

1 HB299  
2 197312-2  
3 By Representative McClammy (N & P)  
4 RFD: Montgomery County Legislation  
5 First Read: 02-APR-19

1  
2 ENROLLED, An Act,

3           Relating to Montgomery County, to authorize the  
4 Montgomery County Commission to levy and collect a rental tax  
5 against the lessees or renters of tangible personal property;  
6 to make legislative findings; to establish maximum rates of  
7 the rental tax; to provide that the rental tax is a direct tax  
8 on the lessee or renter though required to be collected by the  
9 lessor or vendor; to provide that the rental tax is not a  
10 gross receipts tax in the nature of a sales tax; to provide  
11 for exemptions from the tax; to provide for the collection,  
12 administration, and enforcement of the rental tax; to provide  
13 that the rental tax constitutes a debt due Montgomery County  
14 and may be collected in a civil suit, in addition to all other  
15 methods provided by law and in this act; to provide that the  
16 rental tax, together with any interest and penalties with  
17 respect thereto, shall constitute and be secured by a lien on  
18 the property of any person from whom the tax is due or who is  
19 required to collect the tax; to provide that state law that  
20 applies to the enforcement of liens for privilege, license, or  
21 excise taxes due to the state shall apply to the collection of  
22 the rental tax; to provide for the administration and  
23 collection of the rental tax at the same time and in the  
24 manner as the state rental tax is collected; to provide for  
25 the collection and enforcement of the rental tax by Montgomery

1 County or a third party; to provide that the state rental tax  
2 statutes and related rules, and any other statutes that apply  
3 to or affect the administration and collection of the state  
4 rental tax, shall apply to the rental tax to the extent they  
5 are not inconsistent with the act; to require the rental tax  
6 to be added to the rental price and collected from the lessee  
7 or renter; to provide for the effective date for any levy of  
8 the rental tax; to provide that the rental tax received or  
9 collected shall be deposited into the county general fund to  
10 be expended as determined by the county commission; to provide  
11 that the Montgomery County Commission may issue bonds,  
12 warrants, or other forms of indebtedness and enter into  
13 funding agreements or other obligations with other  
14 governmental entities and public corporations and may secure  
15 its obligations thereunder with a pledge of the rental tax  
16 proceeds; to provide that any pledge of the rental tax  
17 proceeds for the payment of bonds, warrants, funding  
18 agreements, or other evidences of indebtedness or obligations  
19 issued or entered into by the Montgomery County Commission  
20 constitutes part of the contract with the holders of the  
21 obligations secured thereby and the contract shall be  
22 protected from impairment to the fullest extent provided in  
23 the federal Constitution and the Constitution of Alabama of  
24 1901, as amended; to provide that any debt obligations of  
25 Montgomery County payable from or secured by the rental tax

1 proceeds shall be issued under the general laws of the state  
2 available for such purposes; to provide that the Montgomery  
3 County Commission shall have the further power to designate as  
4 the agent of Montgomery County any other governmental entity  
5 or public corporation in the state heretofore or hereafter  
6 organized to undertake any purpose as the Montgomery County  
7 Commission shall determine utilizing proceeds of the rental  
8 tax; to provide that when such a governmental entity or public  
9 corporation shall be so designated, the proceeds of the rental  
10 tax (or so much thereof as shall be allocated to the entity so  
11 designated) thereafter collected shall be paid over to it and  
12 shall be used by it for the purposes specified by the  
13 Montgomery County Commission for which the tax is herein  
14 authorized to be levied; to provide that said governmental  
15 entity or public corporation may anticipate the proceeds from  
16 the rental tax so required to be paid to it by issuing, for  
17 any of the purposes specified by the Montgomery County  
18 Commission for which the tax is herein authorized to be  
19 levied, funding or refunding bonds, warrants, certificates of  
20 indebtedness or other evidences of indebtedness of such  
21 governmental entity or public corporation, and may pledge for  
22 the payment of the principal thereof and interest thereon the  
23 proceeds from said tax so paid to it; to provide that the  
24 designation by the Montgomery County Commission of a  
25 governmental entity or public corporation to receive proceeds

