MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE

By: Representative Cameron

To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 296

AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT IF A BUSINESS ENTERPRISE THAT WAS 1 DOING BUSINESS IN THIS STATE FOR AT LEAST TWO YEARS BEFORE JANUARY 2 1, 2002, AND IS LOCATED IN A GROWTH AND PROSPERITY COUNTY OR 3 4 ELIGIBLE SUPERVISORS DISTRICT DETERMINES IT IS AT A COMPETITIVE DISADVANTAGE BECAUSE OF TAX EXEMPTIONS PROVIDED TO OTHER BUSINESS 5 ENTERPRISES UNDER THE GROWTH AND PROSPERITY ACT, THE BUSINESS 6 ENTERPRISE MAY REQUEST THE MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TO 7 DESIGNATE IT AS ELIGIBLE FOR SUCH TAX EXEMPTIONS; TO PROVIDE THAT 8 A BUSINESS ENTERPRISE WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE SUCH TAX 9 EXEMPTIONS IF THE MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY DETERMINES THE 10 BUSINESS ENTERPRISE IS AT SUCH A COMPETITIVE DISADVANTAGE; TO 11 PROVIDE THAT SUCH A BUSINESS ENTERPRISE SHALL NOT BE REQUIRED TO 12 SATISFY THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF JOBS REQUIREMENT PROVIDED IN THE GROWTH AND PROSPERITY ACT; TO AMEND SECTIONS 27-7-21, 27-13-5, 13 14 27-13-7 AND 27-65-101, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, IN CONFORMITY 15 THERETO; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. 16

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI: **SECTION 1.** (1) As used in this section, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings ascribed in this section unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

(a) "Approved business enterprise" means, and has the
same definition as that term has in Section 57-80-5.

(b) "Eligible supervisors district" means, and has the
same definition as that term has in Section 57-80-5.

(c) "Growth and prosperity counties" means, and has the
same definition as that term has in Section 57-80-5.

27

(d) "MDA" means the Mississippi Development Authority.

(2) If a business enterprise that was doing business in this 28 29 state for at least two (2) years before January 1, 2002, and is located in a growth and prosperity county or in an eligible 30 supervisors district within eight (8) miles of the boundary of a 31 county that meets the criteria of Section 57-80-7(1)(b) determines 32 it is at a competitive disadvantage because of tax exemptions 33 provided to any approved business enterprise under the Growth and 34 H. B. No. 296 R3/5

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Prosperity Act, such business enterprise may apply to the MDA and 35 36 request the MDA to designate it as eligible for the tax exemptions provided under the Growth and Prosperity Act. The application 37 38 shall be on a form prescribed by the MDA and shall contain such 39 information as may be required by the MDA to determine if the 40 business enterprise is at a competitive disadvantage because of tax exemptions provided to any approved business enterprise under 41 the Growth and Prosperity Act. The MDA shall review the 42 application and determine whether the business enterprise is at 43 If the MDA determines the 44 such a competitive disadvantage. 45 business enterprise is at a competitive disadvantage, the MDA shall issue a certificate to the business enterprise designating 46 47 it as eligible for the tax exemptions provided under the Growth and Prosperity Act. A business enterprise issued a certificate 48 under this section shall not be required to satisfy any minimum 49 number of jobs requirement provided in the Growth and Prosperity 50 51 Act.

52 (3) The MDA shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary 53 for the implementation and administration of this section.

54 **SECTION 2.** Section 27-7-21, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 55 amended as follows:

56 27-7-21. (a) **Allowance of deductions**. In the case of a 57 resident individual, the exemptions provided by this section, as 58 applicable to individuals, shall be allowed as deductions in 59 computing taxable income.

(b) Single individuals. In the case of a single individual,
a personal exemption of Five Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars
(\$5,250.00) for the 1979 and 1980 calendar years and Six Thousand
Dollars (\$6,000.00) for each calendar year thereafter.

