

LEGISLATIVE BILL 472

Passed over the Governor's veto April 30, 2019.

Introduced by Dorn, 30; Brandt, 32; DeBoer, 10; Erdman, 47; Friesen, 34; Groene, 42; McCollister, 20; Murman, 38.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to revenue and taxation; to amend sections 13-319, 39-2510, 39-2520, 77-2703.01, 77-2703.04, 77-2704.31, 77-2708, 77-2711, 77-2712.05, 77-5725, and 77-5726, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to adopt the Qualified Judgment Payment Act; to provide for a sales and use tax and a property tax levy; to provide a termination date; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Sections 1 to 6 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the Qualified Judgment Payment Act.

Sec. 2. For purposes of the Qualified Judgment Payment Act, qualified judgment means a judgment that is rendered against a county by a federal court for a violation of federal law.

Sec. 3. (1) Any county that has a qualified judgment in excess of twenty-five million dollars rendered against it may, upon adoption of a resolution by the affirmative vote of at least a two-thirds majority of all elected members of the county board, impose a sales and use tax of one-half of one percent on transactions that are subject to the state sales and use tax under the Nebraska Revenue Act of 1967, as amended from time to time, and that are sourced as provided in sections 77-2703.01 to 77-2703.04 within the county. Any sales and use tax imposed pursuant to this section shall be used to pay the qualified judgment.

(2) The Tax Commissioner shall administer all sales and use taxes imposed pursuant to this section. The Tax Commissioner may prescribe forms and adopt and promulgate rules and regulations in conformity with the Nebraska Revenue Act of 1967, as amended, for the making of returns and for the ascertainment, assessment, and collection of taxes. The county shall furnish a certified copy of the resolution imposing the tax to the Tax Commissioner. The tax shall begin on the first day of the first calendar quarter which begins at least sixty days after receipt by the Tax Commissioner of the certified copy of the resolution. The Tax Commissioner shall provide at least thirty days' notice of the adoption of the tax to retailers within the county. Such notice may be provided through the web site of the Department of Revenue or by other electronic means.

(3) Any sales and use tax imposed pursuant to this section shall terminate on the first day of the first calendar quarter which begins after the qualified judgment has been paid in full or after seven years, whichever is earlier. The county shall notify the Tax Commissioner of the anticipated termination date at least one hundred twenty days in advance. The Tax Commissioner shall provide at least sixty days' notice of the termination date to retailers within the county. Such notice may be provided through the web site of the Department of Revenue or by other electronic means.

(4) The Tax Commissioner shall collect any sales and use tax imposed pursuant to this section concurrently with collection of a state sales and use tax in the same manner as the state tax is collected. The Tax Commissioner shall remit monthly the proceeds of the tax to the county imposing the tax, after deducting the amount of refunds made and three percent of the remainder as an administrative fee necessary to defray the cost of collecting the tax and the expenses incident thereto. The Tax Commissioner shall keep full and accurate records of all money received and distributed. All receipts from the three-percent administrative fee shall be deposited in the state General Fund.

(5) Upon any claim of illegal assessment and collection of any sales and use tax imposed pursuant to this section, the taxpayer has the same remedies provided for claims of illegal assessment and collection of the state sales and use tax.

(6) All relevant provisions of the Nebraska Revenue Act of 1967, as amended, not inconsistent with this section, shall govern transactions, proceedings, and activities related to any sales and use tax imposed pursuant to this section.

(7) For purposes of any sales and use tax imposed pursuant to this section, all retail sales, rentals, and leases, as defined and described in the Nebraska Revenue Act of 1967, shall be sourced as provided in sections 77-2703.01 to 77-2703.04.

Sec. 4. A county shall not impose a sales and use tax pursuant to the Qualified Judgment Payment Act if such county is imposing a tax pursuant to section 13-319.

Sec. 5. Any county that imposes a sales and use tax pursuant to the Qualified Judgment Payment Act shall set its property tax levy at the maximum levy authorized in section 77-3442 for each year that the county is imposing such sales and use tax. The county shall use any available revenue from the imposition of such levy to pay the qualified judgment.

Sec. 6. The Qualified Judgment Payment Act terminates on January 1, 2027.

Sec. 7. Section 13-319, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended

to read:

13-319 Any county by resolution of the governing body may impose a sales and use tax of one-half percent, one percent, or one and one-half percent upon the same transactions sourced as provided in sections 77-2703.01 to 77-2703.04 within the county, but outside any incorporated municipality which has adopted a local sales tax pursuant to section 77-27,142, on which the state is authorized to impose a tax pursuant to the Nebraska Revenue Act of 1967, as amended from time to time. Any sales and use tax imposed pursuant to this section must be used (1) to finance public safety services provided by a public safety commission, (2) to provide the county share of funds required under any other agreement executed under the Interlocal Cooperation Act or Joint Public Agency Act, or (3) to finance public safety services provided by the county. A sales and use tax shall not be imposed pursuant to this section until an election has been held and a majority of the qualified electors have approved the tax pursuant to sections 13-322 and 13-323. A sales and use tax shall not be imposed pursuant to this section if the county is imposing a tax pursuant to section 3 of this act.

Sec. 8. Section 39-2510, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

39-2510 (1) All money derived from fees, excises, or license fees relating to registration, operation, or use of vehicles on the public highways, or to fuels used for the propulsion of such vehicles, shall be expended for payment of highway obligations, cost of construction, reconstruction, maintenance, and repair of public highways and bridges and county, city, township, and village roads, streets, and bridges, and all facilities, appurtenances, and structures deemed necessary in connection with such highways, bridges, roads, and streets, or may be pledged to secure bonded indebtedness issued for such purposes, except for (a) the cost of administering laws under which such money is derived, (b) statutory refunds and adjustments provided therein, and (c) money derived from the motor vehicle operators' license fees or money received from parking meter proceeds, fines, and penalties.

(2) The requirements of subsection (1) of this section also apply to sales and use taxes imposed on motor vehicles, trailers, and semitrailers pursuant to sections 13-319 and 77-27,142 and section 3 of this act, except that such provisions shall not apply in a county or municipal county that has issued bonds (a) the proceeds of which were used for purposes listed in subsection (1) of this section and for which revenue other than sales and use taxes on motor vehicles, trailers, and semitrailers is pledged for payment or (b) approved by a vote that required the use of sales and use taxes imposed on motor vehicles, trailers, and semitrailers for a specific purpose other than those listed in subsection (1) of this section, until all such bonds issued prior to January 1, 2006, have been paid or retired. The county or municipal county shall include a certification with the report under section 39-2120 showing the amount of revenue other than sales and use tax revenue derived from motor vehicles, trailers, or semitrailers that is to be expended for the purposes listed in subsection (1) of this section and the amount of sales and use taxes expected to be collected from sales of motor vehicles, trailers, and semitrailers for that year.

Sec. 9. Section 39-2520, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

39-2520 (1) All money derived from fees, excises, or license fees relating to registration, operation, or use of vehicles on the public highways, or to fuels used for the propulsion of such vehicles, shall be expended for payment of highway obligations, cost of construction, reconstruction, maintenance, and repair of public highways and bridges and county, city, township, and village roads, streets, and bridges, and all facilities, appurtenances, and structures deemed necessary in connection with such highways, bridges, roads, and streets, or may be pledged to secure bonded indebtedness issued for such purposes, except for (a) the cost of administering laws under which such money is derived, (b) statutory refunds and adjustments provided therein, and (c) money derived from the motor vehicle operators' license fees or money received from parking meter proceeds, fines, and penalties.

(2) The requirements of subsection (1) of this section also apply to sales and use taxes imposed on motor vehicles, trailers, and semitrailers pursuant to sections 13-319 and 77-27,142 and section 3 of this act, except that such provisions shall not apply in a municipality that has issued bonds (a) the proceeds of which were used for purposes listed in subsection (1) of this section and for which revenue other than sales and use taxes on motor vehicles, trailers, and semitrailers is pledged for payment or (b) approved by a vote that required the use of sales and use taxes imposed on motor vehicles, trailers, and semitrailers for a specific purpose other than those listed in subsection (1) of this section, until all such bonds issued prior to January 1, 2006, have been paid or retired. The municipality shall include a certification with the report under section 39-2120 showing the amount of revenue other than sales and use tax revenue derived from motor vehicles, trailers, or semitrailers that is to be expended for the purposes listed in subsection (1) of this section and the amount of sales and use taxes expected to be collected from sales of motor vehicles, trailers, and semitrailers for that year.

Sec. 10. Section 77-2703.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

77-2703.01 (1) The determination of whether a sale or use of property or the provision of services is in this state, in a municipality that has adopted a tax under the Local Option Revenue Act, or in a county that has adopted a tax

under section 13-319 or section 3 of this act shall be governed by the sourcing rules in sections 77-2703.01 to 77-2703.04.

(2) When the property or service is received by the purchaser at a business location of the retailer, the sale is sourced to that business location.

(3) When the property or service is not received by the purchaser at a business location of the retailer, the sale is sourced to the location where receipt by the purchaser or the purchaser's donee, designated as such by the purchaser, occurs, including the location indicated by instructions for delivery to the purchaser or donee, known to the retailer.

(4) When subsection (2) or (3) of this section does not apply, the sale is sourced to the location indicated by an address or other information for the purchaser that is available from the business records of the retailer that are maintained in the ordinary course of the retailer's business when use of this address does not constitute bad faith.

(5) When subsection (2), (3), or (4) of this section does not apply, the sale is sourced to the location indicated by an address for the purchaser obtained during the consummation of the sale, including the address of a purchaser's payment instrument, if no other address is available, when use of this address does not constitute bad faith.

(6) When subsection (2), (3), (4), or (5) of this section does not apply, including the circumstance in which the retailer is without sufficient information to apply the rules in any such subsection, then the location will be determined by the address from which property was shipped, from which the digital good was first available for transmission by the retailer, or from which the service was provided disregarding for these purposes any location that merely provided the digital transfer of the product sold.

