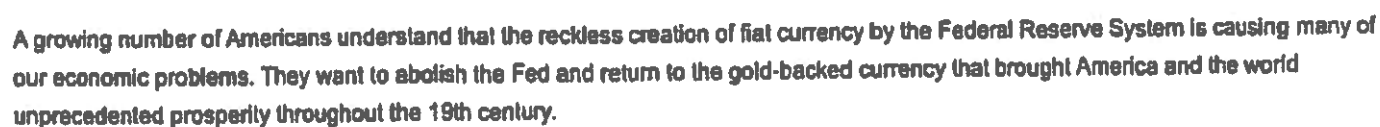




State Laws Can Help Restore Gold and Silver as Money



But that will not happen overnight. Big banks and other special interests reap enormous profits from the present system, while many Americans are accustomed to paper money and do not grasp the deep connection between sound money and lasting prosperity.

That's why sound money activists are launching exciting initiatives at the state level to challenge the monetary monopoly of the Fed. The Sound Money Defense League is taking a multi-pronged approach to removing the shackles that bound sound money.

Our strategy is based in making changes to state sales taxation on precious metals purchases and state capital gains taxation on precious metals holdings, while working to establish state gold depositories, reestablishing gold and silver as money, and encouraging states to hold reserves in precious metals.

The movement to advance the sound money cause at the state level has grown dramatically in recent years. This is likely to continue in an era of unprecedented inflation and geopolitical uncertainty. The legislative success sound money efforts have experienced are indicative of a frustration many Americans feel with the out-of-control money printing by the Fed and their corresponding desire for a return to sound, constitutional money.

From Alabama to Wyoming, states across the U.S. continue to pass legislation to eliminate taxes on gold and silver, establish in-state depositories, protect state taxpayer funds with sound money, and more.

States Continue Removing Sales Taxes on Gold & Silver

To date, 42 states have removed some or all taxes from the purchase of gold and silver. And there are new bills pending now in five of the eight remaining states, i.e. Tennessee, Mississippi, Kentucky, Hawaii, and New Jersey.

Taxing the exchange of Federal Reserve Notes for the monetary metals is an atrocious policy, for several reasons.

States generally don't tax the purchase of investments. States don't slap sales taxes on the purchase of stocks, bonds, ETFs, currencies, and other financial instruments. Gold and silver are held as forms of savings and investment. So taxing precious metals penalizes a single class of savers and investors.

Taxing precious metals actually reduces a state's tax revenues. A Michigan analysis revealed that the sales tax revenue extracted was actually exceeded by revenue lost from conventions, businesses, and economic activity driven out of the state.

And states with sales taxes on precious metals are at a competitive disadvantage to neighboring states that have ended the practice.

Taxing precious metals is harmful to citizens attempting to protect their assets. Purchasers of precious metals generally aren't fat cat investors. Most who buy precious metals do so in small increments as a way of saving money.

People purchase precious metals, in part, to preserve their wealth against the ravages of inflation. Inflation especially harms the poorest among us, including pensioners, senior citizens on fixed incomes, wage earners, and savers.

Levying taxes on precious metals is illogical and inappropriate. Purchases of computers, shirts, and shoes are taxable to the final consumer. But precious metals are inherently held for resale, not "consumption," making the entire notion of taxing their purchase illogical from the start.

More States Want to End Income Taxes on Gold & Silver

In 2019, the Sound Money Defense League teamed up with sound money advocates in West Virginia to eliminate sales taxes on precious metals. Several states have introduced similar legislation since.

A capital gains tax on precious metals is often a tax on imaginary gains.

Under current law, a taxpayer who sells precious metals may end up with a capital "gain" in terms of Federal Reserve Notes. This capital "gain" is not necessarily a *real* gain, it's often a *nominal* gain that results from the inflation created by the Federal Reserve and the attendant decline in the dollar's purchasing power.

Yet this nominal gain is taxed at the federal level — and, because most states use federal adjusted gross income (AGI) as a starting point for income calculations, this nominal gain is taxed again by the state (in most cases).

Neutralizing punitive income tax treatment of the monetary metals would remove the last major disincentive that stands against the ownership and use of the monetary metals.

Not Just Taxes, States Do More to Restore Sound Money

State legislative efforts don't end with taxation. Legislation to establish an in-state gold depository, and protect taxpayer reserve funds with gold and silver. Measures that would permit – but not require – the State Treasurer to hold some portion of state funds in physical gold and silver would help secure state assets against the risks of inflation and financial turmoil. These bills have enjoyed grassroots support across several states.

Ultimately, individual states cannot bring soundness to America's monetary system on their own. The root of the problem is the Federal Reserve, U.S. Treasury, and Congress who have fully embraced fiat money and abandoned monetary restraint.

With the Consumer Price Index running at its highest rate in 40 years, inflation is becoming the most pressing economic issue of our time. States must not waste time in restoring sound money.

