# ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 380–ASSEMBLYWOMAN KIRKPATRICK

## MARCH 17, 2015

# Referred to Committee on Taxation

### SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to sales and use taxes. (BDR 32-964)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No. Effect on the State: No.

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

AN ACT relating to taxation; enacting provisions relating to the imposition, collection and remittance of sales and use taxes by retailers located outside this State; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

#### Legislative Counsel's Digest:

The Commerce Clause of the United States Constitution prohibits a state from requiring a retailer to collect sales and use taxes unless the activities of the retailer have a substantial nexus with the taxing state. (*Quill Corp. v. North Dakota*, 504 U.S. 298 (1992)) Existing law requires every retailer whose activities create such a nexus with this State to impose, collect and remit the sales and use taxes imposed in this State. (NRS 372.724, 374.724) This bill provides that a retailer who engages in certain specified activities is required to collect and remit the sales and use taxes imposed in this State. **Section 1** of this bill requires the Department of Taxation to submit a report to

9 Section 1 of this bill requires the Department of Taxation to submit a report to 10 the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau concerning each finding, ruling or 11 agreement by the Department or the Nevada Tax Commission which provides that 12 the provisions of existing law requiring a retailer to impose, collect and remit sales 13 and use taxes do not apply to the retailer even though the retailer or an affiliate 14 owns or operates a warehouse, distribution center, fulfillment center or other 15 similar facility in this State.

Sections 2 and 5 of this bill enact provisions based on a Colorado law which creates a presumption that a retailer is required to impose, collect and remit sales and use taxes if the retailer is: (1) part of a controlled group of business entities that has a component member who has physical presence in this State; and (2) the component member with such physical presence engages in certain activities in this State that relate to the ability of the retailer to make retail sales to residents of this State. (Ch. 364, Colo. Session Laws 2014, at p. 1740) Under sections 2 and 5, a retailer may rebut this presumption by providing proof that the component member with physical presence in this State that





was significantly associated with the retailer's ability to establish or maintain a market in this State for the retailer's products or services.

25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 4 35 36 37 38 39 Sections 3 and 6 of this bill enact a provision based on a New York law which creates a presumption that a retailer is required to impose, collect and remit sales and use taxes if: (1) the retailer enters into an agreement with a resident of this State under which the resident receives certain consideration for referring potential customers to the retailer through a link on the resident's Internet website or otherwise; and (2) the cumulative gross receipts from sales by the retailer to customers in this State through all such referrals exceeds a certain amount during the preceding four quarterly periods. A retailer may rebut this presumption by providing proof that each resident with whom the retailer has an agreement did not engage in any activity that was significantly associated with the retailer's ability to establish or maintain a market in this State for the retailer's products or services during the preceding four quarterly periods. In Overstock.com v. New York State Department of Taxation and Finance, 987 N.E.2d 621 (2013), the New York Court 40 of Appeals held that the New York law is facially constitutional because, through these agreements with New York residents, a retailer may establish a sufficient 41 42 nexus with the State of New York to satisfy the requirements of the United States 43 Constitution.

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

**Section 1.** Chapter 360 of NRS is hereby amended by adding 1 thereto a new section to read as follows: 2

3 Not later than 30 days after the Department or the Nevada Tax Commission makes a finding or ruling, or enters into an 4 agreement with a retailer providing, that the provisions of chapters 5 372 and 374 of NRS relating to the imposition, collection and 6 remittance of the sales tax, and the collection and remittance of 7 8 the use tax, do not apply to the retailer, despite the presence in this State of an office, distribution facility, warehouse or storage place 9 or similar place of business which is owned or operated by the 10 retailer or an affiliate of the retailer, whether the finding, ruling 11 or agreement is written or oral and whether the finding, ruling or 12 agreement is express or implied, the Department shall submit a 13 report of the finding, ruling or agreement to the Director of the 14 Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to: 15 16

1. If the Legislature is in session, the Legislature; or

2. If the Legislature is not in session, the Legislative 17 18 Commission.

Sec. 1.5. Chapter 372 of NRS is hereby amended by adding 19 20 thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 and 3 of this act.

