#### House Bill 5EX (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Rhodes of the 120th, Powell of the 171st, and Rogers of the 10th

# A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

To amend Code Section 45-12-22 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to 1 2 suspension of collection of taxes by the Governor, so as to limit the Governor's authority to 3 suspend the collection of taxes on the sale or use of jet fuel; to amend Chapter 8 of Title 48 4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to sales and use taxes, so as to provide 5 for legislative findings; to ratify an executive order of the Governor suspending the collection of sales and use tax levied on jet fuel and to provide for the continuance of such suspension 6 7 indefinitely; to exempt jet fuel from certain sales and use taxes under certain conditions and 8 to a certain extent; to limit the taxation of the sale and use of jet fuel pursuant to the Joint County and Municipal Sales and Use Tax (LOST) and the "Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid 9 Transit Authority Act of 1965"; to provide for a definition; to repeal provisions limiting an 10 11 exemption from such taxes on the sale or use of jet fuel for certain qualifying airlines at certain qualifying airports; to repeal provisions relating to an expired exemption from a 12 13 portion of state sales and use tax for certain qualifying airlines at certain qualifying airports; 14 to repeal inapplicable definitions; to provide for related matters; to provide for effective 15 dates; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

17 **PART I**18 **SECTION 1-1.** 

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- 19 Code Section 45-12-22 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to suspension of
- 20 collection of taxes by the Governor, is amended by revising subsection (b) as follows:
- 21 "(b) Unless there has been a state of emergency declaration by the Governor, the Governor
- shall not suspend or modify in any manner the collection of any rate of state motor fuel
- taxes under Code Section 48-9-3 as it applies to sales of motor fuel and aviation gasoline
- as such terms are defined in Code Section 48-9-2 or taxes levied on the sale or use of jet
- 25 <u>fuel as such term is defined in Code Section 48-8-2</u>. Any suspension or modification of

any rate of state motor fuel taxes or taxes levied on the sale or use of jet fuel under this 26 27 subsection by the Governor shall be effective only until the next meeting of the General 28 Assembly which must ratify such suspension or modification by a two-thirds' vote of both 29 chambers. In the event the General Assembly fails to ratify the Governor's actions, state 30 motor fuel taxes or taxes on the sale or use of jet fuel suspended or modified under this 31 subsection shall be collected at the rate specified absent such suspension or modification 32 and any amounts unpaid due to such suspension or modification shall be collected using 33 such rate."

34 PART II

35 **SECTION 2-1.** 

- 36 Chapter 8 of Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to sales and use
- 37 taxes, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:
- 38 "<u>48-8-19.</u>
- 39 (a) The General Assembly finds that:
- 40 (1) The annual economic impact of Georgia airports amounts to more than \$62 billion
- 41 <u>per year;</u>
- 42 (2) Direct flights out of Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport alone have
- 43 supported nearly \$11 billion in foreign investment and 42,000 jobs across the state;
- 44 (3) Georgia's sales and use tax levy on jet fuel amounts to the fourth highest tax burden
- on jet fuel among states with major airport hubs, placing Georgia at a competitive
- 46 <u>disadvantage compared to major airport hubs in Florida, New York, North Carolina, and</u>
- 47 <u>Texas, among others; and</u>
- 48 (4) The distribution of the proceeds of sales and use tax on jet fuel could jeopardize
- 49 Georgia's legal standing and compliance with federal aviation programs.
- 50 (b) The General Assembly of Georgia hereby ratifies the Executive Order of the Governor
- 51 dated July 30, 2018, and filed in the official records of the office of the Governor as
- 52 Executive Order 07.30.18.01 which suspended the collection of any rate of sales and use
- 53 <u>tax as such tax applies to jet fuel. The General Assembly of Georgia hereby continues such</u>
- 54 <u>suspension of collection indefinitely.</u>
- 55 (c) For the time period commencing on August 1, 2018, as specified in the Executive
- Order of the Governor dated July 30, 2018, and filed in the official records of the office of
- 57 the Governor as Executive Order 07.30.18.01, and concluding at the last moment of
- November 30, 2018, sales and use taxation pursuant to Code Section 48-8-30 as such tax
- 59 applies to jet fuel shall be governed by the provisions of this Code section notwithstanding
- any provisions of Code Section 48-8-30 or any other law to the contrary.

