



## Bill Snapshot

### *CS/HB 7087: Taxation*

The Florida House's proposed tax package makes substantial contributions to improving the prosperity and opportunity for all Floridians. This means more money in the pockets of families and students, farmers, business owners, military and servicemembers, and others. Here are some highlights of the proposed tax package:

#### Florida Families and Students:

- Back-to-School Holiday
  - Provides a ten-day sales tax holiday from August 3-12, 2018.
  - Clothing, footwear, and backpacks costing \$60 or less will be exempt.
  - School supplies costing \$15 or less per item will be exempt.
  - The first \$1,000 for personal electronics such as computers, tablets, and laptops will be exempt.
- Prioritizes new funding for the **Gardiner Scholarship Programs** and then expands funding for the **Florida Tax Credit Scholarship**
  - Establishes tax credits that may be taken against sales tax liabilities for business-funded scholarships for the Gardiner Scholarship Program or the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program.
  - **The addition of this new tax credit will propel the program and expand educational opportunities for families with limited financial resources, and enables children in Florida to achieve a greater level of excellence in their education.**

#### Florida Business Owners:

- Sales Tax on Rental of Commercial Real Estate (Business Rent Tax)
  - Reduces the state sales tax rate on the business rent tax from 5.8 percent to 5.5 percent, beginning January 1, 2019.
  - **Florida is the only state to charge sales tax on commercial rentals of real property.**

#### Florida Farmers:

- Hurricane Irma or Citrus Greening Property Tax Reduction
  - Equipment used in packing and processing facilities that are idle due to the effects of Hurricane Irma or citrus greening would be valued at salvage value until they are able to recover and continue to process fruit.
- Fuel Tax Exemption
  - Exemption from state and local taxes on fuel used for transportation of agricultural products from September 2017 through June 2018.

#### LAST SEEN:

**CS/HB 7087 was reported favorably out of the Appropriations Committee.**

**Sponsor:  
Chair Renner**

#### CURRENT STATUS:

**On Special Order Calendar for  
Week 8**

#### HEADED TO:

**The Floor**



# HOUSE MAJORITY OFFICE

FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



REPRESENTATIVE RAY RODRIGUES, MAJORITY LEADER

- Hurricane-Related Exemption
  - Sales Tax Exemption on agricultural fencing and building materials during a specified storm recovery period.

## **Hurricane Preparation:**

- Disaster Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday
  - Provides for three seven-day sales tax holidays from May 4-10 2018; from June 1-7, 2018; and from July 6-12, 2018.
  - Items exempt from sales tax range from flash lights, radios, food storage coolers and portable generators.
- Generators for Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities
  - Provides a temporary exemption from the sales and use tax for the purchase of generators used to generate emergency electric energy at nursing homes or assisted living facilities.
- Homestead Property Relief
  - Provides a relief credit for homesteads that were rendered uninhabitable for at least 30 days due to damage from hurricanes Hermine, Matthew, and Irma.

## **Military Families and Servicemembers:**

- Ad Valorem Exemptions
  - Removes the requirement that the unremarried surviving spouse of a disabled exservicemember be married for at least 5 years on the date of the ex-servicemember's death in order to be entitled to the current \$5,000 property tax exemption.

## **Local Government Preemption:**

- **Preempts** any local government from prohibiting sale of or offering the sale of tangible personal property that is subject to a sales tax