# ACT No. 2006-586

- 2 84679-3
- 3 By Representatives McDaniel, McClurkin, Ford and Fite
- 4 RFD: County and Municipal Government
- 5 First Read: 07-MAR-06



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ENROLLED, An Act,

3 To amend Sections 6-2-35, 11-51-90 to 11-51-93, 4 inclusive, and 11-51-95, 11-51-122, 11-51-150 to 11-51-155, 5 inclusive, Code of Alabama 1975, to add Sections 11-51-90A. 6 11-51-90B, 11-51-186, 11-51-187, 11-51-188, 11-51-189. 7 11-51-190, 11-51-191, 11-51-192, 11-51-193, 11-51-194, 8 11-51-195 and 11-51-196; to provide a statewide uniform system 9 for the issuance and calculation of the cost of municipal 10 business licenses; to promulgate a common business license 11 application form for use by all municipalities; to provide a 12 uniform definition of "gross receipts" and "delivery license"; 13 to provide for a uniform system for the municipal business 14 license audit process and the taxpayer's appeal of municipal 15 business license assessments and for the filing of claims for 16 and payment of refunds; to provide uniform statutes of 17 limitation for assessments and refunds that substantially 18 conform with their counterparts for municipal sales and use 19 taxes; to allow municipalities to lawfully exchange tax 20 information related to business license taxpayers; and to 21 provide delayed effective dates and transition rules. 22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA: 23 Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited

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as the "Municipal Business License Reform Act of 2006."

Section 2. Sections 6-2-35, 11-51-90 to 11-51-93,
 inclusive, and 11-51-95, 11-51-122, 11-51-150 to 11-51-155,
 inclusive, Code of Alabama 1975, are amended to read as
 follows:

"§6-2-35.

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"The following must be commenced within five years: "(1) Where lands have been sold under a judgment of

8 a court of competent jurisdiction, all actions founded on an 9 equity of redemption existing in any person not a party to the 10 proceedings who claims under the mortgagor or grantor in the 11 deed of trust; and

12 "(2) Except as otherwise specifically provided for, 13 all actions by the state or any subdivision thereof for the 14 recovery of amounts claimed for licenses, <u>other than business</u> 15 <u>licenses defined in Section 11-51-90A, municipal or county</u> 16 franchise taxes, or other taxes.

"\$11-51-90.

18 "(a) All municipalities shall have the following 19 powers:

"(1) To license any exhibition, trade, business,
vocation, occupation, or profession not prohibited by the
Constitution or laws of the state which may be engaged in or
carried on in the city-or-town municipality.

"(2) To fix the amount of licenses, the time for
which they are to run, not exceeding one <u>license</u> year, to

1	provide a penalty for doing business without a license, and to
2	charge a fee <u>not exceeding<del>of not exceeding five</del> ten</u> dollars
3	<del>(\$5)</del> <u>(\$10)</u> for issuing each license. <u>The issuance fee shall be</u>
4	increased every five license years by the Department of
5	Revenue by an amount equal to the percentage increase, if any,
б	in the U.S. Department of Labor's Producer Price Index during
7	that five-year period, rounded to the nearest dollar, with the
8	base year being 2006. The Department of Revenue shall notify
9	all municipalities and the Alabama League of Municipalities of
10	any such fee increase no later than the November 30 preceding
11	the license year for which the increase shall take effect. The
12	failure of the Department of Revenue to so notify all
13	municipalities and the Alabama League of Municipalities shall
14	not, however, prohibit a municipality from increasing the
15	issuance fee, if any increase is otherwise due pursuant to
16	this subsection. A reasonable projection of the Producer Price
17	Index for the months of November and December of the fifth
18	year of the test period may be employed in this calculation.
19	"(3) To establish a minimum, and in the discretion
20	of the municipality, a maximum business license, with the
21	amount of the minimum and, if appropriate, maximum business
22	license and the applicable tax rate for each category to be
23	established from time to time by the governing body of each
24	municipality pursuant to this chapter.

1	"(4) In the discretion of the municipality, to
2	<u>establish a small vendor business license, which shall not</u>
3	exceed one percent of the taxpayer's gross receipts derived
4	from within the municipality for the preceding license year;
5	provided, however, that a municipality's election not to
6	<u>establish a small vendor business license shall not preclude</u>
7	the municipality from requiring a taxpayer generating gross
8	<u>receipts of less than fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) from</u>
9	within the municipality's jurisdiction to purchase an annual
10	business license. For purposes of this section, a "small
11	vendor" shall be defined as a taxpayer that meets all the
12	following criteria:
13	"a. The taxpayer purchased a business license from
14	the municipality with respect to the preceding license year
15	and made a sale or provided services within the municipality
16	thereof during each calendar quarter of the preceding license
17	<u>year.</u>
18	"b. The taxpayer's gross receipts derived from
19	within the municipality for the preceding license year did not
20	<u>exceed fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000).</u>
21	"c. The taxpayer did not qualify for the special
22	delivery license provided for by Section 11-51-194.
23	" <del>(3)</del> <u>(5)</u> To require sworn statements as to the
24	amount of capital invested, value of goods or stocks, or
25	amounts of sales or gross receipts where the amount of the

license is made to depend upon the amount of capital invested, value of goods or stocks, or amount of sales or <u>gross</u> receipts and to punish any <del>person or corporation</del> <u>taxpayer</u> for failure or refusal to furnish sworn statements or for giving of false statements in relation thereto.

6 "(b) The license authorized by subsection (a) of 7 this section as to persons, firms, or corporations taxpayers 8 engaged in business in connection with interstate commerce 9 shall be confined to that portion within the limits of the 10 state and where the person, firm, or corporation taxpaver has 11 an office or transacts business in the city or town 12 municipality imposing the license. A taxpayer subject to the 13 license authorized by subsection (a), that is engaged in business in more than one municipality, shall be permitted to 1415 account for its gross receipts so that the part of its gross 16 receipts attributable to one or more branch offices will not 17 be subject to the business license tax imposed on the principal business office required to obtain a business 18 19 license. Branch office gross receipts are those receipts that 20 are the result of business conducted at or from a qualifying 21 branch office. 22 "Notwithstanding the foregoing, in order to 23 establish the existence of a qualifying branch office, the 24 taxpayer shall meet all the following criteria:

1 "(1) Demonstrate the continuing existence of an 2 actual physical facility located outside the police 3 jurisdiction of the municipality in which its principal business office is located, such as a retail store, outlet, 4 5 business office, showroom, or warehouse, to which employees or 6 independent contractors, or both, are assigned or located 7 during regular normal working hours. 8 "(2) Maintain books and records which reasonably indicate a segregation or allocation of the taxpayer's gross 9 10 <u>receipts</u> to the particular facility or facilities. 11 "(3) Provide reasonable proof that separate 12 telephone listings, signs, or other indications of its 13 separate activity are in existence. 14 "(4) Billing or collection activities, or both, 15 relating to the business conducted at the branch office or 16 offices are performed by an employee or other representative of the taxpayer who has such responsibility for the branch 17 18 office, whether or not the representative is physically 19 located at the branch office. 20 "(5) All business claimed by a branch office or 21 offices must be conducted by and through the office or 22 off<u>ices.</u> 23 "(6) Supply proof that all applicable business licenses with respect to the branch office or offices have 24

25 <u>been issued.</u>

1 "(c) The power to license conferred by this division 2 may be used in the exercise of the police power as well as for 3 the purpose of raising revenue, or both. 4 "(d) Each municipality shall accept the application form set forth below for the purpose of allowing a taxpaver to 5 apply for a business license. The application form may, 6 however, be altered to incorporate the different business 7 license rates that municipalities are permitted to charge from 8 9 time to time, and to reflect additional or different 10 instructions to taxpavers that are not inconsistent with this 11 chapter, including a required notice in cases where the 12 municipality does not levy its business license tax on

13 <u>business done within its police jurisdiction. Each</u>

14 <u>municipality shall mail or otherwise transmit a renewal</u>

15 <u>reminder notice to each taxpayer that purchased a business</u>

16 <u>license during the preceding license year, via regular U.S.</u>

17 <u>mail addressed to the taxpayer's last known address, on or</u>
18 before December 31 of the current license year. The failure of

19 the municipality to comply with the preceding sentence shall

20 not, however, preclude it from enforcing its business license

21 tax laws against a taxpayer but shall preclude the

22 <u>municipality from assessing any fines or penalties otherwise</u>

23 <u>due for late payment until 10 days after a renewal reminder</u>

24 notice has been mailed to the taxpayer at its last known

25 address as indicated in the municipality's records, or

1	personally delivered to the taxpayer, and the taxpayer then
2	fails or refuses to remit the business license tax due for
3	such license year within the 10-day period. If the
4	municipality mails a renewal reminder notice to the last known
5	address of the taxpayer, as indicated in the municipality's
6	records, there shall exist a presumption that the municipality
7	has complied with the above provisions. A municipality shall
8	not be precluded from assessing fines and penalties otherwise
9	due for late payment if the taxpayer does not notify the
10	<u>municipality of a change in address within 90 days after</u>
11	changing such address. Taxpayers shall notify the taxing
12	jurisdictions in which they do business of a change of mailing
13	address within 90 days after changing such address. In like
14	manner, taxpayers shall notify the taxing jurisdictions in
15	which they do business of a change in their federal employer
16	<u>identification number or Department of Revenue taxpayer</u>
17	identification number within a reasonable time after such
18	number is changed.
19	"UNIFORM MUNICIPAL BUSINESS LICENSE APPLICATION
20	(CONFIDENTIAL)
21	City/Town of, Alabama NOTE: the
22	<u>City/Town Imposes (or Does Not Impose, as appropriate) its</u>
23	Business License Tax Within its Police Jurisdiction

1	<u>Complete and Mail or Fax</u>	
2	to:	Applicant Complete This Box:
3	CITY OF ANYWHERE	FEIN
4	<u>P.O. Box 0000</u>	<u>ST. OF ALA TAX #</u>
5	ANYWHERE, AL	FORM OF
6	00000-0000	OWNERSHIP (CHECK ONE)
7	(000) 111-2222	<u>Sole Prop.</u> Partnership
8	<u>Fax (000) 111-2222</u>	Corporation
9		Prof. Assoc.
10		LLCOther
11	" <u>Please Print or T</u>	ype
12	" <u>SEE REVERSE SIDE</u>	FOR INSTRUCTION AND FURTHER INFOR-
13	MATION	
14	Applica-	
15	<u>tion</u>	
	Owne	er <u>Name Location</u>
16	<u>Type: New Char</u>	nge <u>Change</u> <u>Change</u>

1	"Legal Business Name:
2	
3	"Trade Name (If different from above):
4	
5	" <u>Business Activities: (Brief description - example,</u>
6	retail clothing sales, wholesale food sales, rental of
7	industrial equipment, computer consulting,
8	etc.)
9	" <u>Physical Address: (Street, City, State, Zip)</u>
10	
11	" <u>Mailing Address: (Street, City, State, Zip)</u>
12	
13	"Telephone: (Bus., Fax, and Home)
14	" <u>Email address:</u>
15	" <u>Name/Phone # for Contact Person</u>
16	
17	"List the Following for Owner(s), Partners, or Offi-
18	cers (Attach separate sheet if necessary) (if Officers, list
19	only the top five)

