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SENATE BILL No. 840

September 17, 2009, Introduced by Senator SWITALSKI and referred to the Committee on Finance.

A bill to amend 1937 PA 94, entitled "Use tax act,"

by amending sections 3a, 4, 4a, 4d, 4k, and 9a (MCL 205.93a, 205.94, 205.94a, 205.94d, 205.94k, and 205.99a), sections 3a and 4d as amended by 2008 PA 439, section 4 as amended by 2008 PA 314, section 4a as amended by 2004 PA 172, section 4k as amended by 2006 PA 18, and section 9a as amended by 2007 PA 104.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

- Sec. 3a. (1) The use or consumption of the following services is taxed under this act in the same manner as tangible personal property is taxed under this act:
- (a) Except as provided in section 3b, intrastate telecommunications services that both originate and terminate in this state, including, but not limited to, intrastate private

- 1 communications services, ancillary services, conference bridging
- 2 service, FIXED WIRELESS SERVICE, 800 SERVICE, 900 service, pay
- 3 telephone service other than coin-operated telephone service, and
- 4 value-added nonvoice data service, but excluding 800 service, coin-
- 5 operated telephone service, fixed wireless service, 1-way paging
- 6 service, prepaid calling service, telecommunications nonrecurring
- 7 charges, and directory advertising proceeds.
- 8 (b) Rooms or lodging furnished by hotelkeepers, motel
- 9 operators, and other persons furnishing accommodations that are
- 10 available to the public on the basis of a commercial and business
- 11 enterprise, irrespective of whether or not membership is required
- 12 for use of the accommodations, except rooms and lodging rented for
- 13 a continuous period of more than 1 month. As used in this act,
- 14 "hotel" or "motel" means a building or group of buildings in which
- 15 the public may obtain accommodations for a consideration,
- 16 including, without limitation, such establishments as inns, motels,
- 17 tourist homes, tourist houses or courts, lodging houses, rooming
- 18 houses, nudist camps, apartment hotels, resort lodges and cabins,
- 19 camps operated by other than nonprofit organizations but not
- 20 including those licensed under 1973 PA 116, MCL 722.111 to 722.128,
- 21 and any other building or group of buildings in which
- 22 accommodations are available to the public, except accommodations
- 23 rented for a continuous period of more than 1 month and
- 24 accommodations furnished by hospitals or nursing homes.
- (c) Except as provided in section 3b, interstate OR
- 26 INTERNATIONAL telecommunications services that either originate or
- 27 terminate in this state and for which the charge for the service is

- 1 billed to a service address in this state or phone number by the
- 2 provider either within or outside this state including, but not
- 3 limited to, ancillary services, conference bridging service,
- 4 PRIVATE COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE, FIXED WIRELESS SERVICE, 800
- 5 SERVICE, 900 service, pay telephone service other than coin-
- 6 operated telephone service, and value-added nonvoice data services,
- 7 but excluding interstate private communications service, 800
- 8 service, coin-operated telephone service, fixed wireless service,
- 9 1-way paging service, prepaid calling service, AND
- 10 telecommunications nonrecurring charges. 7 and international
- 11 telecommunications service.
- 12 (d) The laundering or cleaning of textiles under a sale,
- 13 rental, or service agreement with a term of at least 5 days. This
- 14 subdivision does not apply to the laundering or cleaning of
- 15 textiles used by a restaurant or retail sales business. As used in
- 16 this subdivision, "restaurant" means a food service establishment
- 17 defined and licensed under the food law of 2000, 2000 PA 92, MCL
- 18 289.1101 to 289.8111.
- 19 (e) The transmission and distribution of electricity, whether
- 20 the electricity is purchased from the delivering utility or from
- 21 another provider, if the sale is made to the consumer or user of
- 22 the electricity for consumption or use rather than for resale.
- 23 (f) For a manufacturer who affixes its product to real estate
- 24 and maintains an inventory of its product that is available for
- 25 sale to others or who makes its product available for sale to
- 26 others by publication or price list, the direct production costs
- 27 and indirect production costs of the product affixed to the real

- 1 estate that are incident to and necessary for production or
- 2 manufacturing operations or processes, as defined by the
- 3 department.
- 4 (g) For a manufacturer who affixes its product to real estate
- 5 but does not maintain an inventory of its product available for
- 6 sale to others or make its product available for sale to others by
- 7 publication or price list, the sum of the materials cost of the
- 8 property and the cost of labor to manufacture, fabricate, or
- 9 assemble the property, but not the cost of labor to cut, bend,
- 10 assemble, or attach the property at the site for affixation to real
- 11 estate.
- 12 (2) If charges for intrastate telecommunications services or
- 13 telecommunications services between this state and another state
- 14 and other billed services not subject to the tax under this act are
- 15 aggregated with and not separately stated from charges for
- 16 telecommunications services that are subject to the tax under this
- 17 act, the nontaxable telecommunications services and other
- 18 nontaxable billed services are subject to the tax under this act
- 19 unless the service provider can reasonably identify charges for
- 20 telecommunications services not subject to the tax under this act
- 21 from its books and records that are kept in the regular course of
- 22 business.
- 23 (3) If charges for intrastate telecommunications services or
- 24 telecommunications services between this state and another state
- 25 and other billed services not subject to the tax under this act are
- 26 aggregated with and not separately stated from telecommunications
- 27 services that are subject to the tax under this act, a customer may

- 1 not rely upon the nontaxability of those telecommunications
- 2 services and other billed services unless the customer's service
- 3 provider separately states the charges for nontaxable
- 4 telecommunications services and other nontaxable billed services
- 5 from taxable telecommunications services or the service provider
- 6 elects, after receiving a written request from the customer in the
- 7 form required by the provider, to provide verifiable data based
- 8 upon the service provider's books and records that are kept in the
- 9 regular course of business that reasonably identify the nontaxable
- 10 services.
- 11 (4) All of the following apply in the case of a bundled
- 12 transaction that includes telecommunications service, ancillary
- 13 service, internet access, or audio or video programming:
- 14 (a) If the purchase price is attributable to products that are
- 15 taxable and products that are nontaxable, the portion of the
- 16 purchase price attributable to the nontaxable products may be
- 17 subject to tax unless the provider can identify by reasonable and
- 18 verifiable standards that portion from its books and records that
- 19 are kept in the regular course of business for other purposes,
- 20 including, but not limited to, nontax purposes.
- 21 (b) The provisions of this subsection apply unless otherwise
- 22 provided by federal law.
- 23 (5) As used in this section:
- 24 (a) "Ancillary services" means services that are associated
- 25 with or incidental to the provision of telecommunications services,
- 26 including, but not limited to, detailed telecommunications billing,
- 27 directory assistance, vertical service, and voice mail services.