Alabama Gold and Silver Laws

Alaska Gold and Silver Laws

Arizona Gold and Silver Laws

Arkansas Gold and Silver Laws

California Gold and Silver Laws

Colorado Gold and Silver Laws

Connecticut Gold and Silver Laws

Delaware Gold and Silver Laws

Florida Gold and Silver Laws

Georgia Gold and Silver Laws

Hawaii Gold and Silver Laws

Idaho Gold and Silver Laws

Illinois Gold and Silver Laws

Indiana Gold and Silver Laws

Iowa Gold and Silver Laws

Kansas Gold and Silver Laws

Kentucky Gold and Silver Laws

Louisiana Gold and Silver Laws

Maine Gold and Silver Laws

Maryland Gold and Silver Laws

Massachusetts Gold and Silver Laws

Michigan Gold and Silver Laws

Minnesota Gold and Silver Laws

Mississippi Gold and Silver Laws

Missouri Gold and Silver Laws

Montana Gold and Silver Laws

Nebraska Gold and Silver Laws

Nevada Gold and Silver Laws

New Hampshire Gold and Silver Laws

New Jersey Gold and Silver Laws

New Mexico Gold and Silver Laws

New York Gold and Silver Laws

North Carolina Gold and Silver Laws

North Dakota Gold and Silver Laws

Ohio Gold and Silver Laws

Oklahoma Gold and Silver Laws

Oregon Gold and Silver Laws

Pennsylvania Gold and Silver Laws

Rhode Island Gold and Silver Laws

South Carolina Gold and Silver Laws

South Dakota Gold and Silver Laws

Tennessee Gold and Silver Laws

Texas Gold and Silver Laws

Utah Gold and Silver Laws

Vermont Gold and Silver Laws

Virginia Gold and Silver Laws

Washington Gold and Silver Laws

West Virginia Gold and Silver Laws

Wisconsin Gold and Silver Laws

Wyoming Gold and Silver Laws

Gold and Silver Legal Tender States 2023

Twelve U.S. states already accept gold and silver coins as legal tender, and more states have either tried to reintroduce gold and silver as currency or are in the process.

The shift is rooted in Article 1, Section 10 of the U.S Constitution, stating that "No State shall make any Thing but gold and silver Coin a Tender in Payment of Debts."

What Is The Impact of Accepting Gold And Silver as Legal Tenders?

The state laws declaring the shift of gold and silver currency would eliminate capital gains taxes on sales of gold and silver in states that accept the two metals as legal tender.

Several states have by now passed bills eliminating these taxes. If all 50 U.S. states start using gold and silver in place of Federal Reserve notes, the Federal would no longer be able to control the state's money.

Gold and Silver Legal Tender States

Here's a list of gold and silver legal tender states. The list includes the U.S. states that have already implemented the bill and those in the process.

Utah

Utah accepted gold and silver as currency on March 10, 2011, and became the first state after 80 years to make the coins legal tender. The act paved the way for other U.S. states to pursue similar legislation.

Louisiana

H.B. 682 was passed with vast support, making Louisiana the second U.S. state to exempt sales tax for gold and silver currency. The bill was later signed into law by Governor Bobby Jindal.

West Virginia

The West Virginia Legislature approved Senate Bill 502 by a unanimous vote. The bill suggested tax exemptions on investment in metal bullion and coin sales. Gov. Jim Justice signed the bill effective on July 1, 2019.

Arizona

Arizona vetoed two bills to declare legal tender status for gold and silver coins. S.B.1439 was vetoed in 2013, and in 2015 Governor Doug Ducey vetoed a similar bill. HB2014 bill reinforces the residents' ability to use precious metals and diversify away from paper currency, paving the way for gold and silver as currency.

Kansas

The House Committee on Taxation in Kansas passed a bill declaring both the legal tender and tax-exempt status of US-minted coins in 2013.

Oklahoma

In Oklahoma, Governor Mary Fallin signed a law, Senate Bill 862, recognizing gold and silver US-minted coins as legal tender and exempt from taxation on June 4, 2014.

Texas

In March of 2017, SB2097 was introduced, calling for establishing legal tender status for gold and silver, including safeguards from seizure by the state authorities.

Indiana

Senate Bill 99 was introduced in Indiana, declaring US-minted gold and silver coins as legal tender and tax-exempt in 2013.

Missouri

Senate Bill 98, which suggests income tax deduction for capital gains from the exchange of gold and silver, is up for consideration in Missouri, though a similar act failed in 2013 and 2014.

South Carolina

The South Carolina House of Representatives passed a bill declaring gold and silver legal tender on April 11, 2013.

Tennessee

Tennessee's SB0350 calls for the sales tax exemption of gold and silver coins.

Wyoming

HB 103 was passed in 2018. This made gold and silver coins legal tender within the state.

<https://worldpopulationreview.com/state-rankings/gold-and-silver-legal-tender-states>

Missouri Bill Would Take Steps Toward Treating Gold And Silver As Money



BY TYLER DURDEN

THURSDAY, JAN 05, 2023 - 11:45 AM

[Via SchiffGold.com.](#)

A bill introduced in the Missouri Senate for the 2023 legislative session would take important steps toward treating gold and silver as money instead of as commodities and would set the stage for currency competition in the Show-Me State.

Sen. William Eigel (R) filed [SB100](#) last month. The legislation would take several steps to encourage the use of gold and silver as money in Missouri, including making it legal tender, eliminating the state capital gains tax on gold and silver, and establishing a state bullion depository.



Legal Tender and Tax Reforms

Under the proposed law, gold and silver would be accepted as legal tender and would be receivable in payment of all public and private debts contracted for in the state of Missouri. Practically speaking, this would allow Missourians to use gold or silver coins as money rather than just as mere investment vehicles. In effect, it would put gold and silver on the same footing as Federal Reserve notes.

Missouri could become the fourth state to recognize gold and silver as legal tender. Utah led the way, reestablishing constitutional money in 2011. [Wyoming](#) and [Oklahoma](#) have since joined.

The effect has been most dramatic in Utah where [United Precious Metals Association](#) (UPMA) was established after the passage of the Utah Specie Legal Tender Act and the elimination of all taxes on gold and silver. UPMA offers accounts denominated in US-minted gold and silver dollars. The company was also instrumental in the development of the "[Utah Goldback](#)," described as "the first local, voluntary currency to be made of a spendable, beautiful, physical gold."

SB100 would also exempt the sale of gold and silver bullion from the state's capital gains tax. Missouri is already one of 41 states that do not levy sales tax on gold and silver bullion. Exempting the sale of bullion from capital gains taxes takes another step toward treating gold and silver as money instead of commodities. Taxes on precious in metal bullion disincentivize investment and erect barriers to using gold and silver as money by raising transaction costs.

Imagine if you asked a grocery clerk to break a \$5 bill and he charged you a 35-cent tax. Silly, right? After all, you were only exchanging one form of money for another. But that's essentially what a sales tax on gold and silver bullion does. By eliminating this tax on the exchange of gold and silver, Virginia would treat specie as money instead of a commodity. This represents a small step toward reestablishing gold and silver as legal tender and breaking down the Fed's monopoly on money.