Sec. 2. 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, it is 21 presumed that the provisions of this chapter relating to the 22 imposition, collection and remittance of the sales tax, and the 23 24 collection and remittance of the use tax, apply to a retailer if:





1 (a) The retailer is part of a controlled group of corporations 2 that has a component member, other than a common carrier 3 acting in its capacity as such, that has physical presence in this 4 State; and

5 (b) The component member with physical presence in this 6 State:

7 (1) Sells a similar line of products or services as the retailer 8 and does so under a business name that is the same or similar to 9 that of the retailer;

10 (2) Maintains an office, distribution facility, warehouse or 11 storage place or similar place of business in this State to facilitate 12 the delivery of tangible personal property sold by the retailer to the 13 retailer's customers;

14 *(3)* Uses trademarks, service marks or trade names in this 15 State that are the same or substantially similar to those used by the 16 retailer;

*(4) Delivers, installs, assembles or performs maintenance services for the retailer's customers within this State;*

19 (5) Facilitates the retailer's delivery of tangible personal 20 property to customers in this State by allowing the retailer's 21 customers to pick up tangible personal property sold by the retailer 22 at an office, distribution facility, warehouse, storage place or 23 similar place of business maintained by the component member in 24 this State; or

25 (6) Conducts any other activities in this State that are 26 significantly associated with the retailer's ability to establish and 27 maintain a market in this State for the retailer's products or 28 services.

29 2. A retailer may rebut the presumption set forth in 30 subsection 1 by providing proof satisfactory to the Department 31 that, during the calendar year in question, the activities of the 32 component member with physical presence in this State are not 33 significantly associated with the retailer's ability to establish or 34 maintain a market in this State for the retailer's products or 35 services.

36 3. In administering the provisions of this chapter, the 37 Department shall construe the terms "seller," "retailer" and 38 "retailer maintaining a place of business in this State" in 39 accordance with the provisions of this section.

4. As used in this section:

41 (a) "Component member" has the meaning ascribed to it in 42 section 1563(b) of the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. § 43 1563(b), and includes any entity that, notwithstanding its form of 44 organization, bears the same ownership relationship to the retailer



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as a corporation that would qualify as a component member of the
same controlled group of corporations as the retailer.

3 (b) "Controlled group of corporations" has the meaning 4 ascribed to it in section 1563(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, 26 5 U.S.C. § 1563(a), and includes any entity that, notwithstanding its 6 form of organization, bears the same ownership relationship to the 7 retailer as a corporation that would qualify as a component 8 member of the same controlled group of corporations as the 9 retailer.

10 Sec. 3. 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, it is 11 presumed that the provisions of this chapter relating to:

12 (a) The imposition, collection and remittance of the sales tax; 13 and

(b) The collection and remittance of the use tax,

15 → apply to every retailer who enters into an agreement with a 16 resident of this State under which the resident, for a commission 17 or other consideration based upon the sale of tangible personal 18 property by the retailer, directly or indirectly refers potential 19 customers, whether by a link on an Internet website or otherwise, 20 to the retailer, if the cumulative gross receipts from sales by the retailer to customers in this State who are referred to the retailer 21 22 by all residents with this type of an agreement with the retailer is in excess of \$10,000 during the preceding four quarterly periods 23 ending on the last day of March, June, September and December. 24

2. A retailer may rebut the presumption set forth in 25 subsection 1 by providing proof satisfactory to the Department that 26 27 each resident with whom the retailer has an agreement did not engage in any activity in this State that was significantly 28 29 associated with the retailer's ability to establish or maintain a 30 market in this State for the retailer's products or services during 31 the preceding four quarterly periods ending on the last day of 32 March, June, September and December. Such proof may consist of the sworn written statements of each resident with whom the 33 retailer has an agreement stating that the resident did not engage 34 35 in any solicitation in this State on behalf of the retailer during the preceding four quarterly periods ending on the last day of March, 36 June, September and December, if the statements were obtained 37 38 from each resident and provided to the Department in good faith.

39 3. In administering the provisions of this chapter, the 40 Department shall construe the terms "seller," "retailer" and 41 "retailer maintaining a place of business in this State" in 42 accordance with the provisions of this section.



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1 Sec. 4. Chapter 374 of NRS is hereby amended by adding 2 thereto the provisions set forth as sections 5 and 6 of this act.

