

AN ACT

relating to declaratory relief for businesses in this state for liability for sales and use taxes of other states.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 37, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended by adding Section 37.0055 to read as follows:

Sec. 37.0055. DECLARATIONS RELATING TO LIABILITY FOR SALES AND USE TAXES OF ANOTHER STATE. (a) In this section, "state" includes any political subdivision of that state.

(b) A district court has original jurisdiction of a proceeding seeking a declaratory judgment that involves:

(1) a party seeking declaratory relief that is a business that is:

(A) organized under the laws of this state or is otherwise owned by a resident of this state; or

(B) a retailer registered with the comptroller under Section 151.106, Tax Code; and

(2) a responding party that:

(A) is an official of another state; and

(B) asserts a claim that the party seeking declaratory relief is required to collect sales or use taxes for that state based on conduct of the business that occurs in whole or in part within this state.

(c) A business described by Subsection (b)(1) is entitled to

1 declaratory relief on the issue of whether the requirement of  
2 another state that the business collect and remit sales or use taxes  
3 to that state constitutes an undue burden on interstate commerce  
4 under Section 8, Article I, United States Constitution.

5 (d) In determining whether to grant declaratory relief to a  
6 business under this section, a court shall consider:

7 (1) the factual circumstances of the business's  
8 operations that give rise to the demand by the other state; and

9 (2) the decisions of other courts interpreting Section  
10 8, Article I, United States Constitution.

11 SECTION 2. Section 37.0055, Civil Practice and Remedies  
12 Code, as added by this Act, applies only to a cause of action that  
13 accrues on or after the effective date of this Act. A cause of  
14 action that accrues before the effective date of this Act is  
15 governed by the law in effect at the time the action accrued, and  
16 the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

17 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2010 was passed by the House on April 25, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 143, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2010 was passed by the Senate on May 21, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

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Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Date

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Governor