1 of the rental tax levied pursuant to this act, the payment of  
2 such proceeds over to the governmental entity or public  
3 corporation and the pledge of such proceeds by the  
4 governmental entity or public corporation for the payment of  
5 the principal of and interest on bonds, warrants, certificates  
6 of indebtedness or other evidences of indebtedness issued by  
7 such governmental entity or public corporation shall  
8 constitute a part of the contract with the holders of said  
9 bonds, warrants, certificates of indebtedness or other  
10 evidences of indebtedness and such contract shall be protected  
11 from impairment to the fullest extent provided by the federal  
12 Constitution and the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as  
13 amended; to provide that obligations of such a governmental  
14 entity or public corporation payable from or secured by the  
15 proceeds of the rental tax shall be issued under the general  
16 laws of the state available for those purposes; to provide  
17 that, to the extent any provision of Act 89 adopted during the  
18 1975 Fourth Special Session of the Alabama Legislature is  
19 inconsistent with any provision of this act, such conflicting  
20 provision is superseded and repealed, but only to the extent  
21 of the conflict, and that Act 89 of the 1975 Fourth Special  
22 Session shall otherwise remain in full force and effect; to  
23 provide that Act Number 2017-465 of the 2017 Regular Session  
24 of the Alabama Legislature is hereby repealed; to provide that  
25 public officials and their family members shall not obtain

1 personal gain from rental tax proceeds; to provide that the  
2 provisions of this act are severable; to provide for an  
3 effective date of the act.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

5 Section 1. This act shall only apply to Montgomery  
6 County.

7 Section 2. (a) It is the intention of the  
8 Legislature by the passage of this act to authorize the county  
9 to levy and provide for the collection of, in addition to all  
10 other taxes authorized by law, a rental tax not to exceed the  
11 rate set forth herein.

12 (b) The Legislature hereby finds and declares that  
13 the rental tax authorized by this act (1) is not a gross  
14 receipts tax in the nature of a sales tax, as such term is  
15 defined in Section 40-2A-3(8) of the Code of Alabama 1975, as  
16 amended, and used in Section 11-51-209 of the Code of Alabama  
17 1975, as amended, and (2) is not a tax on gross proceeds  
18 described in Act 89 of the 1975 Fourth Special Session, but is  
19 instead a direct tax on the lessee or renter collected by the  
20 lessor or vendor for ease of administration.

21 (c) This act shall be liberally construed in  
22 conformity with the intentions and findings expressed in this  
23 section.

24 Section 3. (a) As used in this act, the following  
25 words, terms, and phrases where used shall have the following

1       respective meanings except where the context clearly indicates  
2       a different meaning:

3               (1) BUSINESS. All activities engaged in, or caused  
4       to be engaged in, by any person with the object of gain,  
5       profit, benefit, or advantage, either direct or indirect to  
6       such person.

7               (2) COUNTY. Montgomery County, Alabama.

8               (3) COUNTY COMMISSION. The Montgomery County  
9       Commission.

10              (4) GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT. The empty weight of the  
11       truck or truck tractor, plus the heaviest load to be carried  
12       and, in the case of combinations, the empty weight of the  
13       heaviest trailer with which the power unit shall be placed in  
14       combination, plus the heaviest load to be carried.

15              (5) LEASING or RENTING. A transaction whereunder the  
16       person who owns or controls the possession of tangible  
17       personal property permits another person to have the  
18       possession or use thereof for a consideration and for the  
19       duration of a definite or indefinite period of time without  
20       transfer of the title to such property. The detention by the  
21       user thereof of freight cars, oxygen and acetylene tanks, and  
22       similar property, in respect of which detention a demurrage or  
23       per diem charge is made against the user of such property,  
24       shall not be deemed to constitute a transaction whereunder

1 property is leased or rented to another within the meaning of  
2 this act.

3 (6) LESSEE or RENTER. Any person leasing or renting  
4 tangible personal property from a lessor or vendor.