(c) Married individuals. In the case of married individuals
living together, a joint personal exemption of Eight Thousand
Dollars (\$8,000.00) for the 1979 and 1980 calendar years and Nine
Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$9,500.00) for the 1981 through

H. B. No. 296 02/HR40/R668 PAGE 2 (BS\BD) 1997 calendar years, Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) for the calendar year 1998, Eleven Thousand Dollars (\$11,000.00) for the calendar year 1999, and Twelve Thousand Dollars (\$12,000.00) for each calendar year thereafter. A husband and wife living together shall receive but one (1) personal exemption in the amounts provided for in this subsection for each calendar year against their aggregate income.

75 (d) Head of family individuals. In the case of a head of 76 family individual, a personal exemption of Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000.00) for the 1979 and 1980 calendar years and Nine Thousand 77 78 Five Hundred Dollars (\$9,500.00) for each calendar year thereafter. The term "head of family" means an individual who is 79 80 single, or married but not living with his spouse for the entire taxable year, who maintains a household which constitutes the 81 principal place of abode of himself and one or more individuals 82 who are dependents under the provisions of Section 152(a) of the 83 Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended. The head of family 84 85 individual shall be entitled to the additional dependent exemption as provided in subsection (e) of this section only to the extent 86 87 of dependents in excess of the one (1) dependent needed to qualify as head of family. 88

89 (e) Additional exemption for dependents. In the case of any individual having a dependent, other than husband or wife, an 90 additional personal exemption of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars 91 (\$1,500.00) for each such dependent, except as otherwise provided 92 in subsection (d) of this section. The term "dependent" as used 93 94 in this subsection shall mean any person or individual who qualifies as a dependent under the provisions of Section 152, 95 Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended. 96

97 (f) Additional exemption for taxpayer or spouse aged
98 sixty-five (65) or more. In the case of any taxpayer or the
99 spouse of the taxpayer who has attained the age of sixty-five (65)

H. B. No. 296 02/HR40/R668 PAGE 3 (BS\BD) 100 before the close of his taxable year, an additional exemption of 101 One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00).

102 (q) Additional exemption for blindness of taxpayer or 103 spouse. In the case of any taxpayer or the spouse of the taxpayer 104 who is blind at the close of the taxable year, an additional exemption of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00). 105 For the purpose of this subsection, an individual is blind only if his 106 central visual acuity does not exceed 20/200 in the better eye 107 with correcting lenses, or if his visual acuity is greater than 108 20/200 but is accompanied by a limitation in the fields of vision 109 110 such that the widest diameter of the visual field subtends an angle no greater than twenty (20) degrees. 111

112 Husband and wife--claiming exemptions. In the case of (h) husband and wife living together and filing combined returns, the 113 personal and additional exemptions authorized and allowed by this 114 section may be taken by either, or divided between them in any 115 If the husband and wife fail to choose, 116 manner they may choose. 117 the commissioner shall divide the exemptions between husband and wife in an equitable manner. In the case of a husband and wife 118 119 filing separate returns, the personal and additional exemptions authorized and allowed by this section shall be divided equally 120 121 between the spouses.

A nonresident individual shall be allowed (i) Nonresidents. 122 the same personal and additional exemptions as are authorized for 123 124 resident individuals in subsection (a) of this section; however, the nonresident individual is entitled only to that proportion of 125 126 the personal and additional exemptions as his net income from sources within the State of Mississippi bears to his total or 127 entire net income from all sources. 128

A nonresident individual who is married and whose spouse has income from independent sources must declare the joint income of himself and his spouse from sources within and without Mississippi and claim as a personal exemption that proportion of the

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authorized personal and additional exemptions which the total net 133 income from Mississippi sources bears to the total net income of 134 both spouses from all sources. If both spouses have income from 135 136 sources within Mississippi and wish to file separate returns, 137 their combined personal and additional exemptions shall be that proration of the exemption which their combined net income from 138 Mississippi sources is of their total combined net income from all 139 sources. The amount of the personal and additional exemptions so 140 computed may be divided between them in any manner they choose. 141

In the case of married individuals where one (1) spouse is a resident and the other is a nonresident, the personal exemption of the resident individual shall be prorated on the same basis as if both were nonresidents having net income from within and without the State of Mississippi.

