Department of Finance and Administration

Legislative Impact Statement

Bill: HB1387

Bill Subtitle: TO INCREASE THE SALES AND USE TAX EXEMPTION FOR A MOTOR VEHICLE, TRAILER, OR SEMITRAILER.

Basic Change: Sponsor: Representative Dotson

Under current law, the threshold for which sales tax is not due on motor vehicles, trailers, and semi-trailers, is a purchase of less than four thousand dollars (\$4,000). Under the bill, the threshold would be increased to a purchase price of less than five thousand dollars (\$5,000).

Revenue Impact :

FY16 Tax Decrease

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Total Impact to State Revenues - $2.1 million
[ 9 Months of Reduced Tax Collections --- 10/1/2015 Effective Date ]

-$ 1.41 million --- State General Revenue (4.5%)
-$ .27 million --- Educational Adequacy (.875% tax)
-$ .16 million --- Property Tax Relief Trust Fund (.5%)
-$ .04 million --- Conservation Tax (.125%)
-$ .16 million --- Highway Fund (.5%)
-$ 0 --- Educational Excellence Trust Fund
-$ 0 --- Educational Adequacy (GR transfer)
-$ .05 million --- State Central Services
-$ .02 million --- Constitutional Officers
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Total Impact to City and County Sales Tax - \$415,000

FY17 Tax Decrease

Total Impact to State Revenues - \$2.8 million

- -\$ 1.59 million --- State General Revenue (4.5%)
- -\$.36 million --- Educational Adequacy (.875% tax)
- -\$.21 million --- Property Tax Relief Trust Fund (.5%)
- -\$.05 million --- Conservation Tax (.125%)
- -\$.21 million --- Highway Fund (.5%)
- -\$.27 million --- Educational Excellence Trust Fund
- -\$.02 million --- Educational Adequacy (GR transfer)
- -\$.06 million --- State Central Services
- -\$.03 million --- Constitutional Officers

Total Impact to City and County Sales Tax - \$550,000

[During 2014, a total of 9,971 motor vehicles were registered with DFA with a sales price from \$4,000 to \$4,999.]

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Taxpayer Impact :

Taxpayers who purchase a motor vehicle, trailer, or semi-trailer with a selling price of less than \$5,000 would not pay sales tax on the purchase. Approximately 10,000 vehicle sales per year would no longer be subject to tax as a result of the increased exemption amount.

Resources Required :

No additional resources are required.

Time Required :

Adequate time is provided.

Procedural Changes:

Program the Motor Vehicle computer system for the new threshold. Revise the Motor Vehicle Procedures Manual and distribute revisions to state revenue offices.

Other Comments:

None.

Legal Analysis:

Currently, sales of new or used motor vehicles, trailers, or semitrailers for under \$4,000 are exempt from Arkansas sales and use taxes. This bill would increase that exemption amount to \$5,000. The increase is effective on the first day of the calendar quarter following the effective date of the act.

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