(7) The lease or rental of tangible personal property, other than property identified in subsection (8) or (9) of this section, shall be sourced as follows:

(a) For a lease or rental that requires recurring periodic payments, the first periodic payment is sourced the same as a retail sale in accordance with the provisions of subsections (2) through (6) of this section. Periodic payments made subsequent to the first payment are sourced to the primary property location for each period covered by the payment. The primary property location shall be as indicated by an address for the property provided by the lessee that is available to the lessor from its records maintained in the ordinary course of business when use of this address does not constitute bad faith. The property location shall not be altered by intermittent use at different locations, such as use of business property that accompanies employees on business trips and service calls; and

(b) For a lease or rental that does not require recurring periodic payments, the payment is sourced the same as a retail sale in accordance with the provisions of subsections (2) through (6) of this section.

This subsection does not affect the imposition or computation of sales or use tax on leases or rentals based on a lump-sum or accelerated basis or on the acquisition of property for lease.

(8) The lease or rental of motor vehicles, trailers, semitrailers, or aircraft that do not qualify as transportation equipment under subsection (9) of this section shall be sourced as follows:

(a) For a lease or rental that requires recurring periodic payments, each periodic payment is sourced to the primary property location. The primary property location shall be as indicated by an address for the property provided by the lessee that is available to the lessor from its records maintained in the ordinary course of business when use of this address does not constitute bad faith. This location shall not be altered by intermittent use at different locations; and

(b) For a lease or rental that does not require recurring periodic payments, the payment is sourced the same as a retail sale in accordance with the provisions of subsections (2) through (6) of this section.

This subsection does not affect the imposition or computation of sales or use tax on leases or rentals based on a lump-sum or accelerated basis or on the acquisition of property for lease.

(9) The retail sale, including lease or rental, of transportation equipment shall be sourced the same as a retail sale in accordance with subsections (2) through (6) of this section. Transportation equipment means any of the following:

(a) Locomotives and railcars that are utilized for the carriage of persons or property in interstate commerce;

(b) Trucks and truck-tractors with a gross vehicle weight rating of ten thousand one pounds or greater, trailers, semitrailers, or passenger buses that are (i) registered through the International Registration Plan and (ii) operated under authority of a carrier authorized and certificated by the United States Department of Transportation or another federal authority to engage in the carriage of persons or property in interstate commerce;

(c) Aircraft operated by air carriers authorized and certificated by the United States Department of Transportation or another federal authority or a foreign authority to engage in the carriage of persons or property in interstate or foreign commerce; and

(d) Containers designed for use on and component parts attached or secured on the items set forth in subdivisions (9)(a) through (c) of this section.

(10) For purposes of this section, receive and receipt mean taking possession of tangible personal property, making first use of services, or

taking possession or making first use of digital goods, whichever comes first. The terms receive and receipt do not include possession by a shipping company on behalf of the purchaser. For purposes of sourcing detective services subject to tax under subdivision (4)(h) of section 77-2701.16, making first use of a service shall be deemed to be at the individual's residence, in the case of a customer who is an individual, or at the principal place of business, in the case of a business customer.

(11) The sale, not including lease or rental, of a motor vehicle, semitrailer, or trailer as defined in the Motor Vehicle Registration Act shall be sourced to the place of registration of the motor vehicle, semitrailer, or trailer for operation upon the highways of this state or, if no such registration has occurred, the place where such motor vehicle, semitrailer, or trailer is required to be registered, except that beginning January 1, 2021, the sale of any motor vehicle or trailer operated by a public power district and registered under section 60-3,228 shall be sourced to the place where the motor vehicle or trailer has situs as defined in section 60-349.

(12) The sale or lease for one year or more of motorboats shall be sourced to the place of registration of the motorboat. The lease of motorboats for less than one year shall be sourced to the point of delivery.

Sec. 11. Section 77-2703.04, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

77-2703.04 (1) Except for the telecommunications service defined in subsection (3) of this section, the sale of telecommunications service sold on a call-by-call basis shall be sourced to (a) each level of taxing jurisdiction where the call originates and terminates in that jurisdiction or (b) each level of taxing jurisdiction where the call either originates or terminates and in which the service address is also located.

(2) Except for the telecommunications service defined in subsection (3) of this section, a sale of telecommunications service sold on a basis other than a call-by-call basis and ancillary services are sourced to the customer's place of primary use.

(3)(a) For mobile telecommunications service and ancillary services provided and billed to a customer by a home service provider:

(i) Notwithstanding any other provision of law or any local ordinance or resolution, such mobile telecommunications service is deemed to be provided by the customer's home service provider;

(ii) All taxable charges for such mobile telecommunications service and ancillary services shall be subject to tax by the state or other taxing jurisdiction in this state whose territorial limits encompass the customer's place of primary use regardless of where the mobile telecommunications service originates, terminates, or passes through; and

(iii) No taxes, charges, or fees may be imposed on a customer with a place of primary use outside this state.

(b) In accordance with the federal Mobile Telecommunications Sourcing Act, as such act existed on July 20, 2002, the Tax Commissioner may, but is not required to:

(i) Provide or contract for a tax assignment data base based upon standards identified in 4 U.S.C. 119, as such section existed on July 20, 2002, with the following conditions:

(A) If such data base is provided, a home service provider shall be held harmless for any tax that otherwise would result from any errors or omissions attributable to reliance on such data base; or

(B) If such data base is not provided, a home service provider may rely on an enhanced zip code for identifying the proper taxing jurisdictions and shall be held harmless for any tax that otherwise would result from any errors or omissions attributable to reliance on such enhanced zip code if the home service provider identified the taxing jurisdiction through the exercise of due diligence and complied with any procedures that may be adopted by the Tax Commissioner. Any such procedure shall be in accordance with 4 U.S.C. 120, as such section existed on July 20, 2002; and

(ii) Adopt procedures for correcting errors in the assignment of primary use that are consistent with 4 U.S.C. 121, as such section existed on July 20, 2002.

(c) If charges for mobile telecommunications service that are not subject to tax are aggregated with and not separately stated on the bill from charges that are subject to tax, the total charge to the customer shall be subject to tax unless the home service provider can reasonably separate charges not subject to tax using the records of the home service provider that are kept in the regular course of business.

(d) For purposes of this subsection:

(i) Customer means an individual, business, organization, or other person contracting to receive mobile telecommunications service from a home service provider. Customer does not include a reseller of mobile telecommunications service or a serving carrier under an arrangement to serve the customer outside the home service provider's service area;

(ii) Home service provider means a telecommunications company as defined in section 86-322 that has contracted with a customer to provide mobile telecommunications service;

(iii) Mobile telecommunications service means a wireless communication service carried on between mobile stations or receivers and land stations, and by mobile stations communicating among themselves, and includes (A) both one-way and two-way wireless communication services, (B) a mobile service which provides a regularly interacting group of base, mobile, portable, and

associated control and relay stations, whether on an individual, cooperative, or multiple basis for private one-way or two-way land mobile radio communications by eligible users over designated areas of operation, and (C) any personal communication service;

(iv) Place of primary use means the street address representative of where the customer's use of mobile telecommunications service primarily occurs. The place of primary use shall be the residential street address or the primary business street address of the customer and shall be within the service area of the home service provider; and

(v) Tax means the sales taxes levied under sections 13-319, 77-2703, and 77-27,142 and section 3 of this act, the surcharges levied under the Enhanced Wireless 911 Services Act, the Nebraska Telecommunications Universal Service Fund Act, and the Telecommunications Relay System Act, and any other tax levied against the customer based on the amount charged to the customer. Tax does not mean an income tax, property tax, franchise tax, or any other tax levied on the home service provider that is not based on the amount charged to the customer.

(4) A sale of post-paid calling service is sourced to the origination point of the telecommunications signal as first identified by either (a) the seller's telecommunications system, or (b) information received by the seller from its service provider, where the system used to transport such signals is not that of the seller.

(5) A sale of prepaid calling service or a sale of a prepaid wireless calling service is sourced in accordance with section 77-2703.01, except that in the case of a sale of a prepaid wireless calling service, the rule provided in section 77-2703.01 shall include as an option the location associated with the mobile telephone number.

(6) A sale of a private communication service is sourced as follows:

(a) Service for a separate charge related to a customer channel termination point is sourced to each level of jurisdiction in which such customer channel termination point is located;

(b) Service where all customer termination points are located entirely within one jurisdiction or levels of jurisdiction is sourced in such jurisdiction in which the customer channel termination points are located;

(c) Service for segments of a channel between two customer channel termination points located in different jurisdictions and which segments of channel are separately charged is sourced fifty percent in each level of jurisdiction in which the customer channel termination points are located; and

(d) Service for segments of a channel located in more than one jurisdiction or levels of jurisdiction and which segments are not separately billed is sourced in each jurisdiction based on the percentage determined by dividing the number of customer channel termination points in such jurisdiction by the total number of customer channel termination points.

