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WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 1993

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HOUSE BILL No. 2620

(By Delegates Liss, Browning, Staton, Ashcraft, Campbell, Tattott and Schoonover)

Passed April 10 1993 In Effect Minty Days From Passage

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COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

H. B. 2620

(By Delegates Kiss, Browning, Staton, Ashcraft, Campbell, Talbott and Schoonover)

[Passed April 10, 1993: in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact section six, article thirteena, chapter eleven of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to requirements for budgeting additional tax on severance, extraction and production of coal; and removing or reducing certain budgetary restrictions.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That section six, article thirteen-a, chapter eleven of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 13A. SEVERANCE TAXES.

§11-13A-6. Additional tax on the severance, extraction and production of coal; dedication of additional tax for benefit of counties and municipalities; distribution of major portion of such additional tax to coal-producing counties; distribution of minor portion of such additional tax to all counties and municipalities; reports; rules and regulations; creation of special funds in office of state treasurer; method and formulas for distribution of such additional tax; expenditure of funds by counties and municipalities for public purposes; creating special funds in counties and municipalities; and requiring special county and municipal budgets and reports thereon.

1 (a) Additional coal severance tax. — Upon every 2 person exercising the privilege of engaging or continu-3 ing within this state in the business of severing coal, or 4 preparing coal (or both severing and preparing coal), for 5 sale, profit or commercial use, there is hereby imposed 6 an additional severance tax, the amount of which shall 7 be equal to the value of the coal severed or prepared (or 8 both severed and prepared), against which the tax 9 imposed by section three of this article is measured as shown by the gross proceeds derived from the sale 10 11 thereof by the producer, multiplied by thirty-five one 12 hundredths of one percent. The tax imposed by this 13 subsection (a) shall be in addition to the tax imposed by 14 section three of this article, and this additional tax is 15 hereinafter in this section referred to as the "additional 16 tax on coal."

17 (b) This additional tax on coal is imposed pursuant to 18 the provisions of section six-a, article ten of the West 19 Virginia constitution. Seventy-five percent of the net 20 proceeds of this additional tax on coal shall, after 21 appropriation thereof by the Legislature, be distributed 22 by the state treasurer in the manner hereinafter 23 specified, to the various counties of this state in which 24 the coal upon which this additional tax is imposed was 25 located at the time it was severed from the ground. 26 Those counties are hereinafter in this section referred 27 to as the "coal-producing counties." The remaining 28 twenty-five percent of the net proceeds of this additional 29 tax on coal shall be distributed, after appropriation, 30 among all the counties and municipalities of this state 31 in the manner hereinafter specified.

32 (c) Such additional tax on coal shall be due and
33 payable, reported and remitted as elsewhere provided in
34 this article for the tax imposed by said section three of
35 this article, and all of the enforcement and other

36 provisions of this article shall apply to such additional 37 tax. In addition to the reports and other information 38 required under the provisions of this article and the 39 tonnage reports required to be filed under the provisions 40 of section seventy-two, article two, chapter twenty-two 41 of this code, the tax commissioner is hereby granted 42 plenary power and authority to promulgate reasonable 43 rules and regulations requiring the furnishing by 44 producers of such additional information as may be 45 necessary to compute the allocation required under the 46 provisions of subsection (f) of this section. The tax 47 commissioner is also hereby granted plenary power and 48 authority to promulgate such other reasonable rules and 49 regulations as may be necessary to implement the provisions of this section: Provided, That notwithstand-50 ing any language contained in this code to the contrary, 51 52 the gross amount of additional tax on coal collected 53 under this article shall be paid over and distributed 54 without the application of any credits against the tax 55 imposed by this section.

56 (d) In order to provide a procedure for the distribu-57 tion of seventy-five percent of the net proceeds of such 58 additional tax on coal to such coal-producing counties, 59 there is hereby created in the state treasurer's office a special fund to be known as the "county coal revenue 60 fund"; and in order to provide a procedure for the 61 62 distribution of the remaining twenty-five percent of the 63 net proceeds of such additional tax on coal to all counties 64 and municipalities of the state, without regard to coal 65 having been produced therein, there is also hereby 66 created in the state treasurer's office a special fund to 67 be known as the "all counties and municipalities revenue 68 fund."

69 Seventy-five percent of the net proceeds of such 70 additional tax on coal shall be deposited in the "county 71 coal revenue fund" and twenty-five percent of such net 72 proceeds shall be deposited in the "all counties and 73 municipalities revenue fund," from time to time, as such 74 proceeds are received by the tax commissioner. The 75 moneys in such funds shall, after appropriation thereof 76 by the Legislature, be distributed to the respective

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77 counties and municipalities entitled thereto in the 78 manner set forth in subsection (e) of this section.