(d) The commissioner is authorized to prescribe forms and promulgate rules and regulations deemed necessary in order to administer and effectuate this Code section."

63 PART III

**SECTION 3-1.** 

- Said chapter is further amended in Code Section 48-8-2, relating to definitions, by adding a new paragraph to read as follows:
- 67 "(16.1) 'Jet fuel' means any form of fuel that is designed for or used in the operation of
- 68 <u>aircraft powered by jet turbine or turboprop engines, including but not limited to Jet-A,</u>
- and excludes aviation gasoline designed for or used in piston engines, including but not
- 70 <u>limited to avgas."</u>

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71 **SECTION 3-2.** 

- Said chapter is further amended in Code Section 48-8-3, relating to exemptions from state sales and use taxes, by revising paragraph (33.1) as follows:
- 74 "(33.1)(A) The sale or use of jet fuel to or by a qualifying airline at a qualifying airport,
   75 to the extent provided in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of this paragraph.
- 76 (B) For the period of time beginning July 1, 2012, and ending on June 30, 2015, the sale or use of jet fuel to or by a qualifying airline at a qualifying airport shall be exempt
- 78 from 1 percent of the 4 percent state sales and use tax.
- (C) The sale or use of jet fuel to or by a qualifying airline at a qualifying airport shall be exempt at all times from the sales or use tax levied and imposed as authorized pursuant to Part 1 of Article 3 of this chapter. As used in this subparagraph, the term 'qualifying airport' means any airport in this state that has had more than 750,000 takeoffs and landings during a calendar year, and the term 'qualifying airline' shall have the same meaning as set forth in subparagraph (E) of this paragraph.
- (D) Except as provided for in subparagraph (C) of this paragraph, this exemption shall not apply to any other local sales and use tax levied or imposed at any time in any area consisting of less than the entire state, however authorized, not to exceed the rate at which such taxes were levied as of January 1, 2014, including, but not limited to, such taxes authorized by or pursuant to Section 25 of an Act approved March 10, 1965 (Ga. L. 1965, p. 2243), as amended, the 'Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority Act of 1965,' or such taxes as authorized by or pursuant to Part 2 of Article 3 or Article 2,
- 92 2A, or 4 of this chapter.
- 93 (E) For purposes of subparagraph (B) of this paragraph and paragraph (2) of subsection
- 94 (d) of Code Section 48-8-241, a 'qualifying airline' shall mean any person which is

95 authorized by the Federal Aviation Administration or appropriate agency of the United 96 States to operate as an air carrier under an air carrier operating certificate and which 97 provides regularly scheduled flights for the transportation of passengers or cargo for 98 hire. 99 (F) For purposes of subparagraph (B) of this paragraph and paragraph (2) of subsection 100 (d) of Code Section 48-8-241, the term 'qualifying airport' means a certificated air 101 carrier airport in Georgia. 102 (G) On or after July 1, 2017, revenue derived from the levy of sales and use taxes on 103 jet fuel shall be used for a state aviation program or airport related purposes to the 104 extent required to comply with 49 U.S.C. Sections 47107(b) and 47113. Any portion 105 of such revenue so derived which is in excess of the amount required for purposes of 106 such compliance with federal law may be appropriated by the General Assembly for 107 other purposes. 108 (H) The commissioner shall adopt rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this paragraph; Reserved;" 109

110 **SECTION 3-3.** 

111 Said chapter is further amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

112 "<u>48-8-3.5.</u>

113 (a) The sale or use of jet fuel that is pumped into an aircraft in this state and the use of jet

fuel that is pumped into an aircraft in another state shall be exempt from all sales and use