- 1 (b) "Bundled transaction" means the purchase of 2 or more
- 2 distinct and identifiable products, except real property and
- 3 services to real property, where the products are sold for a single
- 4 nonitemized price. A bundled transaction does not include the sale
- 5 of any products in which the sales price varies, or is negotiable,
- 6 based on the selection by the purchaser of the products included in
- 7 the transaction. As used in this subdivision:
- 8 (i) "Distinct and identifiable products" does not include any
- 9 of the following:
- 10 (A) Packaging, such as containers, boxes, sacks, bags, and
- 11 bottles or other materials such as wrapping, labels, tags, and
- 12 instruction guides, that accompany the purchase of the products and
- 13 are incidental or immaterial to the purchase of the products,
- 14 including grocery sacks, shoeboxes, dry cleaning garment bags, and
- 15 express delivery envelopes and boxes.
- 16 (B) A product provided free of charge with the required
- 17 purchase of another product. A product is provided free of charge
- 18 if the sales price of the product purchased does not vary depending
- 19 on the inclusion of the product provided free of charge.
- 20 (C) Items included in purchase price.
- 21 (ii) "Purchase price" means the price paid by the seller for
- the property.
- 23 (iii) "Sales price" means that term as defined in section 1 of
- 24 the general sales tax act, 1933 PA 167, MCL 205.51.
- 25 (iv) "Single nonitemized price" does not include a price that
- 26 is separately identified by product on binding sales or other
- 27 supporting sales-related documentation made available to the

- 1 purchaser in paper or electronic form, including, but not limited
- 2 to, an invoice, bill of sale, receipt, contract, service agreement,
- 3 lease agreement, periodic notice of rates and services, rate card,
- 4 or price list.
- 5 (v) Bundled transaction does not include any of the following:
- 6 (A) The purchase of tangible personal property and a service
- 7 if the tangible personal property is essential to the use of the
- 8 service and is provided exclusively in connection with the service
- 9 and the true object of the transaction is the service.
- 10 (B) The purchase of services if 1 service is provided that is
- 11 essential to the use or receipt of a second service and the first
- 12 service is provided exclusively in connection with the second
- 13 service and the true object of the transaction is the second
- 14 service.
- 15 (C) A transaction that includes taxable and nontaxable
- 16 products and the purchase price of the taxable products is de
- 17 minimis. As used in this sub-subparagraph, "de minimis" means the
- 18 seller's purchase price or sales price of the taxable products is
- 19 10% or less of the total purchase price or sales price of the
- 20 products. A seller shall use the full term of a service contract to
- 21 determine if the taxable products are de minimis. A seller shall
- 22 use either the purchase price or the sales price of the products to
- 23 determine if the taxable products are de minimis. A seller shall
- 24 not use a combination of the purchase price and sales price of the
- 25 products to determine if the taxable products are de minimis.
- 26 (D) The retail sale of exempt tangible personal property and
- 27 taxable tangible personal property if all of the following

- 1 conditions are satisfied:
- 2 (I) The transaction includes food and food ingredients,
- 3 prescription or over-the-counter drugs, durable medical equipment,
- 4 mobility enhancing equipment, medical supplies, or prosthetic
- 5 devices.
- 6 (II) Where the seller's purchase price or sales price of the
- 7 taxable tangible personal property is 50% or less of the total
- 8 purchase price or sales price of the bundled tangible personal
- 9 property. A seller may not use a combination of the purchase price
- 10 and sales price of the tangible personal property when making the
- 11 50% determination for a transaction.
- 12 (c) "Coin-operated telephone service" means a
- 13 telecommunications service paid for by inserting money into a
- 14 telephone that accepts direct deposits of money to operate.
- 15 (d) "Conference bridging service" means an ancillary service
- 16 that links 2 or more participants of an audio or video conference
- 17 call and may include the provision of a telephone number, but does
- 18 not include the telecommunications services used to reach the
- 19 conference bridge.
- (e) "Detailed telecommunications billing service" means an
- 21 ancillary service of separately stating information pertaining to
- 22 individual calls on a customer's billing statement.
- 23 (f) "Directory assistance" means an ancillary service of
- 24 providing telephone number information or address information.
- (g) "Fabricate" means to modify or prepare tangible personal
- 26 property for affixation or assembly.
- 27 (h) "Fixed wireless service" means a telecommunications

- 1 service that provides radio communication between fixed points.
- 2 (i) "International" means a telecommunications service that
- 3 originates or terminates in the United States and terminates or
- 4 originates outside the United States, respectively. United States
- 5 includes the District of Columbia and any possession or territory
- 6 of the United States.
- 7 (j) "Interstate" means a telecommunications service that
- 8 originates in 1 United States state, territory, or possession and
- 9 terminates in a different United States state, territory, or
- 10 possession.
- 11 (k) "Intrastate" means a telecommunications service that
- 12 originates in a United States state, territory, or possession and
- 13 terminates in the same United States state, territory, or
- 14 possession.
- 15 (1) "Manufacture" means to convert or condition tangible
- 16 personal property by changing the form, composition, quality,
- 17 combination, or character of the property.
- (m) "Manufacturer" means a person who manufactures,
- 19 fabricates, or assembles tangible personal property.
- (n) "Paging service" means a telecommunications service that
- 21 provides transmission of coded radio signals for the purpose of
- 22 activating specific pagers, which may include messages or sounds.
- (o) "Pay telephone service" means a telecommunications service
- 24 provided through any pay telephone.
- 25 (p) "Prepaid calling service" means the right to access
- 26 exclusively telecommunications services that must be paid for in
- 27 advance and that enables the origination of calls using an access