5 (7) LESSOR or VENDOR. Any person engaging or  
6 continuing in the business of leasing or renting tangible  
7 personal property.

8 (8) PERSON. Any natural person, firm, partnership,  
9 association, corporation, receiver, trust, estate, or other  
10 entity, or any other group or combination of any thereof  
11 acting as a unit.

12 (9) RENTAL PASSENGER VEHICLE. An automotive vehicle  
13 designed to carry 15 or fewer passengers and used primarily  
14 for the transportation of persons on public roads and highways  
15 that is rented or leased without a driver, regardless of where  
16 such vehicle is licensed.

17 (10) RENTAL REVENUE. The value proceeding or  
18 accruing from the lessee or renter in each transaction  
19 involving the leasing or renting tangible personal property,  
20 not including any license, privilege, or excise tax passed on  
21 to a lessee or renter by a lessor or vendor, without any  
22 deduction on account of the cost of the property so leased or  
23 rented, the cost of materials used, labor or service cost,  
24 interest paid, or any other expenses whatsoever, and without  
25 any deduction on account of loss, and shall also include on

1 the part of any person claiming an exemption under subdivision  
2 (4) of Section 5 an amount equal to the amount of rental paid  
3 on any tangible personal property acquired under such  
4 exception and thereafter diverted to the use of such person.

5 (11) RENTAL TAX. The privilege, license, or excise  
6 tax authorized by this act.

7 (12) RENTAL TRUCK. An automotive vehicle designed  
8 primarily for the transportation on public roads and highways  
9 of property in or upon its own structure and having a gross  
10 vehicle weight under 26,000 pounds, including, without  
11 limitation, an automotive vehicle commonly known as a "pickup"  
12 or "pickup truck," that is rented or leased without a driver,  
13 regardless of where such vehicle is licensed.

14 (13) STATE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE. The Alabama  
15 Department of Revenue, or any such successor agency  
16 commissioned by the Legislature to administer the state rental  
17 tax.

18 (14) STATE RENTAL TAX. The tax levied by Article 4  
19 of Chapter 12 of Title 40, Code of Alabama 1975, as amended.

20 (15) TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY. Personal property  
21 which may be seen, weighed, measured, felt, or touched, or is  
22 in any other manner perceptible to the senses. The term does  
23 not include stocks, bonds, notes, insurance, or other  
24 contracts or securities.

1           (b) All definitions of words, terms, and phrases in,  
2 or incorporated into, the statutes levying the State Rental  
3 Tax and in any related rules of the state Department of  
4 Revenue shall apply to this act, except as otherwise expressly  
5 provided herein or where the context clearly indicates a  
6 different meaning.

7           Section 4. (a) The county commission is authorized,  
8 by resolution duly adopted, to levy, in addition to all other  
9 taxes now imposed or authorized by law, and to collect as  
10 herein provided, a privilege, license, or excise tax (herein  
11 called a "rental tax") on the leasing or renting tangible  
12 personal property within the county. Though required to be  
13 collected by the lessor or vendor, the rental tax shall  
14 conclusively be presumed to be a direct tax on the lessee or  
15 renter, pre-collected for the purpose of convenience only.  
16 Each individual transaction involving the lease or rental of  
17 tangible personal property to a lessee or a renter shall  
18 constitute the basis for computing the rental tax. As such,  
19 the rental tax shall not be construed as a tax on the gross  
20 receipts or gross proceeds of a lessor or a vendor.

21           (b) The rental tax may be imposed at the following  
22 rates:

23           (1) In each transaction involving the leasing or  
24 renting of any automotive vehicle or truck trailer,  
25 semi-trailer, or house trailer, up to three quarters of one

1 percent of the rental revenue paid by the lessee or renter of  
2 the automotive vehicle, truck trailer, semi-trailer, or house  
3 trailer; provided, however, that the leasing or renting of  
4 rental passenger vehicles and rental trucks shall be exempt  
5 from the rental tax.

6 (2) In all other transactions subject to the tax, up  
7 to two percent of the rental revenue paid by the lessee or  
8 renter in each transaction subject to the tax.

