WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 1978

ENROLLED
Committee Substitute for
SENATE BILL NO. 163

(By Mr. Alatis)

PASSED March 11, 1978

In Effect April 1, 1978
AN ACT to amend and reenact sections two, two-b, two-d, two-k, three-b and twenty-five, article thirteen, chapter eleven of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended; to further amend said article thirteen by adding thereto a new section, designated section two-m; and to amend and reenact section two, article thirteen-c of said chapter eleven, all relating to business and occupation taxes; imposition of privilege taxes on privileges of generating or producing electric power and on supplying of public service by electric light and power companies; establishing rates and measures of such taxes; establishing rate of tax on electric light and power companies which supply public service but which do not produce electric power; establishing rate of tax on electric power used in certain quantities at plant locations of manufacturers; clarifying tax treatment of electricity generated by manufacturers for own use; relating to tax credit for industrial expansion; and expanding definition of “industrial taxpayer” to include persons exercising privilege of generating or producing electric power.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That sections two, two-b, two-d, two-k, three-b and twenty-five, article thirteen, chapter eleven of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted; that said article thirteen be further amended by adding thereto a new section, designated section
two-m; and that section two, article thirteen-c of said chapter eleven be amended and reenacted, all to read as follows:

ARTICLE 13. BUSINESS AND OCCUPATION TAX.

§11-13-2. Imposition of privilege tax.

1 There is hereby levied and shall be collected annual privilege taxes against the persons, on account of the business and other activities, and in the amounts to be determined by the application of rates against values or gross income as set forth in sections two-a to two-m, inclusive, of this article.

2 If any person liable for any tax under sections two-a, two-b, two-l or two-m shall ship or transport his products or any part thereof out of the state without making sale of such products, the value of the products in the condition or form in which they exist immediately before transportation out of the state shall be the basis for the assessment of the tax imposed in said section, except in those instances in which another measure of the tax is expressly provided. The tax commissioner shall prescribe equitable and uniform rules for ascertaining such value.

3 In determining value, however, as regards sales from one to another of affiliated companies or persons, or under other circumstances where the relation between the buyer and seller is such that the gross proceeds from the sale are not indicative of the true value of the subject matter of the sale, the tax commissioner shall prescribe uniform and equitable rules for determining the value upon which such privilege tax shall be levied, corresponding as nearly as possible to the gross proceeds from the sale of similar products of like quality or character where no common interest exists between the buyer and seller but the circumstances and conditions are otherwise similar.

4 Gross income included in the measure of the tax under sections two-a, two-b, two-l and two-m of this article shall neither be added nor deducted in computing the tax levied under the other sections of this article.

5 A person exercising any privilege taxable under sections two-a, two-b, two-l or two-m of this article and
engaging in the business of selling his natural resources, manufactured products, or electricity at retail in this state shall be required to make returns of the gross proceeds of such retail sales and pay the tax imposed in section two-c of this article for the privilege of engaging in the business of selling such natural resources, manufactured products or electricity at retail in this state. But any person exercising any privilege taxable under sections two-a, two-b, two-l or two-m of this article and engaging in the business of selling his natural resources, manufactured products, or electricity to producers of natural resources, manufacturers, wholesalers, jobbers, retailers or commercial consumers for use or consumption in the purchaser's business shall not be required to pay the tax imposed in section two-c of this article.

Persons exercising any privilege taxable under section two-b or two-m of this article shall not be required to pay the tax imposed in section two-c of this article for the privilege of selling their manufactured products or electricity for delivery outside of this state, but the gross income derived from the sale of such products or electricity outside of this state shall be included in determining the measure of the tax imposed on such person in section two-b or two-m.

A person exercising privileges taxable under the other sections of this article, producing coal, oil, natural gas, minerals, timber or other natural resource products the production of which is taxable under sections two-a and two-l, and using or consuming the same in his business or transferring or delivering the same as any royalty payment, in kind, or the like, shall be deemed to be engaged in the business of mining and producing coal, oil, natural gas, minerals, timber or other natural resource products for sale, profit or commercial use, and shall be required to make returns on account of the production of the business showing the gross proceeds or equivalent in accordance with uniform and equitable rules for determining the value upon which such privilege tax shall be levied, corresponding as nearly as possible to the gross proceeds from the sale of similar products.
§11-13-2b. Manufacturing, compounding or preparing products; processing of food; exception of generated or produced electric power by public utilities or others; treatment accorded electricity generated by manufacturers for own use.