<u>SSN [if not</u> <u>pub-</u> <u>Residence licly-trade</u> <u>Address d\_companyl Title</u>

20

<u>Name</u>

1

2					<u></u>	
3		" <u>Date Bușin</u> e	ess Activi	ty Initiat	ed or Proposed	<u>d in</u>
4	<u>Anywhere</u>					
5		" <u># of Employ</u>	<u>yees in An</u>	<u>ywhere</u>		
б		" <u>This appli</u>	cation has	<u>been exam</u>	ined by me and	d is, to
7	the best	of my knowled	dge, a tru	e and comp	<u>lete represent</u>	<u>tation</u>
8	<u>of the ab</u>	ove named ent	tity, and	person(s)	listed.	
9		" <u>Date</u>	<u>Signature</u>			
10		" <u>Title</u>				
11		" <u>THIS AREA</u>	FOR MUNICI	PAL USE ON	LY	
12		"ACCOUNT ID	#			
13		" <u>REVIEWED B</u>	Y:			
14		" <u>physical l</u>	DCATION: C	ITY POLICE	JURISDICTION	OUTSIDE
15	CORP LIMI	<u>TS AND PJ</u>				
16		"ZONING CLAS	SSIFICATIO	N		
17		ft				
18		"BUILDING A	PPROVAL YE	S <u>NO</u>	<u>N/A</u>	
19		" <u>FIRE_CODE</u>				
20		" <u>Tax types:</u>	S	ales/Selle	r's Use	-
21	<u>Consumer</u>	<u>Use Rer</u>	ntal	Lodgings	Alcoho	<u>51</u>
22	(	Occupational		 	Gas/Moto	or Fuel
23	Bu	siness Licens	3e			

Н	в	7	5	4

1	" <u>Tax_Filing Frequency: Monthly Quarterly</u>
2	Annual Other
3	" <u>Business Type: Retail Wholesale</u>
4	Building Contractor Service Professional
5	Manufacture Rental Other
б	PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION
7	CONCERNING THE COMPLETION OF THIS FORM.
8	"PLEASE COMPLETE ALL AREAS OF THE FORM EXCEPT FOR
9	THE SHADED AREA AT THE BOTTOM.
10	"FORM SHOULD BE TYPED OR PRINTED LEGIBLY.
11	"FORM SHOULD BE DATED AND SIGNED BY AN OWNER,
12	PARTNER, OR OFFICER OF THE BUSINESS.
13	"FORM WILL INITIATE THE PROCESS FOR REGISTERING YOUR
14	BUSINESS WITH THE MUNICIPALITY.
15	"IF YOUR BUSINESS WILL HAVE A PHYSICAL LOCATION
16	WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY, PLEASE USE THAT ADDRESS ON THE FRONT
17	OF THIS FORM. (Complete separate forms for each physical
18	location in the municipality, if so required.)
19	"AFTER COMPLETING THIS FORM IT CAN BE MAILED, SENT
20	BY FAX, OR WHERE POSSIBLE, SENT BY ELECTRONIC MAIL TO THE
21	MUNICIPALITY.
22	"UPON RECEIPT OF THE COMPLETED FORM, THE
23	MUNICIPALITY WILL PROVIDE ANY ADDITIONAL FORMS AND INFORMATION
24	REGARDING OTHER SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS TO YOU IN ORDER TO
25	COMPLETE THE LICENSING PROCESS.

1	"ALL LICENSE RENEWALS ARE DUE JANUARY 1 AND
2	DELINQUENT AFTER JANUARY 31 (OR FEBRUARY 15), WITH THE
3	FOLLOWING EXCEPTION:
4	"INSURANCE COMPANY LICENSE
5	"DUE JANUARY 1, DELINQUENT AFTER MARCH 1
6	"This form is intended as a simplified, standard
7	mechanism for businesses to initiate contact with a
8	municipality concerning their activities within that
9	<u>municipality. A business license will be required prior to</u>
10	<u>engaging in business. If a business intends to maintain a</u>
11	physical location within the municipality, there are normally
12	zoning and building code approvals required prior to the
13	<u>issuance of a business license.</u>
14	"In certain instances, a business may simply be
15	required to register with the municipality to create a
16	mechanism for the reporting and payment of any tax
17	<u>liabilities. If that is the case, you will be provided the</u>
18	materials for that registration process.
19	"The completion and submission of this form does not
20	<u>guarantee the approval or subsequent issuance of a license to</u>
21	do business. Any prerequisites for a particular type and
22	location of the business must be satisfied prior to licensing.
23	"SHOULD THERE BE ANY QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE
24	COMPLETION OF THIS FORM OR THE LICENSING AND/OR REGISTRATION

# PROCESS, PLEASE CALL THE NUMBER ON THE FRONT OF THIS FORM TO OBTAIN MORE DETAILED EXPLANATION.

3

"§11-51-91.

"Any city or town within the State of Alabama 4 municipality may fix and collect licenses for any business, 5 6 trade or profession done within the police jurisdiction of 7 such city or town municipality but outside the corporate limits thereof; provided, that the amount of such licenses 8 shall not be more than one half the amount charged and 9 collected as a license for like business, trade or profession 10 11 done within the corporate limits of such city or town municipality, fees and penalties excluded; and provided 12 further, that the total amount of such licenses shall not be 13 in an amount greater than the cost of services provided by the 14 city or town municipality within the police jurisdiction; and 15 provided further, no .No calculation is required to be made by 16 the municipal officials or license officer for the cost of 17 services to any particular business or classification of 18 businesses within the police jurisdiction so long as the total 19 amount of revenues from such licenses collected in the police 20 jurisdiction shall not be in an amount greater than the cost 21 22 of services provided by the city or town municipality to the police jurisdiction; provided further, that when . When the 23 place at which any such business, trade or profession is done 24 or carried on is within the police jurisdiction of two or more 25

1 municipalities which levy the licenses thereon authorized by 2 this section, such licenses shall be paid to, issued, and 3 collected by that municipality only whose boundary measured to 4 the nearest point thereof is closest to such business, trade or profession; and provided . Provided further, that this 5 6 section shall not have the effect of repealing or modifying 7 the limitations in this division relating to railroad, express 8 companies, sleeping car companies, telegraph companies, 9 telephone companies and public utilities and insurance 10 companies and their agents. This section shall be given a 11 liberal construction to effectuate its purpose and meaning. 12 "§11-51-92.

"(a) In case the license of any business, trade,
occupation or profession to be is based on a flat rate and is
taken out after July 1, only one half of the license shall be
charged and collected, except for those subjects for which
daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly or semiannual licenses are
provided by law.

19 "(b) No license shall be transferred except with the 20 consent of the council or other governing body <u>of the</u> 21 <u>municipality or of the director of finance or other chief</u> 22 <u>revenue officer or his or her designee</u>, and no license shall 23 be transferred <u>to reflect a physical change of address of the</u> 24 <u>taxpayer within the municipality</u> more than once <u>during a</u> 25 <u>license year</u> and never from <del>one business</del> <u>one taxpayer</u> to

1	another. <u>Provided that a mere change in the name or ownership</u>
2	of a taxpayer that is a corporation, partnership, limited
3	liability company or other form of legal entity now or
4	hereafter recognized by the laws of Alabama shall not
5	constitute a transfer for purposes of this chapter, unless (1)
6	the change requires the taxpayer to obtain a new federal
7	employer identification number or Department of Revenue
8	taxpayer identification number or (2), in the discretion of
9	the municipality, the subject license is one for the sale of
10	alcoholic beverages. Nothing in this section shall prohibit a
11	municipality from requiring a new business license application
12	and approvals for an alcoholic beverage license.
13	"\$11-51-93.

14 "(a) It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or 15 corporation taxpayer, or agent of a firm or corporation person 16 or taxpayer to engage in businesses or vocations in a city or 17 town municipality for which a license may be required without 18 first having procured a license therefor. A violation of this 19 division or of an ordinance passed hereunder fixing a license 20 shall be punishable by a fine fixed by ordinance, not to 21 exceed the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500) for each 22 offense, and if a willful violation, by imprisonment, not to 23 exceed six months, or both, at the discretion of the court 24 trying the same and each. Each day shall constitute a separate 25 offense.

1	"(b) In addition to the penalties prescribed by
2	subsection (a), if a taxpayer fails to pay any business
3	license tax owed to a taxing jurisdiction on or before the
4	date prescribed therefor, there shall be assessed a penalty of
5	15 percent of the business license tax required to be paid
6	with the license form. There shall be assessed a penalty of 30
7	percent of any business license tax required to be paid with
8	the license form if the business license tax and any assessed
9	penalties are not paid within 30 days of the due date
10	prescribed in the preceding sentence. Such penalties shall not
11	<u>be_cumulative.</u>
12	"(c) Notwithstanding the foregoing, no fine or
13	<u>penalty under this section shall be assessed, or if assessed,</u>
14	shall be waived, if reasonable cause exists. "Reasonable
15	cause" shall mean: The death or major illness of or an
16	accident involving a sole proprietor causing serious bodily
17	injury that in either case resulted in the sole proprietor
18	being unable to purchase the license or operate his or her
19	business during the 10 days preceding the due date for the
20	license; natural disaster, fire, explosion, or accident that
21	caused the closing or temporary cessation of the business of
22	the taxpayer during the 10 days preceding the due date for the
23	<u>license; or reliance on the erroneous advice of an employee or</u>
24	agent of the revenue department of the taxing jurisdiction or
25	its designee given in writing or by electronic mail. The

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1	municipality may, but is not required to, waive the penalty
2	for other reasons, including, but not limited to, the
3	taxpayer's reliance on erroneous but good faith advice from
4	<u>its tax adviser or on erroneous, oral advice from an employee</u>
5	or agent of the revenue department of the taxing jurisdiction
6	or its designee. The burden of proving reasonable cause shall
7	be on the taxpayer, and a determination by the taxing
8	jurisdiction that reasonable cause does not exist shall be
9	reversed only if that determination was made arbitrarily and
10	capriciously.
11	"(d) All penalties and interest administered by the
12	taxing jurisdiction pursuant to this section and Section
13	<u>11-51-192 shall be assessed and collected in the same manner</u>
14	<u>as business license taxes.</u>
15	"§11-51-95.
16	"Any person, firm or corporation dealing in two or
17	more of the articles or engaged in two or more of the
18	businesses, vocations, occupations or professions for which a
19	license is or may be required shall take out and pay for a
20	license for each line of business, vocation, occupation or
21	<del>profession.</del>
22	" <u>(a) Any taxpayer engaged at one location in more</u>
23	than one line of business falling within separate NAICS sector
24	or sub-sectors, for which a business license is or may be
25	required by the municipality in accordance with this chapter,

1	shall take out and pay for a license for each separate NAICS
2	sector or sub-sectors from which the taxpayer derived more
3	than 10 percent of its gross receipts during the preceding
4	license year. Provided, however, that for each business
5	license, the gross receipts which shall be taxed with regard
6	to such license shall, except as provided in subsection (c)
7	and other provisions of this act, be only those gross receipts
8	which arise within the line of business which is the subject
9	<u>of the license.</u>
10	"(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), a municipality
11	may, in its discretion as evidenced by adoption of an
12	ordinance, increase the 10 percent gross receipts threshold to
13	no more than 35 percent.
14	"(c) Nothing herein shall be construed to exempt the
15	gross receipts derived from one or more additional lines of
16	business of the taxpayer if those gross receipts do not exceed
17	the required threshold for the purchase of a second or
18	multiple business license. Instead, those gross receipts shall
19	be included in the business license for the taxpayer's primary
20	<u>line of business.</u>
21	"\$11-51-122.
22	"On <del>December 31 of each year or within 60 days</del>
23	thereafter or before March 1 of each year, each insurance
24	company which did any business in any <del>city or town</del>
25	municipality in this state during any part of the preceding

1 year shall, if a license or privilege tax is imposed by said 2 city or town municipality on such insurance company, furnish 3 the mayor or a revenue official, of such city or town municipality a statement in writing duly certified showing the 4 5 full and true amount of gross premiums received during the 6 preceding year as provided under this article and shall 7 accompany such statement with the amount of license tax due according to Sections 11-51-120 and 11-51-121. 8

9 "Failure to furnish such statement or to pay such 10 sum shall subject the company and its agents to such penalties 11 as the ordinance of such <del>city or town</del> <u>municipality</u> may 12 prescribe for doing business therein without a license.

