

By: Representatives Rushing, Sykes, Hopkins

To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 215

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 27-65-111, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO EXEMPT FROM SALES TAXATION THE RETAIL SALES OF CERTAIN SCHOOL
3 SUPPLIES DURING A PERIOD BEGINNING AT 12:01 A.M. ON THE LAST
4 FRIDAY IN JULY AND ENDING AT 12:00 MIDNIGHT THE FOLLOWING
5 SATURDAY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 27-65-111, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 27-65-111. The exemptions from the provisions of this
10 chapter which are not industrial, agricultural or governmental, or
11 which do not relate to utilities or taxes, or which are not
12 properly classified as one (1) of the exemption classifications of
13 this chapter, shall be confined to persons or property exempted by
14 this section or by the Constitution of the United States or the
15 State of Mississippi. No exemptions as now provided by any other
16 section, except the classified exemption sections of this chapter
17 set forth herein, shall be valid as against the tax herein levied.
18 Any subsequent exemption from the tax levied hereunder, except as
19 indicated above, shall be provided by amendments to this section.



20 No exemption provided in this section shall apply to taxes
21 levied by Section 27-65-15 or 27-65-21, Mississippi Code of 1972.

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

24 (a) Sales of tangible personal property and services to
25 hospitals or infirmaries owned and operated by a corporation or
26 association in which no part of the net earnings inures to the
27 benefit of any private shareholder, group or individual, and which
28 are subject to and governed by Sections 41-7-123 through 41-7-127.

29 Only sales of tangible personal property or services which
30 are ordinary and necessary to the operation of such hospitals and
31 infirmaries are exempted from tax.

32 (b) Sales of daily or weekly newspapers, and
33 periodicals or publications of scientific, literary or educational
34 organizations exempt from federal income taxation under Section
35 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as it exists as of
36 March 31, 1975, and subscription sales of all magazines.

37 (c) Sales of coffins, caskets and other materials used
38 in the preparation of human bodies for burial.

39 (d) Sales of tangible personal property for immediate
40 export to a foreign country.

41 (e) Sales of tangible personal property to an
42 orphanage, old men's or ladies' home, supported wholly or in part
43 by a religious denomination, fraternal nonprofit organization or
44 other nonprofit organization.



45 (f) Sales of tangible personal property, labor or
46 services taxable under Sections 27-65-17, 27-65-19 and 27-65-23,
47 to a YMCA, YWCA, a Boys' or Girls' Club owned and operated by a
48 corporation or association in which no part of the net earnings
49 inures to the benefit of any private shareholder, group or
50 individual.

51 (g) Sales to elementary and secondary grade schools,
52 junior and senior colleges owned and operated by a corporation or
53 association in which no part of the net earnings inures to the
54 benefit of any private shareholder, group or individual, and which
55 are exempt from state income taxation, provided that this
56 exemption does not apply to sales of property or services which
57 are not to be used in the ordinary operation of the school, or
58 which are to be resold to the students or the public.

59 (h) The gross proceeds of retail sales and the use or
60 consumption in this state of drugs and medicines:

61 (i) Prescribed for the treatment of a human being
62 by a person authorized to prescribe the medicines, and dispensed
63 or prescription filled by a registered pharmacist in accordance
64 with law; or

65 (ii) Furnished by a licensed physician, surgeon,
66 dentist or podiatrist to his own patient for treatment of the
67 patient; or



68 (iii) Furnished by a hospital for treatment of any
69 person pursuant to the order of a licensed physician, surgeon,
70 dentist or podiatrist; or

71 (iv) Sold to a licensed physician, surgeon,
72 podiatrist, dentist or hospital for the treatment of a human
73 being; or

74 (v) Sold to this state or any political
75 subdivision or municipal corporation thereof, for use in the
76 treatment of a human being or furnished for the treatment of a
77 human being by a medical facility or clinic maintained by this
78 state or any political subdivision or municipal corporation
79 thereof.

80 "Medicines," as used in this paragraph (h), shall mean and
81 include any substance or preparation intended for use by external
82 or internal application to the human body in the diagnosis, cure,
83 mitigation, treatment or prevention of disease and which is
84 commonly recognized as a substance or preparation intended for
85 such use; provided that "medicines" do not include any auditory,
86 prosthetic, ophthalmic or ocular device or appliance, any dentures
87 or parts thereof or any artificial limbs or their replacement
88 parts, articles which are in the nature of splints, bandages,
89 pads, compresses, supports, dressings, instruments, apparatus,
90 contrivances, appliances, devices or other mechanical, electronic,
91 optical or physical equipment or article or the component parts



92 and accessories thereof, or any alcoholic beverage or any other
93 drug or medicine not commonly referred to as a prescription drug.

