H.B. NO. 3192

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO REVENUE AUTHORITIES ADMINISTERED BY THE GOVERNMENT.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to make technical
 corrections or additions to various provisions of the Hawaii
 Revised Statutes, in order to improve the administration of
 Hawaii taxes and other revenue authorities. These technical
 amendments are intended to clarify, simplify, and conform Hawaii
 tax law, where necessary.

7 SECTION 2. Chapter 231, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
8 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
9 and to read as follows:

"§231- Erroneous claim for refund or credit. If a 10 claim for refund or credit with respect to tax is made for an 11 excessive amount, unless it is shown by the person making the 12 claim that the claim for such excessive amount has a reasonable 13 basis, the person making such claim shall be liable for a 14 penalty in an amount equal to twenty per cent of the excessive 15 amount. For purposes of this section, the term "excessive 16 amount" means the amount by which the amount of the claim for 17

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refund or credit for any taxable year exceeds the amount of such 1 claim allowable for such taxable year." 2 SECTION 3. Section 232-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 3 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows: 4 "(b) Each board shall hold public meetings at some central 5 location in its taxation district, commencing not later than 6 April 9 of each year and shall hear, as speedily as possible, 7 all appeals presented for each year. A taxpayer's identity and 8 9 final documents submitted in support or opposition of an appeal shall be public information. Each board shall have the power 10 and authority to decide all questions of fact and all questions 11 of law, excepting questions involving the Constitution or laws 12 of the United States, necessary to the determination of the 13 14 objections raised by the taxpayer in the notice of appeal; provided that no board shall have power to determine or declare 15 an assessment illegal or void. Without prejudice to the 16 generality of the foregoing, each board shall have power to 17 allow or disallow exemptions pursuant to law whether or not 18 previously allowed or disallowed by the assessor and to increase 19 or lower any assessment." 20

21 SECTION 4. Section 232-16, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
22 amended to read as follows:

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"§232-16 Appeal to tax appeal court. A taxpayer or county, 1 in all cases, may appeal directly to the tax appeal court without 2 appealing to a state board of review, or any equivalent 3 administrative body established by county ordinance. An appeal 4 to the tax appeal court is properly commenced by filing, on or 5 before the date fixed by law for the taking of the appeal, a 6 7 written notice of appeal in the office of the tax appeal court and by service of the notice of appeal on the director of 8 taxation and, in the case of an appeal from a decision involving 9 the county as a party, the real property assessment division of 10 the county involved. An appealing taxpayer shall also pay the 11 costs in the amount fixed by section 232-22. 12

13 The notice of appeal to the tax appeal court shall be 14 sufficient if it meets the requirements prescribed for a notice 15 of appeal to the board of review and may be amended at any time; 16 provided that it sets forth the following additional information, 17 to wit:

18 A brief description of the property involved in sufficient 19 detail to identify the same and the valuation placed thereon by 20 the assessor.

21 The notice of appeal shall be accompanied by a copy of the 22 taxpayer's return, if any has been filed[-]; provided that an

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individual taxpayer is authorized to redact all but the last four digits of the taxpayer's social security number from any

3 accompanying tax return.

An appeal to the tax appeal court shall be deemed to have 4 been taken in time if the notice thereof and costs and the copy 5 of the notice shall have been deposited in the mail, postage 6 prepaid, properly addressed to the tax appeal court, the director 7 of taxation, or the real property assessment division of the 8 county involved, and to the taxpayer or taxpayers in the case of 9 an appeal taken by a county, respectively, on or before the date 10 fixed by law for the taking of the appeal. 11

12 An appeal to the tax appeal court shall bring up for review 13 all questions of fact and all questions of law, including 14 constitutional questions, necessary to the determination of the 15 objections raised by the taxpayer or county in the notice of 16 appeal."

SECTION 5. Section 232-18, Hawaii Revised Statutes, isamended to read as follows:

19 "§232-18 Certificate of appeal to tax appeal court. Upon 20 the perfecting of an appeal to the tax appeal court, the tax 21 assessor of the district from which the appeal is taken shall 22 immediately send up to the tax appeal court a certificate in

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which there shall be set forth the information required by
 section 232-16 to be set forth in the notice of appeal where an
 appeal is taken direct from the assessment to the tax appeal
 court.

The certificate shall be accompanied by the taxpayer's 5 return, if any has been filed $[\tau]$; provided that the department of 6 taxation is authorized to redact all but the last four digits of 7 an individual taxpayer's social security number from any 8 accompanying tax return, a copy of the notice of appeal to the 9 state board of review, or equivalent administrative body 10 established by county ordinance, and any amendments thereto, and 11 the decision or action, if any, of the state board of review or 12 equivalent administrative body. Failure of the assessor to 13 comply herewith shall not prejudice or affect the taxpayer's, 14 county's, or assessor's appeal and the certificate of appeal may 15 be amended at any time up to the final determination of the 16 appeal." 17

18 SECTION 6. Section 235-2.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
19 amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:
20 "(c) The department of taxation shall submit to each
21 regular session of the legislature a bill to amend sections 23522 2.3, 235-2.4, and 235-2.45 and such other sections and

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subsections of this chapter as may be necessary to adopt the 1 Internal Revenue Code as it exists on the December 31 preceding 2 such regular session. In submitting the bill the department may 3 provide that certain amendments to the Internal Revenue Code by 4 Congress during the preceding calendar year shall not be 5 operative in this State or as operative are limited in their 6 operation. The department [shall] may also prepare a digest and 7 explanation of the amended provisions of the Internal Revenue 8 Code recommended for operation, as well as those provisions which 9 are limited in their operation, or which are not recommended for 10 operation, and shall submit [with the bill required by this 11 subsection the digest,] to the legislature testimony, comments, 12 an explanation, and a statement of revenue impact of the adoption 13 of such bill. In preparing the bill, digest, [and] or 14 explanation the department may request the assistance of the 15 office of the legislative reference bureau. 16

It is the intent of the legislature that it shall each year adopt all amendments to the Internal Revenue Code for the calendar year preceding the year in which the legislature meets; provided that the legislature may choose to adopt none of the amendments to the Internal Revenue Code or may provide that certain amendments are limited in their operation."

