WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 1997

ENROLLED

HOUSE BILL No. 2619

(By Delegate Michael)

Passed April 11, 1997
In Effect Ninety Days From Passage
AN ACT to amend article five, chapter eleven of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated section thirteen-a, relating to clarification of application of freeport warehouse exemption against ad valorem property tax as it applies to goods in a warehouse awaiting shipment out-of-state.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That article five, chapter eleven of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new section, designated section thirteen-a, to read as follows:

ARTICLE 5. ASSESSMENT OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.

§11-5-13a. Application of exemption to finished goods in warehouse.

(a) This section is intended to clarify the intent of the Legislature and the citizens in establishing the exemption from ad valorem property taxation granted by section one-c, article ten of the West Virginia constitution and section thirteen of this article as it pertains to goods held...
in warehouse facilities in this state awaiting shipment to a
destination outside this state. This section codifies policies
applied by agencies and departments of this state upon
which persons have relied. It is the intent of the Legisla-
ture that the provisions of this section are to be liberally
construed in favor of a person claiming exemption from
tax pursuant to section one-c, article ten of the West Vir-
ginia constitution, this section and section thirteen of this
article.

(b) Goods which have been moved to a warehouse or
storage facility, at which no substantial alteration takes
place, to await shipment to a destination outside this state
are deemed to be moving in interstate commerce over the
territory of the state and therefore are exempt from ad
valorem property tax and do not have a tax situs in West
Virginia for purposes of ad valorem taxation.

(c) Notwithstanding subsection (b) of this section,
personal property of inventories of natural resources shall
not be exempt from ad valorem taxation unless required
by federal law.

(d) This section is intended to be declarative of the
law as of the enactment hereof and shall be fully retroac-
tive.
The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

Chairman Senate Committee

Chairman House Committee

Originating in the House.

Takes effect ninety days from passage.

Clerk of the Senate

Clerk of the House of Delegates

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Delegates

The within is approved this the 2nd day of May, 1997.

Governor