"We ought not to tax money – and that's a good idea. It makes no sense to tax money," former US Rep. [Ron Paul](#) said during testimony in support an [Arizona bill](#) that repealed capital gains taxes on gold and silver in that state. "Paper is not money, it's fraud," he continued.

The proposed law includes a provision that would bar any state agency, department, or political subdivision from seizing gold or silver bullion.

Bullion Depository

SB100 would also establish a state bullion depository. This would not only create a safe place to store precious metals; it also has the potential to facilitate the everyday use of gold and silver in financial transactions in Missouri.

The depository would be established in the Office of the State Treasurer. The depository would serve as "the custodian, guardian and administrator of gold, silver and other precious metals transferred or acquired by the state, or an agency, political subdivision or other instrumentality of the state." The depository would also accept deposits of gold and silver by private individuals.

Significantly, SB100 would establish a mechanism for individuals to engage in transactions using precious metals including gold and silver.

The legislation creates a regulatory structure for the depository and all transactions facilitated through it. It also establishes criteria for depository agents.

The bill is based on a similar law that was passed in Texas and signed into law by Gov. Abbott in 2015. The Texas depository received its first deposits in the summer of 2018. The following year, the state exempted precious metals in these depositories from taxation.

In a nutshell, through the depository, Missourians would be able to deposit gold or silver and pay other people through electronic means or checks. Private individuals and entities will be able to purchase goods and services using assets in the vault in the same way they use cash today. Doing so has the potential to open the market to sound money in day-to-day transactions. Ultimately, depositors could be able to use a bullion-funded debit card that seamlessly converts gold and silver to fiat currency in the background. This will enable them to make instant purchases wherever credit and debit cards are accepted.

Practically speaking, all of the provisions in SB100 would open the door for people to begin using specie in regular business transactions. This marks an important small step toward currency competition.

BACKGROUND

The United States Constitution states in Article I, Section 10, "No State shall...make any Thing but gold and silver Coin a Tender in Payment of Debts." Currently, all debts and taxes in the US are either paid with Federal Reserve Notes (dollars) which were authorized as legal tender by Congress, or with coins issued by the US Treasury — very few of which have gold or silver in them.

The Federal Reserve destroys this constitutional monetary system by creating a monopoly based on its fiat currency. Without the backing of gold or silver, the central bank can easily create money out of thin air. This not only devalues your purchasing power over time; it also allows the federal government to borrow and spend far beyond what would be possible in a sound money system. Without the Fed, the US government wouldn't be able to maintain all of its unconstitutional wars and programs. The Federal Reserve is the engine that drives the most powerful government in the history of the world.

Sales tax repeals knock down one of the tax barriers that hinder the use of gold and silver as money, and could also begin the process of abolishing the Federal Reserve's fiat money system by attacking it from the bottom up — pulling the rug out from under it by working to make its functions irrelevant at the state and local levels, and setting the stage to undermine the Federal Reserve monopoly by introducing competition into the monetary system.

In a paper presented at the Mises Institute, Constitutional tender expert Professor William Greene said when people in multiple states actually start using gold and silver instead of Federal Reserve Notes, it would effectively nullify the Federal Reserve and end the federal government's monopoly on money.

"Over time, as residents of the state use both Federal Reserve notes and silver and gold coins, the fact that the coins hold their value more than Federal Reserve notes do will lead to a "reverse Gresham's Law" effect, where good money (gold and silver coins) will drive out bad money (Federal Reserve notes). As this happens, a cascade of events can begin to occur, including the flow of real wealth toward the state's treasury, an influx of banking business from outside of the state — as people in other states carry out their desire to bank with sound money — and an eventual outcry against the use of Federal Reserve notes for any transactions."

Once things get to that point, Federal Reserve notes would become largely unwanted and irrelevant for ordinary people.

This bill make up part of a broader movement at the state level to support sound money.

Signed as Law: Tennessee Takes Step Toward Treating Gold and Silver as Money

By Mike Maharrey | Published on May 27, 2022 | Categories: Federal Reserve, State Bills |

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (May 27, 2022) – Today, Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee signed a bill repealing the sales tax on the sale of precious metal bullion. The enactment of this legislation eliminates one barrier to using gold and silver in everyday transactions, a foundational step for people to undermine the Federal Reserve's monopoly on money.

Rep. Bud Hulse (R) and Rep. William Lamberth (R) introduced House Bill 1874 (HB1874) on Jan. 20. Sen. Frank Nicely (R) introduced the companion, Senate Bill 1857 (SB1857), in the Senate. The new law exempts certain coins, currency and bullion from the state sales tax. To qualify for the exemption, it must be manufactured in whole or in part from gold, silver, platinum, palladium, or other material; used solely as legal tender, security, or commodity in Tennessee or another state, the United States, or a foreign nation; and be sold based primarily on its intrinsic value as a precious material or collectible item rather than its representative value as a medium of exchange.

On April 27, the Senate passed SB1857 by a 25-5 vote. The House substituted the Senate bill for the House bill and passed it 91-0 with a technical amendment. On April 28, the Senate concurred with the House amendment. With Gov. Lee's signature, the law went into immediate effect.

KNOCKING DOWN BARRIERS

Including Tennessee, 42 states have eliminated sales taxes on gold and silver bullion. Repealing sales taxes on precious metal bullion takes a step toward treating gold and silver as money instead of commodities. Taxes on precious metal bullion erect barriers to using



gold and silver as money by raising transaction costs. As Sound Money Defense League policy director Jp Cortez testified during a committee hearing on a similar bill in Wyoming in 2018, charging taxes on *money itself* is beyond the pale.

"In effect, states that collect taxes on purchases of precious metals are inherently saying gold and silver are not money at all."