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| 1 | SECTION 7. Section 235-7.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is | | | | | |
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| 2 | amended to read as follows: | | | | | |
| 3 | "§235-7.5 Certain unearned income of [minor] children taxed | | | | | |
| 4 | as if parent's income. (a) In the case of any child to whom | | | | | |
| 5 | this section applies, the tax imposed by this chapter shall be | | | | | |
| 6 | equal to the greater of: | | | | | |
| 7 | (1) The tax imposed by section 235-51 without regard to | | | | | |
| 8 | this section, or | | | | | |
| 9 | (2) The sum of: | | | | | |
| 10 | (A) The tax which would be imposed by section 235-51 | | | | | |
| 11 | if the taxable income of such child for the | | | | | |
| 12 | taxable year were reduced by the net unearned | | | | | |
| 13 | income of such child, plus | | | | | |
| 14 | (B) Such child's share of allocable parental tax. | | | | | |
| 15 | (b) This section shall apply to any child for any taxable | | | | | |
| 16 | year if: | | | | | |
| 17 | (1) Such child [has not attained age fourteen before the | | | | | |
| 18 | close of the taxable year, and]: | | | | | |
| 19 | (A) Has not attained age eighteen before the close of | | | | | |
| 20 | the taxable year, or | | | | | |
| 21 | (B) Has: | | | | | |

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| 1 | <u>(i)</u> | Attained age eighteen before the close of the |
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| 2 | | taxable year and meets the age requirements |
| 3 | | of section 152(c)(3) (relating to age |
| 4 | | requirements for a qualifying dependent |
| 5 | | child) of the Internal Revenue Code without |
| 6 | | regard to subparagraph B thereof, for such |
| 7 | | taxable year; and |
| 8 | (ii) | Whose earned income as defined in section |
| 9 | | 911(d)(2) (relating to defining earned |
| 10 | | income) of the Internal Revenue Code, for |
| 11 | | such taxable year does not exceed one-half of |
| 12 | | the amount of the individual's support within |
| 13 | | the meaning of section 152(c)(1)(D) (relating |
| 14 | | to support requirements for a qualifying |
| 15 | | dependent child) of the Internal Revenue |
| 16 | | Code, after application of section 152(f)(5) |
| 17 | | (relating to a special support test for |
| 18 | | students) of the Internal Revenue Code, for |
| 19 | | such taxable year. |
| 20 | (2) Either pa | rent of such child is alive at the close of |
| 21 | the taxab | le vear. |

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| 1 | (3) | Such child does not file a joint return for the taxable | | | | |
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| 2 | | year. | | | | |
| 3 | (c) | For the purpose of this section: | | | | |
| 4 | (1) | The term "allocable parental tax" means the excess of: | | | | |
| 5 | | (A) The tax which would be imposed by section 235-51 | | | | |
| 6 | | on the parent's taxable income if such income | | | | |
| 7 | | included the net unearned income of all children | | | | |
| 8 | | of the parent to whom this section applies, over, | | | | |
| 9 | | (B) The tax imposed by section 2'35-51 on the parent | | | | |
| 10 | | without regard to this section. | | | | |
| 11 | | For purposes of subparagraph (A), net unearned income | | | | |
| 12 | | of all children of the parent shall not be taken into | | | | |
| 13 | | account in computing any exclusion, deduction, or | | | | |
| 14 | | credit of the parent. | | | | |
| 15 | (2) | A child's share of any allocable parental tax of a | | | | |
| 16 | | parent shall be equal to an amount which bears the same | | | | |
| 17 | | ratio to the total allocable parental tax as the | | | | |
| 18 | | child's net unearned income bears to the aggregate net | | | | |
| 19 | | unearned income of all children of such parent to whom | | | | |
| 20 | | this section applies. | | | | |
| 21 | (3) | Except as provided in rules, if the parent does not | | | | |

have the same taxable year as the child, the allocable

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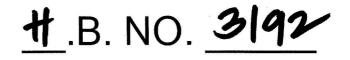
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parental tax shall be determined on the basis of the taxable year of the parent ending in the child's taxable year.

For purposes of this section: (d)

The term "net unearned income" means the excess of: 5 (1)(A)The portion of the adjusted gross income for the taxable year which is not attributable to earned 7 income as defined in the Internal Revenue Code, 8 over, 9

- (B) The sum of:
- The amount in effect for the taxable year (i) 11 under section 63(c)(5)(A) (relating to the 12 limitation on standard deduction in the case 13 of certain dependents) of the Internal 14 Revenue Code as operative under section 235-15 2.4(a), plus 16
- The greater of the amount described in clause (ii) 17 (i) or, if the child itemizes the child's 18 deductions for the taxable year, the amount 19 of the itemized deductions allowed by this 20 chapter for the taxable year which are 21 directly connected with the production of the 22

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portion of adjusted gross income referred to 1 in subparagraph (A). 2 The amount of the net unearned income for any taxable (2)3 year shall not exceed the individual's taxable income 4 for such taxable year. 5 In the case of any child who is a beneficiary of a (3) 6 qualified disability trust, as defined in section 7 642(b)(2)(C)(ii) (with respect to qualified disability 8 trusts) of the Internal Revenue Code, any amount 9 included in the income of such child under sections 652 10 and 662 (each with respect to inclusion in income of 11 certain trust distributions) of the Internal Revenue 12 Code during a taxable year shall be considered earned 13 income of such child for such taxable year. 14 For purposes of this section, the parent whose taxable (e) 15 income shall be taken into account shall be: 16 In the case of parents who are not married (within the (1)17 meaning of section 235-93), the custodial parent 18 (within the meaning of section 152(e) (with respect to 19 the support test in case of child of divorced parents, 20 etc.) of the Internal Revenue Code) of the child, and 21

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| 1 | (2) | In tl | he case of married individuals filing separately, | | | |
|----|--|-------|--|--|--|--|
| 2 | а. ¹ | the : | individual with the greater taxable income. | | | |
| 3 | (f) | The p | parent of any child to whom this section applies | | | |
| 4 | for any ta | xable | e year shall provide the social security number of | | | |
| 5 | such parent to such child and such child shall include such | | | | | |
| 6 | parent's social security number on the child's return of tax | | | | | |
| 7 | imposed by this section for such taxable year. | | | | | |
| 8 | (g) Election to claim certain unearned income of child on | | | | | |
| 9 | parent's r | eturi | n. | | | |
| 10 | (1) | If: | | | | |
| 11 | | (A) | Any child to whom this section applies has gross | | | |
| 12 | | | income for the taxable year only from interest and | | | |
| 13 | | | dividends (including Alaska Permanent Fund | | | |
| 14 | | | dividends), | | | |
| 15 | | (B) | Such gross income is more than \$500 and less than | | | |
| 16 | | | \$5,000, | | | |
| 17 | | (C) | No estimated tax payments for such year are made | | | |
| 18 | | | in the name and social security number of such | | | |
| 19 | | | child, and no amount has been deducted and | | | |
| 20 | | | withheld under section 3406 (with respect to | | | |
| 21 | | | backup withholding) of the Internal Revenue Code, | | | |
| 22 | | | and | | | |

