1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to tax administration; amending s.
3	197.222, F.S.; requiring, rather than authorizing, tax
4	collectors to accept late payments of prepaid property
5	taxes within a certain timeframe; deleting a late
6	payment penalty; amending s. 211.3106, F.S.;
7	specifying the severance tax rate for a certain heavy
8	mineral under certain circumstances; amending s.
9	212.06, F.S.; revising the definition of the term
10	"dealer"; revising a condition for a sales tax
11	exception for tangible personal property imported,
12	produced, or manufactured in this state for export;
13	providing definitions; specifying application
14	requirements and procedures for a forwarding agent to
15	apply for a Florida Certificate of Forwarding Agent
16	Address from the Department of Revenue; requiring
17	forwarding agents receiving such certificate to
18	register as dealers for purposes of the sales and use
19	tax; specifying requirements for sales tax remittance
20	and for recordkeeping; specifying the timeframe for
21	expiration of certificates and procedures for renewal;
22	requiring forwarding agents to update information;
23	requiring the department to verify certain
24	information; authorizing the department to revoke or
25	suspend certificates under certain circumstances;

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26 requiring the department to maintain an online 27 certificate verification system; providing 28 circumstances and requirements for and construction 29 relating to dealers accepting certificates in lieu of 30 collecting certain taxes; providing criminal penalties for certain violations; authorizing the department to 31 32 adopt rules; amending s. 212.13, F.S.; revising 33 recordkeeping requirements for dealers collecting the sales and use tax; amending s. 212.15, F.S.; providing 34 35 that stolen sales tax revenue may be aggregated for 36 the purposes of determining the grade of certain 37 criminal offenses; amending s. 213.053, F.S.; authorizing the department to publish a list of 38 39 forwarding agents' addresses on its website; 40 reenacting s. 192.0105(3)(a), F.S., relating to 41 taxpayer rights, to incorporate the amendment made to 42 s. 197.222, F.S., in a reference thereto; reenacting 43 s. 212.07(1)(c), F.S., relating to the sales, storage, and use tax, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 44 212.06, F.S., in a reference thereto; reenacting s. 45 212.08(18)(f), F.S., relating to the sales, rental, 46 47 use, consumption, distribution, and storage tax, to 48 incorporate the amendment made to s. 212.13, F.S., in 49 a reference thereto; authorizing the department to 50 adopt emergency rules; providing for expiration of

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51	that authority; providing effective dates.
52	
53	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
54	
55	Section 1. Effective July 1, 2021, paragraph (a) of
56	subsection (1) of section 197.222, Florida Statutes, is amended
57	to read:
58	197.222 Prepayment of estimated tax by installment
59	method
60	(1) Taxes collected pursuant to this chapter may be
61	prepaid in installments as provided in this section. A taxpayer
62	may elect to prepay by installments for each tax notice for
63	taxes estimated to be more than \$100. A taxpayer who elects to
64	prepay shall make payments based upon an estimated tax equal to
65	the actual taxes levied upon the subject property in the prior
66	year. In order to prepay by installments, the taxpayer must
67	complete and file an application for each tax notice with the
68	tax collector on or before April 30 of the year in which the
69	taxpayer elects to prepay the taxes. After submission of an
70	initial application, a taxpayer is not required to submit
71	additional annual applications as long as he or she continues to
72	elect to prepay taxes in installments. However, if in any year
73	the taxpayer does not so elect, reapplication is required for a
74	subsequent election. Installment payments shall be made
75	according to the following schedule:

