

CHAPTER 45

AN ACT implementing the sourcing rules of the federal "Mobile Telecommunications Sourcing Act" for purposes of the sales and use tax, amending P.L.1966, c.30.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. Section 2 of P.L.1966, c.30 (C.54:32B-2) is amended to read as follows:

C.54:32B-2 Definitions.

2. Unless the context in which they occur requires otherwise, the following terms when used in this act shall mean:

(a) Person. Person includes an individual, partnership, society, association, joint stock company, corporation, public corporation or public authority, estate, receiver, trustee, assignee, referee, and any other person acting in a fiduciary or representative capacity, whether appointed by a court or otherwise, and any combination of the foregoing.

(b) Purchase at retail. A purchase by any person at a retail sale.

(c) Purchaser. A person who purchases property or who receives services.

(d) Receipt. The amount of the sales price of any property and the charge for any service taxable under this act, valued in money, whether received in money or otherwise, including any amount for which credit is allowed by the vendor to the purchaser, without any deduction for expenses or early payment discounts, but excluding any credit for property of the same kind that is not tangible personal property purchased for lease accepted in part payment and intended for resale, excluding the cost of transportation where such cost is separately stated in the written contract, if any, and on the bill rendered to the purchaser, and excluding the amount of the sales price for which food stamps have been properly tendered in full or part payment pursuant to the federal Food Stamp Act of 1977, Pub.L.95-113 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 et seq.).

(e) Retail sale. (1) A sale of tangible personal property to any person for any purpose, other than (A) for resale either as such or as converted into or as a component part of a product produced for sale by the purchaser, including the conversion of natural gas into another intermediate or end product, other than electricity or thermal energy, produced for sale by the purchaser, or (B) for use by that person in performing the services subject to tax under subsection (b) of section 3 where the property so sold becomes a physical component part of the property upon which the services are performed or where the property so sold is later actually transferred to the purchaser of the service in conjunction with the performance of the service subject to tax.

(2) For the purposes of this act, the term retail sales includes: Sales of tangible personal property to all contractors, subcontractors or repairmen of materials and supplies for use by them in erecting structures for others, or building on, or otherwise improving, altering, or repairing real property of others.

(3) For the purposes of this act, the term retail sale includes the purchase of tangible personal property for lease.

(4) The term retail sales does not include:

(A) Professional, insurance, or personal service transactions which involve the transfer of tangible personal property as an inconsequential element, for which no separate charges are made.

(B) The transfer of tangible personal property to a corporation, solely in consideration for the issuance of its stock, pursuant to a merger or consolidation effected under the laws of New Jersey or any other jurisdiction.

(C) The distribution of property by a corporation to its stockholders as a liquidating dividend.

(D) The distribution of property by a partnership to its partners in whole or partial liquidation.

(E) The transfer of property to a corporation upon its organization in consideration for the issuance of its stock.

(F) The contribution of property to a partnership in consideration for a partnership interest therein.

(G) The sale of tangible personal property where the purpose of the vendee is to hold the thing transferred as security for the performance of an obligation of the vendor.

(f) Sale, selling or purchase. Any transfer of title or possession or both, exchange or barter, rental, lease or license to use or consume, conditional or otherwise, in any manner or by any

means whatsoever for a consideration, or any agreement therefor, including the rendering of any service, taxable under this act, for a consideration or any agreement therefor.

(g) Tangible personal property. Corporeal personal property of any nature including energy.

(h) Use. The exercise of any right or power over tangible personal property by the purchaser thereof and includes, but is not limited to, the receiving, storage or any keeping or retention for any length of time, withdrawal from storage, any distribution, any installation, any affixation to real or personal property, or any consumption of such property. Use also includes the exercise of any right or power over intrastate or interstate telecommunications, mobile telecommunications services, and prepaid telephone calling arrangements. Use also includes the exercise of any right or power over utility service.