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"§11-51-150.

14 "Any municipality of the State of Alabama may file 15 in the circuit court in, having jurisdiction over the county 16 in which said petitioning municipality is situated, a petition 17 to enjoin the operation and conduct of any business, occupation, trade or profession subject to a municipal 18 19 privilege or business license or excise tax imposed by the 20 petitioning municipality and which is delinquent in whole or 21 in part, following no less than 15 days' written notice and 22 demand to the taxpayer delivered personally or via certified 23 U.S. mail, return receipt requested, and addressed to the 24 taxpayer's last known address as indicated on the records of 25 the municipality. Said petition shall be verified by the

1 mayor, city clerk, police officer, license officer, or by any 2 other governing official or by any employee of the 3 municipality authorized to receive or collect said <u>privilege</u> 4 <u>or business</u> license or <u>excise</u> tax.

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# "§11-51-151.

6 "Upon the filing and presentation of a petition as 7 authorized in this division, it shall be the duty of the court 8 to set a day for the hearing of said action upon not less than 9 10 nor more than 15 days' notice thereof to be given the 10 respondents, said notice to be in such form as the court may 11 direct, and at such hearing, upon reasonable cause, to grant a 12 temporary restraining order or preliminary injunction 13 restraining the respondents from further operation or conduct 14 of said business, occupation, trade or profession, and no bond 15 shall be required of the petitioner as a condition thereto. 16 The court shall not grant a temporary restraining order or preliminary injunction unless it has reasonable cause to 17 18 believe that the respondent owes a debt to the petitioner for 19 a privilege or business license or excise tax and that the 20 petitioner has complied with Section 11-50-150.

The court shall, upon final hearing, if the proof be sufficient, grant a permanent injunction restraining the respondent as directed by this section to be done by a temporary injunction. Such injunctions may be dissolved in the manner provided in this division.

"\$11-51-152.

Said petition need not allege the amount due, but may seek an accounting of the respondent for the amount of <u>privilege or business</u> license tax or excise tax due the petitioner. The court may refer the matter to a master as in other cases.

7 "It shall be the duty of the court to enter a
8 judgment in favor of the petitioner for the amount of
9 <u>privilege or business</u> license or excise tax found to be due,
10 and it may also declare and enforce any lien therefor provided
11 by the laws of Alabama.

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"\$11-51-153.

13 "After judgment is entered against the respondent as 14 provided by the terms of this division, an existing injunction 15 shall not be dissolved until the judgment and court costs 16 taxed against the respondent are satisfied and paid in full, 17 unless the petitioner and respondent have agreed in writing on 18 a lesser amount necessary to satisfy the judgment and court 19 costs, or until the respondent shall have appealed, and shall 20 have executed a supersedeas bond to stay the execution of the 21 judgment, in the manner provided by the Alabama Rules of 22 Appellate Procedure.

"All laws governing appeals from money judgments are
made applicable to this division except as they may be
contrary to any provision in this section.

I "If the appeal is taken and the case reversed, the injunction existing at the time of the appeal shall automatically be reinstated without the intervention of the circuit court unless the appellate court otherwise directs.

"\$11-51-154.

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6 "(a) When the court has granted a temporary restraining order or preliminary injunction, it shall not be 7 8 dissolved until the respondents have respondent has executed a 9 bond in an amount fixed by the court with sufficient surety to 10 be approved by the register or clerk, containing a waiver of 11 exemptions as to personal property, conditioned to pay such 12 judgment and lawful court costs as the court upon final hearing may enter against the respondent, except as provided 13 14 below.

15 "(b) The surety bond required to be made in this 16 section shall remain in full force and effect as security for 17 any judgment and court costs the court may enter and tax 18 against the respondent, but if the respondent takes an appeal 19 and gives a supersedeas bond, upon affirmance of said appeal, 20 the dissolution surety bond provided by this section shall 21 become null and void.

"(c) The respondent shall not, however, be required
 to post the surety bond required in subsection (a) if the
 respondent can show to the satisfaction of the register or
 clerk that he or she has a net worth, based on fair market

1	<u>value, of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) or less,</u>
2	including his or her homestead, and the final assessment is
3	equal to or less than the respondent's net worth.
4	"\$11-51-155.
5	"The <u>surety</u> bond, if required by prescribed in
6	Section 11-51-154, shall stand as security for any judgment
7	and costs finally determined against the respondent, except in
8	instances where the liability thereon is relieved by and
9	attaches to a supersedeas bond as provided in this division."
10	Section 3. Sections 11-51-90A, 11-51-90B, 11-51-186,
11	11-51-187, 11-51-188, 11-51-189, 11-51-190, 11-51-191,
12	11-51-192, 11-51-193, 11-51-194, 11-51-195, and 11-51-196 are
13	added to the Code of Alabama 1975, to read as follows:
14	\$11-51-90A.
15	As used in this article, the following terms shall
16	have the following meanings:
17	(1) BUSINESS. Any commercial or industrial activity
18	or any enterprise, trade, profession, occupation, or
19	livelihood, including the lease or rental of residential or
20	nonresidential real estate, whether or not carried on for gain
21	or profit, and whether or not engaged in as a principal or as
22	an independent contractor, which is engaged in, or caused to
23	be engaged in, within a municipality.
24	(2) BUSINESS LICENSE. An annual license issued by a
25	taxing jurisdiction for the privilege of doing any kind of

## Page 24

1 business, trade, profession, or any other activity in that 2 jurisdiction, by whatever name called, which document is 3 required to be conspicuously posted or displayed except to the 4 extent the taxpayer's business license tax or other financial 5 information is listed thereon or unless the municipality 6 affirmatively elects not to so require. However, municipal 7 occupational licenses, municipal qasoline taxes, municipal 8 tobacco taxes, or gross receipts taxes in the nature of a 9 sales tax, or any other municipal tax now in existence or that 10 may hereafter be adopted by a municipality pursuant to Section 11 11-51-90, or any other provision of state law other than an annual license, shall not be considered "business licenses." 12

13 (3) BUSINESS LICENSE REMITTANCE FORM. Any business
14 license return, renewal reminder notice, or other writing on
15 which a taxpayer calculates its business license tax liability
16 for all or part of the license year and remits the amount so
17 calculated with the form.

18 (4) DEPARTMENT OF DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE. The Alabama
 19 Department of Revenue, as created under Section 40-2-1 et seq.

(5) DESIGNEE. An agent of a taxing jurisdiction
authorized to administer or collect, or both, the
jurisdiction's business license taxes, which may include
another taxing jurisdiction, the Department of Revenue, or a
"private auditing or collecting firm" as defined in Section
40-2A-3.

1 (6) GROSS RECEIPTS. A measure of any and all 2 receipts of a business from whatever source derived, to the 3 maximum extent permitted by applicable laws and constitutional 4 provisions, to be used in calculating the amount due for a 5 business license. Provided, however, that:

6 a. Gross receipts shall not include any of the 7 following taxes collected by the business on behalf of any taxing jurisdiction or the federal government: All taxes which 8 are imposed on the ultimate consumer, collected by the 9 10 taxpayer and remitted by or on behalf of the taxpayer to the taxing authority, whether state, local or federal, including 11 12 utility gross receipts taxes levied pursuant to Article 3, 13 Chapter 21, Title 40; license taxes levied pursuant to Article 14 2, Chapter 21, Title 40; or reimbursements to professional employer organizations of federal, state or local payroll 15 16 taxes or unemployment insurance contributions; but no other 17 deductions or exclusions from gross receipts shall be allowed 18 except as provided in this article.

b. A different basis for calculating the business
license may be used by a municipality with respect to certain
categories of taxpayers as prescribed in Section 11-51-90B.

c. For a utility or other entity described in
 Section 11-51-129, gross receipts shall be limited to the
 gross receipts derived from the retail furnishing of utility
 services within a municipality during the preceding year that

are taxed under Article 3 of Chapter 21 of Title 40, except that nothing herein shall affect any existing contract or agreement between a municipality and a utility or other entity. The gross receipts derived from the furnishing of utility services shall not be subject to further business license taxation by a municipality.

d. Gross receipts shall not include dividends or
other distributions received by a corporation, or proceeds
from borrowings, the sale of a capital asset, the repayment of
the principal portion of a loan, the issuance of stock or
other equity investments, or capital contributions, or the
undistributed earnings of subsidiary entities.

(7) LICENSE FORM. Any business license application
 form, renewal reminder notice, business license remittance
 form, or business license return by whatever name called.

16 (8) LICENSE OFFICER or MUNICIPAL LICENSE OFFICER.
 17 The municipal employee charged by the governing body of the
 18 municipality with the primary responsibility of administering
 19 the municipality's license tax and related matters.

20

(9) LICENSE YEAR. The calendar year.

(10) MUNICIPALITY. Any town or city in this state that levies a business license tax from time to time. The term shall also include the town's or city's police jurisdiction, where the business license tax is levied in the police jurisdiction.

1 (11) PERSON. Any individual, association, estate, 2 trust, partnership, limited liability company, corporation, or 3 other entity of any kind, except for any nonprofit corporation formed under the laws of Alabama which is operated to enable 4 5 municipalities that become members of such nonprofit 6 corporation to finance or refinance capital projects and 7 related undertakings, on a cooperative basis, and whose board of directors or other governing body consists primarily of 8 9 elected officials of municipalities.

(12) TAXING JURISDICTION. Any municipality that
 levies a business license tax, whether or not a business
 license tax is levied within its police jurisdiction, or the
 Department of Revenue acting as agent on behalf of a
 municipality pursuant to Section 11-51-180 et seq., as the
 context requires.

16 (13) TAXPAYER. Any person subject to or liable under 17 this chapter for any business license tax; any person required 18 to file a return with respect to, or pay or remit the business 19 license tax levied under this chapter or to report any 20 information or value to the taxing jurisdiction; or any person 21 required to obtain, or who holds any interest in, any business 22 license issued by the taxing jurisdiction; or any person that 23 may be affected by any act or refusal to act by the taxing jurisdiction under this chapter, or to keep any records 24 25 required by this chapter.