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76 The first payment of one-quarter of the total amount (a) 77 of estimated taxes due must be made by June 30 of the year in 78 which the taxes are assessed. A 6 percent discount applied 79 against the amount of the installment shall be granted for such 80 payment. The tax collector shall may accept a late payment of 81 the first installment through July 31, and the late payment must 82 be accompanied by a penalty of 5 percent of the amount of the 83 installment due. Section 2. Effective upon becoming a law, paragraph (e) of 84 subsection (3) of section 211.3106, Florida Statutes, is amended 85 86 to read: 87 211.3106 Levy of tax on severance of heavy minerals; rate, basis, and distribution of tax.-88 89 (3) 90 If In the event the producer price index for titanium (e) dioxide is discontinued or can no longer be calculated, then a 91 92 comparable index must shall be selected by the department and 93 adopted by rule. If there is no comparable index, the tax rate 94 for the immediately preceding year must be used. 95 Section 3. Paragraph (m) is added to subsection (2) of section 212.06, Florida Statutes, and subsection (5) of that 96 97 section is amended, to read: 98 212.06 Sales, storage, use tax; collectible from dealers; "dealer" defined; dealers to collect from purchasers; 99 100 legislative intent as to scope of tax.-

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101 (2)

102 (m) The term "dealer" also means a forwarding agent as 103 defined in subparagraph (5)(b)1. who has applied for and 104 received a Florida Certificate of Forwarding Agent Address from 105 the department.

106 (5) (a) 1. Except as provided in subparagraph 2., it is not 107 the intention of this chapter to levy a tax upon tangible 108 personal property imported, produced, or manufactured in this state for export, provided that tangible personal property may 109 not be considered as being imported, produced, or manufactured 110 for export unless the importer, producer, or manufacturer 111 112 delivers the same to a forwarding agent licensed exporter for exporting or to a common carrier for shipment outside this the 113 114 state or mails the same by United States mail to a destination 115 outside this the state; or, in the case of aircraft being exported under their own power to a destination outside the 116 117 continental limits of the United States, by submission to the 118 department of a duly signed and validated United States customs 119 declaration, showing the departure of the aircraft from the 120 continental United States; and further with respect to aircraft, 121 the canceled United States registry of said aircraft; or in the 122 case of parts and equipment installed on aircraft of foreign registry, by submission to the department of documentation as  $\overline{r}$ 123 124 the extent of which shall be provided by rule, showing the departure of the aircraft from the continental United States; 125

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nor is it the intention of this chapter to levy a tax on any sale <u>that</u> which the state is prohibited from taxing under the Constitution or laws of the United States. Every retail sale made to a person physically present at the time of sale <u>is</u> shall be presumed to have been delivered in this state.

131 2.a. Notwithstanding subparagraph 1., a tax is levied on 132 each sale of tangible personal property to be transported to a 133 cooperating state as defined in sub-subparagraph c., at the rate 134 specified in sub-subparagraph d. However, a Florida dealer is will be relieved from the requirements of collecting taxes 135 pursuant to this subparagraph if the Florida dealer obtains from 136 137 the purchaser an affidavit providing setting forth the 138 purchaser's name, address, state taxpayer identification number, 139 and a statement that the purchaser is aware of his or her 140 state's use tax laws, is a registered dealer in Florida or another state, or is purchasing the tangible personal property 141 142 for resale or is otherwise not required to pay the tax on the 143 transaction. The department may, by rule, provide a form to be 144 used for the purposes of this sub-subparagraph set forth herein.

b. For purposes of this subparagraph, <u>the term</u> "<del>a</del> cooperating state" <u>means a state</u> is one determined by the executive director of the department to cooperate satisfactorily with this state in collecting taxes on mail order sales. <u>To be</u> <u>determined a cooperating state, a</u> <del>No</del> state <u>must meet</u> <del>shall be so</del> <del>determined unless it meets</del> all the following minimum

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151 requirements:

(I) It levies and collects taxes on mail order sales of
property transported from that state to persons in this state,
as described in s. 212.0596, upon request of the department.

(II) The tax so collected <u>is shall be</u> at the rate specified in s. 212.05, not including any local option or tourist or convention development taxes collected pursuant to s. 125.0104 or this chapter.

(III) Such state agrees to remit to the department all
taxes so collected no later than 30 days from the last day of
the calendar quarter following their collection.

(IV) Such state authorizes the department to audit dealers within its jurisdiction who make mail order sales that are the subject of s. 212.0596, or makes arrangements deemed adequate by the department for auditing them with its own personnel.

(V) Such state agrees to provide to the department records obtained by it from retailers or dealers in such state showing delivery of tangible personal property into this state upon which no sales or use tax has been paid in a manner similar to that provided in sub-subparagraph g.