- 1 number or authorization code, whether manually or electronically
- 2 dialed, and that is sold in predetermined units or dollars that
- 3 decline with use in a known amount.
- 4 (q) "Private communications service" means a
- 5 telecommunications service that entitles the customer to exclusive
- 6 or priority use of a communications channel or group of channels
- 7 between or among termination points, regardless of the manner in
- 8 which that channel or group of channels are connected, and includes
- 9 switching capacity, extension lines, stations, and any other
- 10 associated services that are provided in connection with the use of
- 11 that channel or group of channels.
- 12 (r) "Telecommunications nonrecurring charges" means an amount
- 13 billed for the installation, connection, change, or initiation of
- 14 telecommunications service received by the customer.
- 15 (s) "Telecommunications service" means the electronic
- 16 transmission, conveyance, or routing of voice, data, audio, video,
- 17 or any other information or signals to a point, or between or among
- 18 points, including a transmission, conveyance, or routing in which
- 19 computer processing applications are used to act on the form, code,
- 20 or protocol of the content for purposes of transmission,
- 21 conveyance, or routing without regard to whether that service is
- 22 referred to as voice over internet protocol services or is
- 23 classified by the federal communications commission as enhanced or
- 24 value added. Telecommunications service does not include any of the
- 25 following:
- 26 (i) Data processing and information services that allow data to
- 27 be generated, acquired, stored, processed, or retrieved and

- 1 delivered by an electronic transmission to a purchaser where the
- 2 purchaser's primary purpose for the underlying transaction is the
- 3 processed data or information.
- 4 (ii) Installation or maintenance of wiring or equipment on a
- 5 customer's premises.
- 6 (iii) Tangible personal property.
- 7 (iv) Advertising, including, but not limited to, directory
- 8 advertising.
- 9 (v) Billing and collection services provided to third parties.
- 10 (vi) Internet access service.
- 11 (vii) Radio and television audio and video programming
- 12 services, including, but not limited to, cable service as defined
- in 47 USC 522(6) and audio and video programming services delivered
- 14 by commercial mobile radio service providers as defined in 47 CFR
- 15 20.3, regardless of the medium, including the furnishing of
- 16 transmission, conveyance, and routing of those services by the
- 17 programming service provider.
- 18 (viii) Ancillary services.
- 19 (ix) Answering services, if the primary purpose of the
- 20 transaction is the answering service rather than message
- 21 transmission.
- 22 (x) Digital products delivered electronically, including, but
- 23 not limited to, software, music, video, reading materials, or ring
- 24 tones.
- 25 (t) "Value-added nonvoice data service" means a
- 26 telecommunications service in which computer processing
- 27 applications are used to act on the form, content, code, or

- 1 protocol of the information or data primarily for a purpose other
- 2 than transmission, conveyance, or routing.
- 3 (u) "Vertical service" means an ancillary service that is
- 4 offered in connection with 1 or more telecommunications services
- 5 that offers advanced calling features that allow customers to
- 6 identify callers and to manage multiple calls and call connections,
- 7 including conference bridging services.
- 8 (v) "Voice mail service" means an ancillary service that
- 9 enables the customer to store, send, or receive recorded messages,
- 10 but does not include any vertical services that the customer may be
- 11 required to have in order to utilize the voice mail service.
- 12 (w) "800 service" means a telecommunications service that
- 13 allows a caller to dial a toll-free number without incurring a
- 14 charge for the call, typically marketed under the designation
- 15 "800", "855", "866", "877", or "888" toll-free calling, or any
- 16 subsequent number designated by the federal communications
- 17 commission.
- 18 (x) "900 service" means an inbound toll telecommunications
- 19 service purchased by a subscriber that allows the subscriber's
- 20 customers to call in to the subscriber's prerecorded announcement
- 21 or live service, typically marketed under the designation "900"
- 22 service, and any subsequent number designated by the federal
- 23 communications commission, but does not include a charge for
- 24 collection services provided by the seller of the
- 25 telecommunications services to the subscriber, or the service or
- 26 product sold by the subscriber to the subscriber's customer.
- 27 Sec. 4. (1) The following are exempt from the tax levied under

- 1 this act, subject to subsection (2):
- 2 (a) Property sold in this state on which transaction a tax is
- 3 paid under the general sales tax act, 1933 PA 167, MCL 205.51 to
- 4 205.78, if the tax was due and paid on the retail sale to a
- 5 consumer.
- 6 (b) Property, the storage, use, or other consumption of which
- 7 this state is prohibited from taxing under the constitution or laws
- 8 of the United States, or under the constitution of this state.
- 9 (c) All of the following:
- 10 (i) Property purchased for resale. Property purchased for
- 11 resale includes promotional merchandise transferred pursuant to a
- 12 redemption offer to a person located outside this state or any
- 13 packaging material, other than promotional merchandise, acquired
- 14 for use in fulfilling a redemption offer or rebate to a person
- 15 located outside this state.
- 16 (ii) Property purchased for lending or leasing to a public or
- 17 parochial school offering a course in automobile driving except
- 18 that a vehicle purchased by the school shall be certified for
- 19 driving education and shall not be reassigned for personal use by
- 20 the school's administrative personnel.
- 21 (iii) Property purchased for demonstration purposes. For a new
- 22 vehicle dealer selling a new car or truck, exemption for
- 23 demonstration purposes shall be determined by the number of new
- 24 cars and trucks sold during the current calendar year or the
- 25 immediately preceding calendar year, without regard to specific
- 26 make or style, according to the following schedule but not to
- 27 exceed 25 cars and trucks in 1 calendar year for demonstration

