SENATE BILL NO. 429-COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MAY 19, 2009

Referred to Committee of the Whole

SUMMARY—Provides additional revenue for the provision of governmental services. (BDR 32-1320)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.

Effect on the State: No.

EXPLANATION - Matter in bolded italics is new; matter between brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to state financial administration; increasing the state business license fee; revising the rate of the payroll tax imposed on certain businesses other than financial institutions; revising the provisions governing the calculation of governmental services taxes due annually for used vehicles and allocating a portion of the proceeds of the basic governmental services tax to the State General Fund; increasing the rate of the Local School Support Tax; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Sections 1 and 2 of this bill increase the fee for a state business license from \$100 to \$200.

Existing law imposes an excise tax on certain businesses other than financial institutions at the rate of 0.63 percent of the total wages paid by the business each calendar quarter. (NRS 363B.110) **Section 3** of this bill changes that rate to 0.5 percent of the amount paid that does not exceed \$62,500, plus 1.17 percent of the amount paid in excess of \$62,500.

Existing law sets forth depreciation schedules for determining the amount of governmental services taxes due each year for used vehicles and establishes a minimum tax of \$6. (NRS 371.060) **Section 4** of this bill increases the amount of governmental services taxes due annually for used vehicles by reducing the amount of depreciation allowed and increasing the minimum tax to \$16. **Sections 5 and 13-15** of this bill allocate the revenue from these increases in the basic governmental services tax to the State General Fund.

Under existing law, the Local School Support Tax Law imposes sales and use taxes at the rate of 2.25 percent. (NRS 374.110, 374.190) **Sections 6-8** of this bill increase that rate to 2.6 percent.



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THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

- **Section 1.** NRS 360.780 is hereby amended to read as follows: 360.780 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 7, a person shall not conduct a business in this State unless he has a state business license issued by the Department.
 - 2. An application for a state business license must:
 - (a) Be made upon a form prescribed by the Department;
- (b) Set forth the name under which the applicant transacts or intends to transact business and the location of his place or places of business;
 - (c) Be accompanied by a fee of [\$100;] \$200; and
- (d) Include any other information that the Department deems necessary.
 - 3. The application must be signed by:
 - (a) The owner, if the business is owned by a natural person;
- 15 (b) A member or partner, if the business is owned by an association or partnership; or
 - (c) An officer or some other person specifically authorized to sign the application, if the business is owned by a corporation.
 - 4. If the application is signed pursuant to paragraph (c) of subsection 3, written evidence of the signer's authority must be attached to the application.
 - 5. The state business license required to be obtained pursuant to this section is in addition to any license to conduct business that must be obtained from the local jurisdiction in which the business is being conducted.
 - 6. For the purposes of NRS 360.760 to 360.798, inclusive, a person shall be deemed to conduct a business in this State if a business for which the person is responsible:
 - (a) Is organized pursuant to title 7 of NRS, other than a business organized pursuant to chapter 82 or 84 of NRS;
 - (b) Has an office or other base of operations in this State; or
 - (c) Pays wages or other remuneration to a natural person who performs in this State any of the duties for which he is paid.
 - 7. A person who takes part in an exhibition held in this State for a purpose related to the conduct of a business is not required to obtain a state business license specifically for that event if the operator of the facility where the exhibition is held pays the licensing fee on behalf of that person pursuant to NRS 360.787.
 - Sec. 2. NRS 360.784 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 360.784 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, a person who has been issued a state business license shall submit a fee of [\$100] \$200 to the Department on or before:





- (a) The last day of the month in which the anniversary date of issuance of the state business license occurs in each year; or
- (b) Such other annual date as the Department and person may mutually agree,
- unless the person submits a written statement to the Department, at least 10 days before that date, indicating that the person will not be conducting business in this State after that date.
- 2. The Department may reduce the amount of any initial fee required pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 1 to allow credit for the remaining portion of a year for which the fee has been paid for the state business license pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1 or NRS 360.780.
- 3. A person who fails to submit the annual fee required pursuant to this section in a timely manner shall pay a penalty in the amount of \$100 in addition to the annual fee.
 - **Sec. 3.** NRS 363B.110 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 363B.110 1. There is hereby imposed an excise tax on each employer [at the rate of 0.63 percent of the wages, as defined in NRS 612.190,] in the amount determined as follows:
- (a) If the sum of all the wages paid by the employer during a calendar quarter with respect to employment in connection with the business activities of the employer [...] does not exceed \$62,500, the amount of the tax for that calendar quarter is 0.5 percent of the sum of those wages; or
- (b) If the sum of all the wages paid by the employer during a calendar quarter with respect to employment in connection with the business activities of the employer exceeds \$62,500, the amount of the tax for that calendar quarter is \$312.50 plus 1.17 percent of the amount by which the sum of those wages exceeds \$62,500.
 - 2. The tax imposed by this section:
- (a) Does not apply to any person or other entity or any wages this State is prohibited from taxing under the Constitution, laws or treaties of the United States or the Nevada Constitution.
- (b) Must not be deducted, in whole or in part, from any wages of persons in the employment of the employer.
- 3. Each employer shall, on or before the last day of the month immediately following each calendar quarter for which the employer is required to pay a contribution pursuant to NRS 612.535:
- (a) File with the Department a return on a form prescribed by the Department; and
- (b) Remit to the Department any tax due pursuant to this chapter for that calendar quarter.





Sec. 4. NRS 371.060 is hereby amended to read as follows:

371.060 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, each vehicle must be depreciated by the Department for the purposes of the annual governmental services tax according to the following schedule:

6		Percentage of
7	Age	Initial Value
8		
9	New	
10	1 year	[85] 95 percent
11	2 years	
12	3 years	[65] 75 percent
13	4 years	[55] 65 percent
14	5 years	[45] 55 percent
15	6 years	[35] 45 percent
16	7 years	[25] 35 percent
17	8 years	[15] 25 percent
18	9 years or more	[5] 15 percent

2. Each bus, truck or truck-tractor having a declared gross weight of 10,000 pounds or more and each trailer or semitrailer having an unladen weight of 4,000 pounds or more must be depreciated by the Department for the purposes of the annual governmental services tax according to the following schedule:

26		Percentage of
27	Age	Initial Value
28		
29	New	100 percent
30	1 year	
31	2 years	[59] 69 percent
32	3 years	[47] 57 percent
33	4 years	[37] 47 percent
34	5 years	[28] 38 percent
35	6 years	[23] 33 percent
36	7 years	[20] 30 percent
37	8 years	[17] 27 percent
38	9 years	[15] 25 percent
39	10 years or more	[13] 23 percent
40	•	•

- 3. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the minimum amount of the governmental services tax:
- (a) On any trailer having an unladen weight of 1,000 pounds or less is \$3; and
 - (b) On any other vehicle is [\$6.] \$16.



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- 4. For the purposes of this section, a vehicle shall be deemed a "new" vehicle if the vehicle has never been registered with the Department and has never been registered with the appropriate agency of any other state, the District of Columbia, any territory or possession of the United States or any foreign state, province or country.
 - **Sec. 5.** NRS 371.230 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 371.230 Except as otherwise provided in NRS 371.1035, 482.180 [or] and 482.181, and section 13 of this act, money collected by the Department for governmental services taxes and penalties pursuant to the provisions of this chapter must be deposited with the State Treasurer to the credit of the Motor Vehicle Fund.
- **Sec. 6.** Chapter 374 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 7 and 8 of this act.
- Sec. 7. In addition to the amount of tax imposed pursuant to NRS 374.110, for the privilege of selling tangible personal property at retail an additional amount of tax is hereby imposed upon all retailers at the rate of 0.35 percent of the gross receipts of any retailer from the sale of all tangible personal property sold at retail in a county.
- Sec. 8. 1. In addition to the amount of excise tax imposed pursuant to NRS 374.190, an additional amount of excise tax is hereby imposed on the storage, use or other consumption in a county of tangible personal property purchased from any retailer for storage, use or other consumption in the county at the rate of 0.35 percent of the sales price of the property.
- 2. The additional amount of tax is imposed on all property which was acquired out of State in a transaction which would have been a taxable sale if it had occurred within this State.
 - **Sec. 9.** NRS 374.635 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 374.635 1. If the Department determines that any amount, penalty or interest has been paid more than once or has been erroneously or illegally collected or computed, the Department shall set forth that fact in the records of the Department and shall certify to the board of county commissioners the amount collected in excess of the amount legally due and the person from whom it was collected or by whom paid. If approved by the board of county commissioners, the excess amount collected or paid must, after being credited against any amount then due from the person in accordance with section 1 of [this act,] Assembly Bill No. 23 of this session, be refunded to the person or his successors, administrators or executors.
- 2. Any overpayment of the use tax by a purchaser to a retailer who is required to collect the tax and who gives the purchaser a





receipt therefor pursuant to NRS 374.190 to 374.260, inclusive, *and section 8 of this act*, and 374.727 must be credited or refunded by the county to the purchaser, subject to the requirements of section 1 of [this act.] Assembly Bill No. 23 of this session.