1 Upon every person engaging or continuing within this state in the business of manufacturing, compounding or preparing for sale, profit, or commercial use, either directly or through the activity of others in whole or in part, any article or articles, substance or substances, commodity or commodities, or newspaper publishing (including all gross income or proceeds of sale from circulation and advertising), except electric power produced by public utilities or others, the amount of the tax to be paid shall be equal to the value of the article, substance, commodity or newspaper, manufactured, compounded or prepared for sale, as shown by the gross proceeds derived from the sale thereof by the manufacturer or person compounding or preparing the same, except as otherwise provided, multiplied by a rate of eighty-eight one-hundredths of one percent. The measure of this tax is the value of the entire product manufactured, compounded or prepared in this state for sale, profit or commercial use, regardless of the place of sale or the fact that deliveries may be made to points outside the state. The value of electricity generated by persons taxed under the provisions of this section, which electricity is directly used by such persons in the business of manufacturing and not sold or otherwise transferred or transmitted to others, shall be exempt from the imposition of any tax under this article. The dressing and processing of food by a person, firm or corporation, which food is to be sold on a wholesale basis by such person, firm or corporation shall not be considered as manufacturing or compounding, but the sale of these products on a wholesale basis shall be subject to the same tax as is imposed on the business of selling at wholesale as provided in section two-c.
It is further provided, however, that in those instances in which the same person partially manufactures, compounds or prepares products within this state and partially manufactures, compounds or prepares such products outside of this state the measure of his tax under this section shall be that proportion of the sale price of the product that the payroll cost of manufacturing within this state bears to the entire payroll cost of manufacturing the product; or, at the option of the taxpayer, the measure of his tax under this section shall be the proportion of the sales value of the articles that the cost of operations in West Virginia bears to the full cost of manufacture of the articles.

§11-13-2d. Public service or utility business.

1. Upon any person engaging or continuing within this state in any public service or utility business, except railroad, railroad car, express, pipeline, telephone and telegraph companies, water carriers by steamboat or steamship and motor carriers, there is likewise hereby levied and shall be collected taxes on account of the business engaged in equal to gross income of the business multiplied by the respective rates as follows: Street and interurban and electric railways, one and four-tenths percent; water companies, four and four-tenths percent except as to income received by municipally owned water plants; electric light and power companies, four percent on sales and demand charges for domestic purposes and commercial lighting and four percent on sales and demand charges for all other purposes, except as to income received by municipally owned plants producing or purchasing electricity and distributing same: Provided, That electric light and power companies which engage in the supplying of public service but which do not generate or produce electric power shall be taxed on the gross income derived therefrom at the rate of three percent on sales and demand charges for domestic purposes and commercial lighting and three percent on sales and demand charges for all other purposes, except as to income received by municipally owned plants:
Provided, however, That the sale of electric power under this section shall be taxed at the rate of two and forty-six hundredths percent on that portion of the gross proceeds derived from the sale of electric power to a plant location of a customer engaged in a manufacturing activity, if the contract demand at such plant location exceeds two hundred thousand kilowatts per hour per year, or if the usage at such plant location exceeds two hundred thousand kilowatts per hour in a year; natural gas companies, four and twenty-nine hundredths percent on the gross income; toll bridge companies, four and twenty-nine hundredths percent; and upon all other public service or utility business, two and eighty-six hundredths percent. The measure of this tax shall not include gross income derived from commerce between this state and other states of the United States or between this state and foreign countries. The measure of the tax under this section shall include only gross income received from the supplying of public services. The gross income of the taxpayer from any other activity shall be included in the measure of the tax imposed upon the appropriate section or sections of this article.

§11-13-2k. Banking and other financial business; legislative findings.