(14) U.S.C. The applicable title and section of the
 United States Code, as amended from time to time.

3 (15) OTHER TERMS. Other capitalized or specialized
4 terms used in this act, and not defined above, shall have the
5 same meanings ascribed to them in Section 40-2A-3 unless the
6 context otherwise requires.

§11-51-90B.

8 (a) Every taxpayer required to purchase a business9 license under this chapter shall:

10 (1) Purchase a business license for each location at
11 which it does business in the municipality, except as
12 otherwise provided by the municipality.

13 (2) Except as provided in Section 11-51-193, with
14 respect to taxpayers subject to state licensing board over15 sight, be classified into one or more of the following 2002
16 North American Industrial Classification System ("NAICS") sec17 tors and applicable sub-sectors, industry groups, industries
18 and U.S. industries thereunder:

19 SECTOR NAICS TI- SUGGESTED BUSINESS BASIS FOR LI-TLE LICENSE CODE GROUP- CENSE CALCULA-ING BY SAMPLE TOPIC TION OR CATEGORY

20

7

Page 29

111	Crop Produc-	Agriculture, farm-	Gross Receipts
	tion	ing, nursery,	and/or Flat Rate
		fruit, growers	
112	Animal Pro-	Animal, dairy, cat-	Gross Receipts
	duction	tle, ranching,	and/or Flat Rate
		sheep, chicken	
113	Forestry and	Forestry, logging,	Gross Receipts
	Logging	timber	and/or Flat Rate
114	Fishing,	Fishing, hunting,	Gross Receipts
	Hunting, and	supplies and equip-	and/or Flat Rate
	Trapping	ment	
	112	<pre>tion 112 Animal Pro- duction 113 Forestry and Logging 114 Fishing, Hunting, and</pre>	<pre>fruit, growers fruit, growers 112 Animal Pro- duction Animal, dairy, cat- tle, ranching, sheep, chicken 113 Forestry and Forestry, logging, Logging timber 114 Fishing, Fishing, hunting, Hunting, and supplies and equip-</pre>

		-	farm management, post-harvest activ-	and/or Flat Rate
10			ities	
11	211		Oil, gas, extrac- tion, natural gas, crude	-
12				
13	212	Mining (ex- cept Oil and Gas)	Mining activities	Gross Receipts and/or Flat Rate Where not State Regulated
14				Negulated
15	213	Support for Mining Ac- tivities		Gross Receipts and/or Flat Rate Where not State Regulated

16

1 221 Utilities Utilities, gas, State Regulated electric, water, (See Section sewage, steam 11 - 51 - 1292 236 Building, Construction, Gross Receipts 3 Developing building, general, and/or Flat Rate and General residential, subdi-Contracting visions 4 5 237 Heavy Con- Construction, heavy Gross Receipts construction, high- and/or Flat Rate struction way, bridge, street 6 7 238 Special Construction, all Gross Receipts special trades and/or Flat Rate Trade Contractors

1				
2	311	Food Manu- facturing	Food manufacturing, animal, grain, fruit, dairy, meat, seafood	Flat Rate, or
3				
4	312	Tobacco Products	Beverage manufac- turing, soft drink, bottled water, breweries, ice	_
5				
б.	313	Textile Mills	Mills, textile, fabric, yarn, car- pet, canvas, rope, twine	Flat Rate, or

7

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1 314 Textile Other mill opera-Gross Receipts, Product tions not covered Flat Rate, or Mills in 313 Value of Goods Produced 2 315 Apparel Man- Apparel manufactur- Gross Receipts, 3 ufacturing ing, hosiery, men, Flat Rate, or women, children, Value of Goods lingerie Produced 4 5 316 Leather and Leather manufactur- Gross Receipts, Allied Prod- ing, shoes, lug- Flat Rate, or uct Manufac- gage, handbag, re- Value of Goods lated products turing Produced 6 321 Wood Prod- Wood products, saw- Gross Receipts, 7 ucts Manu- mills, wood, pres- Flat Rate, or

		facturing	ervation, veneer,	Value of Goods
			trusses, millwork	Produced
8				
0				
9	322	Paper Manu-	Paper manufactur-	Gross Receipts,
		facturing	ing, pulp, paper,	Flat Rate, or
			converted products	Value of Goods
				Produced
10				
			Drinking liths	Curre Dessints
	323	Printing and	Printing, litho-	Gross Receipts,
11	323	-	Printing, litho-	-
ΤŢ	323	Related Sup-	graphic, screen,	Flat Rate, or
ŢŢ	323	Related Sup- port Activi-	graphic, screen, quick, digital,	Flat Rate, or Value of Goods
ŢŢ	323	Related Sup-	graphic, screen,	Flat Rate, or Value of Goods
11 12	323	Related Sup- port Activi-	graphic, screen, quick, digital,	Flat Rate, or Value of Goods
	323	Related Sup- port Activi-	graphic, screen, quick, digital,	Flat Rate, or Value of Goods
12		Related Sup- port Activi- ties	graphic, screen, quick, digital, books, handbills	Flat Rate, or Value of Goods Produced
		Related Sup- port Activi-	graphic, screen, quick, digital,	Flat Rate, or Value of Goods Produced
12		Related Sup- port Activi- ties	graphic, screen, quick, digital, books, handbills	Flat Rate, or Value of Goods Produced Gross Receipts,
12		Related Sup- port Activi- ties Petroleum	graphic, screen, quick, digital, books, handbills Petroleum manufac-	Flat Rate, or Value of Goods Produced Gross Receipts,
12		Related Sup- port Activi- ties Petroleum and Coal	<pre>graphic, screen, quick, digital, books, handbills Petroleum manufac- turing, asphalt,</pre>	Flat Rate, or Value of Goods Produced Gross Receipts, Flat Rate, or
1				
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2	325	Chemical Manufactur- ing	Chemical manufac- turing, wood, fer- tilizer, pesticide, paint, soap, other	Flat Rate, or Value of Goods
3				
4	326	Rubber Prod- uct Manufac-	Plastic and tire manufacture, pipe, hoses, belts, bot- tle, sheet, foam	Flat Rate, or Value of Goods
5				
6	327	Mineral Product Man-	Nonmetallic manu- facturing, clay, glass, cement, lime, gypsum, other	Value of Goods
7				

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1	331	Primary	Metal manufactur-	Gross Receipts,
		Metal Manu-	ing, iron, steel,	Flat Rate, or
		facturing	aluminum, copper,	Value of Goods
			other nonferrous	Produced
2				
2				
3	332	Fabricated	Fabricated metal,	Gross Receipts,
		Metal Prod-	cutlery, struc-	Flat Rate, or
		uct Manufac-	tural, ornamental,	Value of Goods
		turing	wire, machine shops	Produced
4				
5	333	Machinery	Machinery manufac-	Gross Receipts
5	555	-	-	-
			turing, farm, HVAC,	
		ing	office, industrial,	
			engine, other	Produced
6				
7	334	Computer and	Computers and elec-	Gross Receipts,
		Electronic	tronics, peripher-	Flat Rate, or

Product Man- als, audio, video, Value of Goods

Page 37

		ufacturing	circuit boards	Produced
8				
9	335	Electrical Equipment Appliance Component Manufactur- ing	Electrical equip- ment, lighting, small appliance, battery, other	Flat Rate, or Value of Goods
10				
11	336	tion Equip- ment Manu-	ufacturing, auto,	Flat Rate, or Value of Goods
12				
13	337	Furniture and Related	Furniture manufac- turing, cabinets,	-

Products office furniture, Value of Goods

14		Manufactur- ing	beds, kitchen	Produced
15	339	Misc. Manu- facturing	Misc. manufactur- ing, medical, den- tal, jewelry, sporting goods, toys, signs, all other	Flat Rate, or Value of Goods
16				
17	421		Wholesale trade-durable, mo- tor vehicle, home furniture, machin- ery, equipment	Gross Receipts and/or Flat Rate
18				
19	422	Wholesale Trade,	Wholesale trade-nondurable,	Gross Receipts and/or Flat Rate

Non-Durable paper, apparel, Goods grocery, dairy, farm, beverages

20

21 441 Motor Vehi- Motor vehicles, au- Gross Receipts cle and tomobiles, motorcy- and/or Flat Rate Parts Dealer cles, boats, parts, accessories

22

23

23	442	Furniture	Furniture stores,	Gross Receipts
		and Home	home, floor, fur-	and/or Flat Rate
		Furnishing	nishings, window,	
		Stores	special products	

24

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25	443	Electronics	Electronic and ap-	Gross Receipts
		and Appli-	pliance store,	and/or Flat Rate
		ance Stores	household, radio,	
			television, com-	

## puter

26

27 444 Building Ma- Building materials, Gross Receipts terial and hardware, paint, and/or Flat Rate Gardening home center, wall-Equipment paper Dealers

28

29	445	Food and	Food and beverage	Gross Receipts
		Beverage	stores, grocery,	and/or Flat Rate
		Stores	convenience, mar-	Where Not State
			kets, liquor, beer	Regulated

30

31 446 Health and Health and personal Gross Receipts Personal care stores, drug, and/or Flat Rate Care Stores cosmetic, optical, health food

1	447	Gasoline	Gasoline stations,	Gross Receipts
		Stations	filling stations	and/or Flat Rate
				Based on No. of
				Dispensers
2				
2				
3	440	Clathing and	Olethian stands	Current Description
5	440		Clothing stores,	
			men's women's,	and/or Flat Rate
		Stores	children, infants,	
			shoe, jewelry, lug-	
			gage	
4				
5	451	Sporting	Sporting goods	Gross Receipts
		Goods,	stores, hobby, toy,	and/or Flat Rate
			fish, gun, music,	
-		Music	books	
		MUBIC	DUUKS	
6				
7	452	General Mer-	General merchandise	Gross Receipts

chandise stores, department, and/or Flat Rate warehouse clubs, superstores

8

9 453 Miscella- Misc. store retail- Gross Receipts neous Store ers, florist, gift, and/or Flat Rate Retailers novelty, used, pets, art, tobacco

10

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11 454 Nonstore Re- Nonstore retailers, Gross Receipts tailers electronic shop- and/or Flat Rate ping, mail order, vending, direct selling

13	481	Air Trans-	Air transportation,	Gross Receipts
		portation	airline tickets,	and/or Flat Rate
			shipping, freight,	Where Not State

charters Regulated 14 15 482 Rail Trans- Rail transporta- State Regulated portation tion, ticket of- and/or Flat Rate fices, short line, freight

16

17	483	Water Trans-	Water transporta-	Gross Receipts
		portation	tion, coastal,	and/or Flat Rate
			freight, inland,	Where Not State
			passenger, forward-	Regulated
			ers	

18

19 484 Truck Trans- Truck transporta- Gross Receipts portation tion, terminal, lo- and/or Flat Rate cal, long-distance, Where Not State freight Regulated

485 Transit and Ground transporta- Gross Receipts 1 Ground Pas- tion, bus, taxi, and/or Flat Rate senger limousine, charter, Transportabuggy tion 2 3 487 Scenic and Scenic and sight- Gross Receipts Sightseeing seeing, land, waand/or Flat Rate Transporta- ter, air, special tion 4 492 Couriers and Couriers and mes- Gross Receipts 5 Messengers sengers, services, and/or Flat Rate delivery 6 7 493 Warehousing Warehouse and stor- Gross Receipts, and Storage age, household, re- Flat Rate or

frigerated, distri- Square Feet bution, special

8

9 511 Publishing Publishing, newspa- Gross Receipts Industries pers, periodicals, and/or Flat Rate (except databases, software Internet)

10

11 512 Motion Pic- Motion pictures and Gross Receipts ture and videos, theatres, and/or Flat Rate Sound Re- recording, studios, cording In- drive-in dustry

12

13 515 Broadcasting Broadcasting and Gross Receipts (except radio, TV and/or Flat Rate Internet) Where Not State Regulated

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1	516	Internet	Publications or	Gross Receipts
		Publishing	broadcasting for	and/or Flat Rate
		and Broad-	Internet only	Where Not State
		casting		Regulated

4	517	Telecommuni-	Providing, access	Gross Receipts
		cations	to facilities for	and/or Flat Rate
			voice, data, text,	Where Not State
			sound and/or video	Regulated

6	519	Information	Providing, storing,	Gross Receipts
		Services and	processing, and	and/or Flat Rate
		Data Pro-	providing access to	
		cessing	information	

522 Credit In-Credit companies Gross Receipts termediation and activities reand/or Flat Rate and Related lated to credit Where Not State Activities and mediation of Regulated. Banks credit and savings and loan associations are state regulated and are subject to the license tax authorized under Section 11-51-130 and under Section 11-51-131, respectively.