- 1 purposes:
- 2 (A) 0 to 25, 2 units.
- 3 (B) 26 to 100, 7 units.
- **4** (C) 101 to 500, 20 units.
- **5** (D) 501 or more, 25 units.
- 6 (iv) Motor vehicles purchased for resale purposes by a new
- 7 vehicle dealer licensed under section 248(8)(a) of the Michigan
- 8 vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.248.
- 9 (d) Property that is brought into this state by a nonresident
- 10 person for storage, use, or consumption while temporarily within
- 11 this state, except if the property is used in this state in a
- 12 nontransitory business activity for a period exceeding 15 days.
- 13 (e) Property the sale or use of which was already subjected to
- 14 a sales tax or use tax equal to, or in excess of, that imposed by
- 15 this act under the law of any other state or a local governmental
- 16 unit within a state if the tax was due and paid on the retail sale
- 17 to the consumer and the state or local governmental unit within a
- 18 state in which the tax was imposed accords like or complete
- 19 exemption on property the sale or use of which was subjected to the
- 20 sales or use tax of this state. If the sale or use of property was
- 21 already subjected to a tax under the law of any other state or
- 22 local governmental unit within a state in an amount less than the
- 23 tax imposed by this act, this act shall apply, but at a rate
- 24 measured by the difference between the rate provided in this act
- 25 and the rate by which the previous tax was computed.
- 26 (f) Property sold to a person engaged in a business enterprise
- 27 and using and consuming the property in the tilling, planting,

- 1 caring for, or harvesting of the things of the soil or in the
- 2 breeding, raising, or caring for livestock, poultry, or
- 3 horticultural products, including transfers of livestock, poultry,
- 4 or horticultural products for further growth. This exemption
- 5 includes machinery that is capable of simultaneously harvesting
- 6 grain or other crops and biomass and machinery used for the purpose
- 7 of harvesting biomass. This exemption includes agricultural land
- 8 tile, which means fired clay or perforated plastic tubing used as
- 9 part of a subsurface drainage system for land used in the
- 10 production of agricultural products as a business enterprise and
- 11 includes a portable grain bin, which means a structure that is used
- 12 or is to be used to shelter grain and that is designed to be
- 13 disassembled without significant damage to its component parts.
- 14 This exemption does not include transfers of food, fuel, clothing,
- or similar tangible personal property for personal living or human
- 16 consumption. This exemption does not include tangible personal
- 17 property permanently affixed to and becoming a structural part of
- 18 real estate. As used in this subdivision, "biomass" means crop
- 19 residue used to produce energy or agricultural crops grown
- 20 specifically for the production of energy.
- 21 (q) Property or services sold to the United States, an
- 22 unincorporated agency or instrumentality of the United States, an
- 23 incorporated agency or instrumentality of the United States wholly
- 24 owned by the United States or by a corporation wholly owned by the
- 25 United States, the American red cross and its chapters or branches,
- 26 this state, a department or institution of this state, or a
- 27 political subdivision of this state.

- 1 (h) Property or services sold to a school, hospital, or home
- 2 for the care and maintenance of children or aged persons, operated
- 3 by an entity of government, a regularly organized church,
- 4 religious, or fraternal organization, a veterans' organization, or
- 5 a corporation incorporated under the laws of this state, if not
- 6 operated for profit, and if the income or benefit from the
- 7 operation does not inure, in whole or in part, to an individual or
- 8 private shareholder, directly or indirectly, and if the activities
- 9 of the entity or agency are carried on exclusively for the benefit
- 10 of the public at large and are not limited to the advantage,
- 11 interests, and benefits of its members or a restricted group. The
- 12 tax levied does not apply to property or services sold to a parent
- 13 cooperative preschool. As used in this subdivision, "parent
- 14 cooperative preschool" means a nonprofit, nondiscriminatory
- 15 educational institution, maintained as a community service and
- 16 administered by parents of children currently enrolled in the
- 17 preschool that provides an educational and developmental program
- 18 for children younger than compulsory school age, that provides an
- 19 educational program for parents, including active participation
- 20 with children in preschool activities, that is directed by
- 21 qualified preschool personnel, and that is licensed pursuant to
- 22 1973 PA 116, MCL 722.111 to 722.128.
- (i) Property or services sold to a regularly organized church
- 24 or house of religious worship except the following:
- 25 (i) Sales in which the property is used in activities that are
- 26 mainly commercial enterprises.
- 27 (ii) Sales of vehicles licensed for use on the public highways

- 1 other than a passenger van or bus with a manufacturer's rated
- 2 seating capacity of 10 or more that is used primarily for the
- 3 transportation of persons for religious purposes.
- 4 (j) A vessel designed for commercial use of registered tonnage
- 5 of 500 tons or more, if produced upon special order of the
- 6 purchaser, and bunker and galley fuel, provisions, supplies,
- 7 maintenance, and repairs for the exclusive use of a vessel of 500
- 8 tons or more engaged in interstate commerce.
- 9 (k) Property purchased for use in this state where actual
- 10 personal possession is obtained outside this state, the purchase
- 11 price or actual value of which does not exceed \$10.00 during 1
- 12 calendar month.
- 13 (1) A newspaper or periodical classified under federal postal
- 14 laws and regulations effective September 1, 1985 as second-class
- 15 mail matter or as a controlled circulation publication or qualified
- 16 to accept legal notices for publication in this state, as defined
- 17 by law, or any other newspaper or periodical of general
- 18 circulation, established at least 2 years, and published at least
- 19 once a week, and a copyrighted motion picture film OR, BEFORE
- 20 OCTOBER 1, 2007, A PERIODICAL CLASSIFIED UNDER FEDERAL POSTAL LAWS
- 21 AND REGULATIONS EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 1985 AS SECOND-CLASS MAIL
- 22 MATTER. Tangible personal property used or consumed in producing a
- 23 copyrighted motion picture film, a newspaper published more than 14
- 24 times per year, or a periodical published more than 14 times per
- 25 year, and not becoming a component part of that film, newspaper, or
- 26 periodical is subject to the tax LEVIED UNDER THIS ACT. After
- 27 December 31, 1993, tangible personal property used or consumed in