9 (c) The rate of taxation shall be set by a  
10 resolution of the county commission within the limits  
11 prescribed in this section.

12 (d) The rental tax shall not apply to any leasing or  
13 rental in which the state, or any municipality or county in  
14 the state, or any public corporation organized under the laws  
15 of the state, is the lessee or vendee or the lessor or vendor.

16 (e) Subject to subsections (g) and (h), when a  
17 lessor or vendor in the county (1) leases tangible personal  
18 property to a lessee or renter outside the county, (2) the  
19 property is to be used outside the county, and (3) the  
20 lessor's or vendor's records in the county show that the  
21 property is so leased to be used outside the county, the  
22 transaction is not subject to the rental tax.

23 (f) Subject to subsections (g) and (h), when a  
24 lessor or vendor (1) is located outside of the county, (2)  
25 leases or rents tangible personal property to a lessee or

1 renter within the county, and (3) the property so leased or  
2 rented is to be used in the county, the transaction is subject  
3 to the rental tax.

4 (g) Except for rental passenger vehicles and rental  
5 trucks, the leasing or renting of any automotive vehicle,  
6 truck trailer, semi-trailer, or house trailer within the  
7 county is subject to the rental tax, although the automotive  
8 vehicle, truck trailer, semi-trailer, or house trailer may be  
9 returned to the lessor or vendor outside the county. Where any  
10 automotive vehicle, truck trailer, semi-trailer, or house  
11 trailer is leased outside the county and turned in to the  
12 lessor or vendor in the county, the transaction is not subject  
13 to the rental tax.

14 (h) Except for rental trucks, when a lessor or  
15 vendor leases or rents a truck, truck trailer, or semi-trailer  
16 to a motor carrier in the county, the transaction is subject  
17 to the rental tax, although the truck, truck trailer, or  
18 semi-trailer may occasionally travel outside of the county.  
19 Where the lessor or vendor leases a truck, truck trailer, or  
20 semi-trailer to a motor carrier outside the county, the  
21 transaction is not subject to the rental tax, although the  
22 truck, truck trailer, or semi-trailer may occasionally travel  
23 in the county.

1           (i) The rental tax received or collected shall be  
2 deposited into the county general fund to be expended as  
3 determined by the county commission.

4           Section 5. The rental tax authorized by this act  
5 does not apply to the following transactions:

6           (1) The leasing or rental of a film or films by a  
7 lessee who charges, or proposes to charge, admission for  
8 viewing the film or films.

9           (2) The use of docks or docking facilities furnished  
10 for boats or other craft operated on waterways.

11           (3) Any charge paid by a tenant to a landlord in  
12 respect of the leasing or furnishing of tangible personal  
13 property to be used on the premises of real property leased by  
14 the same landlord to the same tenant for use as a residence or  
15 dwelling place, including a mobile home.

16           (4) The leasing or rental of tangible personal  
17 property to a lessee who acquires possession of the property  
18 for the purpose of leasing or renting to another the same  
19 property under a leasing or rental transaction subject to this  
20 act.

21           (5) Any charge paid by a tenant to a landlord in  
22 respect of the leasing or furnishing of tangible personal  
23 property to be used on the premises of any room or rooms,  
24 lodging, or accommodations leased or rented to transients in  
25 any hotel, motel, inn, tourist camp, tourist cabin, or any

1 other place in which rooms, lodgings, or accommodations are  
2 regularly furnished to transients for a consideration.

3 (6) The leasing or rental of tangible personal  
4 property which the county or the state is prohibited from  
5 taxing under the Constitution or laws of the United States or  
6 under the constitution of the state.

7 (7) The leasing or rental of nuclear fuel assemblies  
8 together with the nuclear material contained therein and other  
9 nuclear material used or useful in the production of  
10 electricity and assemblies containing ionizing radiation  
11 sources together with the ionizing radiation sources contained  
12 therein used or useful in medical treatment or scientific  
13 research.

