



State of Wisconsin  
2017 - 2018 LEGISLATURE

LRB-2657/1  
JK:ahe

## 2017 SENATE BILL 163

April 13, 2017 - Introduced by Senators FEYEN, L. TAYLOR and LEMAHIEU, cosponsored by Representatives VANDERMEER, KRUG, HORLACHER, PETRYK, SKOWRONSKI, SUMMERFIELD and SWEARINGEN. Referred to Committee on Revenue, Financial Institutions and Rural Issues.

1     **AN ACT** *to amend* 77.52 (13) and 77.53 (10); and *to create* 77.54 (64) of the  
2             statutes; **relating to:** a sales tax holiday in August.

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### ***Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau***

Under this bill, for the two-day period beginning on the first Saturday in August and ending on the following Sunday, the sales of the following items are exempt from the sales and use tax:

1. An item of clothing, not including clothing accessories, if the sales price of any single item is no more than \$75.
2. A computer purchased by the consumer for the consumer's personal use, if the sales price of the computer is no more than \$750.
3. School computer supplies, if the sales price of any single item is no more than \$250.
4. School supplies, if the sales price of any single item is no more than \$75.

The bill provides, however, that the exemption does not apply after 2018.

Because this bill relates to an exemption from state or local taxes, it may be referred to the Joint Survey Committee on Tax Exemptions for a report to be printed as an appendix to the bill.

For further information see the ***state and local*** fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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***The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:***

**SENATE BILL 163****SECTION 1**

1           **SECTION 1.** 77.52 (13) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           77.52 (13) For the purpose of the proper administration of this section and to  
3 prevent evasion of the sales tax it shall be presumed that all receipts are subject to  
4 the tax until the contrary is established. The burden of proving that a sale of tangible  
5 personal property, or items, property, or goods under sub. (1) (b), (c), or (d), or services  
6 is not a taxable sale at retail is upon the person who makes the sale unless that  
7 person takes from the purchaser an electronic or a paper certificate, in a manner  
8 prescribed by the department, to the effect that the property, item, good, or service  
9 is purchased for resale or is otherwise exempt, except that no certificate is required  
10 for the sale of tangible personal property, or items, property, or goods under sub. (1)  
11 (b), (c), or (d), or services that are exempt under s. 77.54 (5) (a) 3., (7), (7m), (8), (10),  
12 (11), (14), (15), (17), (20n), (21), (22b), (31), (32), (35), (36), (37), (42), (44), (45), (46),  
13 (51), ~~and (52)~~, and (64).

14           **SECTION 2.** 77.53 (10) of the statutes is amended to read:

15           77.53 (10) For the purpose of the proper administration of this section and to  
16 prevent evasion of the use tax and the duty to collect the use tax, it is presumed that  
17 tangible personal property, or items, property, or goods under s. 77.52 (1) (b), (c), or  
18 (d), or taxable services sold by any person for delivery in this state is sold for storage,  
19 use, or other consumption in this state until the contrary is established. The burden  
20 of proving the contrary is upon the person who makes the sale unless that person  
21 takes from the purchaser an electronic or paper certificate, in a manner prescribed  
22 by department, to the effect that the property, or items, property, or goods under s.  
23 77.52 (1) (b), (c), or (d), or taxable service is purchased for resale, or otherwise exempt  
24 from the tax, except that no certificate is required for the sale of tangible personal  
25 property, or items, property, or goods under s. 77.52 (1) (b), (c), or (d), or services that

**SENATE BILL 163****SECTION 2**

1 are exempt under s. 77.54 (7), (7m), (8), (10), (11), (14), (15), (17), (20n), (21), (22b),  
2 (31), (32), (35), (36), (37), (42), (44), (45), (46), (51), ~~and (52), and (64).~~

3 **SECTION 3.** 77.54 (64) of the statutes is created to read:

4 77.54 (**64**) (a) In this subsection:

5 1. "Clothing" means any wearing apparel for humans that is suitable for  
6 general use, not including all of the following:

- 7 a. Belt buckles sold separately.
- 8 b. Costume masks sold separately.
- 9 c. Patches and emblems sold separately.
- 10 d. Sewing equipment and supplies, including knitting needles, patterns, pins,  
11 scissors, sewing machines, sewing needles, tape measures, and thimbles.
- 12 e. Sewing materials that become part of clothing, including buttons, fabric,  
13 lace, thread, yarn, and zippers.
- 14 f. Clothing accessories or equipment.
- 15 g. Protective equipment.
- 16 h. Sport or recreational equipment.