94 Notwithstanding the preceding sentence of this paragraph (h),
95 "medicines" as used in this paragraph (h), shall mean and include
96 sutures, whether or not permanently implanted, bone screws, bone
97 pins, pacemakers and other articles permanently implanted in the
98 human body to assist the functioning of any natural organ, artery,
99 vein or limb and which remain or dissolve in the body.

100 "Hospital," as used in this paragraph (h), shall have the
101 meaning ascribed to it in Section 41-9-3, Mississippi Code of
102 1972.

103 Insulin furnished by a registered pharmacist to a person for
104 treatment of diabetes as directed by a physician shall be deemed
105 to be dispensed on prescription within the meaning of this
106 paragraph (h).

107 (i) Retail sales of automobiles, trucks and
108 truck-tractors if exported from this state within forty-eight (48)
109 hours and registered and first used in another state.

110 (j) Sales of tangible personal property or services to
111 the Salvation Army and the Muscular Dystrophy Association, Inc.

112 (k) From July 1, 1985, through December 31, 1992,
113 retail sales of "alcohol blended fuel" as such term is defined in
114 Section 75-55-5. The gasoline-alcohol blend or the straight
115 alcohol eligible for this exemption shall not contain alcohol
116 distilled outside the State of Mississippi.



117 (1) Sales of tangible personal property or services to
118 the Institute for Technology Development.

119 (m) The gross proceeds of retail sales of food and
120 drink for human consumption made through vending machines serviced
121 by full line vendors from and not connected with other taxable
122 businesses.

123 (n) The gross proceeds of sales of motor fuel.

124 (o) Retail sales of food for human consumption
125 purchased with food stamps issued by the United States Department
126 of Agriculture, or other federal agency, from and after October 1,
127 1987, or from and after the expiration of any waiver granted
128 pursuant to federal law, the effect of which waiver is to permit
129 the collection by the state of tax on such retail sales of food
130 for human consumption purchased with food stamps.

131 (p) Sales of cookies for human consumption by the Girl
132 Scouts of America no part of the net earnings from which sales
133 inures to the benefit of any private group or individual.

134 (q) Gifts or sales of tangible personal property or
135 services to public or private nonprofit museums of art.

136 (r) Sales of tangible personal property or services to
137 alumni associations of state-supported colleges or universities.

138 (s) Sales of tangible personal property or services to
139 National Association of Junior Auxiliaries, Inc., and chapters of
140 the National Association of Junior Auxiliaries, Inc.



141 (t) Sales of tangible personal property or services to
142 domestic violence shelters which qualify for state funding under
143 Sections 93-21-101 through 93-21-113.

144 (u) Sales of tangible personal property or services to
145 the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Mississippi Chapter.

146 (v) Retail sales of food for human consumption
147 purchased with food instruments issued the Mississippi Band of
148 Choctaw Indians under the Women, Infants and Children Program
149 (WIC) funded by the United States Department of Agriculture.

150 (w) Sales of tangible personal property or services to
151 a private company, as defined in Section 57-61-5, which is making
152 such purchases with proceeds of bonds issued under Section 57-61-1
153 et seq., the Mississippi Business Investment Act.

154 (x) The gross collections from the operation of
155 self-service, coin-operated car washing equipment and sales of the
156 service of washing motor vehicles with portable high-pressure
157 washing equipment on the premises of the customer.

158 (y) Sales of tangible personal property or services to
159 the Mississippi Technology Alliance.

160 (z) Sales of tangible personal property to nonprofit
161 organizations that provide foster care, adoption services and
162 temporary housing for unwed mothers and their children if the
163 organization is exempt from federal income taxation under Section
164 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.



165 (aa) Sales of tangible personal property to nonprofit
166 organizations that provide residential rehabilitation for persons
167 with alcohol and drug dependencies if the organization is exempt
168 from federal income taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the
169 Internal Revenue Code.