171 c. For purposes of this subparagraph, <u>the term</u> "sales of 172 tangible personal property to be transported to a cooperating 173 state" means mail order sales to a person who is in the 174 cooperating state at the time the order is executed, from a 175 dealer who receives that order in this state.

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176 The tax levied by sub-subparagraph a. shall be at the d. rate at which such a sale would have been taxed pursuant to the 177 178 cooperating state's tax laws if consummated in the cooperating 179 state by a dealer and a purchaser, both of whom were physically 180 present in that state at the time of the sale. 181 The tax levied by sub-subparagraph a., when collected, e. 182 shall be held in the State Treasury in trust for the benefit of 183 the cooperating state and shall be paid to it at a time agreed 184 upon between the department, acting for this state, and the cooperating state or the department or agency designated by it 185 to act for it; however, such payment shall in no event be made 186 187 later than 30 days from the last day of the calendar guarter after the tax was collected. Funds held in trust for the benefit 188 189 of a cooperating state are shall not be subject to the service 190 charges imposed by s. 215.20.

191 f. The department is authorized to perform such acts and 192 to provide such cooperation to a cooperating state with 193 reference to the tax levied by sub-subparagraph a. as is 194 required of the cooperating state by sub-subparagraph b.

195 g. In furtherance of this act, dealers selling tangible 196 personal property for delivery in another state shall make 197 available to the department, upon request of the department, 198 records of all tangible personal property so sold. Such records 199 <u>must shall</u> include a description of the property, the name and 200 address of the purchaser, the name and address of the person to

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201	whom the property was sent, the purchase price of the property,					
202	information regarding whether sales tax was paid in this state					
203	on the purchase price, and such other information as the					
204	department may by rule prescribe.					
205	(b)1. As used in this subsection, the term:					
206	a. "Certificate" means a Florida Certificate of Forwarding					
207	Agent Address.					
208	b. "Facilitating" means preparation for or arranging for					
209	export.					
210	c. "Forwarding agent" means a person or business whose					
211	principal business activity is facilitating for compensation the					
212	export of property owned by other persons.					
213	d. "NAICS" means those classifications contained in the					
214	North American Industry Classification System as published in					
215	2007 by the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of					
216	the President.					
217	e. "Principal business activity" means the activity from					
218	which the person or business derives the highest percentage of					
219	its total receipts.					
220	2. A forwarding agent engaged in international export may					
221	apply to the department for a certificate.					
222	3. Each application must include:					
223	a. The designation of an address for the forwarding agent.					
224	b. A certification that:					
225	(I) The tangible personal property delivered to the					
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226	designated address for export originates with a United States						
227	vendor;						
228	(II) The tangible personal property delivered to the						
229	designated address for export is irrevocably committed to export						
230	out of the United States through a continuous and unbroken						
231	exportation process; and						
232	(III) The designated address is used exclusively by the						
233	forwarding agent for such export.						
234	c. A copy of the forwarding agent's last filed federal						
235	income tax return showing the entity's principal business						
236	activity classified under NAICS code 488510, except as provided						
237	under subparagraph 4. or subparagraph 5.						
238	d. A statement of the total revenues of the forwarding						
239	agent.						
240	e. A statement of the amount of revenues associated with						
241	international export of the forwarding agent.						
242	f. A description of all business activity that occurs at						
243	the designated address.						
244	g. The name and contact information of a designated						
245	contact person of the forwarding agent.						
246	h. The forwarding agent's website address.						
247	i. Any additional information the department requires by						
248	rule to demonstrate eligibility for the certificate and a						
249	signature attesting to the validity of the information provided.						
250	4. An applicant that has not filed a federal return for						