Imagine if you asked a grocery clerk to break a \$5 bill and he charged you a 35 cent tax. Silly, right? After all, you were only exchanging one form of money for another. But that's essentially what Tennessee's sales tax on gold and silver bullion does. By eliminating this tax on the exchange of gold and silver, Tennessee would treat specie as money instead of a commodity. This represents a small step toward reestablishing gold and silver as legal tender and breaking down the Fed's monopoly on money.

"We ought not to tax money – and that's a good idea. It makes no sense to tax money," former U.S. Rep. Ron Paul said during testimony in support an Arizona bill that repealed capital gains taxes on gold and silver in that state. "Paper is not money, it's fraud," he continued.

The impact of enacting this legislation will go beyond mere tax policy. During an event after his Senate committee testimony, Paul pointed out that it's really about the size and scope of government.

"If you're for less government, you want sound money. The people who want big government, they don't want sound money. They want to deceive you and commit fraud. They want to print the money. They want a monopoly. They want to get you conditioned, as our schools have conditioned us, to the point where deficits don't matter."

Practically speaking, eliminating taxes on the sale of gold and silver cracks open the door for people to begin using specie in regular business transactions. This marks an important small step toward currency competition.

The effect has been most dramatic in Utah where United Precious Metals Association (UPMA) was established after the passage of the Utah Specie Legal Tender Act and the elimination of all taxes on gold and silver. UPMA offers accounts denominated in U.S.-minted gold and silver dollars. The company also recently released the "Utah Goldback." UPMA describes it as "the first local, voluntary currency to be made of a spendable, beautiful, physical gold."

BACKGROUND

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The Federal Reserve destroys this constitutional monetary system by creating a monopoly based on its fiat currency. Without the backing of gold or silver, the central bank can easily create money out of thin air. This not only devalues your purchasing power over time; it also allows the federal government to borrow and spend far beyond what would be possible in a sound money system. Without the Fed, the U.S. government wouldn't be able to maintain all of its unconstitutional wars and programs. The Federal Reserve is the engine that drives the most powerful government in the history of the world.

The passage of HB1874/SB1857 would remove one of the tax barriers that hinder the use of gold and silver as money in Tennessee.

Repealing taxes on gold and silver also takes the first step in the process of abolishing the Federal Reserve system by attacking it from the bottom up – pulling the rug out from under it by working to make its functions irrelevant at the state and local levels, and setting the stage to undermine the Federal Reserve monopoly by introducing competition into the monetary system.

In a paper presented at the Mises Institute, Constitutional tender expert Professor William Greene said when people in multiple states actually start using gold and silver instead of Federal Reserve Notes, it would effectively nullify the Federal Reserve and end the federal government's monopoly on money.

"Over time, as residents of the state use both Federal Reserve notes and silver and gold coins, the fact that the coins hold their value more than Federal Reserve notes do will lead to a "reverse Gresham's Law" effect, where good money (gold and silver coins) will drive out bad money (Federal Reserve notes). As this happens, a cascade of events can begin to occur, including the flow of real wealth toward the state's treasury, an influx of banking business from outside of the state – as people in other states carry out their desire to bank with sound money – and an eventual outcry against the use of Federal Reserve notes for any transactions."

Once things get to that point, Federal Reserve notes would become largely unwanted and irrelevant for ordinary people. Nullifying the Fed on a state-by-state level is what will get us there.

Tags. Federal Reserve, Gold, HB1874, SB1857, Silver, Sound Money, Tennessee



Mike Maharrey

Michael Maharrey (send him email) is the Communications Director for the Tenth Amendment Center. He is from the original home of the Principles of '98 - Kentucky and currently resides in northern Florida. See his blog archive [here](#) and his article archive [here](#). He is the author of the book, *Our Last Hope: Rediscovering the Lost Path to Liberty*, and *Constitution Owner's Manual*. You can visit his personal website at MichaelMaharrey.com and like him on Facebook [HERE](#).

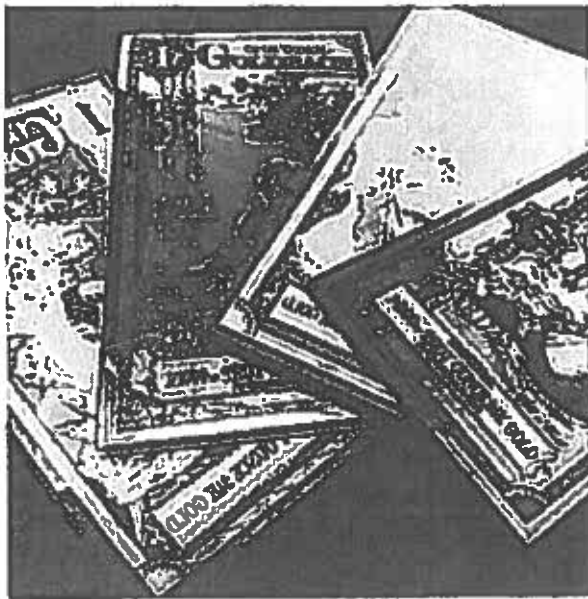




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[Buy Goldbacks](#)

About Us



In August, 2019, we released the first Goldbacks, the 'One' and 'Five' of our Utah Series, with the 10, 25, and 50 denominations following by year end.

Producing the Goldback relies on 5th generation vacuum deposition technology. Designs are printed on a sheet of polymer that is then bombarded with the precise amount of atomized gold particles in a vacuum chamber. This 24-karat gold is then sealed inside by a second protective barrier of polymer, creating a beautiful textured negative image.

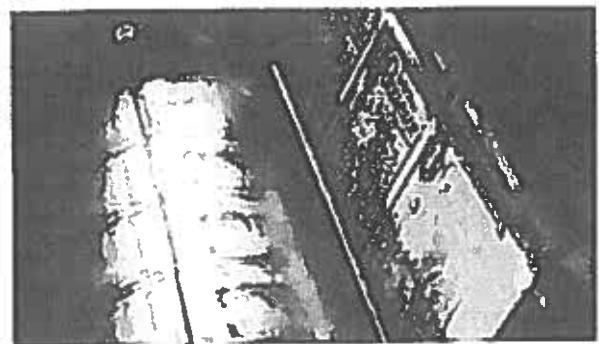
Our Goal

To promote the use of inflation proof currency to protect the spending power of families and individuals at any income level.