(i) Vendor. (1) The term "vendor" includes:

(A) A person making sales of tangible personal property or services, the receipts from which are taxed by this act;

(B) A person maintaining a place of business in the State and making sales, whether at such place of business or elsewhere, to persons within the State of tangible personal property or services, the use of which is taxed by this act;

(C) A person who solicits business either by employees, independent contractors, agents or other representatives or by distribution of catalogs or other advertising matter and by reason thereof makes sales to persons within the State of tangible personal property or services, the use of which is taxed by this act;

(D) Any other person making sales to persons within the State of tangible personal property or services, the use of which is taxed by this act, who may be authorized by the director to collect the tax imposed by this act;

(E) The State of New Jersey, any of its agencies, instrumentalities, public authorities, public corporations (including a public corporation created pursuant to agreement or compact with another state) or political subdivisions when such entity sells services or property of a kind ordinarily sold by private persons;

(F) A person who purchases tangible personal property for lease, whether in this State or elsewhere. For the purposes of Title 54 of the Revised Statutes, the presence of leased tangible personal property in this State is deemed to be a place of business in this State; and

(G) A person who sells, stores, delivers or transports energy to users or customers in this State whether by mains, lines or pipes located within this State or by any other means of delivery.

(2) In addition, when in the opinion of the director it is necessary for the efficient administration of this act to treat any salesman, representative, peddler or canvasser as the agent of the vendor, distributor, supervisor or employer under whom he operates or from whom he obtains tangible personal property sold by him or for whom he solicits business, the director may, in his discretion, treat such agent as the vendor jointly responsible with his principal, distributor, supervisor or employer for the collection and payment over of the tax.

(j) Hotel. A building or portion of it which is regularly used and kept open as such for the lodging of guests. The term "hotel" includes an apartment hotel, a motel, boarding house or club, whether or not meals are served.

(k) Occupancy. The use or possession or the right to the use or possession, of any room in a hotel.

(l) Occupant. A person who, for a consideration, uses, possesses, or has the right to use or possess, any room in a hotel under any lease, concession, permit, right of access, license to use or other agreement, or otherwise.

(m) Permanent resident. Any occupant of any room or rooms in a hotel for at least 90 consecutive days shall be considered a permanent resident with regard to the period of such occupancy.

(n) Room. Any room or rooms of any kind in any part or portion of a hotel, which is available for or let out for any purpose other than a place of assembly.

(o) Admission charge. The amount paid for admission, including any service charge and any charge for entertainment or amusement or for the use of facilities therefor.

(p) Amusement charge. Any admission charge, dues or charge of roof garden, cabaret or

other similar place.

(q) Charge of a roof garden, cabaret or other similar place. Any charge made for admission, refreshment, service, or merchandise at a roof garden, cabaret or other similar place.

(r) Dramatic or musical arts admission charge. Any admission charge paid for admission to a theater, opera house, concert hall or other hall or place of assembly for a live, dramatic, choreographic or musical performance.

(s) Lessor. Any person who is the owner, licensee, or lessee of any premises or tangible personal property which he leases, subleases, or grants a license to use to other persons.

(t) Place of amusement. Any place where any facilities for entertainment, amusement, or sports are provided.

(u) Casual sale. Casual sale means an isolated or occasional sale of an item of tangible personal property by a person who is not regularly engaged in the business of making sales at retail where such property was obtained by the person making the sale, through purchase or otherwise, for his own use in this State.

(v) Motor vehicle. Motor vehicle shall include all vehicles propelled otherwise than by muscular power (excepting such vehicles as run only upon rails or tracks), trailers, semitrailers, housetrailers, or any other type of vehicle drawn by a motor-driven vehicle, and motorcycles, designed for operation on the public highways.

(w) "Persons required to collect tax" or "persons required to collect any tax imposed by this act" shall include: every vendor of tangible personal property or services; every recipient of amusement charges; every operator of a hotel; every lessor; and every vendor of telecommunications. Said terms shall also include any officer or employee of a corporation or of a dissolved corporation who as such officer or employee is under a duty to act for such corporation in complying with any requirement of this act and any member of a partnership. Provided, however, the vendor of tangible personal property to all contractors, subcontractors or repairmen, consisting of materials and supplies for use by them in erecting structures for others, or building on, or otherwise improving, altering or repairing real property of others, shall not be deemed a person required to collect tax, and the tax imposed by any section of this act shall be paid directly to the director by such contractors, subcontractors or repairmen.