- 1 producing a newspaper published 14 times or less per year or a
- 2 periodical published 14 times or less per year and that portion or
- 3 percentage of tangible personal property used or consumed in
- 4 producing an advertising supplement that becomes a component part
- 5 of a newspaper or periodical is exempt from the tax under this
- 6 subdivision. A claim for a refund for taxes paid before January 1,
- 7 1999 under this subdivision shall be made before June 30, 1999. For
- 8 purposes of this subdivision, tangible personal property that
- 9 becomes a component part of a newspaper or periodical and
- 10 consequently not subject to tax, includes an advertising supplement
- 11 inserted into and circulated with a newspaper or periodical that is
- 12 otherwise exempt from tax under this subdivision, if the
- 13 advertising supplement is delivered directly to the newspaper or
- 14 periodical by a person other than the advertiser, or the
- 15 advertising supplement is printed by the newspaper or periodical.
- 16 (m) Property purchased by persons licensed to operate a
- 17 commercial radio or television station if the property is used in
- 18 the origination or integration of the various sources of program
- 19 material for commercial radio or television transmission. This
- 20 subdivision does not include a vehicle licensed and titled for use
- 21 on public highways or property used in the transmitting to or
- 22 receiving from an artificial satellite.
- 23 (n) A person who is a resident of this state who purchases an
- 24 automobile in another state while in the military service of the
- 25 United States and who pays a sales tax in the state where the
- 26 automobile is purchased.
- 27 (o) A vehicle for which a special registration is secured in

- 1 accordance with section 226(9) of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949
- 2 PA 300, MCL 257.226.
- 3 (p) The sale of a prosthetic device, durable medical
- 4 equipment, or mobility enhancing equipment.
- 5 (q) Water when delivered through water mains, water sold in
- 6 bulk tanks in quantities of not less than 500 gallons, or the sale
- 7 of bottled water.
- 8 (r) A vehicle not for resale used by a nonprofit corporation
- 9 organized exclusively to provide a community with ambulance or fire
- 10 department services.
- 11 (s) Tangible BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2009, TANGIBLE personal
- 12 property purchased and installed as a component part of a water
- 13 pollution control facility for which a tax exemption certificate is
- 14 issued pursuant to part 37 of the natural resources and
- environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.3701 to
- 16 324.3708, or an air pollution control facility for which a tax
- 17 exemption certificate is issued pursuant to part 59 of the natural
- 18 resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL
- **19** 324.5901 to 324.5908.
- (t) Tangible real or personal property donated by a
- 21 manufacturer, wholesaler, or retailer to an organization or entity
- 22 exempt pursuant to subdivision (h) or (i) or section 4a(1)(a) or
- 23 (b) of the general sales tax act, 1933 PA 167, MCL 205.54a.
- 24 (u) The storage, use, or consumption of an aircraft by a
- 25 domestic air carrier for use solely in the transport of air cargo,
- 26 passengers, or a combination of air cargo and passengers, that has
- 27 a maximum certificated takeoff weight of at least 6,000 pounds. For

- 1 purposes of this subdivision, the term "domestic air carrier" is
- 2 limited to a person engaged primarily in the commercial transport
- 3 for hire of air cargo, passengers, or a combination of air cargo
- 4 and passengers as a business activity. The state treasurer shall
- 5 estimate on January 1 each year the revenue lost by this act from
- 6 the school aid fund and deposit that amount into the school aid
- 7 fund from the general fund.
- 8 (v) The storage, use, or consumption of an aircraft by a
- 9 person who purchases the aircraft for subsequent lease to a
- 10 domestic air carrier operating under a certificate issued by the
- 11 federal aviation administration under 14 CFR part 121, for use
- 12 solely in the regularly scheduled transport of passengers.
- 13 (w) Property or services sold to an organization not operated
- 14 for profit and exempt from federal income tax under section
- 15 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) of the internal revenue code, 26 USC 501; or
- 16 to a health, welfare, educational, cultural arts, charitable, or
- 17 benevolent organization not operated for profit that has been
- 18 issued before June 13, 1994 an exemption ruling letter to purchase
- 19 items exempt from tax signed by the administrator of the sales,
- 20 use, and withholding taxes division of the department. The
- 21 department shall reissue an exemption letter after June 13, 1994 to
- 22 each of those organizations that had an exemption letter that shall
- 23 remain in effect unless the organization fails to meet the
- 24 requirements that originally entitled it to this exemption. The
- 25 exemption does not apply to sales of tangible personal property and
- 26 sales of vehicles licensed for use on public highways, that are not
- 27 used primarily to carry out the purposes of the organization as

- 1 stated in the bylaws or articles of incorporation of the exempt
- 2 organization.
- 3 (x) The use or consumption of services described in section
- 4 3a(1)(a) or (b) or 3b by means of a prepaid telephone calling card,
- 5 a prepaid authorization number for telephone use, or a charge for
- 6 internet access.
- 7 (y) The purchase, lease, use, or consumption of the following
- 8 by an industrial laundry after December 31, 1997:
- 9 (i) Textiles and disposable products including, but not limited
- 10 to, soap, paper, chemicals, tissues, deodorizers and dispensers,
- 11 and all related items such as packaging, supplies, hangers, name
- 12 tags, and identification tags.
- (ii) Equipment, whether owned or leased, used to repair and
- 14 dispense textiles including, but not limited to, roll towel
- 15 cabinets, slings, hardware, lockers, mop handles and frames, and
- 16 carts.
- 17 (iii) Machinery, equipment, parts, lubricants, and repair
- 18 services used to clean, process, and package textiles and related
- 19 items, whether owned or leased.
- 20 (iv) Utilities such as electric, gas, water, or oil.
- 21 (v) Production washroom equipment and mending and packaging
- 22 supplies and equipment.
- 23 (vi) Material handling equipment including, but not limited to,
- 24 conveyors, racks, and elevators and related control equipment.
- 25 (vii) Wastewater pretreatment equipment and supplies and
- 26 related maintenance and repair services.
- 27 (2) The property or services under subsection (1) are exempt