For the first time individuals can spend physical gold on small items like a smoothie, or large purchases like a home remodel.

The Goldback® solves the 2,600 year "small coin problem" by allowing physical gold to be used for any size transaction. One Goldback contains 1/1,000th of an oz of 24 karat gold. Our Fifty Goldback contains 50 times that, 1/20th of an oz.



How Goldbacks Are Made

We sell Goldbacks worldwide through Distributors listed here . . .

Where To Buy Goldbacks

Milestones . . .

2019

- Company launched — *Our Story*
- Utah Goldback Series released
- ~500,000 Goldbacks produced

2020

- New Nevada and New Hampshire Goldback Series released
- *Goldback Wallet* available
- ~1.6 Million Goldbacks produced

2021

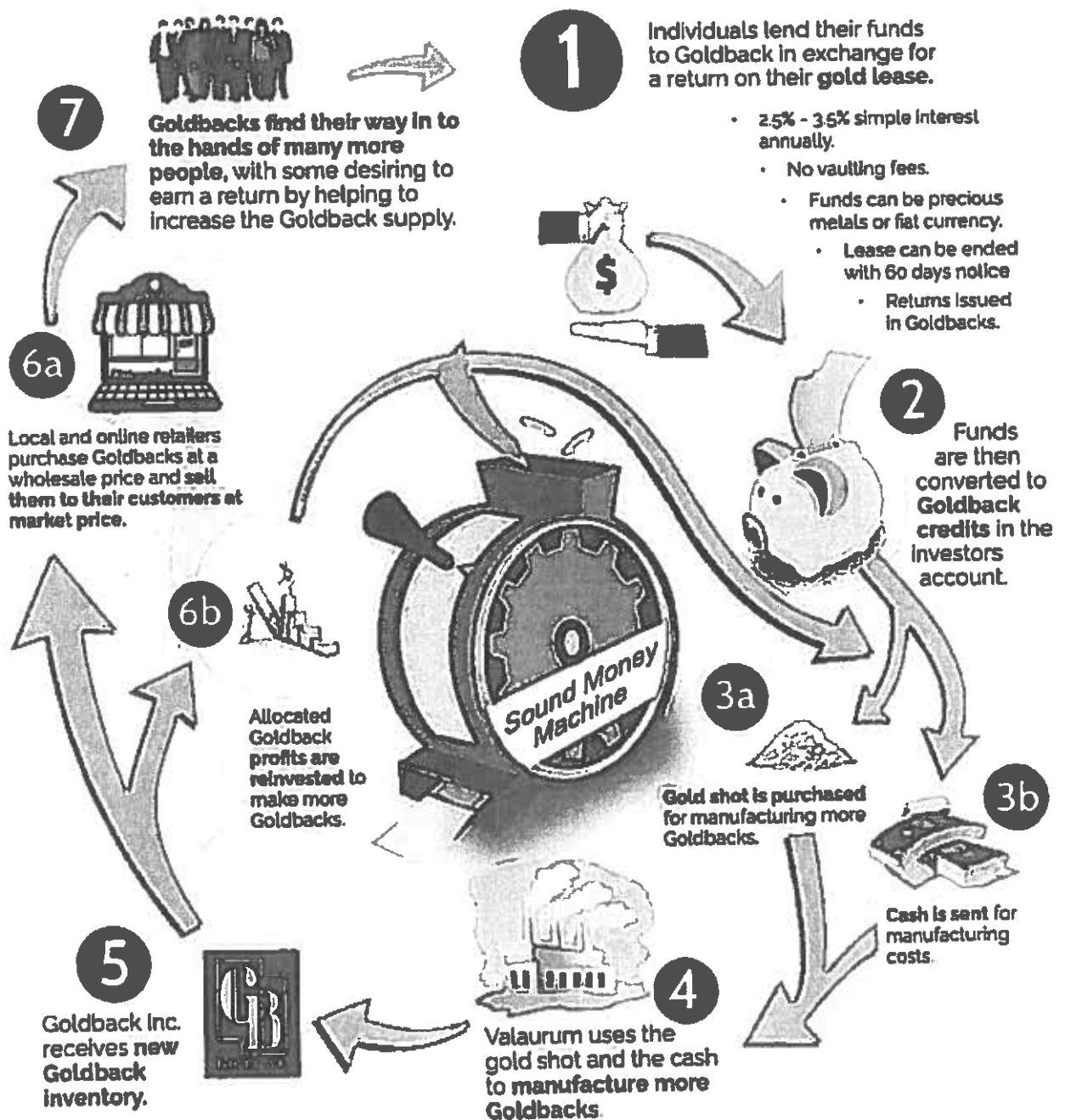
- ~6 Million Goldbacks produced
- Over ~450,000 People own at least one Goldback

2022

- ~1 Million Goldbacks sold in March
- New Wyoming Goldback Series in production



Goldback Lease Cycle





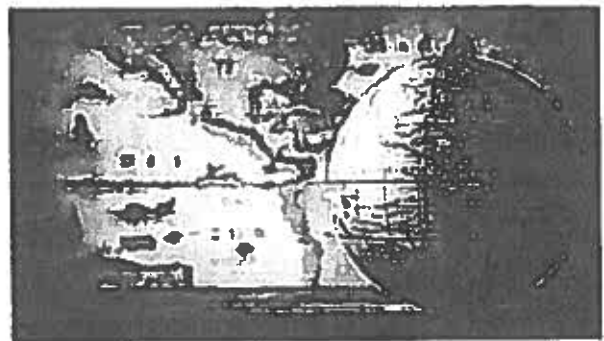
Home Goldbacks Company Calculator

Buy Goldbacks

Sponsor a New Goldback® Series

While the first Goldback currency was produced for Utah, there may eventually be local Goldback currencies all over the world. In order to achieve this lofty goal, we have developed a program in which individuals may sponsor a new Goldback series while making a steady profit. This may only be done where authorized by State or Local law. Not every State listed may allow for the Goldback.