For the purpose of this subsection, the term "net income" means gross income less business expenses incurred in the taxpayer's regular trade or business and computed in accordance with the provisions of the Mississippi Income Tax Law.

Part-year residents. An individual who is a resident of 151 (j) 152 Mississippi for only a part of his taxable year by reason of either moving into the state or moving from the state shall be 153 154 allowed the same personal and additional exemptions as authorized 155 for resident individuals in subsection (a) of this section; the part-year resident shall prorate his exemption on the same basis 156 157 as nonresidents having net income from within and without the state. 158

(k) **Estates**. In the case of an estate, a specific exemption
of Six Hundred Dollars (\$600.00).

(1) **Trusts**. In the case of a trust which, under its governing instrument, is required to distribute all of its income currently, a specific exemption of Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00). In the case of all other trusts, a specific exemption of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00).

H. B. No. 296 02/HR40/R668 PAGE 5 (BS\BD) (m) Corporations, foundations, joint ventures, associations.
In the case of a corporation, foundation, joint venture or
association taxable herein, there shall be allowed no specific
exemption, except as provided under the Growth and Prosperity Act
and Section 1 of House Bill No. , 2002 Regular Session.

(n) **Status**. The status on the last day of the taxable year, except in the case of the head of family as provided in subsection (d) of this section, shall determine the right to the exemptions provided in this section; provided, that a taxpayer shall be entitled to such exemptions, otherwise allowable, if the husband or wife or dependent has died during the taxable year.

(o) Fiscal-year taxpayers. Individual taxpayers reporting
on a fiscal year basis shall prorate their exemptions in a manner
established by regulations promulgated by the commissioner.

180 SECTION 3. Section 27-13-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 181 amended as follows:

27-13-5. (1) Franchise tax levy. Except as otherwise 182 183 provided in subsections (3), (4) and (5) of this section, there is hereby imposed, to be paid and collected as hereinafter provided, 184 185 a franchise or excise tax upon every corporation, association or joint-stock company or partnership treated as a corporation under 186 187 the income tax laws or regulations, organized or created for pecuniary gain, having privileges not possessed by individuals, 188 and having authorized capital stock now existing in this state, or 189 190 hereafter organized, created or established, under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Mississippi, equal to Two Dollars and 191 Fifty Cents (\$2.50) for each One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), or 192 fraction thereof, of the value of the capital used, invested or 193 employed in the exercise of any power, privilege or right enjoyed 194 by such organization within this state, except as hereinafter 195 provided. In no case shall the franchise tax due for the 196 197 accounting period be less than Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00). It is the purpose of this section to require the payment to the State 198

H. B. No. 296 02/HR40/R668 PAGE 6 (BS\BD) of Mississippi of this tax for the right granted by the laws of this state to exist as such organization, and to enjoy, under the protection of the laws of this state, the powers, rights, privileges and immunities derived from the state by the form of such existence.

204 (2) Annual report of domestic corporations. Each domestic
205 corporation shall file, within the time prescribed by Section
206 79-3-251, an annual report as required by the provisions of
207 Section 79-3-249.

(3) A corporation that has negotiated a fee-in-lieu as defined in Section 57-75-5 shall not be subject to the tax levied by this section on such project; provided, however, that the fee-in-lieu payment shall be otherwise treated in the same manner as the payment of franchise taxes.

(4) An approved business enterprise as defined in the Growth and Prosperity Act shall not be subject to the tax levied by this section on the value of capital used, invested or employed by the approved business enterprise in a growth and prosperity county or supervisors district as provided in the Growth and Prosperity Act.

218 (5) A business enterprise issued a certificate under Section
 219 <u>1 of House Bill No.</u>, 2002 Regular Session, shall not be
 220 subject to the tax levied by this section on the value of capital
 221 <u>used, invested or employed by the business enterprise in a growth</u>
 222 and prosperity county or eligible supervisors district as provided
 223 in Section 1 of House Bill No.
 2002 Regular Session.

