1	Senate Bill No. 671
2	(By Senators Williams, Barnes and Tucker)
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4	[Introduced February 20, 2012; referred to the Committee on
5	Agriculture; and then to the Committee on Transportation and
6	Infrastructure.]
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11	A BILL to amend and reenact §11-15-3c of the Code of West Virginia,
12	1931, as amended, relating to the taxing of utility terrain
13	vehicles; making an exception for vehicles used for
14	agricultural purposes; and defining "utility terrain vehicles"
15	as motor vehicles.
16	Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:
17	That §11-15-3c of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended,
18	be amended and reenacted to read as follows:
19	ARTICLE 15. CONSUMERS SALES AND SERVICE TAX.
20	§11-15-3c. Imposition of consumers sales tax on motor vehicle
21	sales; rate of tax; use of motor vehicle purchased out of
22	<pre>state; definition of "sale"; definition of "motor vehicle";</pre>

- exemptions; collection of tax by Division of Motor Vehicles;
- 2 dedication of tax to highways; legislative and emergency
- 3 rules.
- 4 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of this article or article 5 fifteen-a of this chapter to the contrary, beginning on July 1, 6 2008, all motor vehicle sales to West Virginia residents shall be 7 subject to the consumers sales tax imposed by this article.
- 8 (b) Rate of tax on motor vehicles. -- Notwithstanding any 9 provision of this article or article fifteen-a of this chapter to 10 the contrary, the rate of tax on the sale and use of a motor 11 vehicle shall be five percent of its sale price, as defined in 12 section two, article fifteen-b of this chapter: Provided, That so 13 much of the sale price or consideration as is represented by the 14 exchange of other vehicles on which the tax imposed by this section 15 or section four, article three, chapter seventeen-a of this code 16 has been paid by the purchaser shall be deducted from the total 17 actual sale price paid for the motor vehicle, whether the motor 18 vehicle be new or used.
- 19 (c) Motor vehicles purchased out of state. -- Notwithstanding
 20 this article or article fifteen-a to the contrary, the tax imposed
 21 by this section shall apply to all motor vehicles, used as defined
 22 by section one, article fifteen-a of this chapter, within this
 23 state, regardless of whether the vehicle was purchased in a state

1 other than West Virginia.

- (d) Definition of "sale". -- Notwithstanding any provision of this article or article fifteen-a of this chapter to the contrary, for purposes of this section, "sale", "sales" or "selling" means any transfer or lease of the possession or ownership of a motor vehicle for consideration, including isolated transactions between individuals not being made in the ordinary course of repeated and successive business and also including casual and occasional sales between individuals not conducted in a repeated manner or in the ordinary course of repetitive and successive transactions.
- (e) Definition of "motor vehicle". -- For purposes of this section, "motor vehicle" means every propellable device in or upon which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a highway including, but not limited to: Automobiles; buses; motor homes; motorcycles; motorboats; all-terrain vehicles; utility terrain vehicles; snowmobiles; low-speed vehicles; trucks, truck tractors and road tractors having a weight of less than fifty-five thousand pounds; trailers, semitrailers, full trailers, pole trailers and converter gear having a gross weight of less than two thousand pounds; and motorboat trailers, fold-down camping trailers, traveling trailers, house trailers and motor homes; except that the term "motor vehicle" does not include: Modular homes, manufactured homes, mobile homes, similar nonmotive

1 propelled vehicles susceptible of being moved upon the highways but 2 primarily designed for habitation and occupancy; devices operated 3 regularly for the transportation of persons for compensation under 4 a certificate of convenience and necessity or contract carrier 5 permit issued by the Public Service Commission; mobile equipment as 6 defined in section one, article one, chapter seventeen-a of this 7 code; special mobile equipment as defined in section one, article 8 one, chapter seventeen-a of this code; trucks, truck tractors and 9 road tractors having a gross weight of fifty-five thousand pounds 10 or more; trailers, semitrailers, full trailers, pole trailers and 11 converter gear having weight of two thousand pounds or greater: 12 Provided, That notwithstanding the provisions of section nine, 13 article fifteen, chapter eleven of this code, the exemption from 14 tax under this section for mobile equipment as defined in section 15 one, article one, chapter seventeen-a of this code; special mobile 16 equipment defined in section one, article one, chapter seventeen-a 17 of this code; Class B trucks, truck tractors and road tractors 18 registered at a gross weight of fifty-five thousand pounds or more; 19 and Class C trailers, semitrailers, full trailers, pole trailers 20 and converter gear having weight of two thousand pounds or greater 21 does not subject the sale or purchase of the vehicle to the 22 consumer sales and service tax imposed by section three of this 23 article.