14 (8) A transaction whereunder the lessor leases a  
15 truck or tractor-trailer or semi-trailer for operation over  
16 the public roads and highways and the lessor furnishes a  
17 driver or drivers for the vehicle shall be deemed to  
18 constitute the rendition of service and not a leasing or  
19 rental within the meaning of this act.

20 (9) The leasing or rental of vehicles in interchange  
21 between regulated motor carriers on a per diem basis.

22 (10) The leasing or rental of all structures,  
23 devices, facilities, and identifiable components of any  
24 thereof acquired primarily for the control, reduction, or  
25 elimination of air or water pollution, and the leasing or

1 rental of all materials used or intended for use in structures  
2 built primarily for the control, reduction, or elimination of  
3 air and water pollution.

4 (11) The leasing or rental of tangible personal  
5 property when the lessor and lessee, including a sublessee,  
6 are wholly owned subsidiary corporations of the same parent  
7 corporation or one is the wholly owned subsidiary of the  
8 other; provided, that the appropriate sales or use tax, if any  
9 was due, has been paid on such item of personal property; and  
10 provided further, that in the event of any subsequent  
11 subleasing of such tangible personal property to any person  
12 other than any such sister, parent, or subsidiary corporation,  
13 any tax due and payable with respect to the subsequent  
14 subleasing under this act is paid.

15 (12) The leasing or rental of vessels or railroad  
16 equipment engaged in interstate or foreign commerce, or both.

17 (13) The leasing or rental of aircraft, replacement  
18 parts, components, systems, sundries, and supplies affixed or  
19 used on the aircraft and all ground support equipment and  
20 vehicles used by or for the aircraft to or by a certificated  
21 or licensed air carrier with a hub operation within this  
22 state, for use in conducting intrastate, interstate, or  
23 foreign commerce for transporting people or property by air.  
24 For the purpose of this subdivision, the phrase "hub operation

1 within this state" shall be construed to have all of the  
2 following criteria:

3 a. There originates from the location 15 or more  
4 flight departures and five or more different first-stop  
5 destinations five days per week for six or more months during  
6 the calendar year; and

7 b. Passengers or property, or both, are regularly  
8 exchanged at the location between flights of the same or a  
9 different certificated or licensed air carrier.

10 (14) The leasing or rental of any other tangible  
11 personal property that would be exempted or excluded from the  
12 computation of the state rental tax.

13 (15) The leasing or rental of rental passenger  
14 vehicles and rental trucks.

15 Section 6. Each person engaging or continuing in the  
16 business of leasing or renting tangible personal property  
17 subject to the rental tax shall add to the rental price and  
18 collect from the renter or lessee the amount of tax owed by  
19 such renter or lessee. It shall be unlawful for any person  
20 engaging or continuing in the business of leasing or renting  
21 tangible personal property subject to the rental tax to fail  
22 or refuse to (1) add the rental tax to the rental price, and  
23 (2) collect from the lessee or renter the amount of tax  
24 required to be added to the rental price. It shall be unlawful  
25 for any person engaging or continuing in the business of

1 leasing or renting tangible personal property subject to the  
2 rental tax authorized to be levied by this act to refund or  
3 offer to refund all or any part of the amount collected or to  
4 absorb or advertise directly or indirectly the absorption or  
5 refund of any portion of such tax. The rental tax authorized  
6 by this act shall conclusively be presumed to be a direct tax  
7 on the retail consumer, pre-collected for the purpose of  
8 convenience only.

9 Section 7. The county commission shall administer,  
10 enforce, and collect the tax herein authorized to be levied  
11 and collected, or shall cause such tax to be administered,  
12 enforced, and collected by the state Department of Revenue or  
13 a private collection agency at the same time and in the same  
14 manner as the state rental tax, pursuant to, and in accordance  
15 with, the applicable provisions of Article 1 of Chapter 3 of  
16 Title 11 of the Code of Alabama 1975, as amended, except as  
17 otherwise provided in this act. All provisions of the state  
18 rental tax statutes and all other statutes which expressly  
19 apply to, or purport to affect, the administration,  
20 enforcement, and collection of the state rental tax, and any  
21 related rules of the state Department of Revenue that are not  
22 inconsistent with this act when applied to the rental tax, as  
23 such statutes and rules may be amended, shall apply to the  
24 rental tax and are incorporated herein by reference and made a  
25 part hereof as if fully set forth herein. Without limiting the