224 **SECTION 4.** Section 27-13-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 225 amended as follows:

226 27-13-7. (1) **Franchise tax levy**. Except as otherwise 227 provided in subsections (3), (4) and (5) of this section, there is 228 hereby imposed, levied and assessed upon every corporation, 229 association or joint stock company, or partnership treated as a 230 corporation under the Income Tax Laws or regulations as 231 hereinbefore defined, organized and existing under and by virtue

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of the laws of some other state, territory or country, or 232 organized and existing without any specific statutory authority, 233 now or hereafter doing business or exercising any power, privilege 234 235 or right within this state, as hereinbefore defined, a franchise 236 or excise tax equal to Two Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$2.50) of each One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), or fraction thereof, of the 237 value of capital used, invested or employed within this state, 238 except as hereinafter provided. In no case shall the franchise 239 tax due for the accounting period be less than Twenty-five Dollars 240 (\$25.00). It is the purpose of this section to require the 241 242 payment of a tax by all organizations not organized under the laws of this state, measured by the amount of capital or its 243 244 equivalent, for which such organization receives the benefit and 245 protection of the government and laws of the state.

(2) Annual report of foreign corporations. Each foreign
corporation authorized to transact business in this state shall
file, within the time prescribed by Section 79-3-251, an annual
report as required by the provisions of Section 79-3-249.

(3) A corporation that has negotiated a fee-in-lieu as defined in Section 57-75-5 shall not be subject to the tax levied by this section on such project; provided, however, that the fee-in-lieu payment shall be otherwise treated in the same manner as the payment of franchise taxes.

(4) An approved business enterprise as defined in the Growth and Prosperity Act shall not be subject to the tax levied by this section on the value of capital used, invested or employed by the approved business enterprise in a growth and prosperity county or supervisors district as provided in the Growth and Prosperity Act.

260 (5) A business enterprise issued a certificate under Section
 261 <u>1 of House Bill No.</u>, 2002 Regular Session, shall not be
 262 subject to the tax levied by this section on the value of capital
 263 used, invested or employed by the business enterprise in a growth

264 and prosperity county or eligible supervisors district as provided

265 in Section 1 of House Bill No. , 2002 Regular Session.

266 **SECTION 5.** Section 27-65-101, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 267 amended as follows:

268 27-65-101. (1) The exemptions from the provisions of this chapter which are of an industrial nature or which are more 269 properly classified as industrial exemptions than any other 270 exemption classification of this chapter shall be confined to 271 those persons or property exempted by this section or by the 272 provisions of the Constitution of the United States or the State 273 274 of Mississippi. No industrial exemption as now provided by any other section except Section 57-3-33 shall be valid as against the 275 276 tax herein levied. Any subsequent industrial exemption from the 277 tax levied hereunder shall be provided by amendment to this section. No exemption provided in this section shall apply to 278 taxes levied by Section 27-65-15 or 27-65-21. 279

The tax levied by this chapter shall not apply to the following:

(a) Sales of boxes, crates, cartons, cans, bottles and
other packaging materials to manufacturers and wholesalers for use
as containers or shipping materials to accompany goods sold by
said manufacturers or wholesalers where possession thereof will
pass to the customer at the time of sale of the goods contained
therein and sales to anyone of containers or shipping materials
for use in ships engaged in international commerce.

Sales of raw materials, catalysts, processing 289 (b) 290 chemicals, welding gases or other industrial processing gases (except natural gas) to a manufacturer for use directly in 291 manufacturing or processing a product for sale or rental or 292 293 repairing or reconditioning vessels or barges of fifty (50) tons load displacement and over. This exemption shall not apply to any 294 295 property used as fuel except to the extent that such fuel 296 comprises by-products which have no market value.

H. B. No. 296 02/HR40/R668 PAGE 9 (BS\BD) (c) The gross proceeds of sales of dry docks, offshore
drilling equipment for use in oil exploitation or production,
vessels or barges of fifty (50) tons load displacement and over,
when sold by the manufacturer or builder thereof.

301 (d) Sales to commercial fishermen of commercial fishing 302 boats of over five (5) tons load displacement and not more than 303 fifty (50) tons load displacement as registered with the United 304 States Coast Guard and licensed by the Mississippi Commission on 305 Marine Resources.

