



S.B. 26

124th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Sen. Mumper

BILL SUMMARY

- From July 1, 2001, until January 1, 2006, exempts from the sales and use tax sales of certain energy-efficient appliances.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Exemption for sales of specific appliances

(R.C. 5739.02(B)(43))

The bill exempts from the state sales and use tax sales of a clothes washer, refrigerator, dishwasher, or dehumidifier that has an Energy Star logo affixed to it indicating that it meets the energy consumption criteria of the Energy Star Program maintained by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the United States Department of Energy (DOE). The exemption for those appliances is only in effect for sales made July 1, 2001, through December 31, 2005.

The Energy Star Program was developed by the EPA and DOE to promote high-efficiency household appliances. The federal Energy Policy Act of 1992 directed the DOE to issue minimum efficiency standards for appliances and established a schedule for regular DOE review of the standards. The Act also directed the DOE, in conjunction with the EPA, utilities, and appliance manufacturers, to submit a report to Congress assessing the potential for the development and commercialization of appliances that are more efficient than the DOE's minimum efficiency standards or other standards required by state or federal laws.

Following the report, DOE began to develop a program to promote high efficiency household appliances and water heaters. Concurrently, the EPA was developing an energy program for home heating and cooling equipment. The programs eventually were merged under the Energy Star name. DOE and EPA established qualifying energy consumption criteria that specific appliance and

HVAC equipment categories must meet to be included in the Energy Star Program.

EPA and DOE permit the use of the Energy Star logo by retailers, utilities, manufacturers, and other organizations participating under clearly established guidelines that are set out in a memorandum of understanding that each participant must sign. Under the memorandum, the logo may be used by program participants in connection with products that have significantly better energy performance than the DOE's minimum efficiency standards, or to indicate the incorporation of a specific energy savings feature on the product. The Energy Star logo may be displayed on the EnergyGuides of only those covered products that meet the Energy Star Program qualification criteria that are current at the time the products are labeled. The logo must read "ENERGY STAR A symbol of energy efficiency" (16 C.F.R. § 305.19).

HISTORY

| ACTION | DATE | JOURNAL ENTRY |
|------------|----------|---------------|
| Introduced | 01-30-01 | p. 93 |

S0026-I.124/jc