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| 1 | (D) The parent of such child (as determined under | | | | | |
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| 2 | subsection (e)) elects the application of | | | | | |
| 3 | paragraph (2), | | | | | |
| 4 | such child shall be treated (other than for purposes of | | | | | |
| 5 | this paragraph) as having no gross income for such year | | | | | |
| 6 | and shall not be required to file a return under this | | | | | |
| 7 | chapter. | | | | | |
| 8 (2) | In the case of a parent making the election under this | | | | | |
| 9 | subsection: | | | | | |
| 10 | (A) The gross income of each child to whom such | | | | | |
| 11 | election applies (to the extent the gross income | | | | | |
| 12 | of such child exceeds \$1,000) shall be included in | | | | | |
| 13 | such parent's gross income for the taxable year, | | | | | |
| 14 | (B) The tax imposed by this section for such year with | | | | | |
| 15 | respect to such parent shall be the amount equal | | | | | |
| 16 | to the sum of: | | | | | |
| 17 | (i) The amount determined under section 235-51 | | | | | |
| 18 | after the application of subparagraph (A), | | | | | |
| 19 | plus | | | | | |
| 20 | (ii) For each such child, the lesser of \$10 or two | | | | | |
| 21 | per cent of the excess of the gross income of | | | | | |
| 22 | such child over \$500. | | | | | |

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(3) The director shall prescribe such rules as may be 1 necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of 2 this subsection." 3 SECTION 8. Section 235-20.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 4 amended to read as follows: 5 "§235-20.5 Tax administration special fund; established. 6 There is established a tax administration special fund, into 7 which shall be deposited fees collected under sections 235-20, 8 235-110.9, and 235-110.91, and penalties collected under section 9 2 of Act 206, [+] Session Laws of Hawaii 2007[+]. The moneys in 10 the fund shall be expended by the department to offset the costs 11 associated with: 12 Issuing comfort letters; and (1)13 Administering the tax [credit] credits under [section] (2)14 sections 235-110.9[+] and 235-110.91, including issuing 15 certificates[; and 16 (3) Issuing certificates under section 235 110.91]." 17 SECTION 9. Section 235-110.7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 18 amended as follows: 19 (1) By amending subsection (a) to read as follows: 20 There shall be allowed to each taxpayer subject to the "(a) 21 tax imposed by this chapter a capital goods excise tax credit 22

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which shall be deductible from the taxpayer's net income tax
 liability, if any, imposed by this chapter for the taxable year
 in which the credit is properly claimed.

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The amount of the tax credit shall be determined by [the 4 application of the following rates] applying four per cent 5 against the cost of the eligible depreciable tangible personal 6 property used by the taxpayer in a trade or business and placed 7 in service within Hawaii after December 31, 1987. [For calendar 8 years beginning after: December 31, 1987, 'the applicable rate 9 shall be three per cent; December 31, 1988, and thereafter, the 10 applicable rate shall be four per cent. For taxpayers with 11 fiscal taxable years, the applicable rate shall be the rate for 12 the calendar year in which the eligible depreciable tangible 13 personal property used in the trade or business is placed in 14 service within Hawaii.] 15

In the case of a partnership, S corporation, estate, or trust, the tax credit allowable is for eligible depreciable tangible personal property which is placed in service by the entity. The cost upon which the tax credit is computed shall be determined at the entity level. Distribution and share of credit shall be determined by rules.

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In the case of eligible depreciable tangible personal property for which a credit for sales or use taxes paid to another state is allowable under section 238-3(i), the amount of the tax credit allowed under this section shall not exceed the amount of use tax actually paid under chapter 238 relating to such tangible personal property.

If a deduction is taken under section 179 (with respect to election to expense certain depreciable business assets) of the Internal Revenue Code of [1954,] 1986, as amended, no tax credit shall be allowed for that portion of the cost of property for which the deduction was taken."

(2) By Amending subsection (e) to read as follows: 12 "(e) As used in this section, the definition of section 38 13 property (with respect to investment in depreciable tangible 14 personal property) as defined by section 48(a)(1)(A), (a)(1)(B), 15 (a) (3), (a) (4), (a) (7), (a) (8), (a) (10) (A), (b), (c), (f), (l), 16 (m), and (s) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended as 17 of December 31, 1984, is operative for the purposes of this 18 section only. 19

20 As used in this section:

21 "Canned computer software" means a pre-written set of 22 instructions or statements, which is capable of causing a

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computer to indicate, perform, or achieve a particular function, 1 task, or result that has a general applicability and is made 2 available through a non-exclusive license or other permission to 3 use the pre-written set of instructions, and which has not been 4 prepared at the special request of the purchaser to meet the 5 purchaser's particular needs. 6 "Cost" means [(1) the actual invoice price of the tangible 7 personal property, or (2)] the basis from which depreciation is 8 taken under section 167 (with respect to depreciation) or from 9 which a deduction may be taken under section 168 (with respect to 10 accelerated cost recovery system) of the Internal Revenue Code of 11 1954, as amended, whichever is less. 12 "Eligible depreciable tangible personal property" is section 13 38 property as defined by the operative provisions of section 48 14 and having a depreciable life under section 167 or for which a 15 deduction may be taken under section 168 of the federal Internal 16 Revenue Code of 1954, as amended. "Eligible depreciable tangible 17 personal property" includes canned computer software for taxable 18 years beginning after December 31, 2007; provided that tax at a 19 20 rate of at least four per cent has been paid under chapter 237 or 238 relating to the transaction involving canned computer 21 software. 22

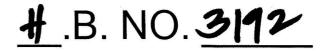
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| 1 | "Placed in service" means the earliest of the following |
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| 2 | taxable years: |
| 3 | (1) The taxable year in which, under the: |
| 4 | (A) Taxpayer's depreciation practice, the period for |
| 5 | depreciation; or |
| 6 | (B) Accelerated cost recovery system, a claim for |
| 7 | recovery allowances; |
| 8 | with respect to such property begins; or |
| 9 | (2) The taxable year in which the property is placed in a |
| 10 | condition or state of readiness and availability for a |
| 11 | specifically assigned function. |
| 12 | "Purchase" means an acquisition of property. |
| 13 | "Tangible personal property" means tangible personal |
| 14 | property which is placed in service within Hawaii after |
| 15 | December 31, 1987, and the purchase or importation of which |
| 16 | resulted in a transaction which was subject to the imposition and |
| 17 | payment of tax at the rate of four per cent under chapter 237 or |
| 18 | 238. "Tangible personal property" does not include tangible |
| 19 | personal property which is an integral part of a building or |
| 20 | structure or tangible personal property used in a foreign trade |
| 21 | zone, as defined under chapter 212." |

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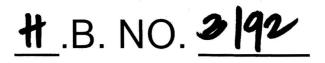
SECTION 10. Section 237-13, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
 amended to read as follows:

3 "§237-13 Imposition of tax. There is hereby levied and
4 shall be assessed and collected annually privilege taxes against
5 persons on account of their business and other activities in the
6 State measured by the application of rates against values of
7 products, gross proceeds of sales, or gross income, whichever is
8 specified, as follows:

9

(1) Tax on manufacturers.