306 (e) The gross income from repairs to vessels and barges307 engaged in foreign trade or interstate transportation.

308 (f) Sales of petroleum products to vessels or barges 309 for consumption in marine international commerce or interstate 310 transportation businesses.

(g) Sales and rentals of rail rolling stock (and component parts thereof) for ultimate use in interstate commerce and gross income from services with respect to manufacturing, repairing, cleaning, altering, reconditioning or improving such rail rolling stock (and component parts thereof).

(h) Sales of raw materials, catalysts, processing
chemicals, welding gases or other industrial processing gases
(except natural gas) used or consumed directly in manufacturing,
repairing, cleaning, altering, reconditioning or improving such
rail rolling stock (and component parts thereof). This exemption
shall not apply to any property used as fuel.

(i) Sales of machinery or tools or repair parts
therefor or replacements thereof, fuel or supplies used directly
in manufacturing, converting or repairing ships of three thousand
(3,000) tons load displacement and over, but not to include office
and plant supplies or other equipment not directly used on the
ship being built, converted or repaired.

328 (j) Sales of tangible personal property to persons329 operating ships in international commerce for use or consumption

H. B. No. 296 02/HR40/R668 PAGE 10 (BS\BD) 330 on board such ships. This exemption shall be limited to cases in 331 which procedures satisfactory to the commissioner, ensuring 332 against use in this state other than on such ships, are 333 established.

334 (k) Sales of materials used in the construction of a 335 building, or any addition or improvement thereon, and sales of any machinery and equipment not later than three (3) months after the 336 completion of construction of the building, or any addition 337 thereon, to be used therein, to qualified businesses, as defined 338 in Section 57-51-5, which are located in a county or portion 339 340 thereof designated as an enterprise zone pursuant to Sections 57-51-1 through 57-51-15. 341

(1) Sales of materials used in the construction of a
building, or any addition or improvement thereon, and sales of any
machinery and equipment not later than three (3) months after the
completion of construction of the building, or any addition
thereon, to be used therein, to qualified businesses, as defined
in Section 57-54-5.

348 (m) Income from storage and handling of perishable349 goods by a public storage warehouse.

(n) The value of natural gas lawfully injected into the
earth for cycling, repressuring or lifting of oil, or lawfully
vented or flared in connection with the production of oil;
however, if any gas so injected into the earth is sold for such
purposes, then the gas so sold shall not be exempt.

355 (o) The gross collections from self-service commercial356 laundering, drying, cleaning and pressing equipment.

(p) Sales of materials used in the construction of a building, or any addition or improvement thereon, and sales of any machinery and equipment not later than three (3) months after the completion of construction of the building, or any addition thereon, to be used therein, to qualified companies, certified as

H. B. No. 296 02/HR40/R668 PAGE 11 (BS\BD) 362 such by the Mississippi Development Authority under Section 363 57-53-1.

(q) Sales of component materials used in the 364 365 construction of a building, or any addition or improvement 366 thereon, sales of machinery and equipment to be used therein, and sales of manufacturing or processing machinery and equipment which 367 368 is permanently attached to the ground or to a permanent foundation and which is not by its nature intended to be housed within a 369 building structure, not later than three (3) months after the 370 initial start-up date, to permanent business enterprises engaging 371 372 in manufacturing or processing in Tier Three areas (as such term is defined in Section 57-73-21), which businesses are certified by 373 374 the State Tax Commission as being eligible for the exemption 375 granted in this paragraph (q).

Sales of component materials used in the 376 (r) construction of a building, or any addition or improvement 377 thereon, and sales of any machinery and equipment not later than 378 379 three (3) months after the completion of the building, addition or improvement thereon, to be used therein, for any company 380 381 establishing or transferring its national or regional headquarters 382 from within or outside the State of Mississippi and creating a minimum of thirty-five (35) jobs at the new headquarters in this 383 The Tax Commission shall establish criteria and prescribe 384 state. procedures to determine if a company qualifies as a national or 385 386 regional headquarters for the purpose of receiving the exemption provided in this paragraph. 387

(s) The gross proceeds from the sale of semitrailers,
trailers, boats, travel trailers, motorcycles and all-terrain
cycles if exported from this state within forty-eight (48) hours
and registered and first used in another state.