(7) For purposes of this section:

(a) 800 service means a telecommunications service that allows a caller to dial a toll-free number without incurring a charge for the call. The service is typically marketed under the name 800, 855, 866, 877, and 888 toll-free calling, and any subsequent numbers designated by the Federal Communications Commission;

(b) 900 service means an inbound toll telecommunications service purchased by a subscriber that allows the subscriber's customers to call in to the subscriber's prerecorded announcement or live service. 900 service does not include the charge for collection services provided by the seller of the telecommunications services to the subscriber or service or product sold by the subscriber to the subscriber's customer. The service is typically marketed under the name 900 service, and any subsequent numbers designated by the Federal Communications Commission;

(c) Air-to-ground radiotelephone service means a radio telecommunication service, as that term is defined in 47 C.F.R. 22.99, as such regulation existed on January 1, 2007, in which common carriers are authorized to offer and provide radio telecommunications service for hire to subscribers in aircraft;

(d) Ancillary services means services that are associated with or incidental to the provision of telecommunications services, including, but not limited to, detailed telecommunications billings, directory assistance, vertical service, and voice mail services;

(e) Call-by-call basis means any method of charging for telecommunications service where the price is measured by individual calls;

(f) Coin-operated telephone service means a telecommunications service paid for by inserting money into a telephone accepting direct deposits of money to operate;

(g) Communications channel means a physical or virtual path of communications over which signals are transmitted between or among customer channel termination points;

(h) Conference bridging service means an ancillary service that links two or more participants of an audio or video conference call and may include the provision of a telephone number. Conference bridging service does not include the telecommunications services used to reach the conference bridge;

(i) Customer means the person or entity that contracts with the seller of telecommunications service. If the end user of telecommunications service is not the contracting party, the end user of the telecommunications service is the customer of the telecommunications service, but this sentence only applies for the purpose of sourcing sales of telecommunications service under this section. Customer does not include a reseller of telecommunications service or for mobile telecommunications service of a serving carrier under an agreement

to serve the customer outside the home service provider's licensed service area;

(j) Customer channel termination point means the location where the customer either inputs or receives the communications;

(k) Detailed telecommunications billing service means an ancillary service of separately stating information pertaining to individual calls on a customer's billing statement;

(l) Directory assistance means an ancillary service of providing telephone number information and address information;

(m) End user means the person who utilizes the telecommunications service. In the case of an entity, end user means the individual who utilizes the service on behalf of the entity;

(n) Fixed wireless service means a telecommunications service that provides radio communication between fixed points;

(o) International means a telecommunications service that originates or terminates in the United States and terminates or originates outside the United States, respectively. United States includes the District of Columbia or a United States territory or possession;

(p) Interstate means a telecommunications service that originates in one state of the United States, or a territory or possession of the United States, and terminates in a different state, territory, or possession of the United States;

(q) Intrastate means a telecommunications service that originates in one state of the United States, or a territory or possession of the United States, and terminates in the same state, territory, or possession of the United States;

(r) Mobile wireless service means a telecommunications service that is transmitted, conveyed, or routed regardless of the technology used, whereby the origination and termination points of the transmission, conveyance, or routing are not fixed, including, by way of example only, telecommunications services that are provided by a commercial mobile radio service provider;

(s) Paging service means a telecommunications service that provides transmission of coded radio signals for the purpose of activating specific pagers. Such transmission may include messages and sounds;

(t) Pay telephone services means a telecommunications service provided through pay telephones;

(u) Post-paid calling service means the telecommunications service obtained by making a payment on a call-by-call basis either through the use of a credit card or payment mechanism, such as a bank card, travel card, credit card, or debit card, or by a charge made to a telephone number which is not associated with the origination or termination of the telecommunications service. A post-paid calling service includes a telecommunications service, except a prepaid wireless calling service, that would be a prepaid calling service except it is not exclusively a telecommunications service;

(v) Prepaid calling service means the right to access exclusively telecommunications service, which is paid for in advance and which enables the origination of calls using an access number or authorization code, whether manually or electronically dialed, and that is sold in predetermined units or dollars of which the number declines with use in a known amount;

(w) Prepaid wireless calling service means a telecommunications service that provides the right to utilize mobile wireless service as well as other nontelecommunications services, including the download of digital products delivered electronically, content, and ancillary services, which must be paid for in advance, that is sold in predetermined units of dollars or which the number declines with use in a known amount;

(x) Private communication service means a telecommunications service that entitles the customer to exclusive or priority use of a communications channel or group of channels between or among termination points, regardless of the manner in which such channel or channels are connected, and includes switching capacity, extension lines, stations, and any other associated services that are provided in connection with the use of such channel or channels;

(y) Residential telecommunications service means a telecommunications service or ancillary services provided to an individual for personal use at a residential address, including an individual dwelling unit such as an apartment. In the case of institutions where individuals reside, such as schools or nursing homes, telecommunications service is considered residential if it is provided to and paid for by an individual resident rather than the institution;

(z) Service address means the location of the telecommunications equipment to which a customer's call is charged and from which the call originates or terminates, regardless of where the call is billed or paid. If this location is not known, service address means the origination point of the signal of the telecommunications service first identified either by the seller's telecommunications system, or in information received by the seller from its service provider, where the system used to transport such signals is not that of the seller. If both locations are not known, the service address means the location of the customer's place of primary use;

(aa) Telecommunications service means the electronic transmission, conveyance, or routing of voice, data, audio, video, or any other information or signals to a point, or between or among points. Telecommunications service includes such transmission, conveyance, or routing in which computer processing applications are used to act on the form, code, or protocol of the content for purposes of transmission, conveyance, or routing without regard to whether such

service is referred to as voice over Internet protocol services or is classified by the Federal Communications Commission as enhanced or value-added. Telecommunications service does not include:

(i) Data processing and information services that allow data to be generated, acquired, stored, processed, or retrieved and delivered by an electronic transmission to a purchaser when such purchaser's primary purpose for the underlying transaction is the processed data or information;

(ii) Installation or maintenance of wiring or equipment on a customer's premises;

(iii) Tangible personal property;

(iv) Advertising, including, but not limited to, directory advertising;

(v) Billing and collection services provided to third parties;

(vi) Internet access service;

(vii) Radio and television audio and video programming services, regardless of the medium, including the furnishing of transmission, conveyance, and routing of such services by the programming service provider. Radio and television audio and video programming services shall include, but not be limited to, cable service as defined in 47 U.S.C. 522, as such section existed on January 1, 2007, and audio and video programming services delivered by providers of commercial mobile radio service as defined in 47 C.F.R. 20.3, as such regulation existed on January 1, 2007;

(viii) Ancillary services; or

(ix) Digital products delivered electronically, including, but not limited to, software, music, video, reading materials, or ringtones;

(bb) Value-added, nonvoice data service means a service that otherwise meets the definition of telecommunications services in which computer processing applications are used to act on the form, content, code, or protocol of the information or data primarily for a purpose other than transmission, conveyance, or routing;

(cc) Vertical service means an ancillary service that is offered in connection with one or more telecommunications services, which offers advanced calling features that allow customers to identify callers and to manage multiple calls and call connections, including conference bridging services; and

(dd) Voice mail service means an ancillary service that enables the customer to store, send, or receive recorded messages. Voice mail service does not include any vertical services that the customer may be required to have in order to utilize the voice mail service.

Sec. 12. Section 77-2704.31, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

77-2704.31 If any person who causes property or service to be brought into this state has already paid a tax in another state with respect to the sale or use of such property or service in an amount less than the tax imposed by sections 13-319, 13-2813, 77-2703, and 77-27,142 and section 3 of this act, the provisions of subsection (2) of section 77-2703 shall apply, but at a rate measured by the difference only between the rate imposed by such sections and the rate by which the previous tax on the sale or use was computed. If such tax imposed and paid in such other state is equal to or more than the tax imposed by such sections, then no use tax shall be due in this state on such property if such other state, territory, or possession grants a reciprocal exclusion or exemption to similar transactions in this state.

Sec. 13. Section 77-2708, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

77-2708 (1)(a) The sales and use taxes imposed by the Nebraska Revenue Act of 1967 shall be due and payable to the Tax Commissioner monthly on or before the twentieth day of the month next succeeding each monthly period unless otherwise provided pursuant to the Nebraska Revenue Act of 1967.

(b)(i) On or before the twentieth day of the month following each monthly period or such other period as the Tax Commissioner may require, a return for such period, along with all taxes due, shall be filed with the Tax Commissioner in such form and content as the Tax Commissioner may prescribe and containing such information as the Tax Commissioner deems necessary for the proper administration of the Nebraska Revenue Act of 1967. The Tax Commissioner, if he or she deems it necessary in order to insure payment to or facilitate the collection by the state of the amount of sales or use taxes due, may require returns and payment of the amount of such taxes for periods other than monthly periods in the case of a particular seller, retailer, or purchaser, as the case may be. The Tax Commissioner shall by rule and regulation require reports and tax payments from sellers, retailers, or purchasers depending on their yearly tax liability. Except as required by the streamlined sales and use tax agreement, annual returns shall be required if such sellers', retailers', or purchasers' yearly tax liability is less than nine hundred dollars, quarterly returns shall be required if their yearly tax liability is nine hundred dollars or more and less than three thousand dollars, and monthly returns shall be required if their yearly tax liability is three thousand dollars or more. The Tax Commissioner shall have the discretion to allow an annual return for seasonal retailers, even when their yearly tax liability exceeds the amounts listed in this subdivision.

The Tax Commissioner may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to allow annual, semiannual, or quarterly returns for any retailer making monthly remittances or payments of sales and use taxes by electronic funds transfer or for any retailer remitting tax to the state pursuant to the streamlined sales and use tax agreement. Such rules and regulations may establish a method of

determining the amount of the payment that will result in substantially all of the tax liability being paid each quarter. At least once each year, the difference between the amount paid and the amount due shall be reconciled. If the difference is more than ten percent of the amount paid, a penalty of fifty percent of the unpaid amount shall be imposed.

(ii) For purposes of the sales tax, a return shall be filed by every retailer liable for collection from a purchaser and payment to the state of the tax, except that a combined sales tax return may be filed for all licensed locations which are subject to common ownership. For purposes of this subdivision, common ownership means the same person or persons own eighty percent or more of each licensed location. For purposes of the use tax, a return shall be filed by every retailer engaged in business in this state and by every person who has purchased property, the storage, use, or other consumption of which is subject to the use tax, but who has not paid the use tax due to a retailer required to collect the tax.

(iii) The Tax Commissioner may require that returns be signed by the person required to file the return or by his or her duly authorized agent but need not be verified by oath.

