

Angela Stephl

Subject: FW: HB3/public testimony support

From: Crystal Nygard <cnygard@cityofwasilla.gov>

Sent: Monday, May 1, 2023 2:34 PM

To: Angela Stephl <Angela.Steph1@akleg.gov>

Subject: RE: HB3/public testimony support

Angela:

According to our finance department we have 1 gold & silver "buyer" licensed in the City of Wasilla. It is our understanding they only buy in Wasilla and do not sell anything locally. This specific business doesn't have it's own NAICS code so it is difficult for us to track. Therefore, the tax impact would be minimal.

Thanks
Crystal

Angela Stephi

Subject: FW: **TIME SENSITIVE** RE: Sales tax/Legal Tender Legislation

From: Cheyenne Heindel <Cheyenne.Heindel@matsugov.us>
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2023 10:36 AM
To: Angela Stephi <Angela.Stephi@akleg.gov>
Subject: RE: **TIME SENSITIVE** RE: Sales tax/Legal Tender Legislation

Angie,

As there is not a borough-wide sales tax but we do collect sales tax in the Talkeetna Sewer and water service area. Under borough code we cannot release sales tax information related to specific vendors. I do not know if any of the cities in the borough have such businesses within their jurisdictions.

Cheyenne

From: Angela Stephi <Angela.Stephi@akleg.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2023 10:30 AM
To: Cheyenne Heindel <Cheyenne.Heindel@matsugov.us>
Subject: **TIME SENSITIVE** RE: Sales tax/Legal Tender Legislation
Importance: High

[EXTERNAL EMAIL - CAUTION: Do not open unexpected attachments or links.]

Hi Cheyenne,

Could you tell me (if you can determine) what the borough makes in sales tax from gold and silver (coins).

We have another bill hearing this afternoon.

Thank you,

Angie

Angela M. Stephi

Chief of Staff, Representative Kevin J. McCabe
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801
(907) 465-2679

Angela Stephi

Subject: FW: HB3, Legal Tender/Sales Tax Legislation

From: Sales Tax Office <sales.tax.office@juneau.org>
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 4:54 PM
To: Angela Stephi <Angela.Stephi@akleg.gov>; Sales Tax Office <sales.tax.office@juneau.org>
Subject: RE: HB3, Legal Tender/Sales Tax Legislation

Hello Angela,

Information related to individual sales tax accounts is considered confidential by CBJ code. As a result, we are unable to share the gross sales reported or amount of sales taxes remitted for any specific business. These types of businesses don't necessarily fall consistently into categories that we could easily pull useful aggregate data for. Any online merchants would most likely fall under the Alaska Remote Sellers Sales Tax Commission, although again there, the information is going to be confidential at the merchant level.

CBJ does not collect detailed sales data from businesses; our self-reported tax process just requires merchants to report their total gross sales, and any exempt sales to calculate the amount of sales taxes due.

Let me know if you have additional questions.

-Ruth
Ruth Kostik
Revenue Officer
City & Borough of Juneau
907-586-5215 ext. 4044

From: Angela Stephi <Angela.Stephi@akleg.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 4:28 PM
To: Sales Tax Office <sales.tax.office@juneau.org>
Subject: HB3, Legal Tender/Sales Tax Legislation
Importance: High

Good Afternoon,

We have a bill going through the legislature right now regarding gold and silver as legal tender and relief of sales tax when purchased and utilized. (HB3) Could you tell me if the Borough/City is able to determine how much sales tax is collected under a specific sales tax license number?

For example, an online business I personally purchase from is JM Bullion. Their state sales tax license number is #005936. This would be online sales only. Local businesses would be ones such Gold & Silver Exchange or Juno Pawn & Loan. I don't have their state sales tax license numbers.

Our question is if the Borough/City tracks sales tax in detail? For example, can you tell if the tax paid was for a collectible coin, or a goldback/specie intended to be used as legal tender, or art, jewelry or a stuffed animal?

Please feel free to call me should you need clarification.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Angela M. Stephi

Chief of Staff, Representative Kevin J. McCabe

Alaska State Capitol

Juneau, AK 99801

(907) 465-2679

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



Image Credit: iStock-alfexe



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[Economics](#) [Gold](#) [Silver](#) [Money](#) [Taxes](#) [Sound Money](#)

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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.

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.

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.



Join us in preserving the principles of economic freedom and individual liberty for the rising generation

Support FEE's Mission



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](#).

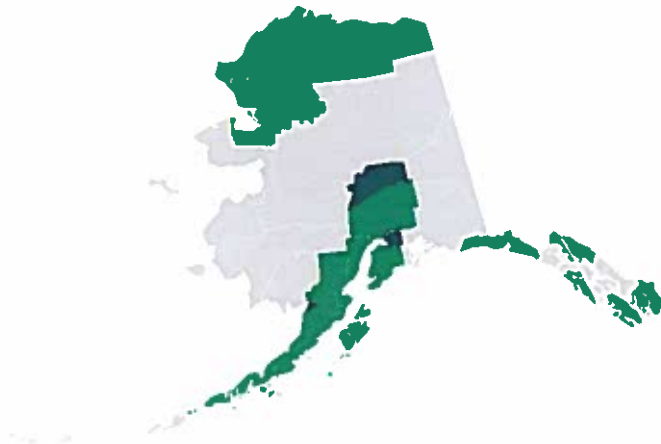


Alaska (/alaska): Sales Tax Handbook

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

Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development
DIVISION OF COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL
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OFFICE OF THE STATE ASSESSOR

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.