Upon every person engaging or continuing within this state in the business of banking or financial business, from and after the first day of April, one thousand nine hundred seventy-one, the tax shall be equal to one and fifteen one-hundredths percent of the gross income received from interest, premiums, discounts, dividends, service fees or charges, commissions, fines, rents from real or tangible personal property, however denominated, royalties, charges for bookkeeping or data processing, receipts from check sales, charges or fees, and receipts from the sale of tangible personal property: Provided, That gross income shall not include (a) interest received on the obligations of the United States, its agencies and instrumentalities, (b) interest received on the obligations of this or any other state, territory or possession of the

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United States, or any political subdivision of any of the
foregoing or of the District of Columbia, or (c) interest
received on investments or loans primarily secured by
first mortgages or deeds of trust on residential property
occupied by nontransients: Provided, however, That all
interest derived on activities exempt under (c) above,
shall be reported, as to amounts, on the return of a
person taxable under the provisions of this section.
Persons taxed pursuant to the provisions of this sec-
tion shall not be taxed under sections two-a to two-j,
inclusive, or sections two-l or two-m of this article.
The Legislature hereby finds and declares that it is
the intent of the Legislature to subject national banking
associations and other financial organizations to the tax
imposed by this article, in accordance with the author-
ization contained in section five thousand two hundred
nineteen of the Revised Statutes of the United States as
amended by Public Law 91-156 enacted the twenty-
fourth day of December, one thousand nine hundred
sixty-nine.
§11-13-2m. Business of generating or producing electric power;
exception; rates.
(1) Upon every person engaging or continuing within
this state in the business of generating or producing
electric power for sale, profit or commercial use, either
directly or through the activity of others, in whole or
in part, when the sale thereof is not subject to tax
under section two-d of this article, the amount of the
tax to be equal to the value of the electric power, as
shown by the gross proceeds derived from the sale thereof
by the generator or producer of the same multiplied
by a rate of four percent, except that the rate shall be two
and forty-six hundredths percent on that portion of the
gross proceeds derived from the sale of electric power
to a plant location of a customer engaged in a manufac-
turing activity, if the contract demand at such plant
location exceeds two hundred thousand kilowatts per hour
per year, or if the usage at such plant location exceeds
two hundred thousand kilowatts per hour in a year.
(2) The measure of this tax shall be the value of all
electric power generated or produced in this state for sale, profit or commercial use, regardless of the place of sale or the fact that transmission may be to points outside this state: Provided, That the gross income received by municipally owned plants generating or producing electricity shall not be subject to tax under this article.

§11-13-3b. Definitions; reduction allowed in tax due; how computed.

1 When used in this section, the phrase "normal tax" shall mean the tax computed by the application of rates against values or gross income as set forth in sections two-a to two-m, inclusive, of this article, less exemption at the rate of fifty dollars annually or at the rate of four dollars and sixteen cents per month for the period actually engaged in business.

The normal tax shall be computed by the application of rates against values or gross income as set forth in sections two-a to two-m, inclusive, of this article.

§11-13-25. Cities, towns or villages restricted from imposing additional tax.

Notwithstanding the provisions of section five, article thirteen, chapter eight of this code, no city, town or village shall impose a business and occupation tax:

(a) Upon occupations or privileges taxed under sections two-a, two-b, two-c, two-d, two-e, two-g, two-h, two-i and two-j of this article, in excess of rates in effect under this article on January one, one thousand nine hundred fifty-nine;

(b) Upon occupations or privileges taxed under section two-k of this article, in excess of one percent of gross income;

(c) Under section two-l of this article; or

(d) Upon occupations or privileges taxed under section two-m of this article, in excess of the tax rate applicable to such occupations or privileges under section two-b of this article on January one, one thousand nine hundred fifty-nine.
ARTICLE 13C. BUSINESS AND OCCUPATION TAX CREDIT FOR INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION.


(a) Any term used in this article shall have the same meaning as when used in comparable context in article thirteen of this chapter, unless a different meaning is clearly required by the context or by definition in this article.

(b) The term “industrial taxpayer” when used in this article shall mean any person liable for tax under article thirteen of this chapter exercising any of the following privileges:

(1) Any privilege taxable under section two-b or two-m of article thirteen of this chapter.

(2) Any privilege taxable under section two-h of article thirteen of this chapter: Provided, That such privilege is manufacturing for another, which privilege would be taxable under section two-b or two-m of article thirteen of this chapter if title to the raw materials involved in the manufacturing process were vested in the taxpayer exercising the privilege taxable under section two-h of article thirteen of this chapter.
The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

James L. Davis  
Chairman Senate Committee

Glenn C. Teethour  
Chairman House Committee

Originated in the Senate.

To take effect April 1, 1978.

J. Chilton Jr.  
Clerk of the Senate

C. A. Blankenship  
Clerk of the House of Delegates

W. E. Bechtel Jr.  
President of the Senate

Donald J. Zupp  
Speaker House of Delegates

The within approved this the 30 day of March 1978.

John D. Rhoades  
Governor