(iv) A taxpayer who keeps his or her regular books and records on a cash basis, an accrual basis, or any generally recognized accounting basis which correctly reflects the operation of the business may file the sales and use tax returns required by the Nebraska Revenue Act of 1967 on the same accounting basis that is used for the regular books and records, except that on credit, conditional, and installment sales, the retailer who keeps his or her books on an accrual basis may report such sales on the cash basis and pay the tax upon the collections made during each month. If a taxpayer transfers, sells, assigns, or otherwise disposes of an account receivable, he or she shall be deemed to have received the full balance of the consideration for the original sale and shall be liable for the remittance of the sales tax on the balance of the total sale price not previously reported, except that such transfer, sale, assignment, or other disposition of an account receivable by a retailer to a subsidiary shall not be deemed to require the retailer to pay the sales tax on the credit sale represented by the account transferred prior to the time the customer makes payment on such account. If the subsidiary does not obtain a Nebraska sales tax permit, the taxpayer shall obtain a surety bond in favor of the State of Nebraska to insure payment of the tax and any interest and penalty imposed thereon under this section in an amount not less than two times the amount of tax payable on outstanding accounts receivable held by the subsidiary as of the end of the prior calendar year. Failure to obtain either a sales tax permit or a surety bond in accordance with this section shall result in the payment on the next required filing date of all sales taxes not previously remitted. When the retailer has adopted one basis or the other of reporting credit, conditional, or installment sales and paying the tax thereon, he or she will not be permitted to change from that basis without first having notified the Tax Commissioner.

(c) Except as provided in the streamlined sales and use tax agreement, the taxpayer required to file the return shall deliver or mail any required return together with a remittance of the net amount of the tax due to the office of the Tax Commissioner on or before the required filing date. Failure to file the return, filing after the required filing date, failure to remit the net amount of the tax due, or remitting the net amount of the tax due after the required filing date shall be cause for a penalty, in addition to interest, of ten percent of the amount of tax not paid by the required filing date or twenty-five dollars, whichever is greater, unless the penalty is being collected under subdivision (1)(i), (1)(j)(i), or (1)(k)(i) of section 77-2703 by a county treasurer or the Department of Motor Vehicles, in which case the penalty shall be five dollars.

(d) The taxpayer shall deduct and withhold, from the taxes otherwise due from him or her on his or her tax return, two and one-half percent of the first three thousand dollars remitted each month to reimburse himself or herself for the cost of collecting the tax. Taxpayers filing a combined return as allowed by subdivision (1)(b)(ii) of this subsection shall compute such collection fees on the basis of the receipts and liability of each licensed location.

(2)(a) If the Tax Commissioner determines that any sales or use tax amount, penalty, or interest has been paid more than once, has been erroneously or illegally collected or computed, or has been paid and the purchaser qualifies for a refund under section 77-2708.01, the Tax Commissioner shall set forth that fact in his or her records and the excess amount collected or paid may be credited on any sales, use, or income tax amounts then due and payable from the person under the Nebraska Revenue Act of 1967. Any balance may be refunded to the person by whom it was paid or his or her successors, administrators, or executors.

(b) No refund shall be allowed unless a claim therefor is filed with the Tax Commissioner by the person who made the overpayment or his or her attorney, executor, or administrator within three years from the required filing date following the close of the period for which the overpayment was made, within six months after any determination becomes final under section 77-2709, or within six months from the date of overpayment with respect to such determinations, whichever of these three periods expires later, unless the credit relates to a period for which a waiver has been given. Failure to file a claim within the time prescribed in this subsection shall constitute a waiver of any demand against the state on account of overpayment.

(c) Every claim shall be in writing on forms prescribed by the Tax

Commissioner and shall state the specific amount and grounds upon which the claim is founded. No refund shall be made in any amount less than two dollars.

(d) The Tax Commissioner shall allow or disallow a claim within one hundred eighty days after it has been filed. A request for a hearing shall constitute a waiver of the one-hundred-eighty-day period. The claimant and the Tax Commissioner may also agree to extend the one-hundred-eighty-day period. If a hearing has not been requested and the Tax Commissioner has neither allowed nor disallowed a claim within either the one hundred eighty days or the period agreed to by the claimant and the Tax Commissioner, the claim shall be deemed to have been allowed.

(e) Within thirty days after disallowing any claim in whole or in part, the Tax Commissioner shall serve notice of his or her action on the claimant in the manner prescribed for service of notice of a deficiency determination.

(f) Within thirty days after the mailing of the notice of the Tax Commissioner's action upon a claim filed pursuant to the Nebraska Revenue Act of 1967, the action of the Tax Commissioner shall be final unless the taxpayer seeks review of the Tax Commissioner's determination as provided in section 77-27,127.

(g) Upon the allowance of a credit or refund of any sum erroneously or illegally assessed or collected, of any penalty collected without authority, or of any sum which was excessive or in any manner wrongfully collected, interest shall be allowed and paid on the amount of such credit or refund at the rate specified in section 45-104.02, as such rate may from time to time be adjusted, from the date such sum was paid or from the date the return was required to be filed, whichever date is later, to the date of the allowance of the refund or, in the case of a credit, to the due date of the amount against which the credit is allowed, but in the case of a voluntary and unrequested payment in excess of actual tax liability or a refund under section 77-2708.01, no interest shall be allowed when such excess is refunded or credited.

(h) No suit or proceeding shall be maintained in any court for the recovery of any amount alleged to have been erroneously or illegally determined or collected unless a claim for refund or credit has been duly filed.

(i) The Tax Commissioner may recover any refund or part thereof which is erroneously made and any credit or part thereof which is erroneously allowed by issuing a deficiency determination within one year from the date of refund or credit or within the period otherwise allowed for issuing a deficiency determination, whichever expires later.

(j)(i) Credit shall be allowed to the retailer, contractor, or repairperson for sales or use taxes paid pursuant to the Nebraska Revenue Act of 1967 on any deduction taken that is attributed to bad debts not including interest. Bad debt has the same meaning as in 26 U.S.C. 166, as such section existed on January 1, 2003. However, the amount calculated pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 166 shall be adjusted to exclude: Financing charges or interest; sales or use taxes charged on the purchase price; uncollectible amounts on property that remains in the possession of the seller until the full purchase price is paid; and expenses incurred in attempting to collect any debt and repossessed property.

(ii) Bad debts may be deducted on the return for the period during which the bad debt is written off as uncollectible in the claimant's books and records and is eligible to be deducted for federal income tax purposes. A claimant who is not required to file federal income tax returns may deduct a bad debt on a return filed for the period in which the bad debt is written off as uncollectible in the claimant's books and records and would be eligible for a bad debt deduction for federal income tax purposes if the claimant was required to file a federal income tax return.

(iii) If a deduction is taken for a bad debt and the debt is subsequently collected in whole or in part, the tax on the amount so collected must be paid and reported on the return filed for the period in which the collection is made.

(iv) When the amount of bad debt exceeds the amount of taxable sales for the period during which the bad debt is written off, a refund claim may be filed within the otherwise applicable statute of limitations for refund claims. The statute of limitations shall be measured from the due date of the return on which the bad debt could first be claimed.

(v) If filing responsibilities have been assumed by a certified service provider, the service provider may claim, on behalf of the retailer, any bad debt allowance provided by this section. The certified service provider shall credit or refund the full amount of any bad debt allowance or refund received to the retailer.

(vi) For purposes of reporting a payment received on a previously claimed bad debt, any payments made on a debt or account are applied first proportionally to the taxable price of the property or service and the sales tax thereon, and secondly to interest, service charges, and any other charges.

(vii) In situations in which the books and records of the party claiming the bad debt allowance support an allocation of the bad debts among the member states in the streamlined sales and use tax agreement, the state shall permit the allocation.

(3) Beginning July 1, 2020, if a refund claim under this section involves a refund of a tax imposed under the Local Option Revenue Act or section 13-319 or 13-2813 or section 3 of this act and the amount of such tax to be refunded is at least five thousand dollars, the Tax Commissioner shall notify the affected city, village, county, or municipal county of such claim within twenty days after receiving the claim. If the Tax Commissioner allows the claim and

the refund of such tax is at least five thousand dollars, the Tax Commissioner shall notify the affected city, village, county, or municipal county of such refund and shall give the city, village, county, or municipal county the option of having such refund deducted from its tax proceeds in one lump sum or in twelve equal monthly installments. The city, village, county, or municipal county shall make its selection and shall certify the selection to the Tax Commissioner within twenty days after receiving notice of the refund. The Tax Commissioner shall then deduct such refund from the applicable tax proceeds in accordance with the selection when he or she deducts refunds pursuant to section 13-324, 13-2814, or 77-27,144 or section 3 of this act, whichever is applicable.

Sec. 14. Section 77-2711, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

77-2711 (1)(a) The Tax Commissioner shall enforce sections 77-2701.04 to 77-2713 and may prescribe, adopt, and enforce rules and regulations relating to the administration and enforcement of such sections.

(b) The Tax Commissioner may prescribe the extent to which any ruling or regulation shall be applied without retroactive effect.

(2) The Tax Commissioner may employ accountants, auditors, investigators, assistants, and clerks necessary for the efficient administration of the Nebraska Revenue Act of 1967 and may delegate authority to his or her representatives to conduct hearings, prescribe regulations, or perform any other duties imposed by such act.

(3)(a) Every seller, every retailer, and every person storing, using, or otherwise consuming in this state property purchased from a retailer shall keep such records, receipts, invoices, and other pertinent papers in such form as the Tax Commissioner may reasonably require.

(b) Every such seller, retailer, or person shall keep such records for not less than three years from the making of such records unless the Tax Commissioner in writing sooner authorized their destruction.