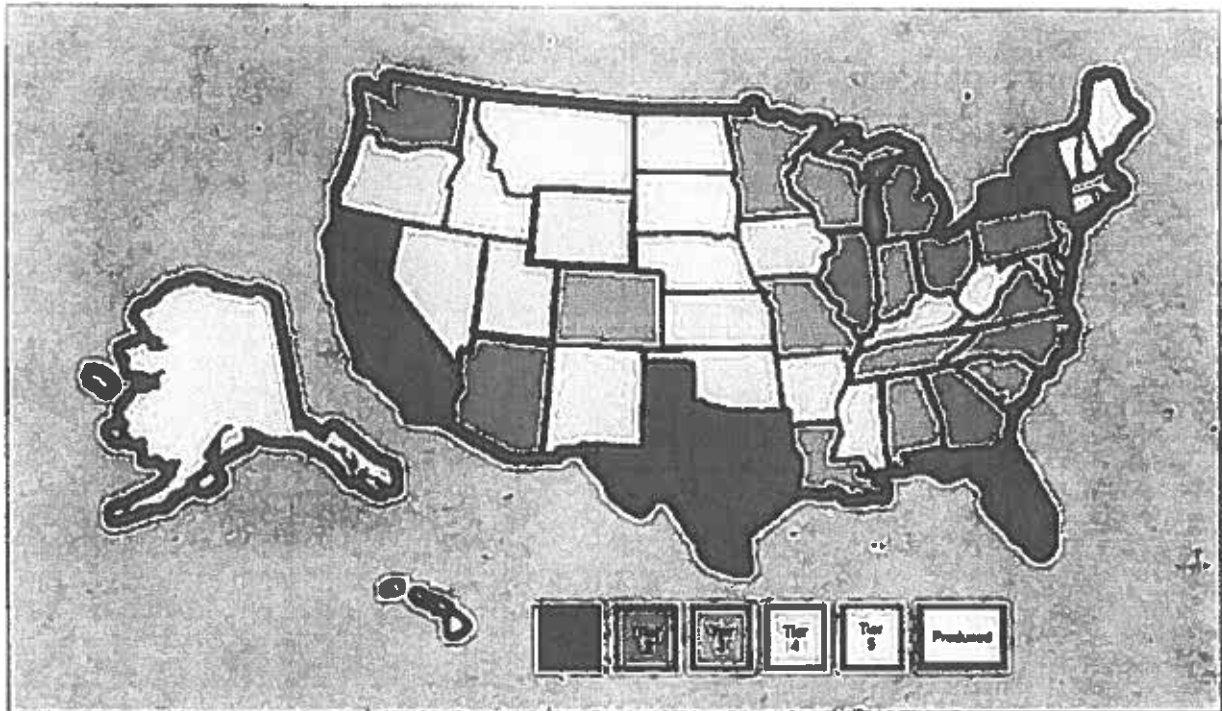
The model for creating a new Goldback series is based on the concept of Goldback Leases. For example, if you were living in Alaska and wanted your own locally-themed Goldbacks, you could theoretically purchase a few hundred thousand dollars worth of Goldbacks and then lend them back to the company in order to sponsor the creation of the Alaskan Goldback. These borrowed Goldbacks would then be used as rotating inventory for the State of Alaska Goldback series. In return for leasing the Goldbacks, one could expect to receive a 3.5% return on an annual basis, thus putting your gold to work and taking advantage of this rare opportunity realize a return in gold on gold.



Gold is money everywhere. Our goal is to fill the world with local Goldback currencies.

While the minimum is a 96,000 ***Goldback Lease*** to launch a new Goldback series, the amount required for more populous areas is necessarily higher. In order for a series of Goldbacks to have a chance at circulating in more highly populated regions, there needs to be more of them available. If you choose to sponsor a new Goldback then you aren't required to market or sell them yourself. This program is quite a bit different from the older kickstarter model.

We have put together five different region sizes for starting a new series . . .



Tier	Population	Minimum Lease
5	Up to ~2 Million	96,000 Goldbacks
4	~2 to ~4.5 Million	176,000 Goldbacks
3	~4.5 to ~7 Million	256,000 Goldbacks
2	~7 to ~15 Million	432,000 Goldbacks
1	Over ~15 Million	Case by Case Basis

If you decide to sponsor any Goldback series, then not only will you earn a 3.5% return on your *Goldback Lease*, but you will also have influence over what elements make it onto the drawings in the Goldback series that you sponsor, such as historical places, events, landmarks or symbols related to that place that may be important to you. This input is not necessarily required, nor do we guarantee that every one of your ideas will be used. The real prize is getting a customized Goldback that is unique to where you live. By sponsoring a Goldback series you become a champion of sound money in your own community while making a steady, respectable profit. In addition, we offer any Goldback Series sponsor the first of a numbered, limited edition series of framed and signed complete Goldback set for that region.

New regions will also be required to have a featured business network built in advance of a launch. These networks are important because they build confidence in the money and give locals ideas on where and how to use their Goldbacks. It is also important to remember that there must be a State or Local law that allows for the Goldback to be used as a current money in that jurisdiction.

Why 42 States Have Removed Taxes from the Purchase of Gold and Silver

Taxing the exchange of dollars for the monetary metals is an atrocious policy for several reasons.