1       generality of the foregoing, the county commission or other  
2       collection agency shall have the same rights, remedies, power,  
3       and authority, including the right to adopt and implement the  
4       same procedures, as would be available to the state Department  
5       of Revenue if the rental tax was being administered, enforced,  
6       and collected by the state Department of Revenue. The county  
7       commission may retain or may pay to the state Department of  
8       Revenue or a private collection agency, as its fee for the  
9       cost of collecting such tax, an amount not to exceed five  
10      percent of the gross proceeds of the tax so collected, subject  
11      to any limitations provided in the general law of the state;  
12      provided, however, that if the county commission or the state  
13      Department of Revenue shall administer, enforce, and collect  
14      the tax, the amount retained by the county commission or paid  
15      to the state Department of Revenue shall not exceed the actual  
16      cost of collection, whichever is less.

17               Section 8. The rental tax shall constitute a debt  
18      due the county and may be collected in a civil suit, in  
19      addition to all other methods provided by law and in this act.  
20      The tax, together with any interest and penalties with respect  
21      thereto, shall constitute and be secured by a lien upon the  
22      property of any person from whom the tax is due or who is  
23      required to collect the tax. All the provisions of the revenue  
24      laws of the state which apply to the enforcement of liens for  
25      privilege, license, or excise taxes due the state shall apply

1 fully to the collection of the rental tax. The county  
2 commission, the state Department of Revenue, or private  
3 collection agency, as determined by the county commission,  
4 shall collect the tax and enforce this act, and the county  
5 commission or any private collection agency collecting the tax  
6 shall have and exercise all rights and remedies that the state  
7 Department of Revenue would have if the rental tax were being  
8 administered, enforced, and collected by the state Department  
9 of Revenue. The county commission, the state Department of  
10 Revenue, or private collection agency, as applicable, may  
11 employ special counsel as it deems necessary from time to time  
12 to enforce the collection of the rental tax and otherwise to  
13 enforce this act, including the institution, prosecution, and  
14 defense of any litigation involving this act. The county  
15 commission, the state Department of Revenue, or private  
16 collection agency shall pay the special counsel such fees as  
17 it deems necessary and proper from the proceeds of the rental  
18 tax.

19 Section 9. (a) The rental tax, except where  
20 otherwise provided in this act, shall be due and payable in  
21 monthly installments on or before the twentieth day of the  
22 month next succeeding the month in which the tax accrues.

23 (b) Except where otherwise provided in this act, on  
24 or before the twentieth day of each month, every person who is  
25 charged with the collection of the rental tax shall render to

1 the county, on a form or forms prescribed by the county  
2 commission, a true and correct statement showing any  
3 information the county commission may require, and at the time  
4 of making the monthly report the person shall pay the county  
5 commission the amount of tax then due to be remitted.

6 (c) When the total rental tax that a lessor or  
7 vendor must collect under this act averages less than two  
8 hundred dollars (\$200) per month during the preceding calendar  
9 year, a quarterly return and remittance in lieu of the monthly  
10 returns may be made, by election of the lessor or vendor to  
11 the county, on or before the twentieth day of the month next  
12 succeeding the end of the quarter for which the tax is due  
13 under any rules and regulations as may be prescribed. The  
14 election to file quarterly shall be made in writing no later  
15 than February 20 of each year and shall be filed with the  
16 county. Notwithstanding the foregoing, but subject to the  
17 final sentence of this subsection, no rental tax return shall  
18 be due until January 20 of each year unless the total rental  
19 tax that a lessor or vendor was required to collect under this  
20 act during the preceding calendar year exceeds ten dollars  
21 (\$10). In order to qualify for quarterly or annual filing  
22 status, the lessor or vendor shall have (1) been in business  
23 for the entire preceding calendar year, (2) been subject to  
24 the requirement to collect the rental tax for the entire  
25 preceding calendar year, and (3) filed the required returns

1 covering the entire preceding calendar year upon which the  
2 calculation of the average monthly tax or annual tax required  
3 to be collected is based.