(A)Upon every person engaging or continuing within 10 the State in the business of manufacturing, 11 including compounding, canning, preserving, 12 packing, printing, publishing, milling, 13 processing, refining, or preparing for sale, 14 profit, or commercial use, either directly or 15 through the activity of others, in whole or in 16 part, any article or articles, substance or 17 substances, commodity or commodities, the amount 18 of the tax to be equal to the value of the 19 articles, substances, or commodities, 20 manufactured, compounded, canned, preserved, 21 packed, printed, milled, processed, refined, or 22



prepared for sale, as shown by the gross proceeds 1 derived from the sale thereof by the manufacturer 2 or person compounding, preparing, or printing 3 them, multiplied by one-half of one per cent. 4 The measure of the tax on manufacturers is the (B) 5 value of the entire product for sale, regardless 6 of the place of sale or the fact that deliveries 7 may be made to points outside the State. 8 If any person liable for the tax on manufacturers (C)9 ships or transports the person's product, or any 10 part thereof, out of the State, whether in a 11 finished or unfinished condition, or sells the 12 same for delivery to points outside the State (for 13 example, consigned to a mainland purchaser via 14 common carrier f.o.b. Honolulu), the value of the 15 products in the condition or form in which they 16 exist immediately before entering interstate or 17 foreign commerce, determined as hereinafter 18 provided, shall be the basis for the assessment of 19 the tax imposed by this paragraph. This tax shall 20 be due and payable as of the date of entry of the 21 products into interstate or foreign commerce, 22

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whether the products are then sold or not. The department shall determine the basis for assessment, as provided by this paragraph, as follows:

- (i) If the products at the time of their entry into interstate or foreign commerce already have been sold, the gross proceeds of sale, less the transportation expenses, if any, incurred in realizing the gross proceeds for transportation from the time of entry of the products into interstate or foreign commerce, including insurance and storage in transit, shall be the measure of the value of the products;
- (ii) If the products have not been sold at the time of their entry into interstate or foreign commerce, and in cases governed by clause (i) in which the products are sold under circumstances such that the gross proceeds of sale are not indicative of the true value of the products, the value of the products constituting the basis for

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assessment shall correspond as nearly as possible to the gross proceeds of sales for delivery outside the State, adjusted as provided in clause (i), or if sufficient data are not available, sales in the State, of similar products of like quality and character and in similar quantities, made by the taxpayer (unless not indicative of the true value) or by others. Sales outside the State, adjusted as provided in clause (i), may be considered when they constitute the best available data. The department shall prescribe uniform and equitable rules for ascertaining the values;

15 (iii) At the election of the taxpayer and with the
approval of the department, the taxpayer may
17 make the taxpayer's returns under clause (i)
18 even though the products have not been sold
19 at the time of their entry into interstate or
20 foreign commerce; and

(iv) In all cases in which products leave the State in an unfinished condition, the basis

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| 1 | | | for assessment shall be adjusted so as to |
|----|-----|---------------|--|
| 2 | | | deduct the portion of the value as is |
| 3 | | | attributable to the finishing of the goods |
| 4 | | | outside the State. |
| 5 | (2) | Tax | on business of selling tangible personal property; |
| 6 | | prod | lucing. |
| 7 | Ĩ, | (A) | Upon every person engaging or continuing in the |
| 8 | | | business of selling any tangible personal property |
| 9 | | | whatsoever (not including, however, bonds or other |
| 10 | | | evidence of indebtedness, or stocks), there is |
| 11 | | | likewise hereby levied, and shall be assessed and |
| 12 | | | collected, a tax equivalent to four per cent of |
| 13 | | U. | the gross proceeds of sales of the business; |
| 14 | | | provided that insofar as the sale of tangible |
| 15 | 2 | 8 16 17 | personal property is a wholesale sale under |
| 16 | | | section [237 4(a)(8)(B), the sale shall be subject |
| 17 | | | to section 237 13.3.] $237-4(a)$, the tax shall be |
| 18 | | | equal to one-half of one per cent of the gross |
| 19 | | | proceeds of sales of the business. Upon every |
| 20 | | | person engaging or continuing within this State in |
| 21 | | | the business of a producer, the tax shall be equal |
| 22 | | | to one-half of one per cent of the gross proceeds |

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of sales of the business, or the value of the products, for sale, if sold for delivery outside the State or shipped or transported out of the State, and the value of the products shall be determined in the same manner as the value of manufactured products covered in the cases under paragraph (1)(C).

Gross proceeds of sales of tangible property in (B) 8 interstate and foreign commerce shall constitute a 9 part of the measure of the tax imposed on persons 10 in the business of selling tangible personal 11 property, to the extent, under the conditions, and 12 in accordance with the provisions of the 13 Constitution of the United States and the Acts of 14 the Congress of the United States which may be now 15 in force or may be hereafter adopted, and whenever 16 there occurs in the State an activity to which, 17 under the Constitution and Acts of Congress, there 18 may be attributed gross proceeds of sales, the 19 gross proceeds shall be so attributed. 20 (C) No manufacturer or producer, engaged in such 21

business in the State and selling the

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| 1 | manufacturer's or producer's products for delivery |
|--------|--|
| 2 | outside of the State (for example, consigned to a |
| 3 | mainland purchaser via common carrier f.o.b. |
| 4 | Honolulu), shall be required to pay the tax |
| 5 | imposed in this chapter for the privilege of so |
| 6 | selling the products, and the value or gross |
| 7 | proceeds of sales of the products shall be |
| 8 | included only in determining the measure of the |
| 9 | tax imposed upon the manufacturer or producer. |
| 10 (D) | When a manufacturer or producer, engaged in such |
| 11 | business in the State, also is engaged in selling |
| 12 | the manufacturer's or producer's products in the |
| 13 | State at wholesale, retail, or in any other |
| 14 | manner, the tax for the privilege of engaging in |
| 15 | the business of selling the products in the State |
| 16 | shall apply to the manufacturer or producer as |
| 17 | well as the tax for the privilege of manufacturing |
| 18 | or producing in the State, and the manufacturer or |
| 19 | producer shall make the returns of the gross |
| 20 | proceeds of the wholesale, retail, or other sales |
| 21 | required for the privilege of selling in the |
| 22 | State, as well as making the returns of the value |

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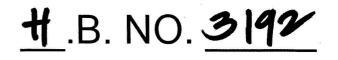
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or gross proceeds of sales of the products required for the privilege of manufacturing or producing in the State. The manufacturer or producer shall pay the tax imposed in this chapter for the privilege of selling its products in the State, and the value or gross proceeds of sales of the products, thus subjected to tax, may be deducted insofar as duplicated as to the same products by the measure of the tax upon the manufacturer or producer for the privilege of manufacturing or producing in the State; provided that no producer of agricultural products who sells the products to a purchaser who will process the products outside the State shall be required to pay the tax imposed in this chapter for the privilege of producing or selling those products. (E)A taxpayer selling to a federal cost-plus contractor may make the election provided for by paragraph (3)(C), and in that case the tax shall be computed pursuant to the election, notwithstanding this paragraph or paragraph (1) to the contrary.