Saturday, February 5, 2022

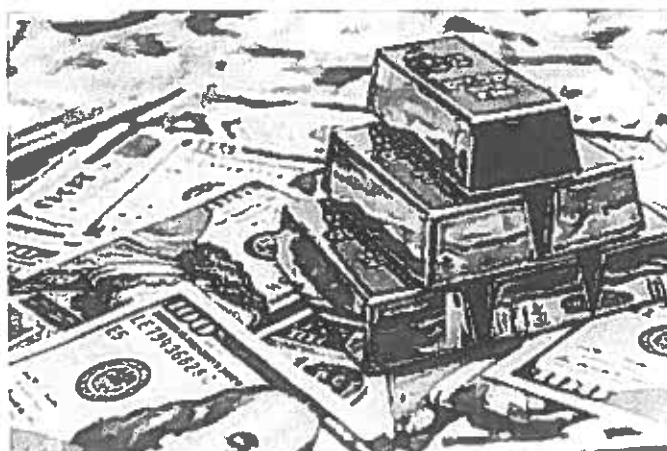


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[Jp Cortez](#)

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Last year was a good year for state-level sound money legislation across the United States. 2022 could be even better.

Building on the success enjoyed by sound money advocates in Arkansas and Ohio last year, more than a half dozen states are now considering legislation that rolls back discriminatory taxes and regulations on the sale, use, and purchase of gold and silver.

States Are Removing Sales Taxes on Gold & Silver

To date, 42 states have removed some or all taxes from the purchase of gold and silver. And there are new bills pending now in five of the eight remaining states, i.e. Tennessee, Mississippi, Kentucky, Hawaii, and New Jersey.

Taxing the exchange of Federal Reserve Notes for the monetary metals is an atrocious policy, for several reasons.

States generally don't tax the purchase of investments. States don't slap sales taxes on the purchase of stocks, bonds, ETFs, currencies, and other financial instruments. Gold and silver are held as forms of savings and investment. So taxing precious metals penalizes a single class of savers and investors.

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And states with sales taxes on precious metals are at a competitive disadvantage to neighboring states that have ended the practice.

Taxing precious metals is harmful to citizens attempting to protect their assets. Purchasers of precious metals generally aren't fat cat investors. Most who buy precious metals do so in small increments as a way of saving money.

People purchase precious metals, in part, to preserve their wealth against the ravages of inflation. Inflation especially harms the poorest among us, including pensioners, senior citizens on fixed incomes, wage earners, and savers.

Levying taxes on precious metals is illogical and inappropriate.

Purchases of computers, shirts, and shoes are taxable to the final consumer. But precious metals are inherently held for resale, not "consumption," making the entire notion of taxing their purchase illogical from the start.

Here is a quick rundown of pending sales tax repeal bills...

In the Bluegrass State, Rep. Kirk-McCormick introduced House Bill 272 last week to cancel Kentucky sales taxes on gold, silver, platinum, and palladium coins and bars.

In neighboring Tennessee, Rep. Gant and Sen. Stevens are pursuing a similar measure. Their efforts are bolstered by a newly released study by the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (TACIR) which encourages the Volunteer State to end the practice of taxing precious metals.

House Bill 514 and Senate Bill 870, introduced in 2021 by Rep. Gant and Sen. Stevens respectively, will be considered this spring.

Even as Kentucky and Tennessee legislators move forward, Mississippi may beat them to the punch in becoming the 43rd state to cancel sales taxes on the monetary metals.

So far, three such bills have been introduced in Mississippi: House Bill 426, House Bill 518, and House Bill 729, introduced by Rep. Ford, Rep. Hopkins, and Rep. Bomgar, respectively.

Hawaii is also poised to end state sales taxes on gold and silver. House Bill 1184, introduced by Rep. Okimoto, sailed through two committees last year, passing unanimously out of one... and passing overwhelmingly out of the other. (The bill was put on hold due to fears that enacting tax cuts could jeopardize Biden's handouts to state legislatures last year.)

Meanwhile, legislators in New Jersey also hope to eliminate sales taxes on precious metals. Last year's sound money tax exemption effort was led by Assemblyman Dancer and Sen. Doherty, and they are championing this cause in the Garden State again this session.

Alabama and Virginia are among the states already on the right side of the sales tax issue. However, both exemptions sunset this year.

Sound money allies have already mobilized, introducing measures to extend the life of those states' exemptions – specifically, Senate Bill 13, sponsored by Sen. Melson in Alabama, and House Bill 936, sponsored by Del. Batten in Virginia.

Let's hope they succeed, because re-imposing sales taxes on gold and silver has proven to be a debacle.

In recent years, the state of Ohio and Louisiana both experimented briefly with resuming taxation on precious metals purchases, only to reverse course after businesses, coin conventions, and state tax revenues exited the state.

Ending Income Taxes on Gold & Silver

In 2019, the Sound Money Defense League teamed up with sound money advocates in West Virginia to eliminate sales taxes on precious metals.

This year, Delegate Pritt has introduced House Bill 3135 to take things a step further by eliminating capital gains taxation on sound money and reaffirming gold and silver as money in the state.

A similar effort will be considered in Olympia, Washington.

Introduced last session by Rep. Chase, House Bill 1417 seeks to remove all forms of taxation on the metals. Rep. Chase wants to ensure the Evergreen State remains near the top of the Sound Money Index.

A capital gains tax on precious metals is often a tax on imaginary gains.

Under current law, a taxpayer who sells precious metals may end up with a capital "gain" in terms of Federal Reserve Notes. This capital "gain" is not necessarily a *real* gain, it's often a *nominal* gain that results from the inflation created by the Federal Reserve and the attendant decline in the dollar's purchasing power.

Yet this nominal gain is taxed at the federal level – and, because most states use federal adjusted gross income (AGI) as a starting point for income calculations, this nominal gain is taxed again by the state (in most cases).

Neutralizing punitive income tax treatment of the monetary metals would remove the last major disincentive that stands against the ownership and use of the monetary metals.

The Attack on Sound Money

Of course, individual states cannot bring soundness to America's monetary system on their own. The root of the problem is the Federal Reserve, U.S. Treasury, and Congress who have fully embraced fiat money and abandoned monetary restraint.

With the Consumer Price Index running at its highest rate in 40 years, inflation is becoming the most pressing economic issue of our time.

While federal policymakers are exacerbating the problem, some states are thankfully stepping up to give their citizens some tools to protect themselves.