4 (d) The county commission, for good cause, may  
5 extend the time for making any return required by this act,  
6 but the time for filing such return shall not be extended for  
7 a period greater than 30 days from the date such return is due  
8 to be made.

9 Section 10. Any person who is charged with  
10 collecting the rental tax and who makes cash or credit leases  
11 or rentals, may report such cash leases or rentals when made,  
12 and shall thereafter include in each monthly report all credit  
13 collections made during the month preceding, and shall remit  
14 the tax due thereon at the time of filing such report, but in  
15 no event shall the tax be owed by the lessor or vendor until  
16 collections of the credit leases or rentals have been made.

17 Section 11. It shall be the duty of every person  
18 required to collect the rental tax to keep and preserve  
19 suitable records of the rental revenues of the business and  
20 the rental tax collected, and such other books or accounts as  
21 may be necessary to determine the amount of rental tax that he  
22 or she collected, and was required to collect, from lessees or  
23 renters hereunder. It shall be the duty of every person to  
24 keep and preserve all invoices of tangible personal property  
25 leased or rented, and all such books, invoices, and other

1 records shall be open for examination at any time by the  
2 county commission or its duly authorized agent. Any person  
3 leasing, who in addition leases for releasing, shall keep his  
4 or her books so as to show separately such transactions and  
5 the rental revenues of leasing for releasing. All transactions  
6 involving the leasing and rental of tangible personal property  
7 shall be subject to the rental tax in the absence of such  
8 separate records.

9 Section 12. Any person subject to the provisions  
10 hereof who shall sell out his or her business or stock of  
11 rental goods, or shall quit business, shall be required to  
12 make out the return provided for by this act within 30 days  
13 after the date he or she sold out his or her business or stock  
14 of rental goods, or quit business, and his or her successor in  
15 business shall be required to withhold sufficient of the  
16 purchase money to cover the amount of tax due and unpaid under  
17 this act until the time the former owner produces a receipt  
18 from the county commission showing that the tax has been paid,  
19 or a certificate that no tax is due. If the purchaser of a  
20 business or stock of rental goods fails to withhold purchase  
21 money and the tax is due and unpaid after the 30-day period  
22 allowed, he or she shall be personally liable for the payment  
23 of the tax accrued and unpaid on the transactions engaged in  
24 by the former owner. If the county commission deems it  
25 necessary to collect the taxes due the county, it may make a

1 jeopardy assessment as provided in Chapter 29 of Title 40 of  
2 the Code of Alabama 1975, as amended.

3 Section 13. If the governing body of the county  
4 elects to levy and impose the rental tax, it shall specify in  
5 the resolution levying and imposing the rental tax the first  
6 day of the second calendar month next following the month  
7 during which the tax levy is made as the effective date of the  
8 levy. The resolution may provide such other terms or  
9 provisions relating to the levy, collection, administration,  
10 and enforcement of the rental tax as are not contrary to or  
11 inconsistent with this act.

12 Section 14. The tax authorized to be levied by this  
13 act shall be conclusively presumed to be a direct tax on the  
14 lessee or renter, precollected for the purposes of convenience  
15 and facility only, and shall not be construed as a gross  
16 receipts or gross proceeds tax on the lessor or vendor charged  
17 with the collection or remittance of this tax. To the extent  
18 that Act 89, adopted during the 1975 Fourth Special Session,  
19 is inconsistent with any provision of this act, such  
20 conflicting provision of Act 89 of the 1975 Fourth Special  
21 Session is superseded and repealed, but only to the extent of  
22 the conflict, and Act 89 of the 1975 Fourth Special Session  
23 shall otherwise remain in full force and effect. Act Number  
24 2017-465 of the 2017 Regular Session is hereby repealed.