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| 1 | (F) The | e department, by rule, may require that a seller |
|----|--------------|--|
| 2 | tał | e from the purchaser of tangible personal |
| 3 | pro | operty a certificate, in a form prescribed by |
| 4 | the | e department, certifying that the sale is a sale |
| 5 | at | wholesale; provided that: |
| 6 | (i) | Any purchaser who furnishes a certificate |
| 7 | | shall be obligated to pay to the seller, upon |
| 8 | | demand, the amount of the additional tax that |
| 9 | | is imposed upon the seller whenever the sale |
| 10 | | in fact is not at wholesale; and |
| 11 | (ii) | The absence of a certificate in itself shall |
| 12 | | give rise to the presumption that the sale is |
| 13 | a. | not at wholesale unless the sales of the |
| 14 | | business are exclusively at wholesale. |
| 15 | (3) Tax upor | contractors. |
| 16 | (A) Upc | n every person engaging or continuing within |
| 17 | the | State in the business of contracting, the tax |
| 18 | sha | ll be equal to four per cent of the gross |
| 19 | inc | ome of the business. |
| 20 | (B) In | computing the tax levied under this paragraph, |
| 21 | the | re shall be deducted from the gross income of |
| 22 | the | taxpayer so much thereof as has been included |
| | | |

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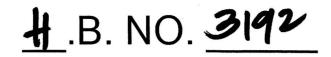
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in the measure of the tax levied under subparagraph (A), on:

- (i) Another taxpayer who is a contractor, as defined in section 237-6;
- (ii) A specialty contractor, duly licensed by the department of commerce and consumer affairs pursuant to section 444-9, in respect of the specialty contractor's business; or
- 9 (iii) A specialty contractor who is not licensed by
 10 the department of commerce and consumer
 11 affairs pursuant to section 444-9, but who
 12 performs contracting activities on federal
 13 military installations and nowhere else in
 14 this State;

provided that any person claiming a deduction
under this paragraph shall be required to show in
the person's return the name and general excise
number of the person paying the tax on the amount
deducted by the person.

20 (C) In computing the tax levied under this paragraph
21 against any federal cost-plus contractor, there
22 shall be excluded from the gross income of the

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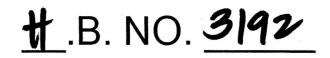
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contractor so much thereof as fulfills the following requirements:

The gross income exempted shall constitute (i) reimbursement of costs incurred for materials, plant, or equipment purchased from a taxpayer licensed under this chapter, not exceeding the gross proceeds of sale of the taxpayer on account of the transaction; and (ii) The taxpayer making the sale shall have certified to the department that the taxpayer is taxable with respect to the gross proceeds of the sale, and that the taxpayer elects to have the tax on gross income computed the same as upon a sale to the state government. A person who, as a business or as a part of a (D)business in which the person is engaged, erects, constructs, or improves any building or structure, of any kind or description, or makes, constructs, or improves any road, street, sidewalk, sewer, or water system, or other improvements on land held by the person (whether held as a leasehold, fee simple, or otherwise), upon the sale or other

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disposition of the land or improvements, even if the work was not done pursuant to a contract, shall be liable to the same tax as if engaged in the business of contracting, unless the person shows that at the time the person was engaged in making the improvements the person intended, and for the period of at least one year after completion of the building, structure, or other improvements the person continued to intend to hold and not sell or otherwise dispose of the land or improvements. The tax in respect of the improvements shall be measured by the amount of the proceeds of the sale or other disposition that is attributable to the erection, construction, or improvement of such building or structure, or the making, constructing, or improving of the road, street, sidewalk, sewer, or water system, or other improvements. The measure of tax in respect of the improvements shall not exceed the amount which would have been taxable had the work been performed by another, subject as in other cases to the deductions allowed by subparagraph (B). Upon

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the election of the taxpayer, this paragraph may 1 be applied notwithstanding that the improvements 2 were not made by the taxpayer, or were not made as 3 a business or as a part of a business, or were made with the intention of holding the same. 5 However, this paragraph shall not apply in respect 6 of any proceeds that constitute or are in the 7 nature of rent; all such gross income shall be 8 taxable under paragraph (9); provided that insofar 9 as the business of renting or leasing real 10 property under a lease is taxed under section 237-11 16.5, the tax shall be levied by section 237-16.5. 12 (4) Tax upon theaters, amusements, radio broadcasting 13 stations, etc. 14 Upon every person engaging or continuing within (A) 15 the State in the business of operating a theater, 16 opera house, moving picture show, vaudeville, 17 amusement park, dance hall, skating rink, radio 18 broadcasting station, or any other place at which 19 amusements are offered to the public, the tax 20 shall be equal to four per cent of the gross 21 income of the business, and in the case of a sale 22

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of an amusement at wholesale under section 237-4(a)(13), the tax shall be subject to section 237-13.3.

- (B) The department may require that the person rendering an amusement at wholesale take from the licensed seller a certificate, in a form prescribed by the department, certifying that the sale is a sale at wholesale; provided that:
- 9 (i) Any licensed seller who furnishes a
 10 certificate shall be obligated to pay to the
 11 person rendering the amusement, upon demand,
 12 the amount of additional tax that is imposed
 13 upon the seller whenever the sale is not at
 14 wholesale; and
- 15 (ii) The absence of a certificate in itself shall
 16 give rise to the presumption that the sale is
 17 not at wholesale unless the person rendering
 18 the sale is exclusively rendering the
 19 amusement at wholesale.
- 20 (5) Tax upon sales representatives, etc. Upon every person
 21 classified as a representative or purchasing agent
 22 under section 237-1, engaging or continuing within the

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State in the business of performing services for another, other than as an employee, there is likewise hereby levied and shall be assessed and collected a tax equal to four per cent of the commissions and other compensation attributable to the services so rendered by the person.

(6) Tax on service business.

