

# DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION

## 2011 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Patron** Walter A. Stosch

2. **Bill Number** SB 1130

3. **Committee** Senate Finance

**House of Origin:**

  X   **Introduced**

       **Substitute**

       **Engrossed**

4. **Title** Taxes; Removes Obsolete Language in Tax Code

**Second House:**

       **In Committee**

       **Substitute**

       **Enrolled**

**5. Summary/Purpose:**

This bill would remove several obsolete provisions and make several other technical changes to Virginia's Tax Code pertaining to individual and corporate income taxes, estimated taxes, sales and use taxes, and property taxes.

The provisions of this bill would be effective for taxable periods beginning on or after January 1, 2011.

6. **Budget amendment necessary:** No.

7. **No Fiscal Impact.** (See Line 8.)

**8. Fiscal implications:**

Revenue Impact

This bill would have no impact on state or local revenues.

**9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:**

TAX

10. **Technical amendment necessary:** Yes.

In addition to the technical amendments suggested in this bill, TAX recommends the following additional technical amendments:

Page 11, line 635, after 18.

Unstrike: For taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 1999, income received as a result of (i) the "Master Settlement Agreement," as defined in § 3.2-3100; (ii) the National Tobacco Grower Settlement Trust dated July 19, 1999

Page 14, line 810, at the beginning of the line,

Strike: 58.1-332

Insert: Article 3 (§ 58.1-332 et seq.).

Page 15, line 883, after §

Strike: 58.1-609.11

Insert: 58.1-609.10

Page 15, line 899, after §

Strike: 58.1-609.11

Insert: 58.1-609.10

## **11. Other comments:**

### Estimated Tax

In 1972, the definition of income for estimated tax allowed consideration of any credits. In 1987, it was changed to list three credits, which were the only credits in the code at that time. As more credits were added over the years, the list was never changed. TAX has suggested a technical amendment.

### Tobacco Loss Assistance Program

Current Law provides that income received as a result of the Tobacco Loss Assistance Program must be subtracted from income for purposes of the Individual Income Tax and the Corporate Income Tax. The program was repealed by the Fair and Equitable Tobacco Reform Act of 2004, Title VI of the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 (P.L. 108-357) on October 22, 2004. Thus, the provision is obsolete. TAX has suggested a technical amendment to conform the Corporate Income Tax provision to the Individual Income Tax provision.

### Peanut Quota Buyout Program

When Congress ended the price supports and quota program for peanut growers it provided for payments to peanut quota holders between 2002 and 2007. The program has expired.

### Avian Influenza Indemnity Payments

The U.S. Department of Agriculture provides indemnity payments when it requires that poultry be destroyed because it has contracted avian influenza. In response to a major outbreak of Avian Influenza in Virginia in 2002 the General Assembly enacted a subtraction for such payments for taxable years 2002 through 2004. the subtraction has expired.

### Employee Stock Ownership Programs

The Internal Revenue Code ("IRC") used to allow corporations a credit for certain contributions to an employee stock ownership plan ("ESOP"). Unused credits could be carried forward or claimed as a deduction under IRC § 404(i). Because the deduction related to a federal tax credit, Virginia law required corporations to add back any deduction claimed under IRC § 404(i). The Tax Reform Act of 1986 repeals both the ESOP credit and IRC § 404(i). Therefore the Virginia provision is obsolete.

### Cogenerators

In 1988 an income tax credit for cogenerators who used coal was enacted that was similar to a credit available to electric utilities that used coal. In 1999 legislation was enacted that subjected electric utilities to the income tax instead of the public service tax on gross receipts. As part of that legislation the utility coal credit was included in the income tax chapter, but a provision was included to prevent cogenerators from taking both the cogenerator credit and the utility credit on the same ton of coal. The cogenerator credit (§ 58.1-433) expired in 2001, so the provision is now obsolete.

### Rent Reductions

The individual income tax credit for rent reductions expired in 1999. It has been replaced by another rent reduction credit in § 58.1-339.9.

### Retail Sales and Use Tax, Reference to Baptistries

In 2003, the Retail Sales and Use Tax Code was restructured as a result of the changes in the process by which nonprofit organizations obtained sales and use tax exemptions. As a result, several exemptions were moved from *Va. Code* § 58.1-609.8 to *Va. Code* § 58.1-609.10. Thus, the cross references in the sales tax code relating to the baptistries exemption that was once set forth in *Va. Code* § 58.1-609.8 are technically incorrect. TAX has suggested a technical amendment.

### Real Property Tax, Annual General Reassessments of Real Estate

A provision in the Real Property Tax Code addressing annual general reassessment of real estate and equalization of assessments is amended from time to time and remains in effect. This section was last amended in 2003 (*Acts of Assembly 2003*, Chapter 1036). As the statute does not reflect this most recent amendment, it is technically incorrect.

### List of Delinquent Town Real Estate Taxes

This provision cross references *Va. Code* § 58.1-3937. As that section was repealed in 1998, this cross reference is obsolete.

## Proposal

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cc : Secretary of Finance

Date: 1/17/2011 KP  
DLAS File Name: SB1130F161.doc