1           Section 15. (a) The county commission may anticipate  
2 the proceeds from the tax so required to be paid to it by  
3 issuing funding or refunding bonds, warrants, or other  
4 evidences of indebtedness of the county, and may enter into  
5 funding agreements or other obligations to governmental  
6 entities or public corporations payable from such proceeds,  
7 for any purpose for which the tax proceeds may be used, and  
8 may pledge for the payment thereof the proceeds from the tax  
9 so paid to it. The pledge of such proceeds by the county  
10 commission for payment of the principal of and interest on the  
11 bonds, warrants, funding agreements, or other evidences of  
12 indebtedness or other obligations issued or entered into by  
13 the county commission shall constitute a part of the contract  
14 with the holders of the bonds, warrants, evidences of  
15 indebtedness, or other obligations secured thereby and such  
16 contract shall be protected from impairment to the fullest  
17 extent provided by the federal Constitution and the  
18 Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended. Obligations of  
19 the county payable from or secured by the proceeds of the  
20 rental tax shall be issued under the general law of the state  
21 available for those purposes, including, without limitation,  
22 Chapter 28 of Title 11 of the Code of Alabama 1975, as  
23 amended.

24           (b) The county commission shall have the further  
25 power to designate as the agent of the county any other

1 governmental entity or public corporation in the state  
2 heretofore or hereafter organized to undertake any purpose as  
3 the county commission shall determine utilizing proceeds of  
4 the rental tax. When such a governmental entity or public  
5 corporation shall be so designated, the proceeds of the rental  
6 tax (or so much thereof as shall be allocated to the entity so  
7 designated) thereafter collected shall be paid over to it and  
8 shall be used by it for the purposes specified by the county  
9 commission for which the tax is herein authorized to be  
10 levied. Said governmental entity or public corporation may  
11 anticipate the proceeds from the rental tax so required to be  
12 paid to it by issuing, for any of the purposes specified by  
13 the county commission for which the tax is herein authorized  
14 to be levied, funding or refunding bonds, warrants,  
15 certificates of indebtedness or other evidences of  
16 indebtedness of such governmental entity or public  
17 corporation, and may pledge for the payment of the principal  
18 thereof and interest thereon the proceeds from said tax so  
19 paid to it. The designation by the governing body of the  
20 county of a governmental entity or public corporation to  
21 receive proceeds of the rental tax levied pursuant to this  
22 act, the payment of such proceeds over to the governmental  
23 entity or public corporation and the pledge of such proceeds  
24 by the governmental entity or public corporation for the  
25 payment of the principal of and interest on bonds, warrants,

1 certificates of indebtedness or other evidences of  
2 indebtedness issued by such governmental entity or public  
3 corporation shall constitute a part of the contract with the  
4 holders of said bonds, warrants, certificates of indebtedness  
5 or other evidences of indebtedness and such contract shall be  
6 protected from impairment to the fullest extent provided by  
7 the federal Constitution and the Constitution of Alabama of  
8 1901, as amended. Obligations of such a governmental entity or  
9 public corporation payable from or secured by the proceeds of  
10 the rental tax shall be issued under the general laws of the  
11 state available for those purposes.

12 Section 16. No public official or family member of a  
13 public official shall obtain personal gain from the  
14 expenditure of the proceeds of the rental tax levied by this  
15 act.

16 Section 17. The provisions of this act are  
17 severable. If a court of competent jurisdiction adjudges  
18 invalid or unconstitutional any clause, sentence, paragraph,  
19 section, or part of this act, the judgment or decree shall not  
20 affect, impair, invalidate, or nullify the remainder of this  
21 act, but the effect of the decision shall be confined to the  
22 clause, sentence, paragraph, section, or part of this act  
23 adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional.

24 Section 18. The county commission may prescribe all  
25 necessary or appropriate rules and regulations for the

1 implementation of this act, including all rules and  
2 regulations as may be necessary by reason of any alteration of  
3 law in relation to this act.

4 Section 19. This act shall become effective  
5 immediately following its passage and approval by the  
6 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