- 1 only to the extent that the property or services are used for the
- 2 exempt purposes if one is stated in subsection (1). The exemption
- 3 is limited to the percentage of exempt use to total use determined
- 4 by a reasonable formula or method approved by the department.
- 5 Sec. 4a. The following are exempt from the tax under this act:
- 6 (a) Rental receipts if the tangible personal property rented
- 7 or leased was previously subject to 1 of the following when
- 8 purchased by the lessor:
- 9 (i) This act.
- 10 (ii) The general sales tax act, 1933 PA 167, MCL 205.51 to
- **11** 205.78.
- 12 (b) Rental receipts if the tangible personal property rented
- 13 or leased was previously taxed under a sales or use tax act of
- 14 another state or a political subdivision of another state levied at
- 15 a rate of 6% or more.
- 16 (c) Specific charges for technical support or for adapting or
- 17 modifying prewritten computer software programs to a purchaser's
- 18 needs or equipment if those charges are separately stated and
- 19 identified.
- 20 (d) The sale of computer software originally designed for the
- 21 exclusive use and special needs of the purchaser.
- 22 (e) The sale of a commercial advertising element if the
- 23 commercial advertising element is used to create or develop a
- 24 print, radio, television, or other advertisement, the commercial
- 25 advertising element is discarded or returned to the provider after
- 26 the advertising message is completed, and the commercial
- 27 advertising element is custom developed by the provider for the

- 1 purchaser. As used in this subdivision, "commercial advertising
- 2 element" means a negative or positive photographic image, an
- 3 audiotape or videotape master, a layout, a manuscript, writing of
- 4 copy, a design, artwork, an illustration, retouching, and
- 5 mechanical or keyline instructions. This exemption does not include
- 6 black and white or full color process separation elements, an
- 7 audiotape reproduction, or a videotape reproduction.
- 8 (f) The sale of oxygen for human use dispensed pursuant to a
- 9 prescription.
- 10 (q) The sale of insulin for human use.
- 11 (h) A-BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2009, A meal provided free of charge
- 12 or at a reduced rate to an employee during work hours by a food
- 13 service establishment licensed by the department of agriculture
- 14 UNDER THE FOOD LAW OF 2000, 2000 PA 92, MCL 289.1101 TO 289.8111.
- 15 (i) The sale of diesel fuel to a person who is an interstate
- 16 motor carrier for use in a qualified commercial motor vehicle.
- Sec. 4d. (1) The following are exempt from the tax under this
- **18** act:
- 19 (a) Sales of drugs for human use that can only be legally
- 20 dispensed by prescription or food or food ingredients, except
- 21 prepared food intended for immediate human consumption AND, AFTER
- 22 OCTOBER 1, 2009, FOOD AND FOOD INGREDIENTS SOLD FROM A VENDING
- 23 MACHINE.
- 24 (b) The deposit on a returnable container for a beverage or
- 25 the deposit on a carton or case that is used for returnable
- 26 containers.
- (c) Food or tangible personal property purchased under the

- 1 federal food stamp program or meals sold by a person exempt from
- 2 the tax under this act eligible to be purchased under the federal
- 3 food stamp program.
- 4 (d) Fruit or vegetable seeds and fruit or vegetable plants if
- 5 purchased at a place of business authorized to accept food stamps
- 6 by the food and nutrition service of the United States department
- 7 of agriculture or a place of business that has made a complete and
- 8 proper application for authorization to accept food stamps but has
- 9 been denied authorization and provides proof of denial to the
- 10 department of treasury.
- 11 (e) Live animals purchased with the intent to be slaughtered
- 12 for human consumption.
- 13 (2) Food BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2009, FOOD or drink heated or
- 14 cooled mechanically, electrically, or by other artificial means to
- 15 an average temperature above 75 degrees Fahrenheit or below 65
- 16 degrees Fahrenheit before sale and sold from a vending machine,
- 17 except milk, nonalcoholic beverages in a sealed container, and
- 18 fresh fruit, is subject to the tax under this act. The tax due
- 19 under this act on the sale of food or drink from a vending machine
- 20 selling both taxable items and items exempt under this subsection
- 21 shall be calculated under this act after December 31, 1994 based on
- 22 1 of the following as determined by the taxpayer:
- 23 (a) Actual gross proceeds from sales at retail.
- 24 (b) Forty-five percent of proceeds from the sale of items
- 25 subject to tax under this act or exempt from the tax levied under
- 26 this act, other than from the sale of carbonated beverages.
- 27 (3) "Food and food ingredients" means substances, whether in

- 1 liquid, concentrated, solid, frozen, dried, or dehydrated form,
- 2 that are sold for ingestion or chewing by humans and are consumed
- 3 for their taste or nutritional value. Food and food ingredients do
- 4 not include alcoholic beverages and tobacco.
- 5 (4) "Prepared food" means the following:
- 6 (a) Food sold in a heated state or that is heated by the
- 7 seller.
- 8 (b) Two or more food ingredients mixed or combined by the
- 9 seller for sale as a single item.
- 10 (c) Food sold with eating utensils provided by the seller,
- 11 including knives, forks, spoons, glasses, cups, napkins, straws, or
- 12 plates, but not including a container or packaging used to
- 13 transport the food.
- 14 (5) Prepared food does not include the following:
- 15 (a) Food that is only cut, repackaged, or pasteurized by the
- 16 seller.
- 17 (b) Raw eggs, fish, meat, poultry, and foods containing those
- 18 raw items requiring cooking by the consumer in recommendations
- 19 contained in section 3-401.11 of part 3-4 of chapter 3 of the 2001
- 20 food code published by the food and drug administration of the
- 21 public health service of the department of health and human
- 22 services, to prevent foodborne illness.
- (c) Food sold in an unheated state by weight or volume as a
- 24 single item, without eating utensils.
- 25 (d) Bakery items, including bread, rolls, buns, biscuits,
- 26 bagels, croissants, pastries, doughnuts, danish, cakes, tortes,
- 27 pies, tarts, muffins, bars, cookies, and tortillas, sold without