Upon every person engaging or continuing within (A) 8 the State in any service business or calling 9 including professional services not otherwise 10 specifically taxed under this chapter, there is 11 likewise hereby levied and shall be assessed and 12 collected a tax equal to four per cent of the 13 gross income of the business, and in the case of a 14 wholesaler under section 237-4(a)(10), the tax 15 shall be equal to one-half of one per cent of the 16 gross income of the business. Notwithstanding the 17 18 foregoing, a wholesaler under section 237-4(a)(10) shall be subject to section 237-13.3. 19

20 (B) The department may require that the person
21 rendering a service at wholesale take from the
22 licensed seller a certificate, in a form

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| 1 | | | preso | cribed by the department, certifying that the |
|----|-----|-----|-------|--|
| 2 | | | sale | is a sale at wholesale; provided that: |
| 3 | | ÷ | (i) | Any licensed seller who furnishes a |
| 4 | | | | certificate shall be obligated to pay to the |
| 5 | | | | person rendering the service, upon demand, |
| 6 | | | | the amount of additional tax that is imposed |
| 7 | | | | upon the seller whenever the sale is not at |
| 8 | | | 3 | wholesale; and |
| 9 | | | (ii) | The absence of a certificate in itself shall |
| 10 | | | | give rise to the presumption that the sale is |
| 11 | | | | not at wholesale unless the person rendering |
| 12 | • 7 | | | the sale is exclusively rendering services at |
| 13 | | | | wholesale. |
| 14 | | (C) | Where | e any person engaging or continuing within the |
| 15 | | | State | e in any service business or calling renders |
| 16 | | | those | e services upon the order of or at the request |
| 17 | | | of ar | nother taxpayer who is engaged in the service |
| 18 | | | busir | ness and who, in fact, acts as or acts in the |
| 19 | | | natur | re of an intermediary between the person |
| 20 | : | | rende | ering those services and the ultimate |
| 21 | | | recip | pient of the benefits of those services, so |
| 22 | | | much | of the gross income as is received by the |
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person rendering the services shall be subjected to the tax at the rate of one-half of one per cent and all of the gross income received by the intermediary from the principal shall be subjected to a tax at the rate of four per cent. Where the taxpayer is subject to both this subparagraph and to the lowest tax rate under subparagraph (A), the taxpayer shall be taxed under this subparagraph. This subparagraph shall be repealed on January 1, 2006.

(D)Where any person is engaged in the business of 11 selling interstate or foreign common carrier 12 telecommunication services within and without the 13 State, other than as a home service provider, the 14 tax shall be imposed on that portion of gross 15 income received by a person from service which is 16 originated or terminated in this State and is 17 charged to a telephone number, customer, or 18 account in this State notwithstanding any other 19 state law (except for the exemption under section 20 237-23(a)(1)) to the contrary. If, under the 21 Constitution and laws of the United States, the 22

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entire gross income as determined under this paragraph of a business selling interstate or foreign common carrier telecommunication services cannot be included in the measure of the tax, the gross income shall be apportioned as provided in section 237-21; provided that the apportionment factor and formula shall be the same for all persons providing those services in the State. (E)Where any person is engaged in the business of a home service provider, the tax shall be imposed on the gross income received or derived from providing interstate or foreign mobile telecommunications services to a customer with a place of primary use in this State when such services originate in one state and terminate in another state, territory, or foreign country; provided that all charges for mobile telecommunications services which are billed by or for the home service provider are deemed to be provided by the home service provider at the customer's place of primary use, regardless of where the mobile telecommunications originate,

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| 1 | | term | inate, or pass through; provided further that |
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| 2 | | the | income from charges specifically derived from |
| 3 | | inte | rstate or foreign mobile telecommunications |
| 4 | | serv | ices, as determined by books and records that |
| 5 | | are | kept in the regular course of business by the |
| 6 | | home | service provider in accordance with section |
| 7 | | 239- | 24, shall be apportioned under any |
| 8 | | appo | rtionment factor or formula adopted under |
| 9 | | sect | ion 237-13(6)(D). Gross' income shall not |
| 10 | | incl | ude: |
| 11 | | (i) | Gross receipts from mobile telecommunications |
| 12 | | | services provided to a customer with a place |
| 13 | κ. | | of primary use outside this State; |
| 14 | | (ii) | Gross receipts from mobile telecommunications |
| 15 | | | services that are subject to the tax imposed |
| 16 | | | by chapter 239; |
| 17 | (| iii) | Gross receipts from mobile telecommunications |
| 18 | | | services taxed under section 237-13.8; and |
| 19 | | (iv) | Gross receipts of a home service provider |
| 20 | | | acting as a serving carrier providing mobile |
| 21 | | | telecommunications services to another home |
| 22 | | | service provider's customer. |

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For the purposes of this paragraph, "charges for 1 mobile telecommunications services", "customer", 2 "home service provider", "mobile 3 telecommunications services", "place of primary 4 use", and "serving carrier" have the same meaning 5 as in section 239-22. 6 Tax on insurance producers. Upon every person engaged (7)7 as a licensed producer pursuant to chapter 431, there 8 is hereby levied and shall be assessed and collected a 9 tax equal to 0.15 per cent of the commissions due to 10 that activity. 11 Tax on receipts of sugar benefit payments. Upon the 12 (8)amounts received from the United States government by 13 any producer of sugar (or the producer's legal 14 representative or heirs), as defined under and by 15 virtue of the Sugar Act of 1948, as amended, or other 16 Acts of the Congress of the United States relating 17 thereto, there is hereby levied a tax of one-half of 18 one per cent of the gross amount received; provided 19 that the tax levied hereunder on any amount so received 20 and actually disbursed to another by a producer in the 21 form of a benefit payment shall be paid by the person 22

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or persons to whom the amount is actually disbursed, and the producer actually making a benefit payment to another shall be entitled to claim on the producer's return a deduction from the gross amount taxable hereunder in the sum of the amount so disbursed. The amounts taxed under this paragraph shall not be taxable under any other paragraph, subsection, or section of this chapter.

Tax on other business. Upon every person engaging or 9 (9)continuing within the State in any business, trade, 10 activity, occupation, or calling not included in the 11 preceding paragraphs or any other provisions of this 12 chapter, there is likewise hereby levied and shall be 13 assessed and collected, a tax equal to four per cent of 14 the gross income thereof. In addition, the rate 15 prescribed by this paragraph shall apply to a business 16 taxable under one or more of the preceding paragraphs 17 or other provisions of this chapter, as to any gross 18 income thereof not taxed thereunder as gross income or 19 gross proceeds of sales or by taxing an equivalent 20 value of products, unless specifically exempted." 21

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SECTION 11. Section 237-28.1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 1 amended to read as follows: 2 "[+] §237-28.1[+] Exemption of certain shipbuilding and ship 3 repair business. There shall be exempted from, and excluded from 4 the measure of, the taxes imposed by this chapter all of the 5 gross proceeds arising from shipbuilding and ship repairs 6 rendered to surface and subsurface vessels federally owned or 7 engaged in interstate or international trade." 8 SECTION 12. Section 286-46, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 9 amended to read as follows: 10 "§286-46 Tax lien and encumbrance record. (a) The 11 director of finance shall keep a book or record to be known as 12 the "tax lien and encumbrance record" in which the following 13 information shall be entered: 14 Notices of liens for internal revenue taxes payable to (1)15 the United States and certificates of release thereof; 16 Notices of liens [or], taxes, debts, or judgments (2)17 payable to the State or county and certificates of 18 release thereof; 19 Notices of seizure in accordance with law of any 20 (3)

registered motor vehicle upon any writ of attachment,

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execution, or other process issued under authority of law;

3 (4) Notices of restraining order or other order affecting
4 the registration of any registered motor vehicle;
5 (5) Notice of any proceeding or action affecting the title
6 of a registered motor vehicle or the interest of the
7 owner or legal owner thereof; and

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(6) Notice of release of any of the foregoing.