523 Securities, Insurance compa- Gross Receipts Commodity, nies, life, health, and/or Flat Rate Other Finan- accident, and all Where Not State cial Prod- other Regulated ucts

4

2

3

1

524 Insurance Insurance compa- State Regulated Carriers and nies, fire, marine, Related Ac- and fire casualty tivities

2

3

i	525	Funds,	Funds, plans,	Gross Receipts
		Trusts,	and/or programs or-	and/or Flat Rate
		Other Finan-	ganized to pool se-	Where Not State
		cial Vehi-	curities or other	Regulated
		cles	assets for others,	
			other than the Ala-	
			bama Municipal	
			Funding Corporation	

4

5	531	Real Estate	Real estate, of-	Gross Receipts
-			fices, agents, bro-	and/or Flat Rate
			kers, developers	Where Not State
				Regulated

1 532 Rental and Rental and leasing, Gross Receipts Leasing Ser- auto, truck, equip- and/or Flat Rate vices ment, tangible property

2

3

541	Professions,	Attorney, doctor,	Gross Receipts for
	Scientific,	dentist, architect,	outdoor/billboard
	Technical	engineer, vet,	advertising; oth-
	Services	other professions	erwise flat rate
			and/or gross re-
			ceipts

4

5

	551	Management	Management of com-	Gross Receipts
		of Companies	panies and enter-	and/or Flat Rate
		and Enter-	prises, offices,	Where Not State
-		prises	regional, corporate	Regulated. For
				purposes of this
				chapter only, bank
				holding companies

are state regu-

lated and are subject only to the license tax amount authorized under Section 11-51-130(a)(12).

7 561 Administra- Administrative and Gross Receipts tive and support services, and/or Flat Rate Support Ser- office, employment, Where Not State vices answering, travel Regulated

8

6

9	562	Waste Man-	Waste management,	Gross Receipts
		agement and	services, landfill,	and/or Flat Rate
		Remediation	septic tank, compa-	Where Not State
•		Services	nies, trucks	Regulated

10

11 611 Educational Educational ser- Gross Receipts

Services vices, business, and/or Flat Rate secretarial, com- Where Not State puter, technical, Regulated sports, other

12

13 621 Ambulatory Health care ser- Gross Receipts Health Care vices, mental, out- and/or Flat Rate Services patient, HMO, diagnostic, blood, dialysis, other

14

15	622	Hospitals	Hospitals, surgi-	Gross Receipts
			cal, substance	and/or Flat Rate
			abuse, psychiatric,	Based on No. of
			specialty	Patients or Beds

16

17 623 Nursing and Nursing and resi- Gross Receipts Residential dential care facil- and/or Flat Rate

Care Facili- ities, elderly, day ties care, assisted living

18

19	624	Social As-	Social assistance,	Gross Receipts
		sistance	child, shelters,	and/or Flat Rate
			vocational, emer-	Where Not State
			gency	Regulated

20

21	711	Performing	Arts and sports,	Gross Receipts
		Arts, Spec-	dance, musical,	and/or Flat Rate
		tator Sports	spectator, teams,	
			tracks, promoters,	
			agents	

22

-	-	

23 712 Museums, Museums, historical Gross Receipts Historical sites, zoos, botan- and/or Flat Rate Sites and ical gardens,

Similar parks, special

sites

24

25	713	Amusement,	Amusement and rec-	Gross Receipts
		Gambling and	reation, gambling,	and/or Flat Rate
		Related	theme, arcade,	Where Not State
			golf, marinas, fit-	Regulated
			ness	

26

27 721 Accomoda- Accommodations, ho- Gross Receipts tions tel, travel, and/or Flat Rate bed-and-breakfast, rooming houses, motel

28

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29	722	Food Ser-	Food service and	Gross Receipts
		vices and	drinking places,	and/or Flat Rate
		Drinking	restaurant, cater-	

Places ers, bar, lounge, club

30

31 811 Repair and Repair and mainte- Gross Receipts Maintenance nance, automotive, and/or Flat Rate electronic, commercial, residential, other

32

33	812	Personal and	Personal care ser-	Gross Receipts
		Laundry Ser-	vices, hair, nail,	and/or Flat Rate
		vices	skin, barber,	
			beauty, diet, tan-	
			ning, funerals	

34

35 910 Category Vending machines, Gross Receipts for: pool tables, amuse- and/or Flat Rate ment devices, etc.

2	920	Category for	Employees: as in	Gross Receipts,
		employees:	number of employees	Flat Rate or Num-
			used in license	ber of Employees
			calculation	

4	930	Category for	Square feet used	Gross Receipts,
		square feet:	for warehousing,	Flat Rate or Num-
			large buildings,	ber of Square Feet
			and other types	

6	923	Administra-	General Category	Gross Receipts
		tion of Hu-		and/or Flat Rate
		man Resource		Where Applicable
		Programs		

1	924	Administra-	General Category	Gross Receipts
		tion of En-		and/or Flat Rate
		vironmental		Where Applicable
		Quality Pro-		
		grams		
2				
3	925	Administra-	General Category	Gross Receipts
		tion of		and/or Flat Rate
		Housing, Ur-		Where Applicable
		ban, Comm.		
4				
5	926	Administra-	General Category	Gross Receipts
		tion of Eco-		and/or Flat Rate
		nomic Pro-		Where Applicable
		grams		
6				
7	927	Space Re-	General Category	Gross Receipts
		search and		and/or Flat Rate

Technology

Where Applicable

8

9 928 National Se- General Category Gross Receipts curity and and/or Flat Rate Interna- Where Applicable tional Affairs

10

11 999 Unclassified General Category Gross Receipts or Establish- Flat Rate, Where ments Not State Regulated

12

(b) The taxing jurisdiction's basis for
determination of the business license tax for each sector
shall correspond with the basis specified in subsection (a),
such as gross receipts, flat rate, number of employees, or
square footage. Provided, however, with respect to machines
and other devices described in Sector 910 above, the

1 municipality, in addition to a gross receipts-based or flat 2 rate license, may require the taxpayer to purchase a decal for each machine or device located within the municipality. The 3 4 charge for such decal shall not exceed the municipality's 5 actual cost of the decal. Provided further, the taxing 6 jurisdiction shall have authority to issue one license, rather 7 than multiple licenses, to a business in accordance with the 8 taxing jurisdiction's business license ordinance. To the 9 extent that subsection (a) indicates that a business activity 10 described in an NAICS sector is fully or partially state 11 regulated, no taxing jurisdiction shall have authority to 12 impose a business license tax in excess of the amount 13 otherwise authorized by state law on the state regulated portion of such sector. 14

15 (c) The measure of a municipal business license 16 based on gross receipts shall be based on the taxpayer's gross 17 receipts for the license year next preceding the current 18 license year unless the taxpayer first began doing business in 19 the municipality during the current license year, in which 20 event the gross receipts shall be projected by the taxpayer 21 for the remaining portion of the current license year. If the 22 taxpayer's actual gross receipts for the short license year 23 are either more or less than projected, the taxpayer's 24 annualized gross receipts used in calculating its business 25 license tax liability for the following license year shall be

increased or decreased, respectively, by the amount of the 1 2 difference. When annualizing the gross receipts for the short 3 license year, the amount of the gross receipts projected by 4 the taxpayer shall be divided by the number of full months the 5 taxpayer was in business in the municipality and multiplied by 6 12; provided that each taxpayer shall be deemed to have been 7 in business in the municipality for a minimum of one month for 8 purposes of this calculation. If the taxpayer employs a fiscal 9 year for federal and state income tax purposes, the taxpayer's 10 gross receipts may be determined, at the option of the taxpayer, from the federal income tax return of the taxpayer 11 12 for the fiscal year next preceding the current license year, 13 provided that the gross receipts reported thereon reasonably 14 reflect the financial condition of the taxpayer as of the 15 December 31 next preceding the current license year, and the 16 taxpayer so notifies the municipality either prior to or 17 simultaneously with filing the first business license 18 remittance form using fiscal year data. The taxpayer's use of 19 fiscal year data, as provided above, shall constitute an 20 irrevocable election to use fiscal year data with respect to 21 the current and subsequent business license years unless the 22 governing body of the municipality or its director of finance 23 or other chief revenue officer or his or her designee consents otherwise. Provided, however, that nothing in this subsection 24 25 shall prohibit a municipality from doing any of the following:

1 (1) Creating one or more sub-sectors in each of the 2 NAICS sectors listed in subsection (a) above, subject to the 3 limitations regarding the basis for license calculation and 4 subsections (e) and (f) below.

5 (2) Levying and collecting any municipal tax, other 6 than an annual business license, that now exists or that may 7 hereafter be adopted pursuant to Section 11-51-90 or some 8 other provision of state law, including, but not limited to, 9 lodgings taxes, alcoholic beverage taxes, gasoline and motor 10 fuel taxes, tobacco taxes, leasing or rental taxes, 11 occupational taxes, sales and use taxes, and gross receipts taxes in the nature of a sales tax. 12

13 (3) Allowing or requiring a taxpayer to purchase a 14 minimum business license with respect to the short license 15 year following 90 days of operations in the municipality, 16 based on the amount which bears the same relationship to the 17 actual amount of gross receipts during such preceding license 18 year as the entire license year bears to the number of days 19 during which the taxpayer was operating during such preceding 20 license year. If the taxpayer did not commence operations 21 until after the first day of the calendar year, the 22 municipality may by ordinance require the taxpayer to remit 23 the business license tax at the end of such 90 day period, or 24 on December 31 of the current license year, whichever occurs 25 first.