- 1 (f) Exemptions. -- Notwithstanding any other provision of this 2 code to the contrary, the tax imposed by this section shall not be 3 subject to any exemption in this code other than the following:
- 4 (1) The tax imposed by this section does not apply to any 5 passenger vehicle offered for rent in the normal course of business 6 by a daily passenger rental car business as licensed under the 7 provisions of article six-d, chapter seventeen-a of this code. For 8 purposes of this section, a daily passenger car means a motor 9 vehicle having a gross weight of eight thousand pounds or less and 10 is registered in this state or any other state. In lieu of the tax 1 imposed by this section, there is hereby imposed a tax of not less 12 than \$1 nor more than \$1.50 for each day or part of the rental 13 period. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall propose an 14 emergency rule in accordance with the provisions of article three, 15 chapter twenty-nine-a of this code to establish this tax.
- 16 (2) The tax imposed by this section does not apply where the
 17 motor vehicle has been acquired by a corporation, partnership or
 18 limited liability company from another corporation, partnership or
 19 limited liability company that is a member of the same controlled
 20 group and the entity transferring the motor vehicle has previously
 21 paid the tax on that motor vehicle imposed by this section. For the
 22 purposes of this section, control means ownership, directly or
 23 indirectly, of stock or equity interests possessing fifty percent

- 1 or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of the 2 stock of a corporation or equity interests of a partnership or 3 limited liability company entitled to vote or ownership, directly 4 or indirectly, of stock or equity interests possessing fifty 5 percent or more of the value of the corporation, partnership or 6 limited liability company.
- 7 (3) The tax imposed by this section does not apply where motor 8 vehicle has been acquired by a senior citizen service organization 9 which is exempt from the payment of income taxes under the United 10 States Internal Revenue Code, Title 26 U. S. C. §501(c)(3) and 11 which is recognized to be a bona fide senior citizen service 12 organization by the Bureau of Senior Services existing under the 13 provisions of article five, chapter sixteen of this code.
- 14 (4) The tax imposed by this section does not apply to any
 15 active duty military personnel stationed outside of West Virginia
 16 who acquires a motor vehicle by sale within nine months from the
 17 date the person returns to this state.
- 18 (5) The tax imposed by this section does not apply to motor 19 vehicles acquired by registered dealers of this state for resale 20 only.
- 21 (6) The tax imposed by this section does not apply to motor 22 vehicles acquired by this state or any political subdivision 23 thereof or by any volunteer fire department or duly chartered

- 1 rescue or ambulance squad organized and incorporated under the laws
- 2 of this state as a nonprofit corporation for protection of life or
- 3 property.
- 4 (7) The tax imposed by this section does not apply to motor
- 5 vehicles acquired by an urban mass transit authority, as defined in
- 6 article twenty-seven, chapter eight of this code, or a nonprofit
- 7 entity exempt from federal and state income tax under the Internal
- 8 Revenue Code for the purpose of providing mass transportation to
- 9 the public at large or designed for the transportation of persons
- 10 and being operated for the transportation of persons in the public
- 11 interest.
- 12 (8) The tax imposed by this section does not apply to the
- 13 registration of a vehicle owned and titled in the name of a
- 14 resident of this state if the applicant:
- 15 (A) Was not a resident of this state at the time the applicant
- 16 purchased or otherwise acquired ownership of the vehicle;
- 17 (B) Presents evidence as the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles
- 18 may require of having titled the vehicle in the applicant's
- 19 previous state of residence;
- 20 (C) Has relocated to this state and can present such evidence
- 21 as the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may require to show bona fide
- 22 residency in this state; and
- 23 (D) Makes application to the Division of Motor Vehicles for a