115 <u>tax except such tax levied:</u>

- (1) By the state pursuant to Code Section 48-8-30 at a rate that shall not exceed 4
- percent;
- 118 (2) Pursuant to Article 2 of this chapter by a jurisdiction in which a sales and use tax
- was levied on jet fuel on December 30, 1987, at a rate that shall not exceed the rate in
- effect on December 30, 1987; and
- (3) Pursuant to Section 25 of an Act approved March 10, 1965 (Ga. L. 1965, p. 2243),
- as amended, the 'Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority Act of 1965,' by a
- jurisdiction in which such tax was levied on jet fuel on December 30, 1987, at a rate that
- shall not exceed the rate in effect on December 30, 1987.
- 125 (b) For the period of time beginning December 1, 2018, and ending at the last moment of
- June 30, 2019, the sale or use of jet fuel that is pumped into an aircraft in this state and the
- 127 <u>use of jet fuel that is pumped into an aircraft in another state shall be exempt from the sales</u>
- and use tax levied by the state pursuant to Code Section 48-8-30.
- 129 (c) To the extent required to comply with 49 U.S.C. Sections 47107(b) and 47133, revenue
- derived from the levy of sales and use taxes on jet fuel and other fuels sold or used at an

airport for aviation purposes shall be used for a state aviation program or airport related
 purposes. Any portion of such revenue so derived which is not required or exceeds the

- 133 amount required for purposes of such compliance with federal law may be appropriated for
- other purposes as provided by law.
- 135 (d) The commissioner shall adopt rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this
- 136 <u>Code section.</u>"

137 **SECTION 3-4.** 

- Said chapter is further amended by revising Code Section 48-8-6, relating to prohibition of
- political subdivisions from imposing various taxes, ceiling on local sales and use taxes, and
- 140 taxation of mobile telecommunications, as follows:
- 141 "48-8-6.
- 142 (a) There shall not be imposed in any jurisdiction in this state or on any transaction in this
- state local sales taxes, local use taxes, or local sales and use taxes in excess of 2 percent.
- 144 For purposes of this prohibition, the taxes affected are any sales tax, use tax, or sales and
- use tax which is levied in an area consisting of less than the entire state, however
- authorized, including such taxes authorized by or pursuant to constitutional amendment,
- except that the following taxes shall not count toward or be subject to such 2 percent
- 148 limitation:
- (1) A sales and use tax for educational purposes exempted from such limitation under
- 150 Article VIII, Section VI, Paragraph IV of the Constitution;
- 151 (2) Any tax levied for purposes of a metropolitan area system of public transportation,
- as authorized by the amendment to the Constitution set out at Georgia Laws, 1964, page
- 153 1008; the continuation of such amendment under Article XI, Section I, Paragraph IV(d)
- of the Constitution; and the laws enacted pursuant to such constitutional amendment;
- provided, however, that the exception provided for under this paragraph shall only apply:
- (A) In a county in which a tax is being imposed under subparagraph (a)(1)(D) of Code
- Section 48-8-111 in whole or in part for the purpose or purposes of a water capital
- outlay project or projects, a sewer capital outlay project or projects, a water and sewer
- capital outlay project or projects, water and sewer projects and costs as defined under
- paragraph (4) of Code Section 48-8-200, or any combination thereof and with respect
- to which the county has entered into an intergovernmental contract with a municipality,
- in which the average waste-water system flow of such municipality is not less than 85
- million gallons per day, allocating proceeds to such municipality to be used solely for
- water and sewer projects and costs as defined under paragraph (4) of Code
- Section 48-8-200. The exception provided for under this subparagraph shall apply only
- during the period the tax under such subparagraph (a)(1)(D) is in effect. The exception

provided for under this subparagraph shall not apply in any county in which a tax is being imposed under Article 2A of this chapter;