(x) "Customer" shall include: every purchaser of tangible personal property or services; every patron paying or liable for the payment of any amusement charge; and every occupant of a room or rooms in a hotel.

(y) "Property and services the use of which is subject to tax" shall include: (1) all property sold to a person within the State, whether or not the sale is made within the State, the use of which property is subject to tax under section 6 or will become subject to tax when such property is received by or comes into the possession or control of such person within the State; (2) all services rendered to a person within the State, whether or not such services are performed within the State, upon tangible personal property the use of which is subject to tax under section 6 or will become subject to tax when such property is distributed within the State or is received by or comes into possession or control of such person within the State; (3) intrastate or interstate telecommunications, other than mobile telecommunications services, charged to a service address in this State; (4) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1995, c.184); (5) energy sold, exchanged or delivered in this State for use in this State; (6) utility service sold, exchanged or delivered in this State for use in this State; (7) direct mail advertising processing services in connection with advertising or promotional material distributed in this State; and (8) intrastate and interstate mobile telecommunications services provided to a customer with a place of primary use in this State.

(z) Director. Director means the Director of the Division of Taxation of the State Department of the Treasury, or any officer, employee or agency of the Division of Taxation in the Department of the Treasury duly authorized by the director (directly, or indirectly by one or more redelegations of authority) to perform the functions mentioned or described in this act.

(aa) "Lease" means the possession or control of tangible personal property by an agreement, not transferring sole title, as may be evidenced by a contract, contracts, or by implication from other circumstances including course of dealing or usage of trade or course of performance, for a period of more than 28 days.

(bb) "The amount of the sales price" of tangible personal property purchased for lease means, at the election of the lessor, either (1) the amount of the lessor's purchase price or (2) the amount of the total of the lease payments attributable to the lease of such property. Tangible personal property purchased for lease is subject to the provisions of subsection (a) of section 3 of P.L.1966, c.30 (C.54:32B-3).

(cc) "Telecommunications" means the act or privilege of originating or receiving messages or information through the use of any kind of one-way or two-way communication; including but not limited to voice, video, facsimile, teletypewriter, computer, mobile telecommunications service or any other type of communication; using electronic or electromagnetic methods, and all services and equipment provided in connection therewith or by means thereof. "Telecommunications" shall not include:

(1) one-way radio or television broadcasting transmissions available universally to the general public without a fee;

(2) purchases of telecommunications by a telecommunications provider for use as a component part of telecommunications provided to an ultimate retail consumer who (A) originates or terminates the taxable end-to-end communications or (B) pays charges exempt from taxation pursuant to paragraph (5) of this subsection;

(3) services provided by a person, or by that person's wholly owned subsidiary, not engaged in the business of rendering or offering telecommunications services to the public, for private and exclusive use within its organization, provided however, that "telecommunications" shall include the sale of telecommunications services attributable to the excess unused telecommunications capacity of that person to another;

(4) charges in the nature of subscription fees paid by subscribers for cable television service;

(5) charges subject to the local calling rate paid by inserting coins into a coin operated telecommunications device available to the public; and

(6) purchases of telecommunications using a prepaid telephone arrangement.

(dd) "Interstate telecommunication" means any telecommunication that originates or terminates inside this State, including international telecommunication. In the case of mobile telecommunications service, "interstate telecommunication" means any mobile telecommunications service that originates in one state and terminates in another state, territory, or foreign country that is provided to a customer with a place of primary use in this State.

(ee) "Intrastate telecommunication" means any telecommunication that originates and terminates within this State. In the case of mobile telecommunications service, "intrastate telecommunication" means any mobile telecommunications service that originates and terminates within the same state that is provided to a customer with a place of primary use in this State.

(ff) "Natural gas" means any gaseous fuel distributed through a pipeline system.

(gg) "Energy" means natural gas or electricity.

