

1-1 By: Burrows (Senate Sponsor - Nelson) H.B. No. 1525  
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 11, 2019;  
1-3 April 15, 2019, read first time and referred to Committee on  
1-4 Finance; April 25, 2019, reported adversely, with favorable  
1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 14, Nays 0;  
1-6 April 25, 2019, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

1-8	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-9 Nelson	X			
1-10 Hinojosa	X			
1-11 Bettencourt	X			
1-12 Birdwell			X	
1-13 Campbell	X			
1-14 Flores	X			
1-15 Hancock	X			
1-16 Huffman	X			
1-17 Kolthorst	X			
1-18 Nichols	X			
1-19 Perry	X			
1-20 Taylor	X			
1-21 Watson	X			
1-22 West	X			
1-23 Whitmire	X			

1-24 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 1525 By: Nelson

1-25 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-26 AN ACT

1-27 relating to the administration and collection of sales and use  
1-28 taxes applicable to sales involving marketplace providers.  
1-29 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:  
1-30 SECTION 1. Section 151.008(b), Tax Code, is amended to read  
1-31 as follows:  
1-32 (b) "Seller" and "retailer" include:  
1-33 (1) a person in the business of making sales at auction  
1-34 of tangible personal property owned by the person or by another;  
1-35 (2) a person who makes more than two sales of taxable  
1-36 items during a 12-month period, including sales made in the  
1-37 capacity of an assignee for the benefit of creditors or receiver or  
1-38 trustee in bankruptcy;  
1-39 (3) a person regarded by the comptroller as a seller or  
1-40 retailer under Section 151.024;  
1-41 (4) a hotel, motel, or owner or lessor of an office or  
1-42 residential building or development that contracts and pays for  
1-43 telecommunications services for resale to guests or tenants;  
1-44 (5) a person who engages in regular or systematic  
1-45 solicitation of sales of taxable items in this state by the  
1-46 distribution of catalogs, periodicals, advertising flyers, or  
1-47 other advertising, by means of print, radio, or television media,  
1-48 or by mail, telegraphy, telephone, computer data base, cable,  
1-49 optic, microwave, or other communication system for the purpose of  
1-50 effecting sales of taxable items; ~~and~~  
1-51 (6) a person who, under an agreement with another  
1-52 person, is:  
1-53 (A) entrusted with possession of tangible  
1-54 personal property with respect to which the other person has title  
1-55 or another ownership interest; and  
1-56 (B) authorized to sell, lease, or rent the  
1-57 property without additional action by the person having title to or  
1-58 another ownership interest in the property; and  
1-59 (7) a person who is a marketplace provider under  
1-60 Section 151.0242.

SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 151, Tax Code, is amended by adding Section 151.0242 to read as follows:

Sec. 151.0242. MARKETPLACE PROVIDERS AND MARKETPLACE SELLERS. (a) In this section:

(1) "Marketplace" means a physical or electronic medium through which persons other than the owner or operator of the medium make sales of taxable items. The term includes a store, Internet website, software application, or catalog.

(2) "Marketplace provider" means a person who owns or operates a marketplace and directly or indirectly processes sales or payments for marketplace sellers.

(3) "Marketplace seller" means a seller, other than the marketplace provider, who makes a sale of a taxable item through a marketplace.

(b) Except as otherwise provided by this section, a marketplace provider has the rights and duties of a seller or retailer under this chapter with respect to sales made through the marketplace.

(c) A marketplace provider shall:

(1) certify to each marketplace seller that the marketplace provider assumes the rights and duties of a seller or retailer under this chapter with respect to sales made by the marketplace seller through the marketplace;

(2) collect in the manner provided by Subchapters C and D the taxes imposed by this chapter on sales of taxable items made through the marketplace; and

(3) report and remit under Subchapter I the taxes imposed by this chapter on all sales made through the marketplace.

(d) A marketplace seller who in good faith accepts a marketplace provider's certification under Subsection (c)(1) shall exclude sales made through the marketplace from the marketplace seller's report under Subchapter I, notwithstanding Section 151.406.

(e) A marketplace seller shall retain records for all marketplace sales as required by Section 151.025.

(f) A marketplace seller shall furnish to the marketplace provider information that is required to correctly collect and remit taxes imposed by this chapter. The information may include a certification of taxability that an item being sold is a taxable item, is not a taxable item, or is exempt from taxation.

(g) Except as provided by Subsection (h), a marketplace provider is not liable for failure to collect and remit the correct amount of taxes imposed by this chapter if the marketplace provider demonstrates that the failure resulted from the marketplace provider's good faith reliance on incorrect or insufficient information provided by the marketplace seller. The marketplace seller is liable for a deficiency resulting from incorrect or insufficient information provided by the marketplace seller.

(h) A marketplace provider and marketplace seller that are affiliates or associates, as defined by Section 1.002, Business Organizations Code, are jointly and severally liable for a deficiency resulting from a sale made by the marketplace seller through the marketplace.

(i) This section does not affect the tax liability of a purchaser under Section 151.052 or 151.102.

(j) A court may not certify an action brought against a marketplace provider concerning this section as a class action.

(k) The comptroller may adopt rules and forms to implement this section and by rule except certain marketplace providers from some or all of the requirements of this section.

SECTION 3. Section 321.203, Tax Code, is amended by adding Subsection (e-1) to read as follows:

(e-1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a sale of a taxable item made by a marketplace seller through a marketplace as provided by Section 151.0242 is consummated at the location in this state to which the item is shipped or delivered or at which possession is taken by the purchaser.

SECTION 4. Section 323.203, Tax Code, is amended by adding Subsection (e-1) to read as follows:

(e-1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section,  
a sale of a taxable item made by a marketplace seller through a  
marketplace as provided by Section 151.0242 is consummated at the  
location in this state to which the item is shipped or delivered or  
at which possession is taken by the purchaser.

SECTION 5. The changes in law made by this Act do not affect  
tax liability accruing before the effective date of this Act. That  
liability continues in effect as if this Act had not been enacted,  
and the former law is continued in effect for the collection of  
taxes due and for civil and criminal enforcement of the liability  
for those taxes.

SECTION 6. This Act takes effect October 1, 2019.

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