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251 the preceding tax year under NAICS code 488510 shall provide: 252 a. A statement of estimated total revenues. 253 b. A statement of estimated revenues associated with 254 international export. 255 c. The NAICS code under which the forwarding agent intends 256 to file a federal return. 257 5. If an applicant does not file a federal return identifying a NAICS code, the applicant shall provide 258 259 documentation to support that its principal business activity is 260 that of a forwarding agent and that the applicant is otherwise 261 eligible for the certificate. 262 6. A forwarding agent that applies for and receives a 263 certificate shall register as a dealer with the department. 264 7. A forwarding agent shall remit the tax imposed under 265 this chapter on any tangible personal property shipped to the 266 designated forwarding agent address if no tax was collected and 267 the tangible personal property remained in this state or if 268 delivery to the purchaser or purchaser's representative occurs 269 in this state. This subparagraph does not prohibit the 270 forwarding agent from collecting such tax from the consumer of 271 the tangible personal property. 272 8. A forwarding agent shall maintain the following 273 records: a. Copies of sales invoices or receipts between the vendor 274 275 and the consumer when provided by the vendor to the forwarding

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276 agent. If sales invoices or receipts are not provided to the 277 forwarding agent, the forwarding agent must maintain export 278 documentation evidencing the value of the purchase consistent 279 with the federal Export Administration regulations. 280 b. Copies of federal returns evidencing the forwarding 281 agent's NAICS principal business activity code. 282 c. Copies of invoices or other documentation evidencing 283 shipment to the forwarding agent. 284 d. Invoices between the forwarding agent and the consumer 285 or other documentation evidencing the ship-to destination 286 outside the United States. 287 e. Invoices for foreign postal or transportation services. 288 f. Bills of lading. 289 g. Any other export documentation. 290 291 Such records must be kept in an electronic format and made 292 available for the department's review pursuant to subparagraph 293 9. and ss. 212.13 and 213.35. 294 9. Each certificate expires 5 years after the date of 295 issuance, except as specified in this subparagraph. a. At least 30 days before expiration, a new application 296 297 must be submitted to renew the certificate and the application 298 must contain the information required in subparagraph 3. Upon 299 application for renewal, the certificate is subject to the review and reissuance procedures prescribed by this chapter and 300

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301	department rule.
302	b. Each forwarding agent shall update its application
303	information annually or within 30 days after any material
304	change.
305	c. The department shall verify that the forwarding agent
306	is actively engaged in facilitating the international export of
307	tangible personal property.
308	d. The department may suspend or revoke the certificate of
309	any forwarding agent that fails to respond within 30 days to a
310	written request for information regarding its business
311	transactions.
312	10. The department shall provide a list on the
313	department's website of forwarding agents that have applied for
314	and received a Florida Certificate of Forwarding Agent Address
315	from the department. The list shall include a forwarding agent's
316	entity name, address, and expiration date as provided on the
317	Florida Certificate of Forwarding Agent Address.
318	11. A dealer may accept a copy of the forwarding agent's
319	certificate or rely on the list of forwarding agents' names and
320	addresses on the department's website in lieu of collecting the
321	tax imposed under this chapter when the property is required by
322	terms of the sale to be shipped to the designated address on the
323	certificate. A dealer that accepts a valid copy of a certificate
324	or relies on the list of forwarding agents' names and addresses
325	on the department's website in good faith and ships purchased
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326 tangible personal property to the address on the certificate is 327 not liable for any tax due on sales made during the effective 328 dates indicated on the certificate. 329 12. The department may revoke a forwarding agent's 330 certificate for noncompliance with this paragraph. Any person 331 found to fraudulently use the address on the certificate for the 332 purpose of evading tax is subject to the penalties provided in 333 s. 212.085. 334 13. The department may adopt rules to administer this 335 paragraph, including, but not limited to, rules relating to 336 procedures, application and eligibility requirements, and forms. 337 (c)1. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a), it is not the intention of this chapter to levy a tax on the sale 338 339 of tangible personal property to a nonresident dealer who does 340 not hold a Florida sales tax registration, provided such nonresident dealer furnishes the seller a statement declaring 341 342 that the tangible personal property will be transported outside 343 this state by the nonresident dealer for resale and for no other 344 purpose. The statement must shall include, but not be limited 345 to, the nonresident dealer's name, address, applicable passport 346 or visa number, arrival-departure card number, and evidence of 347 authority to do business in the nonresident dealer's home state or country, such as his or her business name and address, 348 occupational license number, if applicable, or any other 349 350 suitable requirement. The statement must shall be signed by the

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351 nonresident dealer and <u>must</u> shall include the following 352 sentence: "Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have 353 read the foregoing, and the facts alleged are true to the best 354 of my knowledge and belief."