(4) The Tax Commissioner or any person authorized in writing by him or her may examine the books, papers, records, and equipment of any person selling property and any person liable for the use tax and may investigate the character of the business of the person in order to verify the accuracy of any return made or, if no return is made by the person, to ascertain and determine the amount required to be paid. In the examination of any person selling property or of any person liable for the use tax, an inquiry shall be made as to the accuracy of the reporting of city and county sales and use taxes for which the person is liable under the Local Option Revenue Act or sections 13-319, 13-324, and 13-2813 and section 3 of this act and the accuracy of the allocation made between the various counties, cities, villages, and municipal counties of the tax due. The Tax Commissioner may make or cause to be made copies of resale or exemption certificates and may pay a reasonable amount to the person having custody of the records for providing such copies.

(5) The taxpayer shall have the right to keep or store his or her records at a point outside this state and shall make his or her records available to the Tax Commissioner at all times.

(6) In administration of the use tax, the Tax Commissioner may require the filing of reports by any person or class of persons having in his, her, or their possession or custody information relating to sales of property, the storage, use, or other consumption of which is subject to the tax. The report shall be filed when the Tax Commissioner requires and shall set forth the names and addresses of purchasers of the property, the sales price of the property, the date of sale, and such other information as the Tax Commissioner may require.

(7) It shall be a Class I misdemeanor for the Tax Commissioner or any official or employee of the Tax Commissioner, the State Treasurer, or the Department of Administrative Services to make known in any manner whatever the business affairs, operations, or information obtained by an investigation of records and activities of any retailer or any other person visited or examined in the discharge of official duty or the amount or source of income, profits, losses, expenditures, or any particular thereof, set forth or disclosed in any return, or to permit any return or copy thereof, or any book containing any abstract or particulars thereof to be seen or examined by any person not connected with the Tax Commissioner. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit (a) the delivery to a taxpayer, his or her duly authorized representative, or his or her successors, receivers, trustees, executors, administrators, assignees, or guarantors, if directly interested, of a certified copy of any return or report in connection with his or her tax, (b) the publication of statistics so classified as to prevent the identification of particular reports or returns and the items thereof, (c) the inspection by the Attorney General, other legal representative of the state, or county attorney of the reports or returns of any taxpayer when either (i) information on the reports or returns is considered by the Attorney General to be relevant to any action or proceeding instituted by the taxpayer or against whom an action or proceeding is being considered or has been commenced by any state agency or the county or (ii) the taxpayer has instituted an action to review the tax based thereon or an action or proceeding against the taxpayer for collection of tax or failure to comply with the Nebraska Revenue Act of 1967 is being considered or has been commenced, (d) the furnishing of any information to the United States Government or to states allowing similar privileges to the Tax Commissioner, (e) the disclosure of information and records to a collection agency contracting with the Tax Commissioner pursuant to sections 77-377.01 to

77-377.04, (f) the disclosure to another party to a transaction of information and records concerning the transaction between the taxpayer and the other party, (g) the disclosure of information pursuant to section 77-27,195 or 77-5731, or (h) the disclosure of information to the Department of Labor necessary for the administration of the Employment Security Law, the Contractor Registration Act, or the Employee Classification Act.

(8) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (7) of this section, the Tax Commissioner may permit the Postal Inspector of the United States Postal Service or his or her delegates to inspect the reports or returns of any person filed pursuant to the Nebraska Revenue Act of 1967 when information on the reports or returns is relevant to any action or proceeding instituted or being considered by the United States Postal Service against such person for the fraudulent use of the mails to carry and deliver false and fraudulent tax returns to the Tax Commissioner with the intent to defraud the State of Nebraska or to evade the payment of Nebraska state taxes.

(9) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (7) of this section, the Tax Commissioner may permit other tax officials of this state to inspect the tax returns, reports, and applications filed under sections 77-2701.04 to 77-2713, but such inspection shall be permitted only for purposes of enforcing a tax law and only to the extent and under the conditions prescribed by the rules and regulations of the Tax Commissioner.

(10) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (7) of this section, the Tax Commissioner may, upon request, provide the county board of any county which has exercised the authority granted by section 81-3716 with a list of the names and addresses of the hotels located within the county for which lodging sales tax returns have been filed or for which lodging sales taxes have been remitted for the county's County Visitors Promotion Fund under the Nebraska Visitors Development Act.

The information provided by the Tax Commissioner shall indicate only the names and addresses of the hotels located within the requesting county for which lodging sales tax returns have been filed for a specified period and the fact that lodging sales taxes remitted by or on behalf of the hotel have constituted a portion of the total sum remitted by the state to the county for a specified period under the provisions of the Nebraska Visitors Development Act. No additional information shall be revealed.

(11)(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (7) of this section, the Tax Commissioner shall, upon written request by the Auditor of Public Accounts or the office of Legislative Audit, make tax returns and tax return information open to inspection by or disclosure to the Auditor of Public Accounts or employees of the office of Legislative Audit for the purpose of and to the extent necessary in making an audit of the Department of Revenue pursuant to section 50-1205 or 84-304. Confidential tax returns and tax return information shall be audited only upon the premises of the Department of Revenue. All audit workpapers pertaining to the audit of the Department of Revenue shall be stored in a secure place in the Department of Revenue.

(b) No employee of the Auditor of Public Accounts or the office of Legislative Audit shall disclose to any person, other than another Auditor of Public Accounts or office employee whose official duties require such disclosure, any return or return information described in the Nebraska Revenue Act of 1967 in a form which can be associated with or otherwise identify, directly or indirectly, a particular taxpayer.

(c) Any person who violates the provisions of this subsection shall be guilty of a Class I misdemeanor. For purposes of this subsection, employee includes a former Auditor of Public Accounts or office of Legislative Audit employee.

(12) For purposes of this subsection and subsections (11) and (14) of this section:

(a) Disclosure means the making known to any person in any manner a tax return or return information;

(b) Return information means:

(i) A taxpayer's identification number and (A) the nature, source, or amount of his or her income, payments, receipts, deductions, exemptions, credits, assets, liabilities, net worth, tax liability, tax withheld, deficiencies, overassessments, or tax payments, whether the taxpayer's return was, is being, or will be examined or subject to other investigation or processing or (B) any other data received by, recorded by, prepared by, furnished to, or collected by the Tax Commissioner with respect to a return or the determination of the existence or possible existence of liability or the amount of liability of any person for any tax, penalty, interest, fine, forfeiture, or other imposition or offense; and

(ii) Any part of any written determination or any background file document relating to such written determination; and

(c) Tax return or return means any tax or information return or claim for refund required by, provided for, or permitted under sections 77-2701 to 77-2713 which is filed with the Tax Commissioner by, on behalf of, or with respect to any person and any amendment or supplement thereto, including supporting schedules, attachments, or lists which are supplemental to or part of the filed return.

(13) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (7) of this section, the Tax Commissioner shall, upon request, provide any municipality which has adopted the local option sales tax under the Local Option Revenue Act with a list of the names and addresses of the retailers which have collected the local option sales tax for the municipality. The request may be made annually and

shall be submitted to the Tax Commissioner on or before June 30 of each year. The information provided by the Tax Commissioner shall indicate only the names and addresses of the retailers. The Tax Commissioner may provide additional information to a municipality so long as the information does not include any data detailing the specific revenue, expenses, or operations of any particular business.

(14)(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (7) of this section, the Tax Commissioner shall, upon written request, provide an individual certified under subdivision (b) of this subsection representing a municipality which has adopted the local option sales and use tax under the Local Option Revenue Act with confidential sales and use tax returns and sales and use tax return information regarding taxpayers that possess a sales tax permit and the amounts remitted by such permit holders at locations within the boundaries of the requesting municipality or with confidential business use tax returns and business use tax return information regarding taxpayers that file a Nebraska and Local Business Use Tax Return and the amounts remitted by such taxpayers at locations within the boundaries of the requesting municipality. Any written request pursuant to this subsection shall provide the Department of Revenue with no less than ten business days to prepare the sales and use tax returns and sales and use tax return information requested. Such returns and return information shall be viewed only upon the premises of the department.

(b) Each municipality that seeks to request information under subdivision (a) of this subsection shall certify to the Department of Revenue one individual who is authorized by such municipality to make such request and review the documents described in subdivision (a) of this subsection. The individual may be a municipal employee or an individual who contracts with the requesting municipality to provide financial, accounting, or other administrative services.

(c) No individual certified by a municipality pursuant to subdivision (b) of this subsection shall disclose to any person any information obtained pursuant to a review under this subsection. An individual certified by a municipality pursuant to subdivision (b) of this subsection shall remain subject to this subsection after he or she (i) is no longer certified or (ii) is no longer in the employment of or under contract with the certifying municipality.

(d) Any person who violates the provisions of this subsection shall be guilty of a Class I misdemeanor.

(e) The Department of Revenue shall not be held liable by any person for an impermissible disclosure by a municipality or any agent or employee thereof of any information obtained pursuant to a review under this subsection.

(15) In all proceedings under the Nebraska Revenue Act of 1967, the Tax Commissioner may act for and on behalf of the people of the State of Nebraska. The Tax Commissioner in his or her discretion may waive all or part of any penalties provided by the provisions of such act or interest on delinquent taxes specified in section 45-104.02, as such rate may from time to time be adjusted.

(16)(a) The purpose of this subsection is to set forth the state's policy for the protection of the confidentiality rights of all participants in the system operated pursuant to the streamlined sales and use tax agreement and of the privacy interests of consumers who deal with model 1 sellers.

(b) For purposes of this subsection:

(i) Anonymous data means information that does not identify a person;

(ii) Confidential taxpayer information means all information that is protected under a member state's laws, regulations, and privileges; and

(iii) Personally identifiable information means information that identifies a person.

(c) The state agrees that a fundamental precept for model 1 sellers is to preserve the privacy of consumers by protecting their anonymity. With very limited exceptions, a certified service provider shall perform its tax calculation, remittance, and reporting functions without retaining the personally identifiable information of consumers.