Sec. 10. NRS 374.645 is hereby amended to read as follows:

374.645 No credit or refund of any amount paid pursuant to NRS 374.190 to 374.260, inclusive, *and section 8 of this act*, and 374.727 may be allowed on the ground that the storage, use or other consumption of the property is exempted pursuant to NRS 374.350, unless the person who paid the amount reimburses his vendor for the amount of the sales tax imposed upon his vendor with respect to the sale of the property and paid by the vendor to the county.

Sec. 11. NRS 374.726 is hereby amended to read as follows:

374.726 In its administration of the use tax imposed by NRS 374.190 [and section 8 of this act, the Department shall not consider the storage, use or other consumption in a county of tangible personal property which:

- 1. Does not have significant value; and
- 2. Is acquired free of charge at a convention, trade show or other public event.

Sec. 12. NRS 374.727 is hereby amended to read as follows:

374.727 In administering the provisions of this chapter, the Department shall, pursuant to NRS 374.190 [...] and section 8 of this act, calculate the amount of tax imposed on the use or other consumption of meals provided by an employer to his employee based on the cost of the specific components of those meals if:

- 1. The meals are furnished on a regular basis on the premises of the employer for the convenience of the employer; and
- 2. The employer does not charge the employees a specific fixed price per meal.
- **Sec. 13.** Chapter 482 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:
- 1. After deducting the amount withheld by the Department and the amount credited to the Department pursuant to subsection 6 of NRS 482.180 and before carrying out the provisions of NRS 482.181 each month, the Department shall direct the State Controller to transfer to the State General Fund from the proceeds of the basic governmental services tax collected by the Department and its agents during the preceding month the amounts indicated pursuant to this section.
- 2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, the amount required to be transferred pursuant to subsection 1 from the proceeds of the basic governmental services tax imposed on vehicles depreciated in accordance with:
 - (a) Subsection 1 of NRS 371.060 based upon an age of:





- 1 (1) One year, is a sum equal to 11 percent of those 2 proceeds;
- 3 (2) Two years, is a sum equal to 12 percent of those 4 proceeds;
 - (3) Three years, is a sum equal to 13 percent of those proceeds;
 - (4) Four years, is a sum equal to 15 percent of those proceeds;
 - (5) Five years, is a sum equal to 18 percent of those proceeds;
 - (6) Six years, is a sum equal to 22 percent of those proceeds;
 - (7) Seven years, is a sum equal to 29 percent of those proceeds;
 - (8) Eight years, is a sum equal to 40 percent of those proceeds; and
 - (9) Nine years or more, is a sum equal to 67 percent of those proceeds; and
 - (b) Subsection 2 of NRS 371.060 based upon an age of:
- 20 (1) One year, is a sum equal to 12 percent of those 21 proceeds;
 - (2) Two years, is a sum equal to 14 percent of those proceeds;
- 24 (3) Three years, is a sum equal to 18 percent of those 25 proceeds;
 - (4) Four years, is a sum equal to 21 percent of those proceeds;
- 28 (5) Five years, is a sum equal to 26 percent of those 29 proceeds;
- 30 (6) Six years, is a sum equal to 30 percent of those 31 proceeds;
- 32 (7) Seven years, is a sum equal to 33 percent of those 33 proceeds;
- 34 (8) Eight years, is a sum equal to 37 percent of those 35 proceeds;
 - (9) Nine years, is a sum equal to 40 percent of those proceeds; and
- 38 (10) Ten years or more, is a sum equal to 43 percent of those proceeds.
 - 3. The amount required to be transferred pursuant to subsection 1 from the proceeds of the basic governmental services tax imposed on vehicles to which the minimum amount of that tax applies pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 3 of NRS 371.060 is a sum equal to 63 percent of those proceeds.