17 2. "Clothing accessories or equipment" means incidental items worn on a  
18 person or in conjunction with clothing, not including clothing, protective equipment,  
19 or sport or recreational equipment, but including all of the following:

- 20 a. Briefcases.
- 21 b. Cosmetics.
- 22 c. Hair notions, including barrettes, hair bows, and hair nets.
- 23 d. Handbags.
- 24 e. Handkerchiefs.
- 25 f. Jewelry.

**SENATE BILL 163****SECTION 3**

1 g. Nonprescription sunglasses.

2 h. Umbrellas.

3 i. Wallets.

4 j. Watches.

5 k. Wigs.

6 L. Hair pieces.

7 3. "Eligible property" means an item that qualifies for exemption under this  
8 subsection.

9 4. "Layaway sale" means a transaction in which property is set aside for future  
10 delivery to a customer who makes a deposit, agrees to pay the balance of the sales  
11 price over time, and, at the end of the payment period, receives the property. An order  
12 is accepted for layaway by the seller when the seller removes the property from  
13 inventory or clearly identifies the property as sold to the purchaser.

14 5. "Protective equipment" means items for human wear that are designed to  
15 protect the wearer against injury or disease or to protect property or other persons  
16 from damage or injury. "Protective equipment" does not include items suitable for  
17 general use, clothing, clothing accessories or equipment, or sport or recreational  
18 equipment. "Protective equipment" includes:

19 a. Breathing masks.

20 b. Clean room apparel and equipment.

21 c. Ear and hearing protectors.

22 d. Face shields.

23 e. Hard hats.

24 f. Helmets.

25 g. Paint or dust respirators.

**SENATE BILL 163**

- 1 h. Protective gloves.
- 2 i. Safety glasses and goggles.
- 3 j. Safety belts.
- 4 k. Tool belts.
- 5 L. Welders gloves and masks.
- 6 6. "Rain check" means a seller allowing a purchaser to purchase an item at a  
7 certain price at a later time because the item was out-of-stock.
- 8 7. "School art supply" means any of the following items that are commonly used  
9 by a student in a course of study for artwork, but not including a school computer  
10 supply, school supply, or school instructional material:
- 11 a. Clay and glazes.
- 12 b. Acrylic, tempera, and oil paints.
- 13 c. Paintbrushes.
- 14 d. Sketch and drawing pads.
- 15 e. Watercolors.
- 16 8. "School computer supply" means any of the following items that are  
17 commonly used by a student in a course of study in which a computer is used, but not  
18 including a school art supply, school supply, or school instructional material:
- 19 a. Computer storage media, diskettes, and compact discs.
- 20 b. Handheld electronic schedulers, not including cellular phones.
- 21 c. Personal digital assistants, not including cellular phones.
- 22 d. Computer printers.
- 23 e. Printer supplies for computers, printer paper, and printer ink.
- 24 9. "School instructional material" means any of the following that is commonly  
25 used by a student in a course of study as a reference and to learn the subject being

**SENATE BILL 163****SECTION 3**

1 taught, but not including a school art supply, school computer supply, or school  
2 supply:

- 3 a. Reference books.
- 4 b. Reference maps and globes.
- 5 c. Textbooks.
- 6 d. Workbooks.

7 10. "School supply" means any of the following items that are commonly used  
8 by a student in a course of study, but not including a school art supply, school  
9 computer supply, or school instructional material:

- 10 a. Binders.
- 11 b. Book bags.
- 12 c. Calculators.
- 13 d. Cellophane tape.
- 14 e. Blackboard chalk.
- 15 f. Compasses.
- 16 g. Composition books.
- 17 h. Crayons.
- 18 i. Erasers.
- 19 j. Folders.
- 20 k. Glue, paste, and paste sticks.
- 21 L. Highlighters.
- 22 m. Index cards.
- 23 n. Index card boxes.
- 24 o. Legal pads.
- 25 p. Lunch boxes.

**SENATE BILL 163**

- 1 q. Markers.
- 2 r. Notebooks.
- 3 s. Loose-leaf ruled notebook paper, copy paper, graph paper, tracing paper,
- 4 manila paper, colored paper, poster board, and construction paper.
- 5 t. Pencil boxes and other school supply boxes.
- 6 u. Pencil sharpeners.
- 7 v. Pencils.
- 8 w. Pens.
- 9 x. Protractors.
- 10 y. Rulers.
- 11 z. Scissors.
- 12 za. Writing tablets.
- 13 11. "Sport or recreational equipment" means items designed for human use and
- 14 worn in conjunction with an athletic or recreational activity. "Sport or recreational
- 15 equipment" does not include items suitable for general use, clothing, clothing
- 16 accessories or equipment, or protective equipment. "Sport or recreational
- 17 equipment" includes:
- 18 a. Ballet and tap shoes.
- 19 b. Athletic shoes with cleats or spikes.
- 20 c. Gloves.
- 21 d. Goggles.
- 22 e. Hand and elbow guards.
- 23 f. Life preservers and vests.
- 24 g. Mouth guards.
- 25 h. Roller skates.