(d) The governing board of the member states in the streamlined sales and use tax agreement may certify a certified service provider only if that certified service provider certifies that:

(i) Its system has been designed and tested to ensure that the fundamental precept of anonymity is respected;

(ii) Personally identifiable information is only used and retained to the extent necessary for the administration of model 1 with respect to exempt purchasers;

(iii) It provides consumers clear and conspicuous notice of its information practices, including what information it collects, how it collects the information, how it uses the information, how long, if at all, it retains the information, and whether it discloses the information to member states. Such notice shall be satisfied by a written privacy policy statement accessible by the public on the web site of the certified service provider;

(iv) Its collection, use, and retention of personally identifiable information is limited to that required by the member states to ensure the validity of exemptions from taxation that are claimed by reason of a consumer's status or the intended use of the goods or services purchased; and

(v) It provides adequate technical, physical, and administrative safeguards so as to protect personally identifiable information from unauthorized access and disclosure.

(e) The state shall provide public notification to consumers, including

exempt purchasers, of the state's practices relating to the collection, use, and retention of personally identifiable information.

(f) When any personally identifiable information that has been collected and retained is no longer required for the purposes set forth in subdivision (16)(d)(iv) of this section, such information shall no longer be retained by the member states.

(g) When personally identifiable information regarding an individual is retained by or on behalf of the state, it shall provide reasonable access by such individual to his or her own information in the state's possession and a right to correct any inaccurately recorded information.

(h) If anyone other than a member state, or a person authorized by that state's law or the agreement, seeks to discover personally identifiable information, the state from whom the information is sought should make a reasonable and timely effort to notify the individual of such request.

(i) This privacy policy is subject to enforcement by the Attorney General.

(j) All other laws and regulations regarding the collection, use, and maintenance of confidential taxpayer information remain fully applicable and binding. Without limitation, this subsection does not enlarge or limit the state's authority to:

(i) Conduct audits or other reviews as provided under the agreement and state law;

(ii) Provide records pursuant to the federal Freedom of Information Act, disclosure laws with governmental agencies, or other regulations;

(iii) Prevent, consistent with state law, disclosure of confidential taxpayer information;

(iv) Prevent, consistent with federal law, disclosure or misuse of federal return information obtained under a disclosure agreement with the Internal Revenue Service; and

(v) Collect, disclose, disseminate, or otherwise use anonymous data for governmental purposes.

Sec. 15. Section 77-2712.05, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

77-2712.05 By agreeing to the terms of the streamlined sales and use tax agreement, this state agrees to abide by the following requirements:

(1) Uniform state rate. The state shall comply with restrictions to achieve over time more uniform state rates through the following:

(a) Limiting the number of state rates;

(b) Limiting the application of maximums on the amount of state tax that is due on a transaction; and

(c) Limiting the application of thresholds on the application of state tax;

(2) Uniform standards. The state hereby establishes uniform standards for the following:

(a) Sourcing of transactions to taxing jurisdictions as provided in sections 77-2703.01 to 77-2703.04;

(b) Administration of exempt sales as set out by the agreement and using procedures as determined by the governing board;

(c) Allowances a seller can take for bad debts as provided in section 77-2708; and

(d) Sales and use tax returns and remittances. To comply with the agreement, the Tax Commissioner shall:

(i) Require only one remittance for each return except as provided in this subdivision. If any additional remittance is required, it may only be required from retailers that collect more than thirty thousand dollars in sales and use taxes in the state during the preceding calendar year as provided in this subdivision. The amount of any additional remittance may be determined through a calculation method rather than actual collections. Any additional remittance shall not require the filing of an additional return;

(ii) Require, at his or her discretion, all remittances from sellers under models 1, 2, and 3 to be remitted electronically;

(iii) Allow for electronic payments by both automated clearinghouse credit and debit;

(iv) Provide an alternative method for making same day payments if an electronic funds transfer fails;

(v) Provide that if a due date falls on a legal banking holiday, the taxes are due to that state on the next succeeding business day; and

(vi) Require that any data that accompanies a remittance be formatted using uniform tax type and payment type codes approved by the governing board of the member states to the streamlined sales and use tax agreement;

(3) Uniform definitions. (a) The state shall utilize the uniform definitions of sales and use tax terms as provided in the agreement. The definitions enable Nebraska to preserve its ability to make taxability and exemption choices not inconsistent with the uniform definitions.

(b) The state may enact a product-based exemption without restriction if the agreement does not have a definition for the product or for a term that includes the product. If the agreement has a definition for the product or for a term that includes the product, the state may exempt all items included within the definition but shall not exempt only part of the items included within the definition unless the agreement sets out the exemption for part of the items as an acceptable variation.

(c) The state may enact an entity-based or a use-based exemption without restriction if the agreement does not have a definition for the product whose use or purchase by a specific entity is exempt or for a term that includes the

product. If the agreement has a definition for the product whose use or specific purchase is exempt, states may enact an entity-based or a use-based exemption that applies to that product as long as the exemption utilizes the agreement definition of the product. If the agreement does not have a definition for the product whose use or specific purchase is exempt but has a definition for a term that includes the product, states may enact an entity-based or a use-based exemption for the product without restriction.

(d) For purposes of complying with the requirements in this section, the inclusion of a product within the definition of tangible personal property is disregarded;

(4) Central registration. The state shall participate in an electronic central registration system that allows a seller to register to collect and remit sales and use taxes for all member states. Under the system:

(a) A retailer registering under the agreement is registered in this state;

(b) The state agrees not to require the payment of any registration fees or other charges for a retailer to register in the state if the retailer has no legal requirement to register;

(c) A written signature from the retailer is not required;

(d) An agent may register a retailer under uniform procedures adopted by the member states pursuant to the agreement;

(e) A retailer may cancel its registration under the system at any time under uniform procedures adopted by the governing board. Cancellation does not relieve the retailer of its liability for remitting to the proper states any taxes collected;

(f) When registering, the retailer that is registered under the agreement may select one of the following methods of remittances or other method allowed by state law to remit the taxes collected:

(i) Model 1, wherein a seller selects a certified service provider as an agent to perform all the seller's sales or use tax functions, other than the seller's obligation to remit tax on its own purchases;

(ii) Model 2, wherein a seller selects a certified automated system to use which calculates the amount of tax due on a transaction; and

(iii) Model 3, wherein a seller utilizes its own proprietary automated sales tax system that has been certified as a certified automated system; and

(g) Sellers who register within twelve months after this state's first approval of a certified service provider are relieved from liability, including the local option tax, for tax not collected or paid if the seller was not registered between October 1, 2004, and September 30, 2005. Such relief from liability shall be in accordance with the terms of the agreement;

(5) No nexus attribution. The state agrees that registration with the central registration system and the collection of sales and use taxes in the state will not be used as a factor in determining whether the seller has nexus with the state for any tax at any time;

(6) Local sales and use taxes. The agreement requires the reduction of the burdens of complying with local sales and use taxes as provided in sections 13-319, 13-324, 13-326, 77-2701.03, 77-27,142, 77-27,143, and 77-27,144 and section 3 of this act that require the following:

(a) No variation between the state and local tax bases;

(b) Statewide administration of all sales and use taxes levied by local jurisdictions within the state so that sellers collecting and remitting these taxes will not have to register or file returns with, remit funds to, or be subject to independent audits from local taxing jurisdictions;

(c) Limitations on the frequency of changes in the local sales and use tax rates and setting effective dates for the application of local jurisdictional boundary changes to local sales and use taxes; and

(d) Uniform notice of changes in local sales and use tax rates and of changes in the boundaries of local taxing jurisdictions;

(7) Complete a taxability matrix approved by the governing board. (a) Notice of changes in the taxability of the products or services listed will be provided as required by the governing board.

(b) The entries in the matrix shall be provided and maintained in a data base that is in a downloadable format approved by the governing board.

(c) Sellers, model 2 sellers, and certified service providers are relieved from liability, including the local option tax, for having charged and collected the incorrect amount of sales or use tax resulting from the seller or certified service provider relying on erroneous data provided by the member state in the taxability matrix or for relying on product-based classifications that have been reviewed and approved by the state. The state shall notify the certified service provider or model 2 seller if an item or transaction is incorrectly classified as to its taxability.

(d) Purchasers are relieved from liability for penalty for having failed to pay the correct amount of tax resulting from the purchaser's reliance on erroneous data provided by the member state in the taxability matrix or rates and boundaries data bases or for relying on product-based classifications that have been reviewed and approved by the state;

(8) Monetary allowances. The state agrees to allow any monetary allowances that are to be provided by the states to sellers or certified service providers in exchange for collecting sales and use taxes as provided in Article VI of the agreement;

(9) State compliance. The agreement requires the state to certify compliance with the terms of the agreement prior to joining and to maintain compliance, under the laws of the member state, with all provisions of the

agreement while a member;

(10) Consumer privacy. The state hereby adopts a uniform policy for certified service providers that protects the privacy of consumers and maintains the confidentiality of tax information as provided in section 77-2711; and

(11) Advisory councils. The state agrees to the recognition of an advisory council of private-sector representatives and an advisory council of member and nonmember state representatives to consult with in the administration of the agreement.