392 (t) Gross income from the storage and handling of393 natural gas in underground salt domes and in other underground

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394 reservoirs, caverns, structures and formations suitable for such 395 storage.

Sales of machinery and equipment to nonprofit 396 (u) 397 organizations if the organization: (i) is tax-exempt pursuant to 398 Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended; (ii) assists in the implementation of the national 399 400 contingency plan or area contingency plan, and which is created in response to the requirements of Title IV, Subtitle B of the Oil 401 Pollution Act of 1990, Public Law 101-380; and (iii) engages 402 primarily in programs to contain, clean up and otherwise mitigate 403 404 spills of oil or other substances occurring in the United States coastal and tidal waters. For purposes of this exemption, 405 406 "machinery and equipment" means any ocean-going vessels, barges, 407 booms, skimmers and other capital equipment used primarily in the 408 operations of nonprofit organizations referred to herein.

409 (v) Sales of component materials and equipment to
410 approved business enterprises as provided under the Growth and
411 Prosperity Act.

(w) From and after July 1, 2001, sales of pollution control equipment to manufacturers or custom processors for industrial use. For the purposes of this exemption, "pollution control equipment" means equipment, devices, machinery or systems used or acquired to prevent, control, monitor or reduce air, water or groundwater pollution, or solid or hazardous waste as required by federal or state law or regulation.

(x) Sales or leases to a manufacturer of motor vehicles 419 420 operating a project that has been certified by the Mississippi Major Economic Impact Authority as a project as defined in Section 421 57-75-5(f)(iv)1 of machinery and equipment; special tooling such 422 423 as dies, molds, jigs and similar items treated as special tooling 424 for federal income tax purposes; or repair parts therefor or 425 replacements thereof; repair services thereon; fuel, supplies, 426 electricity, coal and natural gas used directly in the manufacture

H. B. No. 296 02/HR40/R668 PAGE 13 (BS\BD) 427 of motor vehicles or motor vehicle parts or used to provide428 climate control for manufacturing areas.

(y) Sales or leases of component materials, machinery and equipment used in the construction of a building, or any addition or improvement thereon to an enterprise operating a project that has been certified by the Mississippi Major Economic Impact Authority as a project as defined in Section 57-75-5(f)(iv)1 and any other sales or leases required to establish or operate such project.

Sales of component materials used in the construction of 439 (2) a building, or any addition or improvement thereon, sales of 440 machinery and equipment to be used therein, and sales of 441 442 manufacturing or processing machinery and equipment which is permanently attached to the ground or to a permanent foundation 443 444and which is not by its nature intended to be housed within a building structure, not later than three (3) months after the 445 446 initial start-up date, to permanent business enterprises engaging in manufacturing or processing in Tier Two areas and Tier One 447 448 areas (as such areas are designated in accordance with Section 57-73-21), which businesses are certified by the State Tax 449 Commission as being eligible for the exemption granted in this 450 451 paragraph, shall be exempt from one-half (1/2) of the taxes imposed on such transactions under this chapter. 452

453 SECTION 6. Nothing in this act shall affect or defeat any 454 claim, assessment, appeal, suit, right or cause of action for 455 taxes due or accrued under the income tax laws, corporation 456 franchise tax laws or sales tax laws before the date on which this 457 act becomes effective, whether such claims, assessments, appeals, 458 suits or actions have been begun before the date on which this act 459 becomes effective or are begun thereafter; and the provisions of

H. B. No. 296 02/HR40/R668 PAGE 14 (BS\BD) the income tax laws, corporation franchise tax laws and sales tax laws are expressly continued in full force, effect and operation for the purpose of the assessment, collection and enrollment of liens for any taxes due or accrued and the execution of any warrant under such laws before the date on which this act becomes effective, and for the imposition of any penalties, forfeitures or claims for failure to comply with such laws.

467 **SECTION 7.** This act shall take effect and be in force from 468 and after July 1, 2002.