3 Sec. 5. 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, it is 4 presumed that the provisions of this chapter relating to the 5 imposition, collection and remittance of the sales tax, and the 6 collection and remittance of the use tax, apply to a retailer if:

7 (a) The retailer is part of a controlled group of corporations 8 that has a component member, other than a common carrier 9 acting in its capacity as such, that has physical presence in this 10 State; and

11 (b) The component member with physical presence in this 12 State:

13 (1) Sells a similar line of products or services as the retailer 14 and does so under a business name that is the same or similar to 15 that of the retailer;

16 (2) Maintains an office, distribution facility, warehouse or 17 storage place or similar place of business in this State to facilitate 18 the delivery of tangible personal property sold by the retailer to the 19 retailer's customers;

20 (3) Uses trademarks, service marks or trade names in this 21 State that are the same or substantially similar to those used by the 22 retailer;

23 (4) Delivers, installs, assembles or performs maintenance
24 services for the retailer's customers within this State;

25 (5) Facilitates the retailer's delivery of tangible personal 26 property to customers in this State by allowing the retailer's 27 customers to pick up tangible personal property sold by the retailer 28 at an office, distribution facility, warehouse, storage place or 29 similar place of business maintained by the component member in 30 this State; or

(6) Conducts any other activities in this State that are
significantly associated with the retailer's ability to establish and
maintain a market in this State for the retailer's products or
services.

2. A retailer may rebut the presumption set forth in subsection 1 by providing proof satisfactory to the Department that, during the calendar year in question, the activities of the component member with physical presence in this State are not significantly associated with the retailer's ability to establish or maintain a market in this State for the retailer's products or services.

42 3. In administering the provisions of this chapter, the 43 Department shall construe the terms "seller," "retailer" and 44 "retailer maintaining a place of business in this State" in 45 accordance with the provisions of this section.





4. As used in this section:

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2 (a) "Component member" has the meaning ascribed to it in 3 section 1563(b) of the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. § 4 1563(b), and includes any entity that, notwithstanding its form of 5 organization, bears the same ownership relationship to the retailer 6 as a corporation that would qualify as a component member of the 7 same controlled group of corporations as the retailer.

8 (b) "Controlled group of corporations" has the meaning 9 ascribed to it in section 1563(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, 26 10 U.S.C. § 1563(a), and includes any entity that, notwithstanding its 11 form of organization, bears the same ownership relationship to the 12 retailer as a corporation that would qualify as a component 13 member of the same controlled group of corporations as the 14 retailer.

15 Sec. 6. 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, it is 16 presumed that the provisions of this chapter relating to:

17 (a) The imposition, collection and remittance of the sales tax; 18 and

19 (b) The collection and remittance of the use tax,

20 → apply to every retailer who enters into an agreement with a resident of this State under which the resident, for a commission 21 22 or other consideration based upon the sale of tangible personal property by the retailer, directly or indirectly refers potential 23 customers, whether by a link on an Internet website or otherwise, 24 25 to the retailer, if the cumulative gross receipts from sales by the retailer to customers in this State who are referred to the retailer 26 27 by all residents with this type of an agreement with the retailer is in excess of \$10,000 during the preceding four quarterly periods 28 29 ending on the last day of March, June, September and December.

2. A retailer may rebut the presumption set forth in 30 31 subsection 1 by providing proof satisfactory to the Department that each resident with whom the retailer has an agreement did not 32 33 engage in any activity in this State that was significantly 34 associated with the retailer's ability to establish or maintain a market in this State for the retailer's products or services during 35 the preceding four quarterly periods ending on the last day of 36 March, June, September and December. Such proof may consist 37 38 of the sworn written statements of each resident with whom the 39 retailer has an agreement stating that the resident did not engage in any solicitation in this State on behalf of the retailer during the 40 41 preceding four quarterly periods ending on the last day of March, 42 June, September and December, if such statements were obtained from each resident and provided to the Department in good faith. 43

44 3. In administering the provisions of this chapter, the 45 Department shall construe the terms "seller," "retailer" and





1 *"retailer maintaining a place of business in this State" in* 2 *accordance with the provisions of this section.* 

**Sec. 6.5.** Notwithstanding the provisions of section 7 of this act, in determining whether, pursuant to sections 3 and 6 of this act, a retailer has rebutted the presumption that the provisions of chapters 372 and 374 of NRS relating to the imposition, collection and remittance of the sales tax, and the collection and remittance of the use tax, apply to the retailer, any quarterly periods preceding October 1, 2015, may be considered.

- 10 Sec. 7. 1. This section and sections 1, 1.5, 2, 4 and 5 of this 11 act become effective on July 1, 2015.
- 12 2. Sections 3, 6 and 6.5 of this act become effective on 13 October 1, 2015.

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