Sec. 16. Section 77-5725, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

77-5725 (1) Applicants may qualify for benefits under the Nebraska Advantage Act in one of six tiers:

(a) Tier 1, investment in qualified property of at least one million dollars and the hiring of at least ten new employees. There shall be no new project applications for benefits under this tier filed after December 31, 2020. All complete project applications filed on or before December 31, 2020, shall be considered by the Tax Commissioner and approved if the project and taxpayer qualify for benefits. Agreements may be executed with regard to completed project applications filed on or before December 31, 2020. All project agreements pending, approved, or entered into before such date shall continue in full force and effect;

(b) Tier 2, (i) investment in qualified property of at least three million dollars and the hiring of at least thirty new employees or (ii) for a large data center project, investment in qualified property for the data center of at least two hundred million dollars and the hiring for the data center of at least thirty new employees. There shall be no new project applications for benefits under this tier filed after December 31, 2020. All complete project applications filed on or before December 31, 2020, shall be considered by the Tax Commissioner and approved if the project and taxpayer qualify for benefits. Agreements may be executed with regard to completed project applications filed on or before December 31, 2020. All project agreements pending, approved, or entered into before such date shall continue in full force and effect;

(c) Tier 3, the hiring of at least thirty new employees. There shall be no new project applications for benefits under this tier filed after December 31, 2020. All complete project applications filed on or before December 31, 2020, shall be considered by the Tax Commissioner and approved if the project and taxpayer qualify for benefits. Agreements may be executed with regard to completed project applications filed on or before December 31, 2020. All project agreements pending, approved, or entered into before such date shall continue in full force and effect;

(d) Tier 4, investment in qualified property of at least ten million dollars and the hiring of at least one hundred new employees. There shall be no new project applications for benefits under this tier filed after December 31, 2020. All complete project applications filed on or before December 31, 2020, shall be considered by the Tax Commissioner and approved if the project and taxpayer qualify for benefits. Agreements may be executed with regard to completed project applications filed on or before December 31, 2020. All project agreements pending, approved, or entered into before such date shall continue in full force and effect;

(e) Tier 5, (i) investment in qualified property of at least thirty million dollars or (ii) for the production of electricity by using one or more sources of renewable energy to produce electricity for sale as described in subdivision (1)(j) of section 77-5715, investment in qualified property of at least twenty million dollars. Failure to maintain an average number of equivalent employees as defined in section 77-5727 greater than or equal to the number of equivalent employees in the base year shall result in a partial recapture of benefits. There shall be no new project applications for benefits under this tier filed after December 31, 2020. All complete project applications filed on or before December 31, 2020, shall be considered by the Tax Commissioner and approved if the project and taxpayer qualify for benefits. Agreements may be executed with regard to completed project applications filed on or before December 31, 2020. All project agreements pending, approved, or entered into before such date shall continue in full force and effect; and

(f) Tier 6, investment in qualified property of at least ten million dollars and the hiring of at least seventy-five new employees or the investment in qualified property of at least one hundred million dollars and the hiring of at least fifty new employees. There shall be no new project applications for benefits under this tier filed after December 31, 2020. All complete project applications filed on or before December 31, 2020, shall be considered by the Tax Commissioner and approved if the project and taxpayer qualify for benefits. Agreements may be executed with regard to completed project applications filed on or before December 31, 2020. All project agreements pending, approved, or entered into before such date shall continue in full force and effect.

(2) When the taxpayer has met the required levels of employment and investment contained in the agreement for a tier 1, tier 2, tier 4, tier 5, or tier 6 project, the taxpayer shall be entitled to the following incentives:

(a) A refund of all sales and use taxes for a tier 2, tier 4, tier 5, or tier 6 project or a refund of one-half of all sales and use taxes for a tier 1 project paid under the Local Option Revenue Act, the Nebraska Revenue Act of 1967, and sections 13-319, 13-324, and 13-2813 and section 3 of this act from the date of the application through the meeting of the required levels of employment and investment for all purchases, including rentals, of:

(i) Qualified property used as a part of the project;

(ii) Property, excluding motor vehicles, based in this state and used in both this state and another state in connection with the project except when any such property is to be used for fundraising for or for the transportation of an elected official;

(iii) Tangible personal property by a contractor or repairperson after appointment as a purchasing agent of the owner of the improvement to real estate when such property is incorporated into real estate as a part of a project. The refund shall be based on fifty percent of the contract price, excluding any land, as the cost of materials subject to the sales and use tax;

(iv) Tangible personal property by a contractor or repairperson after appointment as a purchasing agent of the taxpayer when such property is annexed to, but not incorporated into, real estate as a part of a project. The refund shall be based on the cost of materials subject to the sales and use tax that were annexed to real estate; and

(v) Tangible personal property by a contractor or repairperson after appointment as a purchasing agent of the taxpayer when such property is both (A) incorporated into real estate as a part of a project and (B) annexed to, but not incorporated into, real estate as a part of a project. The refund shall be based on fifty percent of the contract price, excluding any land, as the cost of materials subject to the sales and use tax; and

(b) A refund of all sales and use taxes for a tier 2, tier 4, tier 5, or tier 6 project or a refund of one-half of all sales and use taxes for a tier 1 project paid under the Local Option Revenue Act, the Nebraska Revenue Act of 1967, and sections 13-319, 13-324, and 13-2813 and section 3 of this act on the types of purchases, including rentals, listed in subdivision (a) of this subsection for such taxes paid during each year of the entitlement period in which the taxpayer is at or above the required levels of employment and investment.

(3) Any taxpayer who qualifies for a tier 1, tier 2, tier 3, or tier 4 project shall be entitled to a credit equal to three percent times the average wage of new employees times the number of new employees if the average wage of the new employees equals at least sixty percent of the Nebraska average annual wage for the year of application. The credit shall equal four percent times the average wage of new employees times the number of new employees if the average wage of the new employees equals at least seventy-five percent of the Nebraska average annual wage for the year of application. The credit shall equal five percent times the average wage of new employees times the number of new employees if the average wage of the new employees equals at least one hundred percent of the Nebraska average annual wage for the year of application. The credit shall equal six percent times the average wage of new employees times the number of new employees if the average wage of the new employees equals at least one hundred twenty-five percent of the Nebraska average annual wage for the year of application. For computation of such credit:

(a) Average annual wage means the total compensation paid to employees during the year at the project who are not base-year employees and who are paid wages equal to at least sixty percent of the Nebraska average weekly wage for the year of application, excluding any compensation in excess of one million dollars paid to any one employee during the year, divided by the number of equivalent employees making up such total compensation;

(b) Average wage of new employees means the average annual wage paid to employees during the year at the project who are not base-year employees and who are paid wages equal to at least sixty percent of the Nebraska average weekly wage for the year of application, excluding any compensation in excess of one million dollars paid to any one employee during the year; and

(c) Nebraska average annual wage means the Nebraska average weekly wage times fifty-two.

(4) Any taxpayer who qualifies for a tier 6 project shall be entitled to a credit equal to ten percent times the total compensation paid to all employees, other than base-year employees, excluding any compensation in excess of one million dollars paid to any one employee during the year, employed at the project.

(5) Any taxpayer who has met the required levels of employment and investment for a tier 2 or tier 4 project shall receive a credit equal to ten percent of the investment made in qualified property at the project. Any taxpayer who has met the required levels of investment and employment for a tier 1 project shall receive a credit equal to three percent of the investment made in qualified property at the project. Any taxpayer who has met the required levels of investment and employment for a tier 6 project shall receive a credit equal to fifteen percent of the investment made in qualified property at the project.

(6) The credits prescribed in subsections (3), (4), and (5) of this section shall be allowable for compensation paid and investments made during each year of the entitlement period that the taxpayer is at or above the required levels of employment and investment.

(7) The credit prescribed in subsection (5) of this section shall also be allowable during the first year of the entitlement period for investment in qualified property at the project after the date of the application and before the required levels of employment and investment were met.

(8)(a) Property described in subdivisions (8)(c)(i) through (v) of this section used in connection with a project or projects, whether purchased or leased, and placed in service by the taxpayer after the date the application was filed shall constitute separate classes of property and are eligible for

exemption under the conditions and for the time periods provided in subdivision (8)(b) of this section.

(b)(i) A taxpayer who has met the required levels of employment and investment for a tier 4 project shall receive the exemption of property in subdivisions (8)(c)(ii), (iii), and (iv) of this section. A taxpayer who has met the required levels of employment and investment for a tier 6 project shall receive the exemption of property in subdivisions (8)(c)(ii), (iii), (iv), and (v) of this section. Such property shall be eligible for the exemption from the first January 1 following the end of the year during which the required levels were exceeded through the ninth December 31 after the first year property included in subdivisions (8)(c)(ii), (iii), (iv), and (v) of this section qualifies for the exemption.

(ii) A taxpayer who has filed an application that describes a tier 2 large data center project or a project under tier 4 or tier 6 shall receive the exemption of property in subdivision (8)(c)(i) of this section beginning with the first January 1 following the date the property was placed in service. The exemption shall continue through the end of the period property included in subdivisions (8)(c)(ii), (iii), (iv), and (v) of this section qualifies for the exemption.

(iii) A taxpayer who has filed an application that describes a tier 2 large data center project or a tier 5 project that is sequential to a tier 2 large data center project for which the entitlement period has expired shall receive the exemption of all property in subdivision (8)(c) of this section beginning any January 1 after the date the property was placed in service. Such property shall be eligible for exemption from the tax on personal property from the January 1 preceding the first claim for exemption approved under this subdivision through the ninth December 31 after the year the first claim for exemption is approved.

(iv) A taxpayer who has a project for an Internet web portal or a data center and who has met the required levels of employment and investment for a tier 2 project or the required level of investment for a tier 5 project, taking into account only the employment and investment at the web portal or data center project, shall receive the exemption of property in subdivision (8)(c)(ii) of this section. Such property shall be eligible for the exemption from the first January 1 following the end of the year during which the required levels were exceeded through the ninth December 31 after the first year any property included in subdivisions (8)(c)(ii), (iii), (iv), and (v) of this section qualifies for the exemption.

(v) Such investment and hiring of new employees shall be considered a required level of investment and employment for this subsection and for the recapture of benefits under this subsection only.

(c) The following property used in connection with such project or projects, whether purchased or leased, and placed in service by the taxpayer after the date the application was filed shall constitute separate classes of personal property:

(i) Turbine-powered aircraft, including turboprop, turbojet, and turbofan aircraft, except when any such aircraft is used for fundraising for or for the transportation of an elected official;

(ii) Computer systems, made up of equipment that is interconnected in order to enable the acquisition, storage, manipulation, management, movement, control, display, transmission, or reception of data involving computer software and hardware, used for business information processing which require environmental controls of temperature and power and which are capable of simultaneously supporting more than one transaction and more than one user. A computer system includes peripheral components which require environmental controls of temperature and power connected to such computer systems. Peripheral components shall be limited to additional memory units, tape drives, disk drives, power supplies, cooling units, data switches, and communication controllers;

(iii) Depreciable personal property used for a distribution facility, including, but not limited to, storage racks, conveyor mechanisms, forklifts, and other property used to store or move products;

(iv) Personal property which is business equipment located in a single project if the business equipment is involved directly in the manufacture or processing of agricultural products; and

(v) For a tier 2 large data center project or tier 6 project, any other personal property located at the project.