1 (d) For purposes of subsection (a), the terms "state 2 regulated" or "where not state regulated," when used with reference to a business listed in one of the NAICS sectors and 3 4 any subsequently created sub-sector, mean and refer to other provisions of the Code of Alabama 1975, that deal with or 5 6 limit the taxation of the respective business by 7 municipalities, none of which are amended or repealed by this act. 8

9 (e) Notwithstanding anything in this chapter to the contrary, the licenses authorized by Sections 11-51-130 and 10 11 11-51-131 are in lieu of any other business licenses 12 authorized by this chapter, and banks and savings and loan associations subject to either of those sections are not 13 subject to the business license taxes otherwise authorized by 14 15 this chapter, regardless of whether one or more NAICS sectors 16 or sub-sectors describe or include any business or activity of 17 such bank or savings and loan association. Any municipal 18 business license tax applicable to a bank holding company, as 19 defined in Section 5-13B-2(f), shall not exceed the amount set 20 forth in the schedule provided for banks under Section 21 11-51-130(a)(12). Provided, however, if a bank holding company is engaged in additional lines of business that do not fall 22 23 within NAICS Sectors 551 or 522 and which are not considered financial in nature, as defined under federal banking law, the 24 25 bank holding company shall take out and pay for a business

1 license for each additional line of business so assessed by 2 the municipality; provided further that for each separate 3 additional business license, the gross receipts taxable under 4 such license shall be only those gross receipts of the bank 5 holding company which arise under the license for the 6 respective additional line of business and not from a 7 financial activity, as defined under federal banking law, or 8 from an activity within NAICS Sector 551 or 522. This 9 subsection (e) shall not apply to any subsidiary of a bank or 10 savings and loan association.

11 (f) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to 12 the contrary, each of the several municipalities in this state 13 may annually assess and collect from each utility or other 14 entity described in Section 11-51-129 only one municipal busi-15 ness license tax for all lines of business classified in NAICS 16 Sector 221, and the levy, collection and assessment of the 17 single business license tax shall be subject to the provisions 18 and limitations of Section 11-51-129 and Section 11-51-90A. If 19 any such utility or entity described in Section 11-51-129 is 20 engaged in one or more additional lines of business that do 21 not fall within NAICS Sector 221, and if the additional line 22 of business of such utility or other entity is so assessed by 23 the municipality, then the utility or other entity shall take 24 out and pay for a business license for that additional line of 25 business, even if the utility or other entity does not meet

the requirement in Section 11-51-95 that it must derive more 1 2 than 10 percent of its gross receipts from the business fall-3 ing within the NAICS sector during the preceding license year; 4 provided however, that for each separate, additional business 5 license, the gross receipts taxable under such license shall 6 be only those gross receipts of the utility or other entity 7 from business done within the municipality and which arise 8 within the line of business which is the subject of the re-9 spective license.

10 DIVISION 5

11 RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF MUNICIPAL TAXPAYERS

12

§11-51-186.

13

(a) Rights of the taxpayer.

(1) At or before the commencement of an examination
of the books and records of a taxpayer, the taxing
jurisdiction shall provide to the taxpayer a written
description, in simple and non-technical terms, of the role of
the taxing jurisdiction and the taxpayer during the
examination and a statement of the taxpayer's rights.

20 (2) At or before the issuance of a preliminary
 21 assessment, the taxing jurisdiction shall provide to the
 22 taxpayer in simple and non-technical terms:

a. A written description of the basis for the
 assessment and any penalty asserted with respect to the
 assessment.

b. A written description of the method by which the
taxpayer may request an administrative review of the
preliminary assessment.

7 (3) At or before the issuance of a final assessment,
8 the taxing jurisdiction shall inform the taxpayer by a written
9 statement of his or her right to appeal to the circuit court.

10 (4) Except in cases involving suspected criminal 11 violations of the tax law or other criminal activity, the 12 taxing jurisdiction shall conduct an examination of a taxpayer 13 during regular business hours after providing reasonable 14 notice to the taxpayer. A taxpayer who refuses a proposed time 15 for an examination on the grounds that the proposed examination would cause inconvenience or hardship must offer 16 17 reasonable alternative times and dates for the examination.

18 (5) At all stages of an examination or the 19 administrative review of the examination, a taxpayer is 20 entitled to be assisted or represented, at his or her own 21 expense, by an authorized representative. The taxing 22 jurisdiction shall prescribe a form by which the taxpayer may 23 designate such a person to represent him or her in the conduct 24 of any proceedings, including collection proceedings, 25 resulting from actions of the taxing jurisdiction. In the

absence of this form, the taxing jurisdiction may accept such other evidence that a person is the authorized representative of a taxpayer as it considers appropriate. This provision shall not be construed as authorizing the practice of law.

5 (6) A taxpayer shall be allowed to make an audio 6 recording of any in-person interview with any officer or 7 employee of the taxing jurisdiction relating to any 8 examination or investigation by the taxing jurisdiction, 9 provided, however, the taxpayer must give reasonable advance 10 notice to the taxing jurisdiction of his or her intent to 11 record and the recording shall be at the taxpayer's own expense and with the taxpayer's own equipment. The taxing 12 13 jurisdiction shall also be allowed to record any interview if the taxpayer is recording the interview, or if the taxing 14 jurisdiction gives the taxpayer reasonable advance notice of 15 16 its intent to record the interview. The taxing jurisdiction 17 shall provide the taxpayer with a copy of the recording, but 18 only if the taxpayer provides reimbursement for the cost of 19 the transcript and reproduction of such copy. Such cost shall 20 be reasonable as prescribed by the taxing jurisdiction.

(7) This section shall not apply to criminal
 investigations or investigations relating to the integrity of
 any officer or employee of the taxing jurisdiction.

24 (8) Any designee of a municipality shall be subject
25 to the same responsibilities and restrictions on its

authority, and the ability of its employees and contractors, to act on behalf of a taxing jurisdiction under this chapter as are imposed on them under the provisions of this chapter and Sections 40-2A-12 to 40-2A-14, inclusive.

5 (b) Municipality's responsibilities, generally. In 6 addition to compliance with subsection (a), municipalities 7 shall make accessible continuing education programs to train 8 non-clerical employees of their revenue departments to provide 9 them with a current knowledge of applicable state and local 10 tax laws. Employees of a municipality who are subject to the 11 preceding sentence may, in order to satisfy the continuing 12 education requirements, attend courses pertaining in whole or 13 in part to the municipal business license laws and related 14 issues that are presented, sponsored or certified by the 15 Alabama Municipal Revenue Officers Association or by the 16 Alabama Local Tax Institute of Standards and Training 17 established pursuant to Section 40-2A-15. In addition, a 18 municipality shall not use the amounts of taxes assessed by an 19 employee of the municipality as the basis of a production 20 quota system for employees, or as a basis for evaluating an 21 employee's or a designee's performance.

(c) Municipality's failure to comply with this
 section. The failure of a municipality or its designee to
 comply with any provision of subsections (a) or (b) shall not
 prohibit the municipality from assessing any business license

tax otherwise due under this chapter, nor excuse the taxpayer 1 2 from timely complying with any time limitations under this 3 chapter. However, if the municipality or its designee fails to substantially comply with the provisions of this section, the 4 governing body of the municipality, its license officer or 5 another employee designated by the governing body shall, upon б written application by the taxpayer or upon good cause shown, 7 abate any penalties and waive any interest otherwise arising 8 from the examination or assessment. 9

(d) Abatement of penalty. The municipality shall 10 abate any penalty attributable to erroneous written advice 11 furnished to a taxpayer or taxpayer's representative by an 12 employee or agent of the municipality's revenue department or 13 of its designee. However, this subsection shall apply only if: 14 The employee or agent of the revenue department or the 15 designee provided the written advice in good faith while 16 acting in his or her official capacity; the written advice was 17 reasonably relied on by the taxpayer, or by the taxpayer's 18 representative in advising the taxpayer, and was in response 19 to a specific written request of the taxpayer or the 20 taxpayer's representative; and the penalty did not result from 21 the taxpayer's or the representative's failure to provide 22 complete and accurate information or from a change in law or a 23 24 new judicial interpretation of existing law. References in

this subsection to written advice or requests shall mean and include those transmitted via electronic mail.

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\$11-51-187.

4 A taxpayer that has purchased a business license required under this chapter shall not be subject to more than 5 6 one business license examination for each business license by 7 or on behalf of the issuing taxing jurisdiction for every 8 three-license-year cycle unless reasonable cause is shown and 9 notice is given to the taxpayer, consistent with Section 10 40-2A-13, or unless the taxpayer fails or refuses to provide 11 to the taxing jurisdiction a true and correct copy of its 12 federal income tax return for the prior two license years or 13 portions thereof within 14 days after written request has been 14 mailed or personally delivered to it. The following activities 15 shall not constitute a business license examination for 16 purposes of this section: (i) The mere contact of a taxpayer 17 or its authorized representative by a municipality or its 18 agent for the purpose of obtaining information to confirm any 19 information provided by the taxpayer in connection with its 20 application for or renewal of its business license, or (ii) an 21 inspection of the taxpayer's books and records consistent with 22 one of the exceptions for sales and use tax examinations 23 listed in Section 40-2A-13(c).

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§11-51-188.

(a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c),
 each municipal business license shall be due on January 1st of
 each year and shall be renewed annually on or before the 31st
 day of January, provided that a municipality that imposed a
 delinquency date as of January 1, 2006, that was later than
 January 31 may elect, by adoption of an ordinance, to impose a
 February 15 delinquency date.

8 (b) If the due date for payment of any business 9 license hereunder falls on a weekend or a holiday recognized 10 by the municipality from time to time, the due date shall 11 automatically be extended until the next business day.

(c) Notwithstanding subsection (a), insurance
company licenses shall be renewed annually on or before March
1, in accordance with Section 11-51-122.

(d) Any municipality may, in its discretion, grant a discount for payment of the applicable business license tax prior to the due date prescribed above. The amount and terms of the discount shall be established by ordinance of the governing body of the municipality.

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§11-51-189.

The governing body of a municipality may, in its discretion, grant an abatement to any taxpayer of all or a portion of the applicable business license tax otherwise due for up to three license years if the taxpayer substantially complies with the criteria for abatement of sales or use taxes

1 2 under the Tax Incentive Reform Act of 1992 found at Section 40-9B-1 et seq., following a public hearing on same.

3

§11-51-190.

4 Consistent with Section 40-2A-7(a), taxpayers under 5 this chapter shall keep and maintain an accurate and complete 6 set of records, books, and other information sufficient to 7 allow the municipality or its designee to determine the 8 correct amount of any business license tax levied by the 9 municipality, or other records or information as may be 10 necessary for the proper administration of any matters under 11 the jurisdiction of the municipality.

12

§11-51-191.

13 (a) If the taxing jurisdiction determines that the 14 amount of any business license tax reported on or remitted 15 with a business license remittance form is incorrect, if no 16 business license remittance form is filed within the time 17 prescribed, or if the information provided on the form is 18 insufficient to allow the taxing jurisdiction to determine the 19 proper amount of business license tax due, the taxing 20 jurisdiction may calculate the correct amount of the tax based 21 on the most accurate and complete information reasonably 22 obtainable. The taxing jurisdiction may thereafter enter a 23 preliminary assessment for the correct amount of business 24 license tax, including any applicable penalty and interest. 25 Nothing contained herein shall limit or restrict a
municipality's right to seek injunctive relief under Section

by the taxpayer is undisputed by the taxing jurisdiction, or

(b) If the amount of business license tax remitted

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11-51-150, et seq.