- 1 title and registration and pays all other fees required by chapter 2 seventeen-a of this code within thirty days of establishing 3 residency in this state as prescribed in subsection (a), section 4 one-a of this article.
- (9) On and after January 1, 2009, the tax imposed by this 6 section does not apply to Class B trucks, truck tractors and road 7 tractors registered at a gross weight of fifty-five thousand pounds 8 or more or to Class C trailers, semitrailers, full trailers, pole 9 trailers and converter gear having a weight of two thousand pounds 10 or greater. If an owner of a vehicle has previously titled the 11 vehicle at a declared gross weight of fifty-five thousand pounds or 12 more and the title was issued without the payment of the tax 13 imposed by this section, then before the owner may obtain 14 registration for the vehicle at a gross weight less than fifty-five 15 thousand pounds, the owner shall surrender to the commissioner the 16 exempted registration, the exempted certificate of title and pay 17 the tax imposed by this section based upon the current market value 18 of the vehicle.
- 19 (10) The tax imposed by this section does not apply to 20 vehicles leased by residents of West Virginia. On or after January 21 1, 2009, a tax is imposed upon the monthly payments for the lease 22 of any motor vehicle leased under a written contract of lease by a 23 resident of West Virginia for a contractually specified continuous

- 1 period of more than thirty days, which tax is equal to five percent
 2 of the amount of the monthly payment, applied to each payment, and
 3 continuing for the entire term of the initial lease period. The tax
 4 shall be remitted to the Division of Motor Vehicles on a monthly
 5 basis by the lessor of the vehicle. Leases of thirty days or less
 6 are taxable under the provisions of this article and article
 7 fifteen-a of this chapter without reference to this section.
- (11) The tax imposed by this section does not apply to utility

 9 terrain vehicle used for the commercial production of an

 10 agricultural product whose ultimate sale is subject to tax under

 11 this article where the vehicle is used on farmland valued in

 12 accordance with section ten, article one-a of this chapter and

 13 legislative rule: Provided, That the purchaser presents to the

 14 vendor a completed application for farm use valuation for the

 15 property being farmed by the purchaser and the application bears

 16 the assessor's stamp that the application was granted.
- (g) Division of Motor Vehicles to collect. -- Notwithstanding
 any provision of this article, article fifteen-a and article ten of
 this chapter to the contrary, the Division of Motor Vehicles shall
 collect the tax imposed by this section: Provided, That such tax is
 imposed upon the monthly payments for the lease of any motor
 vehicle leased by a resident of West Virginia, which tax is equal
 to five percent of the amount of the monthly payment, applied to

- 1 each payment, and continuing for the entire term of the initial
- 2 lease period. The tax shall be remitted to the Division of Motor
- 3 Vehicles on a monthly basis by the lessor of the vehicle.
- 4 (h) Dedication of tax to highways. -- Notwithstanding any
- 5 provision of this article or article fifteen-a of this chapter to
- 6 the contrary, all taxes collected pursuant to this section, after
- 7 deducting the amount of any refunds lawfully paid, shall be
- 8 deposited in the State Road Fund in the State Treasury and expended
- 9 by the Commissioner of Highways for design, maintenance and
- 10 construction of roads in the state highway system.
- (i) Legislative rules; emergency rules. -- Notwithstanding any provision of this article, article fifteen-a and article ten of this chapter to the contrary, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall promulgate legislative rules explaining and implementing this section, which rules shall be promulgated in accordance with the provisions of article three, chapter twenty-nine-a of this code and should include a minimum taxable value and set forth instances when a vehicle is to be taxed at fair market value rather than its purchase price. The authority to promulgate rules includes authority to amend or repeal those rules. If proposed legislative rules for this section are filed in the State Register before June 15, 2008, those rules may be promulgated as emergency legislative rules as provided in article three, chapter twenty-nine-a of this

1 code.

2 (j) Notwithstanding any other provision of this code,
3 effective January 1, 2009, no municipal sales or use tax or local
4 sales or use tax or special downtown redevelopment district excise
5 tax or special district excise tax shall be imposed under article
6 twenty-two, chapter seven of this code or article thirteen, chapter
7 eight of this code or article thirteen-b of said chapter or article
8 thirty-eight of said chapter or any other provision of this code,
9 except this section, on sales of motor vehicles as defined in this
10 article or on any tangible personal property excepted or exempted
11 from tax under this section. Nothing in this subsection shall be
12 construed to prevent the application of the municipal business and
13 occupation tax on motor vehicle retailers and leasing companies.

(NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to tax utility terrain vehicles. The bill makes an exception for vehicles used for agricultural purposes. The bill also defines utility terrain vehicles as motor vehicles.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from the present law, and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.)