**SENATE BILL 163****SECTION 3**

1 i. Ice skates.

2 j. Shin guards.

3 k. Shoulder pads.

4 L. Ski boots.

5 m. Waders.

6 n. Wetsuits and fins.

7 (b) For the 2-day period beginning on the first Saturday in August and ending  
8 on the following Sunday, the sales price from the sale of and the storage, use, or other  
9 consumption of the following:

10 1. Clothing, if the sales price of any single item is no more than \$75.

11 2. A computer purchased by the consumer for the consumer's personal use, if  
12 the sales price of the computer is no more than \$750.

13 3. School computer supplies purchased by the consumer for the consumer's  
14 personal use, if the sales price of any single item is no more than \$250.

15 4. School supplies, if the sales price of any single item is no more than \$75.

16 (c) The exemption under this subsection shall be administered as follows:

17 1. A sale of eligible property under a layaway sale qualifies for exemption if  
18 either of the following applies:

19 a. Final payment on a layaway order is made by, and the property is given to,  
20 the purchaser during the exemption period.

21 b. The purchaser selects the property and the retailer accepts the order for the  
22 item during the exemption period, for immediate delivery upon full payment, even  
23 if delivery is made after the exemption period.



**SENATE BILL 163****SECTION 3**

1           2. The bundled transaction provisions under subs. (51) and (52) and ss. 77.51  
2           (1f) and (3pf) and 77.52 (20), (21), (22), and (23) apply in the same manner during the  
3           exemption period under this subsection as they apply in other periods.

4           3. A discount by the seller reduces the sales price of the property and the  
5           discounted sales price determines whether the sales price is within the price  
6           threshold in par. (b). A coupon that reduces the sales price is treated as a discount  
7           if the seller is not reimbursed for the coupon amount by a 3rd party. If a discount  
8           applies to the total amount paid by a purchaser rather than to the sales price of a  
9           particular item and the purchaser has purchased both eligible property and taxable  
10          property, the seller shall allocate the discount based on the total sales prices of the  
11          taxable property compared to the total sales prices of all property sold in that same  
12          transaction.

13          4. Products that are normally sold as a single unit shall be sold in that manner  
14          and may not be divided into multiple units and sold as individual items in order to  
15          obtain the exemption under this subsection.

16          5. Eligible property that is purchased during the exemption period with the use  
17          of a rain check qualifies for the exemption regardless of when the rain check was  
18          issued. Items purchased after the exemption period with the use of a rain check are  
19          not eligible property under this subsection even if the rain check was issued during  
20          the exemption period.

21          6. The procedure for an exchange with regard to the exemption under this  
22          subsection is as follows:

23           a. If a purchaser purchases an item of eligible property during the exemption  
24          period, but later exchanges the item for a similar item of eligible property, even if

**SENATE BILL 163****SECTION 3**

1 different in size, color, or another feature, no additional tax is due even if the  
2 exchange is made after the exemption period.

3 b. If a purchaser purchases an item of eligible property during the exemption  
4 period, but after the exemption period has ended, the purchaser returns the item and  
5 receives credit on the purchase of a different item, the appropriate sales tax is due  
6 on the sale of the different item.

7 c. If a purchaser purchases an item of eligible property before the exemption  
8 period, but during the exemption period the purchaser returns the item and receives  
9 credit on the purchase of a different item of eligible property, no sales tax is due on  
10 the sale of the new item if the new item is purchased during the exemption period.

11 7. Delivery charges, including shipping, handling, and service charges, are part  
12 of the sales price of eligible property. For the purpose of determining the price  
13 threshold under par. (b), if all the property in a shipment qualifies as eligible  
14 property and the sales price for each item in the shipment is within the price  
15 threshold under par. (b), the shipment is considered a sale of eligible property and  
16 the seller does not have to allocate the delivery, handling, or service charge to  
17 determine if the price threshold under par. (b) is exceeded. If the shipment includes  
18 eligible property and taxable property, including an item of eligible property with a  
19 sales price in excess of the price threshold, the seller shall allocate the delivery,  
20 handling, and service charge by using one of the following methods and shall apply  
21 the tax to the percentage of the delivery, handling, and service charge allocated to  
22 the taxable property:

23 a. A percentage based on the total sales price of the taxable property compared  
24 to the total sales price of all property in the shipment.

