



A Tax Break for Consumers

Missouri Sales Tax Holiday Aug. 7-9

JEFFERSON CITY — Families preparing to shop for back-to-school items may want to take advantage of the Missouri sales tax holiday set for Aug. 7-9. It begins at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, August 7, and ends Sunday, August 9, at midnight.

Thanks to legislation passed in 2005, the three-day sales tax holiday is now an annual fixture on Missouri's calendar to help Missouri families keep more dollars in their pocket while shopping for back-to-school items. During the three-day tax holiday, purchases of back-to-school clothes, supplies and computer-related items are exempt from the 4.22 percent state sales tax. Local governments also have the option of participating in the holiday by rescinding their city or county sales taxes for additional savings to consumers.

Parents and students who take advantage of this tax break will likely find that many of the items they need to be prepared for the school year qualify for the tax exemption. The tax waiver applies to the following back-to-school purchases:

- Clothing – any article having a taxable value of \$100 or less.
- School supplies – not to exceed \$50 per purchase.
- Computer software – taxable value of \$350 or less.
- Personal computers – not to exceed \$3,500.
- Computer peripheral devices – not to exceed \$3,500.

In District 2, St. Charles County, the City of St. Charles, and the City of Troy in Lincoln County are among those participating in the sales tax holiday.

For an exact listing of cities and counties participating in the sales tax holiday and for more information about qualifying items, visit www.dor.mo.gov or call the Department of Revenue at (573) 751-2836.

As always, if you have any questions about this week's column or any other matter involving state government, please do not hesitate to contact me. You can reach my office by phone at (866) 271-2844.

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