With the exception of delinquent 'taxes and penalties (b) 9 imposed by section 249-10, the record shall show the year, month, 10 day, hour, and minute at which the notice has been filed with the 11 director of finance, shall show the nature and kind of lien or 12 encumbrance claimed, the amount of tax or other claim, with 13 interest, penalties, and costs, and shall identify the registered 14 motor vehicles affected by the lien or encumbrance, and shall 15 contain such further information as the director of finance may 16 require. The record shall be a public record and may be arranged 17 in such manner as the director of finance determines. 18

19 The interest of the owner or the legal owner in the motor 20 vehicle shall not be deemed to be affected until the notice 21 referred to in subsection (a)(1) to (5) has been filed with the 22 director of finance in such form as the director of finance shall

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prescribe for entry in the tax lien and encumbrance record; 1 provided the director of finance [may] shall require the payment 2 of delinquent taxes and penalties, debts, or judgments payable to 3 4 the State or county as a condition precedent to the vehicle's renewal, registration, or transfer of ownership. The director of 5 finance shall charge a fee of \$5 for each entry made in the tax 6 lien and encumbrance record, which shall be deposited in the 7 general fund. Neither the State nor any political subdivision 8 9 shall be charged a fee for any entry made in the tax lien and encumbrance record. 10 Nothing in this section shall be deemed to alter or amend 11 any statute relating to tax liens or the enforcement thereof." 12 SECTION 13. Section 487J-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 13 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows: 14 "(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply to: 15 (1) The inclusion of a social security number in documents 16 that are mailed and: 17 (A). Are specifically requested by the individual 18 identified by the social security number; 19 Required by state or federal law to be on the 20 (B) document to be mailed; 21

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| (C) | Required | as | part | of | an | application | or | enrollment |
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| | | | | | | | | 1 |
| | process; | | | | | | | |

- (D) Used to establish, amend, or terminate an account, contract, or policy; or
- (E) Used to confirm the accuracy of the social security number for the purpose of obtaining a credit report pursuant to 15 U.S.C. section 1681(b).
- 9 A social security number that is permitted to be mailed 10 under this paragraph may not be printed, in whole or in 11 part, on a postcard or other mailer not requiring an 12 envelope, or visible on the envelope or without the 13 envelope having been opened;
- 14 (2) The opening of an account or the provision of or
 15 payment for a product or service authorized by an
 16 individual;
- 17 (3) The collection, use, or release of a social security
 18 number to investigate or prevent fraud; conduct
 19 background checks; conduct social or scientific
 20 research; collect a debt; obtain a credit report from
 21 or furnish data to a consumer reporting agency pursuant
 22 to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 U.S.C. sections

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1681 to 1681x, as amended; undertake a permissible 1 purpose enumerated under the federal Gramm Leach Bliley 2 Act, 15 U.S.C. sections 6801 to 6809, as amended; 3 locate an individual who is missing or due a benefit, 4 such as a pension, insurance, or unclaimed property 5 benefit; or locate a lost relative; 6 (4)A business or government agency acting pursuant to a 7 court order, warrant, subpoena, or when otherwise 8 required by law; 9 A business or government agency providing the social 10 (5)security number to a federal, state, or local 11 government entity including a law enforcement agency or 12 court, or their agents or assigns; 13 The collection, use, or release of a social security (6) 14 number in the course of administering a claim, benefit, 15 or procedure relating to an individual's employment, 16 including an individual's termination from employment, 17 retirement from employment, injuries suffered during 18 the course of employment, and other related claims, 19 benefits, or procedures; 20 (7)The collection, use, or release of a social security 21

number as required by state or federal law;

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| 1 | (8) | The sharing of the social security number by business | | | |
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| 2 | | affiliates; | | | |
| 3 | (9) | The use of a social security number for internal | | | |
| 4 | | verification or administrative purposes; | | | |
| 5 | (10) | A social security number that has been redacted; [and] | | | |
| 6 | (11) | Documents or records that are recorded or required to | | | |
| 7 | | be open to the public pursuant to the constitution or | | | |
| 8 | | laws of the State or court rule or order [-]; and | | | |
| 9 | (12) | The collection, use, or release of a social security | | | |
| 10 | | number by the department of taxation in administering | | | |
| 11 | | its duties under title 14." | | | |
| 12 | SECT | ION 14. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed | | | |
| 13 | and stricken. New statutory material is underscored. | | | | |
| 14 | SECTION 15. This Act shall take effect upon its approval; | | | | |
| 15 | provided that: | | | | |
| 16 | (1) | Section 2 of this Act shall apply to claims for refund | | | |
| 17 | | or credit submitted on or after July 1, 2007; | | | |
| 18 | (2) | Section 3, 4, and 5 of this Act shall apply to appeals | | | |
| 19 | | filed on or after July 1, 2007; | | | |
| 20 | (3) | Sections 7 and 9 of this Act shall apply to taxable | | | |
| 21 | | vears beginning after December 31, 2007; | | | |

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| 1 | (4) | Sections 10 and 11 of this Act shall apply to gross |
|----|-----|---|
| 2 | | proceeds or gross income received on or after January |
| 3 | | 1, 2009; |
| 4 | (5) | The amendments made to section 235-20.5, Hawaii |
| 5 | | Revised Statutes, by this Act, shall not be repealed |
| 6 | | when section 235.20.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is |
| 7 | | reenacted on January 1, 2011, pursuant to Act 206, |
| 8 | | Session Laws of Hawaii 2007. |
| 9 | | Rossillk |
| 10 | | INTRODUCED BY: |
| 11 | | BY REQUEST |
| | | |

JAN 2 2 2008

<u>H</u>.B. NO. 3192

Report Title:

Tax Administration; Technical Corrections 2008

Description:

Establishes a twenty per cent penalty for erroneous refund or credit claims. Clarifies that information discussed in a public board of review hearing is public information. Provides authority for taxpayer and the department of taxation to redact parts of a social security number in tax returns filed with the tax appeal court. Amends conformity law to allow discretion in submitting a digest to the legislature and requires testimony by the department of taxation. Makes technical corrections to conform Hawaii tax law to the internal revenue code for purposes of the "Kiddie Tax." Clarifies the uses of funds available in the tax administration special fund. Extends the capital goods excise tax credit to include canned computer software. Clarifies the general excise tax wholesale fate for sales of tangible personal property. Clarifies that the general excise tax exemption for building and repair of a surface vessel applies to subsurface vessels. Clarifies tax lien recording requirements. Adds an exemption for the proper use of social security numbers for tax administration.