79 (e) The moneys in the "county coal revenue fund" and 80 the moneys in the "all counties and municipalities 81 revenue fund" shall be allocated among and distributed 82 quarterly to the counties and municipalities entitled 83 thereto by the state treasurer in the manner hereinafter specified. On or before each distribution date, the state 84 85 treasurer shall determine the total amount of moneys in 86 each fund which will be available for distribution to the 87 respective counties and municipalities entitled thereto 88 on that distribution date. The amount to which a coal-89 producing county is entitled from the "county coal 90 revenue fund" shall be determined in accordance with 91 subsection (f) of this section, and the amount to which 92 every county and municipality shall be entitled from the 93 "all counties and municipalities revenue fund" shall be 94 determined in accordance with subsection (g) of this 95 section. After determining as set forth in subsection (f) 96 and subsection (g) of this section the amount each county 97 and municipality is entitled to receive from the respec-98 tive fund or funds, a warrant of the state auditor for the 99 sum due to such county or municipality shall issue and 100 a check drawn thereon making payment of such sum 101 shall thereafter be distributed to such county or 102 municipality.

103 (f) The amount to which a coal-producing county is 104 entitled from the "county coal revenue fund" shall be 105 determined by: (1) Dividing the total amount of moneys 106 in such fund then available for distribution by the total 107 number of tons of coal mined in this state during the 108 preceding quarter; and (2) multiplying the quotient thus 109 obtained by the number of tons of coal removed from 110 the ground in such county during the preceding quarter.

(g) The amount to which each county and municipality shall be entitled from the "all counties and municipalities revenue fund" shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of this subsection. For purposes of this subsection "population" shall mean the population as determined by the most recent decennial census taken under the authority of the United States: 118 (1) The treasurer shall first apportion the total amount of moneys available in the "all counties and municipalities revenue fund" by multiplying the total amount in such fund by the percentage which the population of each county bears to the total population of the state. The amount thus apportioned for each county shall be the county's "base share."

(2) Each county's "base share" shall then be subdi-125 126 vided into two portions. One portion shall be determined 127 by multiplying the "base share" by that percentage 128 which the total population of all unincorporated areas 129 within the county bears to the total population of the 130 county, and the other portion shall be determined by 131 multiplying the "base share" by that percentage which the total population of all municipalities within the 132 133 county bears to the total population of the county. The 134 former portion shall be paid to the county and the latter portion shall be the "municipalities' portion" of the 135 county's "base share." The percentage of such latter 136 137 portion to which each municipality in the county is 138 entitled shall be determined by multiplying the total of 139 such latter portion by the percentage which the 140 population of each municipality within the county bears 141 to the total population of all municipalities within the 142 county.

143 (h) All counties and municipalities shall create a "coal 144 severance tax revenue fund" which shall be the depos-145 itory for moneys distributed to any county or municipal-146 ity under the provisions of this section, from either or 147 both special funds. Moneys in such "coal severance tax 148 revenue funds" may be expended by the county commis-149 sion or governing body of the municipality for such 150 public purposes as the county commission or governing 151 body shall determine to be in the best interest of the 152 people of its respective county or municipality: Provided, 153 That in counties with population in excess of two 154 hundred thousand at least seventy-five percent of such 155 funds received from the county coal revenue fund shall 156 be apportioned to, and expended within the coal-157 producing area or areas of the county, said coal-158 producing areas of each county to be determined

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159 generally by the state tax commissioner: Provided, 160 however. That a line item budgeted amount from the 161 current levy estimated for a county shall be funded at fifty percent of the preceding year's expenditure from 162 163 the county general fund prior to the use of coal 164 severance tax revenue fund moneys for the same general 165 purpose: Provided further. That said coal severance tax 166 revenue fund moneys shall not be budgeted for personal 167 services in an amount to exceed one half of the total 168 funds available in such fund.

(i) The state tax commissioner shall retain for the
benefit of the state from the additional taxes on coal
collected the amount of thirty-five thousand dollars
annually as a fee for the administration of such
additional tax by the tax commissioner.

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The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled. Chairman Senate Committee 2 9 And 200 Chairman House Committee Originating in the House. Takes effect ninety days from passage. Omla Clerk of the Senate Clerk of the House of Delege ent of the Senate Presi Speaker of the House of Delegates The within 1993. day of Governo

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