5 the taxpayer consents to the amount of any deficiency or 6 preliminary assessment in writing, the jurisdiction may 7 immediately enter a final assessment for the amount of the tax 8 due, plus any applicable penalty and interest. 9 (c)(1) All preliminary and final assessments of 10 business licenses issued by a municipality or its designee 11 shall be executed as provided by its business license 12 ordinance or code. 13 (2) Any preliminary assessment shall be entered 14 within four years from the due date of the business license 15 form, or four years from the date the form is filed, whichever 16 is later, except as follows: 17 a. A preliminary assessment may be entered at any 18 time if no license form is filed as required, or if a false or 19 fraudulent license form is filed with the intent to evade the 20 business license tax. 21 b. A preliminary assessment may be entered within 22 six years from the due date of the license form or six years 23 from the date the license form is filed with the taxing 24 jurisdiction, whichever date occurs last, if the taxpayer 25 omits or fails to report an amount in excess of 25 percent of

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1 its gross receipts or other applicable business license tax 2 base.

3 c. A preliminary assessment may be entered within 4 five years from the due date of the license form, or five 5 years from the date the form is filed, whichever is later, if 6 the taxpayer or its authorized agent fails or refuses to 7 execute and return to the taxing jurisdiction or its agent a written extension of the statute of limitations on issuing 8 preliminary assessments for up to eight months, as requested 9 10 by the taxing jurisdiction or its agent, within 30 days after 11 receipt of the request for extension by the taxpayer or its 12 authorized agent.

(3) The preliminary assessment entered by the taxing jurisdiction, or a copy thereof, shall promptly upon entry be mailed by the taxing jurisdiction to the taxpayer's last known address by either first class U.S. mail or certified U.S. mail with return receipt requested, but at the option of the taxing jurisdiction, the preliminary assessment may be delivered to the taxpayer by personal delivery.

20 (d) (1) If a taxpayer disagrees with a preliminary 21 assessment as entered by the taxing jurisdiction, the taxpayer 22 may file a petition for review with the taxing jurisdiction 23 within 30 days from the date of entry of the preliminary 24 assessment setting out the specific objections to the 25 preliminary assessment. If a petition for review is timely

1 filed, or if the taxing jurisdiction otherwise deems it 2 necessary, the license officer of the municipality shall 3 schedule a conference with the taxpayer for the purpose of allowing the taxpayer or its representatives and the 4 5 representatives of the taxing jurisdiction to present their 6 respective positions, discuss any omissions or errors, and to 7 attempt to agree upon any changes or modifications to their 8 respective positions.

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(2) If a petition for review:

a. Is not timely filed, or

11 b. Is timely filed, and upon further review the 12 license officer determines that the preliminary assessment is 13 due to be upheld in whole or in part, the taxing jurisdiction may make the assessment final in the amount of business 14 license tax due as computed by the license officer, with 15 applicable interest and penalty computed to the date of entry 16 17 of the final assessment. The license officer shall, whenever practicable, complete his or her review of the taxpayer's 18 19 petition for review and applicable law within 90 days following the later of the date of filing of the petition or 20 21 the conference, if any.

(3) The final assessment entered by the taxing
jurisdiction, or a copy thereof, shall promptly upon entry be
mailed to the taxpayer's last known address (i) by either
first class U.S. mail or certified U.S. mail with return

1 receipt requested in the case of assessments of business 2 license tax of five hundred dollars (\$500) or less, or (ii) by 3 certified U.S. mail with return receipt requested in the case 4 of assessments of business license tax of more than five hundred dollars (\$500). In either case and at the option of 5 б the taxing jurisdiction, the final assessment, or a copy 7 thereof, may be delivered to the taxpayer by personal 8 delivery.

9 (e)(1) A taxpayer may appeal from any final 10 assessment entered hereunder by the taxing jurisdiction by 11 filing a notice of appeal, within 30 days from the date of 12 entry of the final assessment, with the license officer, who 13 shall promptly forward a copy of the notice of appeal and 14 related documents to the administrative hearing officer 15 appointed by the taxing jurisdiction to hear appeals of final 16 assessments of the municipality's sales, use, rental and 17 lodging taxes, as applicable, and business license taxes. The 18 administrative hearing officer shall function in a manner 19 similar to the Administrative Law Judge of the Department of 20 Revenue and must be impartial and reasonably knowledgeable of 21 the business license laws and the taxing jurisdiction's 22 business license code or ordinances. The administrative 23 hearing officer may be an employee of the taxing jurisdiction 24 or otherwise, but in no event shall he or she charge or 25 otherwise be compensated for his or her services in whole or

in part based on the portion or amount of the final assessment that he or she determines should be upheld, or any similar contingency. No filing fee or supersedeas bond shall be required by the taxing jurisdiction for such appeals.

5 (2) In lieu of the appeal under subdivision (1) to the administrative hearing officer, and at the option of the 6 7 taxpayer, the taxpayer may appeal from any final assessment hereunder to the circuit court of the county having 8 jurisdiction over the municipality which issued or on whose 9 10 behalf the final assessment was issued, by filing a notice of 11 appeal within 30 days from the date of entry of the final 12 assessment with both the municipal clerk of the municipality 13 and the clerk of the circuit court. If the appeal is to 14 circuit court, and if the taxpayer is the appealing party, the 15 taxpayer shall also, within the 30-day period allowed for appeal, either (i) pay the business license tax, interest and 16 any penalty shown as due on the final assessment, or (ii) file 17 18 a supersedeas bond with the clerk of the court in double the 19 amount of the business license tax, interest and any penalty 20 shown as due on the final assessment, or in such amount as may 21 be required by Section 40-2A-7, as amended from time to time. 22 The supersedeas bond shall be executed by a surety company 23 licensed and authorized to do business in Alabama and shall be 24 conditioned to pay the final assessment plus applicable 25 interest and any court costs relating to the appeal. If the

1 taxpayer is the appealing party and is able to show to the 2 satisfaction of the clerk of the court that he or she has a 3 net worth, on the basis of fair market value, of twenty 4 thousand dollars (\$20,000) or less, including his or her 5 homestead, and that the final assessment is equal to or less 6 than the taxpayer's net worth, the taxpayer may file and 7 prosecute the appeal without either paying the final 8 assessment in full or posting a supersedeas bond. A taxpayer 9 may appeal a final assessment to circuit court, as provided 10 herein, even though the taxpayer has paid the amount shown as 11 due on the assessment prior to filing the appeal.

12 (3) The filing of the notice of appeal with both the 13 municipal clerk of the municipality and the clerk of the 14 circuit court in which the appeal is filed, as well as the 15 payment of the final assessment in full or the filing of a 16 supersedeas bond when required above, are jurisdictional. If 17 such prerequisites are not satisfied within the time provided 18 for appeal, the appeal shall be dismissed for lack of 19 jurisdiction. On appeal to the circuit court, the final 20 assessment shall be prima facie correct, and the burden of 21 proof shall be on the taxpayer to prove the assessment is 22 incorrect.

(4) If a final assessment is reduced on appeal, any
overpayment shall promptly be refunded to the taxpayer by the

1 taxing jurisdiction together with interest to the extent 2 allowed by Section 11-51-192.

3 (5) No court shall have the power to enjoin the
4 collection of any business license tax due on an assessment so
5 appealed or to suspend the payment thereof.

6 (f) Either the taxpayer or the taxing jurisdiction 7 may appeal to circuit court from a final order issued by the administrative hearing officer by filing a notice of appeal 8 9 with the administrative hearing officer and with the circuit 10 court of the county having jurisdiction over the municipality 11 which issued or on whose behalf the final assessment was 12 issued, within 30 days from the date of entry of the final 13 order. The procedures, presumptions and related matters and 14 rules shall conform in all material respects to those 15 applicable to appeals from final orders of the Department of 16 Revenue's Administrative Law Division under Section 40-2A-9.

17 (g)(1) Any taxpayer may file a petition for refund 18 with the taxing jurisdiction for any overpayment of business license tax erroneously paid to that jurisdiction. If a final 19 20 assessment for the tax has been entered by the taxing 21 jurisdiction, a petition for refund of all or a portion of the 22 tax may be filed only if the final assessment has been paid in 23 full prior to or simultaneously with the filing of the 24 petition for refund.

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1 (2) A petition for refund shall be filed with the 2 taxing jurisdiction within (1) three years from the date that 3 the business license form was filed, or (2) two years from the 4 date of payment of the business license tax which is the 5 subject of the petition, whichever is later, or if no form was 6 timely filed, two years from the date of payment of the 7 business license tax.

8 (3) The taxing jurisdiction shall either grant or 9 deny a petition for refund within six months from the date the 10 petition is filed, unless the period is extended by written 11 agreement of the taxpayer and the taxing jurisdiction. The 12 taxpayer shall be notified of the taxing jurisdiction's 13 decision concerning the petition for refund by first class 14 U.S. mail or by certified U.S. mail, return receipt requested, 15 sent to the taxpayer's last known address. If the taxing jurisdiction fails to grant a full refund within the time 16 17 provided herein, the petition for refund shall be deemed to be 18 denied.

(4) If the petition is granted, or the taxing jurisdiction or a court otherwise determines that a refund is due, the overpayment shall be promptly refunded to the taxpayer by the taxing jurisdiction, together with interest to the extent provided in Section 11-51-192. If the taxing jurisdiction or a court determines that a refund is due, the amount of overpayment plus any interest due thereon may first

1 be credited by the taxing jurisdiction against any outstanding 2 final tax liabilities due and owing by the taxpayer to the 3 jurisdiction, and the balance of any overpayment shall be 4 promptly refunded to the taxpayer. If any refund or part 5 thereof is credited to any other tax by the taxing 6 jurisdiction, the taxpayer shall be provided with a written 7 detailed statement showing the amount of overpayment, the 8 amount credited for payment to other taxes, and the amount 9 refunded.

10 (5)a. A taxpayer may appeal from the denial in whole 11 or in part of a petition for refund by filing a notice of 12 appeal with the clerk of the circuit court of the county in 13 which the municipality denying the petition for refund is located by filing the notice of appeal within two years from 14 15 the date the petition is denied. The circuit court shall hear 16 the appeal according to its own rules and procedures and shall 17 determine the correct amount of refund due, if any.

b. If an appeal is not filed with the appropriate
circuit court within two years of the date the petition is
denied, then the appeal shall be dismissed for lack of
jurisdiction.

c. In the discretion of the governing body of a municipality, by ordinance duly adopted, the provisions of this section may also be applied to one or more of its other taxes not already governed by the Alabama Taxpayers' Bill of

Rights and Uniform Revenue Procedures Act, Title 40, Chapter
 2 2A.

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\$11-51-192.

4 (a) The governing body of any municipality may
5 elect, by the adoption of an ordinance, to assess interest on
6 any business license tax delinquency. If assessed, interest on
7 any delinquency shall be charged from the due date of the tax.

8 (b) If assessed by the municipality, interest shall 9 be computed at the same rate prescribed by Section 10 11-51-208(f) relating to interest on delinquent or overpaid 11 sales and use taxes levied by self-administered 12 municipalities.