JUSTIFICATION SHEET

| DEPARTMENT: | Taxation |
|----------------|---|
| TITLE: | A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO REVENUE AUTHORITIES ADMINISTERED BY THE GOVERNMENT. |
| PURPOSE: | To provide various technical amendments to Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), in order to assist the Department of Taxation with administration of Hawaii's taxes and other revenue authorities. |
| MEANS : | Add a new section to chapter 231, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), and amend sections 232-7(b), 232-16, 232-18, 235-2.5(c), 235- 7.5, 235-20.5, 235-110.7(a) and (e), 237-13, 237-28.1, 286-46, and 487J-2(b), HRS. |
| JUSTIFICATION: | The purpose of this legislation is to make various technical corrections to provisions in the HRS that relate to the Department of Taxation's ability to administer Hawaii taxes. |
| | A. ERRONEOUS REFUND CLAIMS |
| | Congress recently amended the Internal Revenue Code to allow for a twenty percent penalty on any excessive refund claims. With certain of the tax incentives provided in Title 14, HRS, providing the Department of Taxation with the ability to assess a penalty for refund or credit claims where a taxpayer's claim lacks a reasonable basis will assist with the administration of Hawaii's taxes by providing a deterrent mechanism, which presently does not exist. |
| | B. PUBLIC BOARD OF REVIEW INFORMATION |
| | Current law is ambiguous as to whether certain information discussed at a Taxation Board of Review hearing is public and able to be disseminated. Chapter 232, HRS, is clear that a Board of Review hearing is a |

public meeting. However, other conflicting confidentiality laws preclude the Department of Taxation from discussing the taxpayer's identity or the specific legal arguments presented to the Board of Review. The dilemma arises that if a person was not present at the hearing, the Department of Taxation cannot disclose appeal briefs or taxpayer identity. However, if the same person were at the hearing, the person would know the taxpayer's identity and other material information. This bill clarifies what information is public when discussed at a Board of Review hearing.

C. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS ON APPEAL DOCUMENTS

With the onset of identity theft, administration of tax appeals should likewise conform to protection such sensitive data. Currently, tax appeals require taxpayers to submit a copy of the tax return(s) in dispute in the appeal. Tax returns routinely contain sensitive data, including social security numbers of individuals. This bill authorizes individuals and the department of taxation to redact all but the last four digits of their social security number on any filed tax returns with the Tax Appeal Court.

D. CONFORMITY DIGEST

Current law requires the Department of Taxation to submit a statutory digest summarizing all tax laws passed by Congress in the prior calendar year early in the legislative session. In recent years, the political makeup of Congress has been such that any tax amendments to continue common tax provisions are passed in the waning days of the calendar year. The congressional digest of federal tax laws is extremely complicated and time consuming, taking months to complete. It is not uncommon for Department of Taxation staff to digest

nearly thousands of sections of congressional law. In order to maximize resources and minimize delay to the legislature, this bill amends the law to allow discretion in whether a digest is submitted to the Legislature. However, the bill also amends the law to require the Department of Taxation to fully apprise the Legislature on the conformity measure in summary form by providing explanations, testimony, and revenue impact information.

E. "KIDDIE TAX" AMENDMENTS

In its conformity provisions, Hawaii does not expressly conform to the "Kiddie Tax" assessed by the Internal Revenue Code. However, Hawaii has adopted its own "Kiddie Tax" at section 235-7.5, HRS. In 2006, Congress made various amendments to the "Kiddie Tax" contained in the Internal Revenue Code. This bill makes similar conforming amendments to the changes made by Congress to ensure consistency in the application and assessment of these similar taxes.

F. TAX ADMINISTRATION SPECIAL FUND

Act 206, Session Laws of Hawaii 2007, amended the Tax Administration Special Fund to allow use of the funds for the administration of credits under section 235-110.9, HRS. The Department of Taxation understood the intent of this amendment was to allow use of the funds for administration of other high tech credits, including the refundable credit for research activities under section 235-110.91, HRS. This bill clarifies that the tax administration special fund may be used for administering both high technology tax credits.

G. CANNED SOFWARE ELIGIBILITY FOR THE CAPITAL GOOD EXCISE TAX CREDIT

Hawaii's capital goods excise tax credit allows a credit equal to the general excise tax paid on depreciable tangible personal property. The credit defines depreciable tangible personal property as of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended in 1984. Canned computer software was considered depreciable tangible personal property in the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. This bill amends the definition of depreciable tangible personal property to allow for canned computer software to qualify for the capital goods excise tax credit.

H. WHOLESALE GENERAL EXCISE TAX RATE CORRECTION

Current law does not have a corresponding wholesale general excise tax rate of onehalf of one per cent for the sales of tangible personal property. This bill provides a conforming amendment to allow for a wholesale general excise tax rate for sales of tangible personal property to conform this provision to other provisions allowing the same.

I. VESSEL EXEMPTION

There currently exists an exemption from the general excise tax for the repair of surface vessels owned by the federal government or for use out-of-state. This bill amends the general excise to make an amendment to clarify that repair of subsurface vessels is likewise included in this exemption.

J. TAX LIEN RECORDING

Encumbrances on real property and motor vehicles are an effective mechanism to significantly increase the likelihood of recovering outstanding tax and other debts. This bill clarifies that debts and judgments owed the state or counties are valid claims for purposes of recordation on the tax lien

encumbrance record. This bill also requires the county directors of finance to require payment of such tax or other debts owed as a condition of removing a tax lien or encumbrance.

K. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER USE; CHAPTER 487J, HRS

Chapter 487J, HRS, was enacted in 2006 to limit the use of social security numbers by businesses and government. The Department of Taxation's tax administration processes and procedures rely heavily on the use of the social security number to ensure identification of a taxpayer. This bill makes clarifying amendments to chapter 487J, HRS, that allow the Department of Taxation to utilize social security numbers in the administration of Hawaii taxes.

<u>Impact on the public:</u> Conformity to amendments to the Internal Revenue Code will minimize the burden of taxpayers to comply with the requirements of Hawaii's income tax law. Various technical amendments clarify the application of Hawaii law to the administration of Hawaii taxes. Taxpayers will qualify for the capital good excise tax credit for computer software.

Impact on the department and other agencies: Conforming Hawaii's income tax law to that of the Internal Revenue Code will increase consistency between the two jurisdictions. Minimizing the administrative burden on the Department of Taxation will greatly assist with the administration of Hawaii taxes.

GENERAL FUND: \$1,200,000.

OTHER FUNDS: None.

PPBS PROGRAM DESIGNATION:

TAX 100.

OTHER AFFECTED AGENCIES:

None.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

Upon approval, with various provisos.