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- **Sec. 14.** NRS 482.180 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 482.180 1. The Motor Vehicle Fund is hereby created as an agency fund. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4 or by a specific statute, all money received or collected by the Department must be deposited in the State Treasury for credit to the Motor Vehicle Fund.
- 2. The interest and income on the money in the Motor Vehicle Fund, after deducting any applicable charges, must be credited to the State Highway Fund.
- 3. Any check accepted by the Department in payment of the governmental services tax or any other fee required to be collected pursuant to this chapter must, if it is dishonored upon presentation for payment, be charged back against the Motor Vehicle Fund or the county to which the payment was credited pursuant to this section or NRS 482.181, in the proper proportion.
- 4. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 6, all money received or collected by the Department for the basic governmental services tax must be distributed in the manner set forth in NRS 482.181 ... and section 13 of this act.
- 5. Money for the administration of the provisions of this chapter must be provided by direct legislative appropriation from the State Highway Fund or other legislative authorization, upon the presentation of budgets in the manner required by law. Out of the appropriation or authorization, the Department shall pay every item of expense.
- 6. The Department shall withhold 6 percent from the amount of the governmental services tax collected by the Department as a commission. From the amount of the governmental services tax collected by a county assessor, the State Controller shall credit 1 percent to the Department as a commission and remit 5 percent to the county for credit to its general fund as commission for the services of the county assessor. All money withheld by or credited to the Department pursuant to this subsection must be used only for the administration of this chapter as authorized by the Legislature pursuant to subsection 5.
- 7. When the requirements of this section and NRS 482.181 *and section 13 of this act* have been met, and when directed by the Department, the State Controller shall transfer monthly to the State Highway Fund any balance in the Motor Vehicle Fund.
- 8. If a statute requires that any money in the Motor Vehicle Fund be transferred to another fund or account, the Department shall direct the *State* Controller to transfer the money in accordance with the statute.





Sec. 15. NRS 482.181 is hereby amended to read as follows:

482.181 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5, after deducting the amount withheld by the Department and the amount credited to the Department pursuant to subsection 6 of NRS 482.180, and the amount transferred to the State General Fund pursuant to section 13 of this act, the Department shall certify monthly to the State Board of Examiners the amount of the basic and supplemental governmental services taxes collected for each county by the Department and its agents during the preceding month, and that money must be distributed monthly as provided in this section.

- 2. Any supplemental governmental services tax collected for a county must be distributed only to the county, to be used as provided in NRS 371.045 and 371.047.
- The distribution of the basic governmental services tax received or collected for each county must be made to the county school district within each county before any distribution is made to a local government, special district or enterprise district. For the purpose of calculating the amount of the basic governmental services tax to be distributed to the county school district, the taxes levied by each local government, special district and enterprise district are the product of its certified valuation, determined pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 361.405, and its tax rate, established pursuant to NRS 361.455 for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 1980, except that the tax rate for school districts, including the rate attributable to a district's debt service, is the rate established pursuant to NRS 361.455 for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 1978, but if the rate attributable to a district's debt service in any fiscal year is greater than its rate for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 1978, the higher rate must be used to determine the amount attributable to debt service.
- 4. After making the distributions set forth in subsection 3, the remaining money received or collected for each county must be deposited in the Local Government Tax Distribution Account created by NRS 360.660 for distribution to local governments, special districts and enterprise districts within each county pursuant to the provisions of NRS 360.680 and 360.690.
- 5. An amount equal to any basic governmental services tax distributed to a redevelopment agency in the Fiscal Year 1987-1988 must continue to be distributed to that agency as long as it exists but must not be increased.
- 6. The Department shall make distributions of the basic governmental services tax directly to county school districts.
 - 7. As used in this section:





- (a) "Enterprise district" has the meaning ascribed to it in 2 NRS 360.620.
 - (b) "Local government" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 360.640.
 - (c) "Received or collected for each county" means:
 - (1) For the basic governmental services tax collected on vehicles subject to the provisions of chapter 706 of NRS, the amount determined for each county based on the following percentages:

11	Carson City1.07 percent	Lincoln 3.12 percent
12	Churchill5.21 percent	Lyon 2.90 percent
13	Clark22.54 percent	Mineral2.40 percent
14	Douglas2.52 percent	Nye4.09 percent
15	Elko13.31 percent	Pershing7.00 percent
16	Esmeralda2.52 percent	Storey19 percent
17	Eureka3.10 percent	Washoe 12.24 percent
18	Humboldt8.25 percent	White Pine 5.66 percent
19	Lander3.88 percent	-