- 1 eating utensils.
- 2 (6) "Prepared food intended for immediate HUMAN consumption"
- 3 means prepared food AND, AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2009, FOOD AND FOOD
- 4 INGREDIENTS SOLD FROM A VENDING MACHINE.
- 5 Sec. 4k. (1) The tax levied under this act does not apply to
- 6 parts and materials, excluding shop equipment or fuel, affixed to
- 7 or to be affixed to an aircraft owned or used by a domestic air
- 8 carrier that is any of the following:
- 9 (a) An aircraft for use solely in the transport of air cargo
- 10 or a combination of air cargo and passengers that has a maximum
- 11 certificated takeoff weight of at least 12,500 pounds for taxes
- 12 levied before January 1, 1997 and at least 6,000 pounds for taxes
- 13 levied after December 31, 1996.
- 14 (b) An aircraft that is used solely in the regularly scheduled
- 15 transport of passengers.
- 16 (c) An aircraft other than an aircraft described in
- 17 subdivision (b), that has a maximum certificated takeoff weight of
- 18 at least 12,500 pounds for taxes levied before January 1, 1997 and
- 19 at least 6,000 pounds for taxes levied after December 31, 1996, and
- 20 that is designed to have a maximum passenger seating configuration
- 21 of more than 30 seats and is used solely in the transport of
- 22 passengers.
- 23 (2) The tax levied under this act does not apply to the sale
- 24 of parts or materials, excluding shop equipment or fuel, affixed or
- 25 to be affixed to an aircraft that meets all of the following
- 26 conditions:
- 27 (a) The aircraft leaves this state within 15 days after the

- 1 sooner of the issuance of the final billing or authorized approval
- 2 for final return to service, completion of the maintenance record
- 3 entry, and completion of the test flight and ground test for
- 4 inspection as required under 14 CFR 91.407.
- 5 (b) The aircraft was not based in this state or registered in
- 6 this state before the parts or materials are affixed to the
- 7 aircraft and the aircraft is not based in this state or registered
- 8 in this state after the parts or materials are affixed to the
- 9 aircraft.
- 10 (3) The tax levied under this act does not apply to the sale
- 11 of an aircraft temporarily located in this state for the purpose of
- 12 prepurchase evaluation or the purpose of prepurchase evaluation and
- 13 postsale customization if all of the following conditions are
- 14 satisfied:
- 15 (a) The aircraft leaves this state within 15 days after
- 16 authorized approval for final return to service, completion of the
- 17 maintenance record entry, and completion of the test flight and
- 18 ground test for inspection as required under 14 CFR 91.407.
- 19 (b) The aircraft was not based in this state or registered in
- 20 this state before the prepurchase evaluation or prepurchase
- 21 evaluation and postsale customization are completed and the
- 22 aircraft is not based in this state or registered in this state
- 23 after the prepurchase evaluation or prepurchase evaluation and
- 24 postsale customization are completed.
- 25 (4) For taxes levied after December 31, 1992 AND BEFORE
- 26 OCTOBER 1, 2009, the tax levied under this act does not apply to
- 27 the storage, use, or consumption of rolling stock used in

- 1 interstate commerce and purchased, rented, or leased by an
- 2 interstate fleet motor carrier. A refund for taxes paid before
- 3 January 1, 1997 shall not be paid under this subsection if the
- 4 refund claim is made after June 30, 1997.
- 5 (5) For taxes levied after December 31, 1996 and before May 1,
- 6 1999, the tax levied under this act does not apply to the product
- 7 of the out-of-state usage percentage and the price otherwise
- 8 taxable under this act of a qualified truck or a trailer designed
- 9 to be drawn behind a qualified truck, purchased, rented, or leased
- 10 in this state by an interstate fleet motor carrier and used in
- 11 interstate commerce.
- 12 (6) As used in this section:
- 13 (a) "Based in this state" means hangared or stored in this
- 14 state for not less than 10 days in not less than 3 nonconsecutive
- 15 months during the immediately preceding 12-month period.
- 16 (b) "Domestic air carrier" means a person engaged primarily in
- 17 the commercial transport for hire of air cargo, passengers, or a
- 18 combination of air cargo and passengers as a business activity.
- (c) "Interstate fleet motor carrier" means a person engaged in
- 20 the business of carrying persons or property, other than
- 21 themselves, their employees, or their own property, for hire across
- 22 state lines, whose fleet mileage was driven at least 10% outside of
- 23 this state in the immediately preceding tax year.
- 24 (d) "Out-of-state usage percentage" is a fraction, the
- 25 numerator of which is the number of miles driven outside of this
- 26 state in the immediately preceding tax year by qualified trucks
- 27 used by the taxpayer and the denominator of which is the total

- 1 miles driven in the immediately preceding tax year by qualified
- 2 trucks used by the taxpayer. Miles driven by qualified trucks used
- 3 solely in intrastate commerce shall not be included in calculating
- 4 the out-of-state usage percentage.
- 5 (e) "Prepurchase evaluation" means an examination of an
- 6 aircraft to provide a potential purchaser with information relevant
- 7 to the potential purchase.
- 8 (f) "Postsale customization" means any improvement,
- 9 maintenance, or repair that is performed on an aircraft following a
- 10 transfer of ownership of the aircraft.
- 11 (g) "Qualified truck" means a commercial motor vehicle power
- 12 unit that has 2 axles and a gross vehicle weight rating in excess
- 13 of 10,000 pounds or a commercial motor vehicle power unit that has
- 14 3 or more axles.
- 15 (h) "Registered in this state" means an aircraft registered
- 16 with the state transportation department, bureau of aeronautics or
- 17 registered with the federal aviation administration to an address
- 18 located in this state.
- 19 (i) "Rolling stock" means a qualified truck, a trailer
- 20 designed to be drawn behind a qualified truck, and parts affixed to
- 21 either a qualified truck or a trailer designed to be drawn behind a
- 22 qualified truck.
- Sec. 9a. (1) In computing the amount of tax levied under this
- 24 act for any month PRIOR TO OCTOBER 1, 2009, a seller may deduct the
- 25 amount of bad debts from his or her gross sales, rentals, or
- 26 services used for the computation of the tax. IN COMPUTING THE
- 27 AMOUNT OF TAX LEVIED UNDER THIS ACT FOR ANY MONTH AFTER SEPTEMBER