- (B) In a county in which the tax levied for purposes of a metropolitan area system of public transportation is first levied after January 1, 2010, and before November 1, 2016.
- 171 Such tax shall not apply to the following:
- (i) The sale or use of jet fuel to or by a qualifying airline at a qualifying airport. For purposes of this division, a 'qualifying airline' means any person which is authorized by the Federal Aviation Administration or another appropriate agency of the United States to operate as an air carrier under an air carrier operating certificate and which provides regularly scheduled flights for the transportation of passengers or cargo for hire. For purposes of this division, a 'qualifying airport' means any airport in this state
  - that has had more than 750,000 takeoffs and landings during a calendar year; and
- (ii) The sale of motor vehicles; or
- 180 (C) In a county in which a tax is levied and collected pursuant to Part 2 of Article 2A of this chapter;
- 182 (3) In the event of a rate increase imposed pursuant to Code Section 48-8-96, only the 183 amount in excess of the initial 1 percent sales and use tax and in the event of a newly
- imposed tax pursuant to Code Section 48-8-96, only the amount in excess of a 1 percent
- sales and use tax;

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- (4) A sales and use tax levied under Article 4 of this chapter;
- 187 (5) A sales and use tax levied under Article 5 of this chapter; and
- (6) A sales and use tax levied under Article 5A of this chapter.
- 189 If the imposition of any otherwise authorized local sales tax, local use tax, or local sales
- and use tax would result in a tax rate in excess of that authorized by this subsection, then
- such otherwise authorized tax may not be imposed.
- 192 (b) Reserved.
- (c) Where the exception specified in paragraph (2) of subsection (a) of this Code section
- applies, the tax imposed under subparagraph (a)(1)(D) of Code Section 48-8-111 shall not
- 195 apply to:
- 196 (1) Reserved; and
- 197 (2) The the sale of motor vehicles.
- (c.1) Where the exception specified in paragraph (2) of subsection (a) of this Code section
- applies, on and after July 1, 2007, the aggregate amount of all excise taxes imposed under
- paragraph (5) of subsection (a) of Code Section 48-13-51 and all sales and use taxes shall
- 201 not exceed 14 percent.
- 202 (d) Notwithstanding any law or ordinance to the contrary, any tax, charge, or fee levied
- by any political subdivision of this state and applicable to mobile telecommunications

services, as defined in Section 124(7) of the federal Mobile Telecommunications Sourcing Act, 4 U.S.C. Section 124(7), shall apply only if the customer's place of primary use is located within the boundaries of the political subdivision levying such local tax, charge, or fee. For purposes of this subsection, the provisions of Code Section 48-8-13 shall apply in the same manner and to the same extent as such provisions apply to the tax levied by Code Section 48-8-1 on mobile telecommunications services. This subsection shall not be construed to authorize the imposition of any tax, charge, or fee."

211 **SECTION 3-5.** 

Said chapter is further amended by revising Code Section 48-8-82, relating to authorization of counties and municipalities to impose joint sales and use tax, rate, and applicability to

sales of motor fuels and food and beverages, as follows:

215 "48-8-82.

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- (a) When the imposition of a joint county and municipal sales and use tax is authorized according to the procedures provided in this article within a special district, the county whose geographical boundary is conterminous with that of the special district and each qualified municipality located wholly or partially within the special district shall levy a joint sales and use tax at the rate of 1 percent, except as provided in subsection (b) of this Code section. Except as to rate, the joint tax shall correspond to the tax imposed and administered by Article 1 of this chapter. No item or transaction which is not subject to taxation by Article 1 of this chapter shall be subject to the tax levied pursuant to this article,
- 225 (1) The sale of motor fuels as prepaid local tax as that term is defined in Code Section 48-8-2 and shall be applicable to the sale;

except that the joint tax provided in this article shall be applicable to sales:

- 227 (2) The sale of food and food ingredients and alcoholic beverages only to the extent provided for in paragraph (57) of Code Section 48-8-3; and
- 229 (3) The sale or use of jet fuel as such term is defined in Code Section 48-8-2, to the extent allowed pursuant to Code Section 48-8-3.5.
- 231 (b) On or after July 1, 2015, such joint sales and use tax levied on sales of motor fuels as
  232 defined in Code Section 48-9-2 shall be at the rate of 1 percent of the retail sales price of
  233 the motor fuel which is not more than \$3.00 per gallon; provided, however, that in any
  234 consolidated government levying a joint sales and use tax at 2 percent pursuant to Code
  235 Section 48-8-96, on or after July 1, 2015, any such joint sales and use tax levied on sales
  236 of motor fuels as defined in Code Section 48-9-2 shall be at the rate of 2 percent of the
  237 retail sales price of the motor fuel which is not more than \$3.00 per gallon."

238 **SECTION 3-6.** 

239 Said chapter is further amended in Code Section 48-8-241, relating to special districts and

- 240 tax rate for the Special District Transportation Sales and Use Tax (TSPLOST), by revising
- subsection (d) as follows:
- 242 "(d) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (e) of this Code section, any tax imposed
- 243 under this article shall be at the rate of 1 percent. Except as to rate, a tax imposed under
- 244 this article shall correspond to the tax imposed by Article 1 of this chapter. No item or
- 245 transaction which is not subject to taxation under Article 1 of this chapter shall be subject
- 246 to a tax imposed under this article, except that and a tax imposed under this article shall not
- 247 apply to:
- (1) The sale or use of any type of fuel used for off-road heavy-duty equipment, off-road
- farm or agricultural equipment, or locomotives;
- 250 (2) The sale or use of jet fuel to or by a qualifying airline at a qualifying airport as such
- 251 <u>term is defined in Code Section 48-8-2, except to the extent allowed pursuant to Code</u>
- 252 <u>Section 48-8-3.5</u>;
- 253 (3) The sale or use of fuel that is used for propulsion of motor vehicles on the public
- highways. For purposes of this paragraph, a motor vehicle means a self-propelled vehicle
- designed for operation or required to be licensed for operation upon the public highways;
- 256 (4) The sale or use of energy used in the manufacturing or processing of tangible goods
- primarily for resale; or
- 258 (5) Motor fuel as defined under paragraph (9) of Code Section 48-9-2 for public mass
- 259 transit.
- The tax imposed pursuant to this article shall only be levied on the first \$5,000.00 of any
- transaction involving the sale or lease of a motor vehicle. The tax imposed pursuant to this
- article shall be subject to any sales and use tax exemption which is otherwise imposed by
- law; provided, however, that the tax levied by this article shall be applicable to the sale of
- food and food ingredients as provided for in paragraph (57) of Code Section 48-8-3."
- 265 **SECTION 3-7.**
- 266 Said chapter is further amended by revising Code Section 48-8-269, relating to exemption
- 267 from taxation pursuant to the Special District Mass Transportation Sales and Use Tax, as
- 268 follows:
- 269 "48-8-269.
- 270 (a) Except as to rate, a tax imposed under this part shall correspond to the tax imposed by
- Article 1 of this chapter. No item or transaction which is not subject to taxation under
- 272 Article 1 of this chapter shall be subject to a tax imposed under this part, except that and
- a tax imposed under this part shall not apply to:

(1) The sale or use of any type of fuel used for off-road heavy-duty equipment, off-road

- farm or agricultural equipment, or locomotives;
- 276 (2) The sale or use of jet fuel to or by a qualifying airline at a qualifying airport as such
- 277 term is defined in Code Section 48-8-2, except to the extent allowed pursuant to Code
- 278 <u>Section 48-8-3.5;</u>
- 279 (3) The sale or use of fuel that is used for propulsion of motor vehicles on the public
- 280 highways;
- 281 (4) The sale or use of energy used in the manufacturing or processing of tangible goods
- primarily for resale;
- 283 (5) The sale or use of motor fuel as defined under paragraph (9) of Code Section 48-9-2
- for public mass transit; or
- 285 (6) The purchase or lease of any motor vehicle pursuant to Code Section 48-5C-1.
- 286 (b) Except as otherwise specifically provided in this part, the tax imposed pursuant to this
- part shall be subject to any sales and use tax exemption which is otherwise imposed by law;
- provided, however, that the tax levied by this part shall be applicable to the sale of food and
- food ingredients as provided for in paragraph (57) of Code Section 48-8-3."