(hh) "Utility service" means the transportation or transmission of natural gas or electricity by means of mains, wires, lines or pipes, to users or customers.

(ii) "Self-generation unit" means a facility located on the user's property, or on property purchased or leased from the user by the person owning the self-generation unit and such property is contiguous to the user's property, which generates electricity to be used only by that user on the user's property and is not transported to the user over wires that cross a property line or public thoroughfare unless the property line or public thoroughfare merely bifurcates the user's or self-generation unit owner's otherwise contiguous property.

(jj) "Co-generation facility" means a facility the primary purpose of which is the sequential production of electricity and steam or other forms of useful energy which are used for industrial or commercial heating or cooling purposes and which is designated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, or its successor, as a "qualifying facility" pursuant to the provisions of the "Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978," Pub.L.95-617.

(kk) "Non-utility" means a company engaged in the sale, exchange or transfer of natural gas that was not subject to the provisions of P.L.1940, c.5 (C.54:30A-49 et seq.) prior to December 31, 1997.

(ll) "Pre-paid telephone calling arrangement" means the right to purchase exclusively telecommunications services, that must be paid for in advance, that enables the origination of

calls using an access number or authorization code, whether manually or electronically dialed; provided, that the remaining amount of units of service that have been pre-paid shall be known by the service provider on a continuous basis.

(mm) "Mobile telecommunications service" means commercial mobile radio service, as defined in section 20.3 of title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations as in effect on June 1, 1999.

(nn) "Place of primary use" means the street address representative of where the customer's use of the mobile telecommunications service primarily occurs, which shall be the residential street address or the primary business street address of the customer and within the licensed service area of the home service provider. For the purposes of determining the primary place of use, the terms used shall have the meanings provided pursuant to the federal "Mobile Telecommunications Sourcing Act," 4 U.S.C. s.124 (Pub.L.106-252).

2. Section 3 of P.L.1966, c.30 (C.54:32B-3) is amended to read as follows:

C.54:32B-3 Imposition of sales tax.

3. There is imposed and there shall be paid a tax of 6% upon:

(a) The receipts from every retail sale of tangible personal property, except as otherwise provided in this act. If the lessor of tangible personal property purchased for lease elects to pay tax on the amount of the sales price as provided in paragraph (2) of subsection (bb) of section 2 of P.L.1966, c.30 (C.54:32B-2), any and each subsequent lease or rental is a retail sale, and a subsequent sale of such property is a retail sale.

(b) The receipts from every sale, except for resale, of the following services:

(1) Producing, fabricating, processing, printing or imprinting tangible personal property, performed for a person who directly or indirectly furnishes the tangible personal property, not purchased by him for resale, upon which such services are performed.

(2) Installing tangible personal property, or maintaining, servicing, repairing tangible personal property not held for sale in the regular course of business, whether or not the services are performed directly or by means of coin-operated equipment or by any other means, and whether or not any tangible personal property is transferred in conjunction therewith, except (i) such services rendered by an individual who is engaged directly by a private homeowner or lessee in or about his residence and who is not in a regular trade or business offering his services to the public, (ii) such services rendered with respect to personal property exempt from taxation hereunder pursuant to section 13 of P.L.1980, c.105 (C.54:32B-8.1), (iii) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1990, c.40), (iv) any receipts from laundering, dry cleaning, tailoring, weaving, pressing, shoe repairing and shoeshining and (v) services rendered in installing property which, when installed, will constitute an addition or capital improvement to real property, property or land.

(3) Storing all tangible personal property not held for sale in the regular course of business and the rental of safe deposit boxes or similar space.

(4) Maintaining, servicing or repairing real property, other than a residential heating system unit serving not more than three families living independently of each other and doing their cooking on the premises, whether the services are performed in or outside of a building, as distinguished from adding to or improving such real property by a capital improvement, but excluding services rendered by an individual who is not in a regular trade or business offering his services to the public, and excluding garbage removal and sewer services performed on a regular contractual basis for a term not less than 30 days.