(d) In order to receive the property tax exemptions allowed by subdivision (8)(c) of this section, the taxpayer shall annually file a claim for exemption with the Tax Commissioner on or before May 1. The form and supporting schedules shall be prescribed by the Tax Commissioner and shall list all property for which exemption is being sought under this section. A separate claim for exemption must be filed for each project and each county in which property is claimed to be exempt. A copy of this form must also be filed with the county assessor in each county in which the applicant is requesting exemption. The Tax Commissioner shall determine whether a taxpayer is eligible to obtain exemption for personal property based on the criteria for exemption and the eligibility of each item listed for exemption and, on or before August 1, certify such to the taxpayer and to the affected county assessor.

(9)(a) The investment thresholds in this section for a particular year of application shall be adjusted by the method provided in this subsection, except that the investment threshold for a tier 5 project described in subdivision (1)(e)(ii) of this section shall not be adjusted.

(b) For tier 1, tier 2, tier 4, and tier 5 projects other than tier 5 projects described in subdivision (1)(e)(ii) of this section, beginning October 1, 2006, and each October 1 thereafter, the average Producer Price Index for all commodities, published by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, for the most recent twelve available periods shall be divided by the Producer Price Index for the first quarter of 2006 and the result multiplied by the applicable investment threshold. The investment thresholds shall be adjusted for cumulative inflation since 2006.

(c) For tier 6, beginning October 1, 2008, and each October 1 thereafter, the average Producer Price Index for all commodities, published by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, for the most recent twelve available periods shall be divided by the Producer Price Index for the first quarter of 2008 and the result multiplied by the applicable investment threshold. The investment thresholds shall be adjusted for cumulative inflation since 2008.

(d) For a tier 2 large data center project, beginning October 1, 2012, and each October 1 thereafter, the average Producer Price Index for all commodities, published by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, for the most recent twelve available periods shall be divided by the Producer Price Index for the first quarter of 2012 and the result multiplied by the applicable investment threshold. The investment thresholds shall be adjusted for cumulative inflation since 2012.

(e) If the resulting amount is not a multiple of one million dollars, the amount shall be rounded to the next lowest one million dollars.

(f) The investment thresholds established by this subsection apply for purposes of project qualifications for all applications filed on or after January 1 of the following year for all years of the project. Adjustments do not apply to projects after the year of application.

Sec. 17. Section 77-5726, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

77-5726 (1)(a) The credits prescribed in section 77-5725 for a year shall be established by filing the forms required by the Tax Commissioner with the income tax return for the taxable year which includes the end of the year the credits were earned. The credits may be used and shall be applied in the order in which they were first allowed. The credits may be used after any other nonrefundable credits to reduce the taxpayer's income tax liability imposed by sections 77-2714 to 77-27,135. Credits may be used beginning with the taxable year which includes December 31 of the year the required minimum levels were reached. The last year for which credits may be used is the taxable year which includes December 31 of the last year of the carryover period. Any decision on how part of the credit is applied shall not limit how the remaining credit could be applied under this section.

(b) The taxpayer may use the credit provided in subsection (3) of section 77-5725 to reduce the taxpayer's income tax withholding employer or payor tax liability under section 77-2756 or 77-2757 to the extent such liability is attributable to the number of new employees at the project, excluding any compensation in excess of one million dollars paid to any one employee during the year. The taxpayer may use the credit provided in subsection (4) of section 77-5725 to reduce the taxpayer's income tax withholding employer or payor tax liability under section 77-2756 or 77-2757 to the extent such liability is attributable to all employees employed at the project, other than base-year employees and excluding any compensation in excess of one million dollars paid to any one employee during the year. To the extent of the credit used, such withholding shall not constitute public funds or state tax revenue and shall not constitute a trust fund or be owned by the state. The use by the taxpayer of the credit shall not change the amount that otherwise would be reported by the taxpayer to the employee under section 77-2754 as income tax withheld and shall not reduce the amount that otherwise would be allowed by the state as a refundable credit on an employee's income tax return as income tax withheld under section 77-2755.

For a tier 1, tier 2, tier 3, or tier 4 project, the amount of credits used against income tax withholding shall not exceed the withholding attributable to new employees employed at the project, excluding any compensation in excess of one million dollars paid to any one employee during the year.

For a tier 6 project, the amount of credits used against income tax withholding shall not exceed the withholding attributable to all employees employed at the project, other than base-year employees and excluding any compensation in excess of one million dollars paid to any one employee during the year.

If the amount of credit used by the taxpayer against income tax withholding exceeds this amount, the excess withholding shall be returned to the Department of Revenue in the manner provided in section 77-2756, such excess amount returned shall be considered unused, and the amount of unused credits may be used as otherwise permitted in this section or shall carry over to the extent authorized in subdivision (1)(e) of this section.

(c) Credits may be used to obtain a refund of sales and use taxes under the Local Option Revenue Act, the Nebraska Revenue Act of 1967, and sections 13-319, 13-324, and 13-2813 and section 3 of this act which are not otherwise refundable that are paid on purchases, including rentals, for use at the project for a tier 1, tier 2, tier 3, or tier 4 project or for use within this state for a tier 2 large data center project or a tier 6 project.

(d) The credits earned for a tier 6 project may be used to obtain a

payment from the state equal to the real property taxes due after the year the required levels of employment and investment were met and before the end of the carryover period, for real property that is included in such project and acquired by the taxpayer, whether by lease or purchase, after the date the application was filed. Once the required levels of employment and investment for a tier 2 large data center project have been met, the credits earned for a tier 2 large data center project may be used to obtain a payment from the state equal to the real property taxes due after the year of application and before the end of the carryover period, for real property that is included in such project and acquired by the taxpayer, whether by lease or purchase, after the date the application was filed. The payment from the state shall be made only after payment of the real property taxes have been made to the county as required by law. Payments shall not be allowed for any taxes paid on real property for which the taxes are divided under section 18-2147 or 58-507.

(e) Credits may be carried over until fully utilized, except that such credits may not be carried over more than nine years after the year of application for a tier 1 or tier 3 project, fourteen years after the year of application for a tier 2 or tier 4 project, or more than sixteen years past the end of the entitlement period for a tier 6 project.

(2)(a) No refund claims shall be filed until after the required levels of employment and investment have been met.

(b) Refund claims shall be filed no more than once each quarter for refunds under the Nebraska Advantage Act, except that any claim for a refund in excess of twenty-five thousand dollars may be filed at any time.

(c) Refund claims for materials purchased by a purchasing agent shall include:

(i) A copy of the purchasing agent appointment;

(ii) The contract price; and

(iii)(A) For refunds under subdivision (2)(a)(iii) or (2)(a)(v) of section 77-5725, a certification by the contractor or repairperson of the percentage of the materials incorporated into or annexed to the project on which sales and use taxes were paid to Nebraska after appointment as purchasing agent; or

(B) For refunds under subdivision (2)(a)(iv) of section 77-5725, a certification by the contractor or repairperson of the percentage of the contract price that represents the cost of materials annexed to the project and the percentage of the materials annexed to the project on which sales and use taxes were paid to Nebraska after appointment as purchasing agent.

(d) All refund claims shall be filed, processed, and allowed as any other claim under section 77-2708, except that the amounts allowed to be refunded under the Nebraska Advantage Act shall be deemed to be overpayments and shall be refunded notwithstanding any limitation in subdivision (2)(a) of section 77-2708. The refund may be allowed if the claim is filed within three years from the end of the year the required levels of employment and investment are met or within the period set forth in section 77-2708.

(e) If a claim for a refund of sales and use taxes under the Local Option Revenue Act or sections 13-319, 13-324, and 13-2813 and section 3 of this act of more than twenty-five thousand dollars is filed by June 15 of a given year, the refund shall be made on or after November 15 of the same year. If such a claim is filed on or after June 16 of a given year, the refund shall not be made until on or after November 15 of the following year. The Tax Commissioner shall notify the affected city, village, county, or municipal county of the amount of refund claims of sales and use taxes under the Local Option Revenue Act or sections 13-319, 13-324, and 13-2813 and section 3 of this act that are in excess of twenty-five thousand dollars on or before July 1 of the year before the claims will be paid under this section.

(f) Interest shall not be allowed on any taxes refunded under the Nebraska Advantage Act.

(3) The appointment of purchasing agents shall be recognized for the purpose of changing the status of a contractor or repairperson as the ultimate consumer of tangible personal property purchased after the date of the appointment which is physically incorporated into or annexed to the project and becomes the property of the owner of the improvement to real estate or the taxpayer. The purchasing agent shall be jointly liable for the payment of the sales and use tax on the purchases with the owner of the property.

(4) A determination that a taxpayer is not engaged in a qualified business or has failed to meet or maintain the required levels of employment or investment for incentives, exemptions, or recapture may be protested within sixty days after the mailing of the written notice of the proposed determination. If the notice of proposed determination is not protested within the sixty-day period, the proposed determination is a final determination. If the notice is protested, the Tax Commissioner shall issue a written order resolving such protests. The written order of the Tax Commissioner resolving a protest may be appealed to the district court of Lancaster County within thirty days after the issuance of the order.

Sec. 18. Original sections 13-319, 39-2510, 39-2520, 77-2703.01, 77-2703.04, 77-2704.31, 77-2708, 77-2711, 77-2712.05, 77-5725, and 77-5726, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, are repealed.