Department" means the revenue division of the
- 12 department of treasury.