(5) Direct-mail advertising processing services, except for direct-mail advertising processing services in connection with distribution of advertising or promotional material to out-of-State recipients.

(6) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1995, c.184).

(7) Utility service provided to persons in this State, any right or power over which is exercised in this State.

Wages, salaries and other compensation paid by an employer to an employee for performing as an employee the services described in this subsection are not receipts subject to the taxes

imposed under this subsection (b).

Services otherwise taxable under paragraph (1) or (2) of this subsection (b) are not subject to the taxes imposed under this subsection, where the tangible personal property upon which the services were performed is delivered to the purchaser outside this State for use outside this State.

(c) Receipts from the sale of food and drink in or by restaurants, taverns, vending machines or other establishments in this State, or by caterers, including in the amount of such receipts any cover, minimum, entertainment or other charge made to patrons or customers:

(1) In all instances where the sale is for consumption on the premises where sold;

(2) In those instances where the vendor or any person whose services are arranged for by the vendor, after the delivery of the food or drink by or on behalf of the vendor for consumption off the premises of the vendor, serves or assists in serving, cooks, heats or provides other services with respect to the food or drink, except for meals especially prepared for and delivered to homebound elderly, age 60 or older, and to disabled persons, or meals prepared and served at a group-sitting at a location outside of the home to otherwise homebound elderly persons, age 60 or older, and otherwise homebound disabled persons, as all or part of any food service project funded in whole or in part by government or as part of a private, nonprofit food service project available to all such elderly or disabled persons residing within an area of service designated by the private nonprofit organization;

(3) In those instances where the sale is for consumption off the premises of the vendor, and consists of a meal, or food prepared and ready to be eaten, of a kind obtainable in restaurants as the main course of a meal, including a sandwich, except where food other than sandwiches is sold in an unheated state and is of a type commonly sold in the same form and condition in food stores other than those which are principally engaged in selling prepared foods; and

(4) Sales of food and beverages sold through coin-operated vending machines, at the wholesale price of such sale, which shall be defined as 70% of the retail vending machine selling price, except sales of milk, which shall not be taxed. Nothing herein contained shall affect other sales through coin-operated vending machines taxable pursuant to subsection (a) above or the exemption thereto provided by section 21 of P.L.1980, c.105 (C.54:32B-8.9).

The tax imposed by this subsection (c) shall not apply to food or drink which is sold to an airline for consumption while in flight.

(d) The rent for every occupancy of a room or rooms in a hotel in this State, except that the tax shall not be imposed upon (1) a permanent resident, or (2) where the rent is not more than at the rate of \$2.00 per day.

(e) (1) Any admission charge, where such admission charge is in excess of \$0.75 to or for the use of any place of amusement in the State, including charges for admission to race tracks, baseball, football, basketball or exhibitions, dramatic or musical arts performances, motion picture theaters, except charges for admission to boxing, wrestling, kick boxing or combative sports exhibitions, events, performances or contests which charges are taxed under any other law of this State or under section 20 of P.L.1985, c.83 (C.5:2A-20), and, except charges to a patron for admission to, or use of, facilities for sporting activities in which such patron is to be a participant, such as bowling alleys and swimming pools. For any person having the permanent use or possession of a box or seat or lease or a license, other than a season ticket, for the use of a box or seat at a place of amusement, the tax shall be upon the amount for which a similar box or seat is sold for each performance or exhibition at which the box or seat is used or reserved by the holder, licensee or lessee, and shall be paid by the holder, licensee or lessee.

(2) The amount paid as charge of a roof garden, cabaret or other similar place in this State, to the extent that a tax upon such charges has not been paid pursuant to subsection (c) hereof.

(f) (1) The receipts from every sale, except for resale, of intrastate or interstate telecommunications (other than mobile telecommunications services) charged to an address in this State, regardless of where the services are billed or paid.

(2) The receipts from every sale, except for resale, of intrastate or interstate mobile telecommunications services billed by or for a customer's home service provider and provided to a customer with a place of primary use in this State. The provisions and definitions of the federal "Mobile Telecommunications Sourcing Act," 4 U.S.C. ss. 116-126 (Pub.L. 106-252), are

applicable herein.