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Jp Cortez

Jp Cortez is Policy Director for the Sound Money Defense League, a non-partisan, national public policy organization working to restore sound money at the state and federal level and which maintains America's Sound Money Index.



Alaska (/alaska): Sales Tax Handbook

Alaska: Tax Rates

2023 List of Alaska Local Sales Tax Rates



☐ Lowest sales tax (N/A) ☐ Highest sales tax (9.5%)

Alaska Sales Tax:

N/A

Average Sales Tax (With Local):

1.882%

Alaska has no state sales tax, and allows local governments to collect a local option sales tax of up to 7.5%. There are a total of 152 local tax jurisdictions across the state, collecting an average local tax of 1.882%. Click [here](#) for a larger sales tax map (sales-tax-map), or [here](#) for a sales tax table (sales-tax-table).

Combined with the state sales tax, the highest sales tax rate in Alaska is 9.5% in the city of Seldovia ([rates/seldovia](#)).

[View County Sales Tax Rates](#)[View City Sales Tax Rates](#)

Alaska County-Level Sales Taxes

In the map of Alaska above, the 30 counties in Alaska are colorized based on the maximum sales tax rate that occurs within that county. Counties marked with a * in the list below have a county-level sales tax. You can also download an Alaska sales tax rate database (</data>).

County Name	Tax Rate
Aleutians East Borough (rates/aleutians-east-borough)	6%
Aleutians West Census Area (rates/aleutians-west-census-area)	4%
* Anchorage Borough (rates/anchorage-borough)	N/A
Bethel Census Area (rates/bethel-census-area)	6%
* Bristol Bay Borough (rates/bristol-bay-borough)	N/A
City And Borough Of Juneau (rates/city-and-borough-of-juneau)	5%
* Denali Borough (rates/denali-borough)	N/A
Dillingham Census Area (rates/dillingham-census-area)	6%
Fairbanks North Star Borough (rates/fairbanks-north-star-borough)	5.5%
Haines Borough (rates/haines-borough)	7%
Hoonah-Angoon Borough (rates/hoonah-angoon-borough)	6.5%
Juneau Borough (rates/juneau-borough)	5%
Kenai Peninsula Borough (rates/kenai-peninsula-borough)	9.5%
Ketchikan Gateway Borough (rates/ketchikan-gateway-borough)	8%
* Kodiak Island Borough (rates/kodiak-island-borough)	7%
Lake And Peninsula Borough (rates/lake-and-peninsula-borough)	6%
Matanuska-Susitna Borough (rates/matanuska-susitna-borough)	3%

County Name	Tax Rate
<u>Nome Census Area (rates/nome-census-area)</u>	5%
* <u>North Slope Borough (rates/north-slope-borough)</u>	3%
<u>Northwest Arctic Borough (rates/northwest-arctic-borough)</u>	6.5%
* <u>Petersburg Borough (rates/petersburg-borough)</u>	6%
<u>Prince Of Wales-Outer Ketchikan Borough (rates/prince-of-wales-outer-ketchikan-borough)</u>	7%
<u>Sitka Borough (rates/sitka-borough)</u>	6%
<u>Skagway Borough (rates/skagway-borough)</u>	5%
<u>Southeast Fairbanks Census Area (rates/southeast-fairbanks-census-area)</u>	N/A
<u>Valdez-Cordova Census Area (rates/valdez-cordova-census-area)</u>	6%
<u>Wade Hampton Census Area (rates/wade-hampton-census-area)</u>	6%
<u>Wrangell Borough (rates/wrangell-borough)</u>	7%
<u>Yakutat Borough (rates/yakutat-borough)</u>	5%
<u>Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area (rates/yukon-koyukuk-census-area)</u>	4%

Alaska Sales Tax Rates by Zip Code:

Need an updated list of Alaska sales tax rates for your business? Download our **Alaska sales tax database (/data)**!

Simplify Alaska sales tax compliance! We provide sales tax rate databases (/data) for businesses who manage their own sales taxes, and can also connect you with firms that can completely automate the sales tax calculation and filing process. Click here to get more information.

Click here to learn more
about automating sales tax

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Alaska Tax Facts

- Alaska is the largest of the United States; however, for all its vastness only a small portion of the land mass is subject to a property tax.
- There are approximately 321 communities in Alaska, many of which still remain unincorporated.
- There are 165 incorporated municipalities (local governments), 19 of which are incorporated into boroughs (boroughs are a rough equivalent to counties) and the remainder are incorporated as cities.
- Of the 19 boroughs in Alaska, only 15 levy a property tax.
- Only 9 cities located outside of boroughs levy a property tax; therefore, only 24 municipalities in Alaska (either cities or boroughs) levy a property tax.
- One hundred and seven municipalities (reporting) levy a general sales tax. Sales tax rates range from a low of 1% to a high of 7%.
- The "typical" sales tax rates within Alaska range from 2%-5%.
- Other types of local taxes levied are raw fish taxes, hotel/motel "bed" taxes, severance taxes, liquor and tobacco taxes, gaming (pull tabs) taxes and fuel transfer taxes.
- In 2014, local governments generated approximately \$1.66 billion in revenues from property taxes, sales taxes and other taxes. Of that amount, \$1.34 billion was from property taxes.
- Oil & Gas properties, such as the Trans-Alaska Pipeline, contribute a little over \$426 million in property taxes to local government.
- Alaska exempts from property taxes the first \$150,000 of assessed value for all senior citizens (65 years of age and over) and disabled veterans (50% or more service connected disability).
- The average assessed value exempted from taxes for senior citizens and disabled veterans is \$139,393 which equated to a tax exemption of \$1,965 for 2017.
- In 2014, the total full value for all municipalities was \$108.6 billion (including TAPS). For 2014 the statewide population was 736,399, which means that the per-capita full value was \$147,519.
- The average per-capita property tax paid in all municipalities, excluding oil and gas properties, was \$1,435.
- There is no statewide sales tax levied.
- There is no personal state income tax.