#### **SECTION 3-8.**

- 291 Said chapter is further amended by revising Code Section 48-8-269.15, relating to a tax
- 292 authorized to be imposed in Metropolitan County Special Districts, as follows:
- 293 "48-8-269.15.
- 294 (a) Except as to rate, a tax imposed under this part shall correspond to the tax imposed by
- 295 Article 1 of this chapter. No item or transaction which is not subject to taxation under
- Article 1 of this chapter shall be subject to a tax imposed under this part, except that and
- a tax imposed under this part shall not apply to:
- 298 (1) The sale or use of any type of fuel used for off-road heavy-duty equipment, off-road
- farm or agricultural equipment, or locomotives;
- 300 (2) The sale or use of jet fuel to or by a qualifying airline at a qualifying airport as such
- 301 term is defined in Code Section 48-8-2, except to the extent allowed pursuant to Code
- 302 <u>Section 48-8-3.5;</u>
- 303 (3) The sale or use of fuel that is used for propulsion of motor vehicles on the public
- 304 highways;
- 305 (4) The sale or use of energy used in the manufacturing or processing of tangible goods
- 306 primarily for resale;
- 307 (5) The sale or use of motor fuel as defined under paragraph (9) of Code Section 48-9-2
- for public mass transit; or
- 309 (6) The purchase or lease of any motor vehicle pursuant to Code Section 48-5C-1.

310 (b) Except as otherwise specifically provided in this part, the tax imposed pursuant to this part shall be subject to any sales and use tax exemption which is otherwise imposed by law; 312 provided, however, that the tax levied by this part shall be applicable to the sale of food and 313 food ingredients as provided for in paragraph (57) of Code Section 48-8-3."

214	OF OPTION 2.0
314	SECTION 3-9.

- 315 Said chapter is further amended by revising Code Section 48-8-269.30, relating to a tax
- 316 authorized to be imposed in Metropolitan Municipality Special Districts, as follows:
- 317 "48-8-269.30.
- 318 (a) Except as to rate, a tax imposed under this part shall correspond to the tax imposed by
- 319 Article 1 of this chapter. No item or transaction which is not subject to taxation under
- 320 Article 1 of this chapter shall be subject to a tax imposed under this part, except that and
- a tax imposed under this part shall not apply to:
- 322 (1) The sale or use of any type of fuel used for off-road heavy-duty equipment, off-road
- farm or agricultural equipment, or locomotives;
- 324 (2) The sale or use of jet fuel to or by a qualifying airline at a qualifying airport as such
- 325 term is defined in Code Section 48-8-2, except to the extent allowed pursuant to Code
- 326 <u>Section 48-8-3.5</u>;
- 327 (3) The sale or use of fuel that is used for propulsion of motor vehicles on the public
- 328 highways;
- 329 (4) The sale or use of energy used in the manufacturing or processing of tangible goods
- primarily for resale;
- 331 (5) The sale or use of motor fuel as defined under paragraph (9) of Code Section 48-9-2
- for public mass transit; or
- 333 (6) The purchase or lease of any motor vehicle pursuant to Code Section 48-5C-1.
- 334 (b) Except as otherwise specifically provided in this part, the tax imposed pursuant to this
- part shall be subject to any sales and use tax exemption which is otherwise imposed by law;
- provided, however, that the tax levied by this part shall be applicable to the sale of food and
- food ingredients as provided for in paragraph (57) of Code Section 48-8-3."

338 PART IV

**SECTION 4-1.** 

- 340 (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) of this section, this Act shall become
- 341 effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval.
- 342 (b) Part III of this Act shall become effective December 1, 2018.

## **SECTION 4-2.**

344 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.