(g) The receipts from every sale, except for resale, of prepaid telephone calling arrangements and the recharge of prepaid telephone calling arrangements. If the sale or recharge of a prepaid telephone calling arrangement does not take place at the vendor's place of business, the sale or recharge shall be conclusively determined to take place at the customer's shipping address, or if there is no item shipped, at the customer's billing address or the location associated with the customer's mobile telephone number.

3. Section 6 of P.L.1966, c.30 (C.54:32B-6) is amended to read as follows:

C.54:32B-6 Imposition of compensating use tax.

6. Unless property or services have already been or will be subject to the sales tax under this act, there is hereby imposed on and there shall be paid by every person a use tax for the use within this State of 6%, except as otherwise exempted under this act, (A) of any tangible personal property purchased at retail, including energy, provided however, that electricity consumed by the generating facility that produced it shall not be subject to tax, (B) of any tangible personal property manufactured, processed or assembled by the user, if items of the same kind of tangible personal property are offered for sale by him in the regular course of business, or if items of the same kind of tangible personal property are not offered for sale by him in the regular course of business and are used as such or incorporated into a structure, building or real property, (C) of any tangible personal property, however acquired, where not acquired for purposes of resale, upon which any taxable services described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (b) of section 3 of P.L.1966, c.30 (C.54:32B-3) have been performed, (D) of interstate or intrastate telecommunications and mobile telecommunications described in subsection (f) of section 3 of P.L.1966, c.30, (E) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1995, c.184), (F) of utility service provided to persons in this State for use in this State, provided however, that utility service used by the facility that provides the service shall not be subject to tax, (G) of direct-mail advertising processing services described in paragraph (5) of subsection (b) of section 3 of P.L.1966, c.30 (C.54:32B-3) and (H) of prepaid telephone calling arrangements and the recharge of prepaid telephone calling arrangements. For purposes of clause (A) of this section, the tax shall be at the applicable rate, as set forth hereinabove, of the consideration given or contracted to be given for such property or for the use of such property, but excluding any credit for property of the same kind accepted in part payment and intended for resale, plus the cost of transportation, except where such cost is separately stated in the written contract, if any, and on the bill rendered to the purchaser, provided however, that there shall be no exclusion for the cost of the utility service. For the purposes of clause (B) of this section, the tax shall be at the applicable rate, as set forth hereinabove, of the price at which items of the same kind of tangible personal property are offered for sale by the user, or if items of the same kind of tangible personal property are not offered for sale by the user in the regular course of business and are used as such or incorporated into a structure, building or real property the tax shall be at the applicable rate, as set forth hereinabove, of the consideration given or contracted to be given for the tangible personal property manufactured, processed or assembled by the user into the tangible personal property the use of which is subject to use tax pursuant to this section, and the mere storage, keeping, retention or withdrawal from storage of tangible personal property by the person who manufactured, processed or assembled such property shall not be deemed a taxable use by him. For purposes of clause (C) of this section, the tax shall be at the applicable rate, as set forth hereinabove, of the consideration given or contracted to be given for the service, including the consideration for any tangible personal property transferred in conjunction with the performance of the service, plus the cost of transportation, except where such cost is separately stated in the written contract, if any, and on the bill rendered to the purchaser. For the purposes of clause (D) of this section, the tax shall be at the applicable rate on the charge made by the telecommunications service provider. For purposes of clause (F) of this section, the tax shall be at the applicable rate on the charge made by the utility service provider. For purposes of clause (G) of this section, the tax shall be at the applicable rate on that proportion of the amount of all processing costs charged by a direct-mail advertising processing service provider that is

attributable to the advertising or promotional material distributed in this State. For the purposes of clause (H) of this section, the tax shall be at the applicable rate on the consideration given or contracted to be given for the prepaid telephone calling arrangement or the recharge of the prepaid telephone calling arrangement.

4. This act shall take effect immediately and shall apply to customer bills issued after August 1, 2002.

Approved July 30, 2002.