2. The burden of proof of subparagraph 1. rests with the seller, who must retain the proper documentation to support the exempt sale. The exempt transaction is subject to verification by the department.

359 (d) (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a), it 360 is not the intention of this chapter to levy a tax on the sale by a printer to a nonresident print purchaser of material 361 362 printed by that printer for that nonresident print purchaser when the print purchaser does not furnish the printer a resale 363 364 certificate containing a sales tax registration number but does 365 furnish to the printer a statement declaring that such material 366 will be resold by the nonresident print purchaser.

367 Section 4. Effective July 1, 2021, subsection (2) of
368 section 212.13, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

369 212.13 Records required to be kept; power to inspect; 370 audit procedure.-

371 (2) Each dealer, as defined in this chapter, shall secure,
372 maintain, and keep as long as required by s. 213.35 a complete
373 record of tangible personal property or services received, used,
374 sold at retail, distributed or stored, leased or rented by said
375 dealer, together with invoices, bills of lading, gross receipts

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376 from such sales, and other pertinent records and papers as may 377 be required by the department for the reasonable administration 378 of this chapter. + All such records must be made available to the 379 department at reasonable times and places and by reasonable means, including in an electronic format when so kept by the 380 381 dealer which are located or maintained in this state shall be 382 open for inspection by the department at all reasonable hours at 383 such dealer's store, sales office, general office, warehouse, or place of business located in this state. Any dealer who 384 385 maintains such books and records at a point outside this state 386 must make such books and records available for inspection by the 387 department where the general records are kept. Any dealer 388 subject to the provisions of this chapter who violates this 389 subsection commits these provisions is quilty of a misdemeanor 390 of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 391 775.083. If, however, any subsequent offense involves 392 intentional destruction of such records with an intent to evade 393 payment of or deprive the state of any tax revenues, such 394 subsequent offense is shall be a felony of the third degree, 395 punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. 396 Section 5. Effective July 1, 2021, subsection (2) of 397 section 212.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 212.15 Taxes declared state funds; penalties for failure 398

to remit taxes; due and delinquent dates; judicial review.(2) Any person who, with intent to unlawfully deprive or

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401 defraud the state of its moneys or the use or benefit thereof, 402 fails to remit taxes collected under this chapter commits theft 403 of state funds, punishable as follows:

404 If the total amount of stolen revenue is less than (a) 405 \$1,000, the offense is a misdemeanor of the second degree, 406 punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. Upon a 407 second conviction, the offender commits a misdemeanor of the 408 first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 409 775.083. Upon a third or subsequent conviction, the offender 410 commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. 411

(b) If the total amount of stolen revenue is \$1,000 or more, but less than \$20,000, the offense is a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

(c) If the total amount of stolen revenue is \$20,000 or more, but less than \$100,000, the offense is a felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

(d) If the total amount of stolen revenue is \$100,000 or
more, the offense is a felony of the first degree, punishable as
provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

423

424 The amount of stolen revenue may be aggregated in determining 425 the grade of the offense.

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426 Section 6. Subsection (5) of section 213.053, Florida 427 Statutes, is amended to read: 428 213.053 Confidentiality and information sharing.-429 This section does not prevent the department from any (5) 430 of the following: 431 Publishing statistics so classified as to prevent the (a) 432 identification of particular accounts, reports, declarations, or 433 returns; or 434 (b) Publishing a list of forwarding agents who have 435 received a Florida Certificate of Forwarding Agent Address. The 436 list must include each forwarding agent's entity name, address, 437 and certificate expiration date on the department's website 438 pursuant to s. 212.06(5)(b)10.; or (c) (b) Using telephones, e-mail, facsimile machines, or 439 440 other electronic means to do any of the following: 441 Distribute information relating to changes in law, tax 1. 442 rates, interest rates, or other information that is not specific 443 to a particular taxpayer; 444 2. Remind taxpayers of due dates; 445 Respond to a taxpayer to an electronic mail address 3. 446 that does not support encryption if the use of that address is 447 authorized by the taxpayer; or Notify taxpayers to contact the department. 448 4. 449 Section 7. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 450 made by this act to section 197.222, Florida Statutes, in a