- (2) For all other basic and supplemental governmental services tax received or collected by the Department, the amount attributable to each county based on the county of registration of the vehicle for which the tax was paid.
- (d) "Special district" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 360.650.
 - **Sec. 16.** NRS 482.260 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 482.260 1. When registering a vehicle, the Department and its agents or a registered dealer shall:
- (a) Collect the fees for license plates and registration as provided for in this chapter.
- (b) Collect the governmental services tax on the vehicle, as agent for the State and for the county where the applicant intends to base the vehicle for the period of registration, unless the vehicle is deemed to have no base.
- (c) Collect the applicable taxes imposed pursuant to chapters 372, 374, 377 and 377A of NRS.
 - (d) Issue a certificate of registration.
- (e) If the registration is performed by the Department, issue the regular license plate or plates.
- (f) If the registration is performed by a registered dealer, provide 42 information to the owner regarding the manner in which the regular license plate or plates will be made available to him.



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- 2. Upon proof of ownership satisfactory to the Director, he shall cause to be issued a certificate of title as provided in this chapter.
- 3. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 371.070, every vehicle being registered for the first time in Nevada must be taxed for the purposes of the governmental services tax for a 12-month period.
- 4. The Department shall deduct and withhold 2 percent of the taxes collected pursuant to paragraph (c) of subsection 1 and remit the remainder to the Department of Taxation.
- 5. A registered dealer shall forward all fees and taxes collected for the registration of vehicles to the Department.
 - **Sec. 17.** NRS 482.280 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 482.280 1. The registration of every vehicle expires at midnight on the day specified on the receipt of registration, unless the day specified falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday. If the day specified on the receipt of registration is a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, the registration of the vehicle expires at midnight on the next judicial day. The Department shall mail to each holder of a certificate of registration an application for renewal of registration for the following period of registration. The applications must be mailed by the Department in sufficient time to allow all applicants to mail the applications to the Department and to receive new certificates of registration and license plates, stickers, tabs or other suitable devices by mail before the expiration of their registrations. An applicant may present or submit the application to any agent or office of the Department.
 - 2. An application:

- (a) Mailed or presented to the Department or to a county assessor pursuant to the provisions of this section;
 - (b) Submitted to the Department pursuant to NRS 482.294; or
- (c) Presented to an authorized inspection station or authorized station pursuant to the provisions of NRS 482.281,
 - must include, if required, evidence of compliance with standards for *the* control of emissions.
 - 3. The Department shall insert in each application mailed pursuant to subsection 1:
 - (a) The amount of the governmental services tax to be collected **for the county**] pursuant to the provisions of NRS 482.260.
 - (b) The amount set forth in a notice of nonpayment filed with the Department by a local authority pursuant to NRS 484.444.
 - (c) A statement which informs the applicant that, pursuant to NRS 485.185, he is legally required to maintain insurance during the period in which the motor vehicle is registered.
- 4. An owner who has made proper application for renewal of registration before the expiration of the current registration but who





has not received the license plate or plates or card of registration for the ensuing period of registration is entitled to operate or permit the operation of that vehicle upon the highways upon displaying thereon the license plate or plates issued for the preceding period of registration for such a time as may be prescribed by the Department as it may find necessary for the issuance of the new plate or plates or card of registration.

Sec. 18. NRS 706.211 is hereby amended to read as follows:

706.211 All money collected by the Department under the provisions of NRS 706.011 to 706.861, inclusive, must be deposited in the State Treasury for credit to the Motor Vehicle Fund. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter and NRS 482.180 and 482.181, and except for any money transferred to the State General Fund pursuant to section 13 of this act, all money collected under the provisions of NRS 706.011 to 706.861, inclusive, must be used for the construction, maintenance and repair of the public highways of this State.

Sec. 19. The amendatory provisions of:

- 1. Section 3 of this act do not apply to any taxes due for any period ending on or before June 30, 2009.
- 2. Sections 4, 5 and 13 to 18, inclusive, of this act apply to governmental services taxes imposed for any period of registration of a vehicle that begins on or after September 1, 2009.
- **Sec. 20.** 1. This section and section 19 of this act become effective upon passage and approval.
- 2. Sections 1, 2, 3 and 6 to 12, inclusive, of this act become effective on July 1, 2009.
- 3. Sections 4, 5 and 13 to 18, inclusive, of this act become effective:
- (a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of performing any preparatory administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and
 - (b) On September 1, 2009, for all other purposes.





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