- 1 30, 2009, A TAXPAYER MAY DEDUCT 80% OF THE AMOUNT OF BAD DEBTS FROM
- 2 HIS OR HER GROSS PROCEEDS USED FOR THE COMPUTATION OF THE TAX. The
- 3 amount of gross sales, rentals, or services deducted must be
- 4 charged off as uncollectible on the books and records of the seller
- 5 at the time the debt becomes worthless and deducted on the return
- 6 for the period during which the bad debt is written off as
- 7 uncollectible in the claimant's books and records and must be
- 8 eligible to be deducted for federal income tax purposes. For
- 9 purposes of this section, a claimant who is not required to file a
- 10 federal income tax return may deduct a bad debt on a return filed
- 11 for the period in which the bad debt becomes worthless and is
- 12 written off as uncollectible in the claimant's books and records
- 13 and would be eligible for a bad debt deduction for federal income
- 14 tax purposes if the claimant was required to file a federal income
- 15 tax return. If a consumer or other person pays all or part of a bad
- 16 debt with respect to which a seller claimed a deduction under this
- 17 section, the seller is liable for the amount of taxes deducted in
- 18 connection with that portion of the debt for which payment is
- 19 received and shall remit these taxes in his or her next payment to
- 20 the department. Any payments made on a bad debt shall be applied
- 21 proportionally first to the taxable price of the property and the
- 22 tax on the property and second to any interest, service, or other
- 23 charge.
- 24 (2) Any claim for a bad debt deduction under this section
- 25 shall be supported by that evidence required by the department. The
- 26 department shall review any change in the rate of taxation
- 27 applicable to any taxable sales, rentals, or services by a seller

- 1 claiming a deduction pursuant to this section and shall ensure that
- 2 the deduction on any bad debt does not result in the seller
- 3 claiming the deduction recovering any more or less than the taxes
- 4 imposed on the sale, rental, or service that constitutes the bad
- 5 debt.
- 6 (3) After September 30, 2009, if a taxpayer who reported the
- 7 tax and a lender execute and maintain a written election
- 8 designating which party may claim the deduction, a claimant is
- 9 entitled to a deduction or refund of the tax related to a sale at
- 10 retail that was previously reported and paid if all of the
- 11 following conditions are met:
- 12 (a) No deduction or refund was previously claimed or allowed
- 13 on any portion of the account receivable.
- 14 (b) The account receivable has been found worthless and
- 15 written off by the taxpayer that made the sale or the lender on or
- **16** after September 30, 2009.
- 17 (4) If a certified service provider assumed filing
- 18 responsibility under the streamlined sales and use tax
- 19 administration act, 2004 PA 174, MCL 205.801 to 205.833, the
- 20 certified service provider may claim, on behalf of the seller, any
- 21 bad debt allowable to the seller and shall credit or refund that
- 22 amount of bad debt allowed or refunded to the seller.
- 23 (5) If the books and records of a seller under the streamlined
- 24 sales and use tax agreement under the streamlined sales and use tax
- 25 administration act, 2004 PA 174, MCL 205.801 to 205.833, that
- 26 claims a bad debt allowance support an allocation of the bad debts
- 27 among member states of that agreement, the seller may allocate the

- 1 bad debts.
- 2 (6) As used in this section:
- 3 (a) "Bad debt" means any portion of a debt resulting from a
- 4 seller's collection of the use tax under this act on the purchase
- 5 of tangible personal property or services that is not otherwise
- 6 deductible or excludable and that is eligible to be claimed, or
- 7 could be eligible to be claimed if the seller kept accounts on an
- 8 accrual basis, as a deduction pursuant to section 166 of the
- 9 internal revenue code, 26 USC 166. A bad debt does not include any
- 10 of the following:
- 11 (i) Interest, finance charge, or use tax on the purchase price.
- 12 (ii) Uncollectible amounts on property that remains in the
- 13 possession of the seller until the full purchase price is paid.
- 14 (iii) Expenses incurred in attempting to collect any account
- 15 receivable or any portion of the debt recovered.
- 16 (iv) Any accounts receivable that have been sold to and remain
- in the possession of a third party for collection.
- 18 (v) Repossessed property.
- 19 (b) Except as provided in subdivision (c), "lender" includes
- 20 any of the following:
- 21 (i) Any person who holds or has held an account receivable
- 22 which that person purchased directly from a taxpayer who reported
- 23 the tax.
- 24 (ii) Any person who holds or has held an account receivable
- 25 pursuant to that person's contract directly with the taxpayer who
- 26 reported the tax.
- 27 (iii) The issuer of the private label credit card.

- 1 (c) "Lender" does not include the issuer of a credit card or
- 2 instrument that can be used to make purchases from a person other
- 3 than the vendor whose name or logo appears on the card or
- 4 instrument or that vendor's affiliates.
- 5 (d) "Private label credit card" means any charge card, credit
- 6 card, or other instrument serving a similar purpose that carries,
- 7 refers to, or is branded with the name or logo of a vendor and that
- 8 can only be used for purchases from the vendor.
- 9 (e) "Seller" means a person who has remitted use tax directly
- 10 to the department on the specific sales, rental, or service
- 11 transaction for which the bad debt is recognized for federal income
- 12 tax purposes or, after September 30, 2009, a lender holding the
- 13 account receivable for which the bad debt is recognized, or would
- 14 be recognized if the claimant were a corporation, for federal
- 15 income tax purposes.
- 16 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect October
- **17** 1, 2009.

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