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451 reference thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 452 192.0105, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

453 192.0105 Taxpayer rights.-There is created a Florida 454 Taxpayer's Bill of Rights for property taxes and assessments to 455 quarantee that the rights, privacy, and property of the 456 taxpayers of this state are adequately safeguarded and protected 457 during tax levy, assessment, collection, and enforcement 458 processes administered under the revenue laws of this state. The 459 Taxpayer's Bill of Rights compiles, in one document, brief but comprehensive statements that summarize the rights and 460 461 obligations of the property appraisers, tax collectors, clerks of the court, local governing boards, the Department of Revenue, 462 463 and taxpayers. Additional rights afforded to payors of taxes and 464 assessments imposed under the revenue laws of this state are 465 provided in s. 213.015. The rights afforded taxpayers to assure 466 that their privacy and property are safeguarded and protected 467 during tax levy, assessment, and collection are available only 468 insofar as they are implemented in other parts of the Florida 469 Statutes or rules of the Department of Revenue. The rights so 470 guaranteed to state taxpayers in the Florida Statutes and the 471 departmental rules include:

472

(3) THE RIGHT TO REDRESS.-

(a) The right to discounts for early payment on all taxes
and non-ad valorem assessments collected by the tax collector,
except for partial payments as defined in s. 197.374, the right

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476 to pay installment payments with discounts, and the right to pay 477 delinquent personal property taxes under a payment program when 478 implemented by the county tax collector (see ss. 197.162, 479 197.3632(8) and (10)(b)3., 197.222(1), and 197.4155). 480 Section 8. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 481 made by this act to section 212.06, Florida Statutes, in a 482 reference thereto, paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section 212.07, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read: 483 484 212.07 Sales, storage, use tax; tax added to purchase 485 price; dealer not to absorb; liability of purchasers who cannot 486 prove payment of the tax; penalties; general exemptions.-487 (1)488 (c) Unless the purchaser of tangible personal property 489 that is incorporated into tangible personal property 490 manufactured, produced, compounded, processed, or fabricated for 491 one's own use and subject to the tax imposed under s. 492 212.06(1)(b) or is purchased for export under s. 212.06(5)(a)1. 493 extends a certificate in compliance with the rules of the 494 department, the dealer shall himself or herself be liable for 495 and pay the tax. 496 Section 9. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 497 made by this act to section 212.13, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, paragraph (f) of subsection (18) of section 498 212.08, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read: 499

500

212.08 Sales, rental, use, consumption, distribution, and

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501 storage tax; specified exemptions.-The sale at retail, the 502 rental, the use, the consumption, the distribution, and the 503 storage to be used or consumed in this state of the following 504 are hereby specifically exempt from the tax imposed by this 505 chapter. 506 MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT USED PREDOMINANTLY FOR (18)507 RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.-508 (f) Purchasers shall maintain all documentation necessary 509 to prove the exempt status of purchases and fabrication activity 510 and make such documentation available for inspection pursuant to 511 the requirements of s. 212.13(2). 512 Section 10. (1) The Department of Revenue is authorized, 513 and all conditions are deemed met, to adopt emergency rules 514 pursuant to s. 120.54(4), Florida Statutes, for the purpose of 515 implementing the amendment made by this act to s. 212.06, 516 Florida Statutes. 517 (2) Notwithstanding any other law, emergency rules adopted 518 pursuant to subsection (1) are effective for 6 months after 519 adoption and may be renewed during the pendency of procedures to 520 adopt permanent rules addressing the subject of the emergency 521 rules. 522 This section shall take effect upon becoming a law and (3) expires January 1, 2025. 523 524 Section 11. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this 525 act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon

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526 becoming a law, this act shall take effect January 1, 2022.

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