

SALES AND USE TAX COMMISSION FOR REMOTE SELLERS

Remote Sellers Information Bulletin No. 20-004 November 12, 2020

State Sales Tax Holiday Friday, November 20, 2020 & Saturday, November 21, 2020

Act 16 of the 2020 Second Extraordinary Session of the Louisiana Legislature enacted LA R.S. 47:305.74 to provide tax relief for citizens recovering from Hurricane Laura, Hurricane Delta, and the COVID-19 pandemic (the "State Sales Tax Holiday" or "holiday"). The State Sales Tax Holiday provides an exemption from state sales tax on the first \$2,500 of the sales price or cost price of consumer purchases of tangible personal property occurring on November 20 and 21, 2020. The Sales Tax Holiday applies to the entirety of the 4.45% state sales tax imposed pursuant to LA R.S. 47:302, 321, 321.1 and 331 and LA R.S. 51:1286.1

<u>Dates of the State Sales Tax Holiday and Eligible Purchases</u>

The State Sales Tax Holiday begins on Friday, November 20, 2020, at 12:01 a.m. and ends at midnight on Saturday, November 21, 2020.

Consumer purchases are exempt for the first \$2,500 of the sales price or cost price of an individual item. State sales tax is due upon the portion of the sales price in excess of \$2,500.

Purchases Not Eligible for Exemption

The State Sales Tax Holiday does not apply to business or commercial purchases of tangible personal property. Transactions involving vehicles subject to license and title are not eligible for the exemption. Consumer purchases do not include prepared meals furnished for consumption on the premises where purchased or "to-go" orders. Other transactions that are not eligible for the Sales Tax Holiday include the rental or lease of tangible personal property or the taxable sales of services enumerated in LA R.S. 47:301(14).

¹ The State Sales Tax Holiday does not apply to local sales taxes. However, in the event a local taxing jurisdiction authorizes a similar sales tax holiday at the local level, notice will be provided on the Commission's website.

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Conditions for Exemption

The following activities will be eligible for the sales tax exemption during the State Sales Tax Holiday:

- Buying and accepting delivery of tangible personal property;
- Placing tangible personal property on layaway; and
- Making final payment on tangible personal property previously placed on layaway; or ordering tangible personal property, even if delivery must be delayed, provided that the customer has not requested delayed shipment.

Special Provisions

Act 16 provides that the following activities are eligible for the state sales tax exemption during the two days of the State Sales Tax Holiday:

- Title to or possession of eligible tangible personal property is transferred from a selling dealer to a purchaser.
- The customer selects an eligible item from the dealer's inventory for layaway that is physically set aside in the dealer's inventory for future delivery to the customer.
- The customer makes final payment and withdraws an item from layaway that might have been placed in layaway before the eligible exemption period.
- Orders for an eligible item that is paid and the seller accepts the order for immediate shipment are eligible for exemption even if the shipment is after the tax exemption period, provided that the customer has not request delayed shipment.
- Eligible purchases during the holiday with "rain checks" issued before or during the two-day holiday are eligible for exemption, but purchases made after the holiday with "rain checks" issued during the holiday are not eligible for exemption.
- The post-holiday exchange of merchandise to effectuate changes in size, color, or correction of defects does not create a tax liability, but exchanges after the holiday for dissimilar items will be considered the purchase of new property on which the sales tax will be payable.
- For a sixty-day period after the holiday, dealers who issue refunds or credit for the return of merchandise that was eligible for sales tax exemption during the holiday can issue refund or credit for the state sales tax on that returned merchandise only if the customers returning the property have a receipt or invoice showing that the tax was actually paid on the specific item. This sixty-day period is not intended to change a dealer's policy concerning the time period during which returns will be accepted.

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Required Reporting by Remote Sellers and Marketplace Facilitators

Remote sellers and marketplace facilitators are required to report the eligible exempt sales subject to the State Sales Tax Holiday on their November 2020 Remote Sellers Tax Return using Code 5088, Sales Tax Holiday 47:305.74 November 20-21 Only, on Schedule 2 of the return.

Questions concerning this publication may be directed to <u>LAremotesellerscommission@la.gov</u>.

Darlene Allen Chairman Louisiana Sales and Use Tax Commission for Remote Sellers