170 (bb) Retail sales of an article of clothing or footwear
171 designed to be worn on or about the human body if the sales price
172 of the article is less than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) and the
173 sale takes place during a period beginning at 12:01 a.m. on the
174 last Friday in July and ending at 12:00 midnight the following
175 Saturday. This paragraph (bb) shall not apply to:

176 (i) Accessories including jewelry, handbags,
177 luggage, umbrellas, wallets, watches, backpacks, briefcases,
178 garment bags and similar items carried on or about the human body,
179 without regard to whether worn on the body in a manner
180 characteristic of clothing;

181 (ii) The rental of clothing or footwear; and

182 (iii) Skis, swim fins, roller blades, skates and
183 similar items worn on the foot.

184 From and after January 1, 2010, the governing authorities of
185 a municipality, for retail sales occurring within the corporate
186 limits of the municipality, may suspend the application of the
187 exemption provided for in this paragraph (bb) by adoption of a
188 resolution to that effect stating the date upon which the
189 suspension shall take effect. A certified copy of the resolution



190 shall be furnished to the Department of Revenue at least ninety
191 (90) days prior to the date upon which the municipality desires
192 such suspension to take effect.

193 (cc) The gross proceeds of sales of tangible personal
194 property made for the sole purpose of raising funds for a school
195 or an organization affiliated with a school.

196 As used in this paragraph (cc), "school" means any public or
197 private school that teaches courses of instruction to students in
198 any grade from kindergarten through Grade 12.

199 (dd) Sales of durable medical equipment and home
200 medical supplies when ordered or prescribed by a licensed
201 physician for medical purposes of a patient. As used in this
202 paragraph (dd), "durable medical equipment" and "home medical
203 supplies" mean equipment, including repair and replacement parts
204 for the equipment or supplies listed under Title XVIII of the
205 Social Security Act or under the state plan for medical assistance
206 under Title XIX of the Social Security Act, prosthetics,
207 orthotics, hearing aids, hearing devices, prescription eyeglasses,
208 oxygen and oxygen equipment. Payment does not have to be made, in
209 whole or in part, by any particular person to be eligible for this
210 exemption. Purchases of home medical equipment and supplies by a
211 provider of home health services or a provider of hospice services
212 are eligible for this exemption if the purchases otherwise meet
213 the requirements of this paragraph.



214 (ee) Sales of tangible personal property or services to
215 Mississippi Blood Services.

216 (ff) (i) Subject to the provisions of this paragraph
217 (ff), retail sales of firearms, ammunition and hunting supplies if
218 sold during the annual Mississippi Second Amendment Weekend
219 holiday beginning at 12:01 a.m. on the last Friday in August and
220 ending at 12:00 midnight the following Sunday. For the purposes
221 of this paragraph (ff), "hunting supplies" means tangible personal
222 property used for hunting, including, and limited to, archery
223 equipment, firearm and archery cases, firearm and archery
224 accessories, hearing protection, holsters, belts and slings.
225 Hunting supplies does not include animals used for hunting.

226 (ii) This paragraph (ff) shall apply only if one
227 or more of the following occur:

228 1. Title to and/or possession of an eligible
229 item is transferred from a seller to a purchaser; and/or

230 2. A purchaser orders and pays for an
231 eligible item and the seller accepts the order for immediate
232 shipment, even if delivery is made after the time period provided
233 in subparagraph (i) of this paragraph (ff), provided that the
234 purchaser has not requested or caused the delay in shipment.

235 (gg) Sales of nonperishable food items to charitable
236 organizations that are exempt from federal income taxation under
237 Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code and operate a food
238 bank or food pantry or food lines.



239 (hh) Sales of tangible personal property or services to
240 the United Way of the Pine Belt Region, Inc.

241 (ii) Sales of tangible personal property or services to
242 the Mississippi Children's Museum or any subsidiary or affiliate
243 thereof operating a satellite or branch museum within this state.

244 (jj) Sales of tangible personal property or services to
245 the Jackson Zoological Park.

246 (kk) Sales of tangible personal property or services to
247 the Hattiesburg Zoo.

248 (ll) Gross proceeds from sales of food, merchandise or
249 other concessions at an event held solely for religious or
250 charitable purposes at livestock facilities, agriculture
251 facilities or other facilities constructed, renovated or expanded
252 with funds for the grant program authorized under Section 18,
253 Chapter 530, Laws of 1995.