13 (c) If the municipality elects under subsection (a) 14 to assess interest on business license tax delinquencies, 15 except as provided in this subsection, interest at the same 16 rate shall be paid by a taxing jurisdiction on any refund of 17 business license tax erroneously paid to the jurisdiction. 18 Interest shall be computed on any overpayment from the date of 19 the overpayment to the taxing jurisdiction, provided that 20 interest on any refund of business license taxes of a 21 municipality not administered by the Department of Revenue 22 under Section 11-51-180 shall be limited in accordance with 23 the principles of Section 11-51-208(f).

\$11-51-193.

1 (a) The Department of Revenue shall periodically, at 2 least annually, compose a list of all state boards and 3 agencies that regulate the licensing of businesses or 4 occupations under their jurisdiction, and that so notify the department in writing, herein collectively called "state 5 6 licensing boards." The list shall be distributed to all 7 municipal license officers at least once each year until 8 January 1, 2009, at which time the list shall continue to be 9 updated periodically thereafter but shall be required to be 10 available only in the department's Internet website or other computer-accessible database available to the general public 11 12 by remote access. Prior to issuing a business license to a 13 taxpayer who is subject to the jurisdiction of a particular 14 state licensing board, the taxing jurisdiction shall attempt 15 to confirm from the board that the taxpayer is duly licensed 16 by and in good standing with that board. Provided that the 17 failure of the taxing jurisdiction to receive such 18 confirmation due to a good faith error or other reasonable 19 cause shall absolve the taxing jurisdiction and its employees 20 or agents from any civil liability or criminal penalty that 21 would otherwise arise or accrue if it is determined that the 22 taxpayer was not in good standing at the time of filing the 23 license form. The receipt by the taxing jurisdiction of what 24 appears to be a true and accurate copy of the taxpayer's card 25 or certificate, issued by the particular state licensing board

within 14 months of the date on which the taxpayer applies for a business license, shall constitute reasonable cause.

3 (b) All state licensing boards shall issue to each 4 of their respective licensees a card or certificate 5 categorizing each licensee, when required by regulation. Each 6 such board shall promulgate, pursuant to the Alabama Administrative Procedure Act, a regulation establishing a 7 uniform system of categories of persons subject to their 8 9 jurisdiction, including a category for which no card or 10 certificate is required. The proposed regulation shall be 11 issued by each board on or before December 31, 2007, and the categories contained therein shall govern until such time as 12 13 the regulation is issued in final form. Notwithstanding 14 Section 11-51-90B, the business license of each applicable 15 taxing jurisdiction shall be issued to the licensee based upon 16 the established contractor category.

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\$11-51-194.

18 (a) Each municipality shall allow the purchase of a 19 delivery license by any business that has no other physical 20 presence within the municipality or its police jurisdiction 21 for the privilege of delivering its merchandise therein. The 22 amount of the delivery license shall not exceed one hundred 23 dollars (\$100), provided that each municipality may review the 24 propriety of the license tax every five years, and may 25 increase or decrease the license tax under the standards

prescribed by Section 11-51-90 with respect to the uniform
license issuance fee. Nothing herein shall prohibit a
municipality from requiring by ordinance the purchase of a
decal by the taxpayer for each delivery vehicle making
deliveries within the municipality or its police jurisdiction.
The charge for such decal shall not exceed the municipality's
actual cost of the decal.

8 (b) As used in this section, a delivery license 9 shall mean a fixed rate business license issued by a 10 municipality for the limited privilege of delivering and 11 requisite set-up and installation, by the taxpayer's employees 12 or agents, of the taxpayer's own merchandise in that 13 municipality, by means of delivery vehicles owned, leased, or 14 contracted by the taxpayer; provided that the gross receipts 15 derived from the sale and any requisite set-up or installation 16 of all merchandise so delivered into the municipality shall 17 not exceed seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) during the 18 license year, and any set-up or installation shall relate only 19 to (i) that required by the contract between the taxpayer and 20 the customer or as may be required by state or local law, and 21 (ii) the merchandise so delivered. Mere delivery of the 22 taxpayer's merchandise by common carrier shall not allow the 23 taxing jurisdiction to assess a business license tax against 24 the taxpayer, but the gross receipts derived from any sale and 25 delivery accomplished by means of a common carrier shall be

1 counted against the seventy-five thousand dollar (\$75,000) 2 limitation described in the preceding sentence if the taxpayer also during the same license year sells and delivers into the 3 taxing jurisdiction using a delivery vehicle other than a 4 common carrier. Provided that the dollar limitation prescribed 5 above shall be increased, but not decreased, every five years 6 under the standards prescribed by Section 11-51-90 with 7 respect to the uniform license issuance fee and may be 8 9 increased by a municipality at any time, up to one hundred 10 fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000), by adoption of an 11 ordinance. A common carrier, contract carrier, or similar delivery service making deliveries on behalf of others shall 12 13 not be entitled to purchase a delivery license hereunder.

(c) Any taxpayer that meets the criteria for the purchase of a delivery license, as provided in subsections (a) and (b), and meets those criteria during the current license year as well, shall purchase either a delivery license or a regular business license otherwise applicable to the taxpayer, at its option.

20 (d) Notwithstanding Section 11-51-90B, the delivery
 21 license shall be calculated in arrears, based on the related
 22 gross receipts during the preceding license year.

(e) The purchase of a delivery license shall not, in
and of itself, establish nexus between the taxpayer and the
municipality for purposes of the taxes levied by or under the

authority of Title 40 or other provisions of this title, nor
 does the purchase of a delivery license, in and of itself,
 establish that nexus does not exist between the taxpayer and
 the municipality.

5 (f) If at any time during the current license year 6 the taxpayer fails to meet the criteria specified in 7 subsections (a) and (b), then within 10 days after any of the 8 criteria have been violated or exceeded, the taxpayer shall 9 purchase all appropriate business licenses from the 10 municipality or its designee, for the entire license year and 11 without regard to this section.

12

§11-51-195.

(a) Each municipality that levies a business license
tax shall become subject to the provisions of this act on or
before January 1, 2008. Any municipality may elect by adoption
of an ordinance to have this act apply to it, and taxpayers
doing business in the municipality, on and after January 1,
2007.

(b) The failure of a municipality to comply with subsection (a) shall not prevent the municipality from levying or collecting its business license taxes, but the provisions of this act shall nevertheless govern each municipality and supersede the provisions of any inconsistent ordinance, code, resolution, or policy, of that municipality.

25

§ 11-51-196

1 (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to print, 2 publish, or divulge, without the written permission or 3 approval of the taxpayer, the license form of any taxpayer or 4 any part of the license form, or any information secured in 5 arriving at the amount of tax or value reported, for any purpose other than the proper administration of any matter 6 7 administered by the taxing jurisdiction, or upon order of any 8 court, or as otherwise allowed in this section. Nothing herein 9 shall prohibit the disclosure, upon request, of the fact that 10 a taxpayer has or has not purchased a business license or of 11 the name and address of a taxpayer purchasing or renewing a 12 business license from the municipality. Statistical 13 information pertaining to taxes may be disclosed to the 14 municipal governing body upon their request. Any person 15 willfully violating the provisions of this section shall, for each act of disclosure, have committed a Class A misdemeanor. 16

(b) The governing body of a municipality may adopt
from time to time an ordinance consistent with Section
40-2A-10(d) to permit the exchange of business license
information between and among the municipality and other
municipalities adopting similar ordinances or between county
and state governments, subject to the confidentiality
restrictions imposed by this section.

(c) In no event shall any damages, attorney fees, or
 court costs be assessed against a municipal government under

this section, nor shall any damages, attorney fees, or court costs be assessed against elected officials, officers or employees of a municipal government under this section.

4 Section 4. The Legislature hereby finds and declares 5 that the enactment by this state of a simplified and uniform 6 system for licensing businesses by all municipalities in 7 Alabama will effectuate desirable public policy by promoting 8 understanding of and compliance with applicable business 9 license laws. The purposes of this act are to establish a 10 uniform business license system, as defined herein, and 11 uniform appeals process and not to restrict or repeal other 12 municipal taxes which currently exist or that hereafter may be 13 adopted by a municipality pursuant to Section 11-51-90 et seq., Code of Alabama 1975, nor to restrict the authority of 14 15 municipalities to increase or decrease business license fees 16 or impose fixed-rate business licenses beyond the two 17 exceptions stated in this act. The Legislature does therefore 18 declare that the provisions of this act are intended to 19 accomplish these purposes.

20 Section 5. The provisions of this act are severable. 21 If any part of this act is declared invalid or 22 unconstitutional, that declaration shall not affect the part 23 which remains. References to sections of the Code of Alabama 24 1975, or to sectors or sub-sectors of the 2002 North American 25 Industrial Classification System (NAICS) shall mean and

1 include references to any corresponding provision of 2 subsequent state law or of a subsequent Industrial 3 Classification System; provided, however, that references in 4 this act to a particular section of the Code of Alabama 1975, 5 or more generally to a business being "state regulated," to 6 the extent those references are intended to impose limitations 7 on the business license under a particular NAICS sector, shall not be deemed amended or superseded by an amendment to the 8 9 corresponding NAICS sector or the issuance of additional NAICS 10 sectors, sub-sectors or additional designations or of another 11 Industrial Classification System.

12 Section 6. No laws or parts of laws which are not 13 specifically repealed or amended by this act shall be repealed 14 or amended. Without limitation, nothing herein shall be construed to repeal or amend the provisions of Section 15 16 34-14A-13, as amended by Act 2000-99, nor the provisions of Title 28 applicable to the regulation or taxation of beer or 17 18 table wine, nor the provisions of Division 2 of Article 2 of 19 Chapter 51 of Title 11 (other than Section 11-51-122), Code of 20 Alabama 1975.

21 Section 7. This act shall become effective for 22 license years beginning after December 31, 2007, following its 23 passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise 24 becoming law; provided, however, that any municipality may 25 elect by adoption of an ordinance to have this act apply to

1 it, and taxpayers doing business in the municipality or its 2 police jurisdiction, after December 31, 2006; and provided 3 further that any municipality may elect, by adoption of an 4 ordinance on or before December 31, 2007, to delay the 5 effective date of the changes to the statutes of limitation 6 for assessments and refunds, embodied in Section 11-51-191, 7 until license years beginning after December 31, 2008. 8 Notwithstanding the foregoing, the provisions of this act 9 relating to the time limits for entering assessments of 10 business license taxes, filing petitions for refund or issuing 11 refunds of business license taxes, and the like, shall neither 12 cause the reopening of any tax period that would otherwise be 13 closed, nor accelerate the closing of any tax period that would otherwise be open, on the effective date of this act. 14

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4	_	Speaker of the House of Repi	resentatives
5		Lacy t	haxley
6		President and Presiding Offic	er of the Senate
7 8 9 10 11 12 13	House of Representatives I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and was passed by the House 29-MAR-06, as amended. Greg Pappas Clerk		
14			
15	Senate	17-APR-06	Amended and Passed
16	House	17-APR-06	Concurred in Sen- ate Amendment
17			

HB754

April 25, 200 6 APPROVED TIME 4:06 GOVERNOR

Alabama Secretary Of State

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