254 (mm) Sales of tangible personal property and services
255 to the Diabetes Foundation of Mississippi and the Mississippi
256 Chapter of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

257 (nn) Sales of potting soil, mulch, or other soil
258 amendments used in growing ornamental plants which bear no fruit
259 of commercial value when sold to commercial plant nurseries that
260 operate exclusively at wholesale and where no retail sales can be
261 made.



262 (oo) Sales of tangible personal property or services to
263 the University of Mississippi Medical Center Research Development
264 Foundation.

265 (pp) Sales of tangible personal property or services to
266 Keep Mississippi Beautiful, Inc., and all affiliates of Keep
267 Mississippi Beautiful, Inc.

268 (qq) Sales of tangible personal property or services to
269 the Friends of Children's Hospital.

270 (rr) Sales of tangible personal property or services to
271 the Pinecrest Weekend Backpacks for Kids located in Corinth,
272 Mississippi.

273 (ss) Sales of hearing aids when ordered or prescribed
274 by a licensed physician, audiologist or hearing aid specialist for
275 the medical purposes of a patient.

276 (tt) Sales exempt under the Facilitating Business Rapid
277 Response to State Declared Disasters Act of 2015 (Sections
278 27-113-1 through 27-113-9).

279 (uu) (i) Retail sales of school supplies if the sales
280 price of the school supply is less than Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) and
281 the sale takes place during a period beginning at 12:01 a.m. on
282 the last Friday in July and ending at 12:00 midnight the following
283 Saturday.

284 (ii) For purposes of this paragraph (uu), "school
285 supplies" means items that are commonly used by a student in a
286 course of study. The following is an all-inclusive list:



- 287 1. Backpacks;
- 288 2. Binder pockets;
- 289 3. Binders;
- 290 4. Blackboard chalk;
- 291 5. Book bags;
- 292 6. Calculators;
- 293 7. Cellophane tape;
- 294 8. Clays and glazes;
- 295 9. Compasses;
- 296 10. Composition books;
- 297 11. Crayons;
- 298 12. Dictionaries and thesauruses;
- 299 13. Dividers;
- 300 14. Erasers;
- 301 15. Folders: expandable, pocket, plastic and
- 302 manila;
- 303 16. Glue, paste and paste sticks;
- 304 17. Highlighters;
- 305 18. Index card boxes;
- 306 19. Index cards;
- 307 20. Legal pads;
- 308 21. Lunch boxes;
- 309 22. Markers;
- 310 23. Notebooks;
- 311 24. Paintbrushes for artwork;



- 312 25. Paints: acrylic, tempera and oil;
313 26. Paper: loose-leaf ruled notebook paper,
314 copy paper, graph paper, tracing paper, manila paper, colored
315 paper, poster board and construction paper;
316 27. Pencil boxes and other school supply
317 boxes;
318 28. Pencil sharpeners;
319 29. Pencils;
320 30. Pens;
321 31. Protractors;
322 32. Reference books;
323 33. Reference maps and globes;
324 34. Rulers;
325 35. Scissors;
326 36. Sheet music;
327 37. Sketch and drawing pads;
328 38. Textbooks;
329 39. Watercolors;
330 40. Workbooks; and
331 41. Writing tablets.

332 (iii) From and after January 1, 2019, the
333 governing authorities of a municipality, for retail sales
334 occurring within the corporate limits of the municipality, may
335 suspend the application of the exemption provided for in this
336 paragraph (uu) by adoption of a resolution to that effect stating



337 the date upon which the suspension shall take effect. A certified
338 copy of the resolution shall be furnished to the Department of
339 Revenue at least ninety (90) days prior to the date upon which the
340 municipality desires such suspension to take effect.

341 **SECTION 2.** Nothing in this act shall affect or defeat any
342 claim, assessment, appeal, suit, right or cause of action for
343 taxes due or accrued under the sales tax laws before the date on
344 which this act becomes effective, whether such claims,
345 assessments, appeals, suits or actions have been begun before the
346 date on which this act becomes effective or are begun thereafter;
347 and the provisions of the sales tax laws are expressly continued
348 in full force, effect and operation for the purpose of the
349 assessment, collection and enrollment of liens for any taxes due
350 or accrued and the execution of any warrant under such laws before
351 the date on which this act becomes effective, and for the
352 imposition of any penalties, forfeitures or claims for failure to
353 comply with such laws.

354 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
355 and after July 1, 2018.

