

RURAL COUNTY JAIL FACILITIES TAX

2024 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Rex P. Shipp

Senate Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE**General Description:**

This bill establishes a local option sales and use tax for rural county jail facilities.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- defines terms;
- allows rural counties to impose a sales and use tax to fund the development of county jail facilities;
- requires a county to obtain approval from voters and the county legislative body before imposing a rural county jail facilities tax;
- addresses the administration, collection, and distribution of tax revenue; and
- requires the State Tax Commission to retain an administrative charge from collected tax revenue.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

This bill provides a special effective date.

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

59-12-2401, Utah Code Annotated 1953

59-12-2402, Utah Code Annotated 1953



28 [59-12-2403](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953
29 [59-12-2404](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953
30 [59-12-2405](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953
31 [59-12-2406](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953

33 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

34 Section 1. Section **59-12-2401** is enacted to read:

35 **Part 24. Funding for Rural County Jail Facilities**

36 **59-12-2401. Definitions.**

37 As used in this part:

38 (1) "Annexation" means an annexation to a county under Title 17, Chapter 2, Part 2,
39 County Annexation.

40 (2) "Annexing area" means an area that is annexed into a county.

41 (3) "Rural county" means a county of the third, fourth, fifth, or sixth class.

42 (4) "Rural county jail facilities tax" means the tax described in Subsection
43 [59-12-2402](#)(1)(a).

44 Section 2. Section **59-12-2402** is enacted to read:

45 **59-12-2402. Imposition of rural county jail facilities tax -- Rate -- Expenditure**
46 **and distribution of tax revenue -- Administration, collection, and enforcement of tax --**
47 **Administrative charge.**

48 (1) (a) A county legislative body of a rural county may impose a sales and use tax of up
49 to 1%:

50 (i) on the transactions described in Subsection [59-12-103](#)(1) located within the county;
51 and

52 (ii) to fund new or existing county jail facilities in that county.

53 (b) Notwithstanding Subsection (1)(a)(i), a county legislative body may not impose a
54 rural county jail facilities tax on:

55 (i) the sales and uses described in Section [59-12-104](#) to the extent the sales and uses
56 are exempt from taxation under Section [59-12-104](#); and

57 (ii) except as provided in Subsection (1)(d), amounts paid or charged for food and food
58 ingredients.

59 (c) For purposes of this Subsection (1), the location of a transaction shall be
60 determined in accordance with Sections 59-12-211 through 59-12-215.

61 (d) A county legislative body that imposes a rural county jail facilities tax shall impose
62 the tax on the purchase price or sales price for amounts paid or charged for food and food
63 ingredients if the food and food ingredients are sold as part of a bundled transaction attributable
64 to food and food ingredients and tangible personal property other than food and food
65 ingredients.

66 (2) Before imposing a rural county jail facilities tax, a county legislative body shall
67 obtain approval to impose the tax from a majority of:

68 (a) the members of the county's legislative body; and

69 (b) the county's registered voters voting in an election held for that purpose in
70 accordance with Title 11, Chapter 14, Local Government Bonding Act.

71 (3) The money collected from a rural county jail facilities tax may only be used to
72 fund:

73 (a) the acquisition of land for a new county jail facility; or

74 (b) the design, construction, remodeling, equipping, or furnishing of a new or existing
75 county jail facility.

76 (4) (a) Except as provided in Subsections (4)(b) and (6), all money collected from a
77 rural county jail facilities tax shall be distributed quarterly by the county legislative body to
78 county jail facilities.

79 (b) A county legislative body shall determine how money collected from a rural county
80 jail facilities tax is allocated and distributed if:

81 (i) more than one county jail facility is located within the county; or

82 (ii) the money is used to fund a new county jail facility in the county.

83 (5) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (5)(c), a rural county jail facilities tax shall be
84 administered, collected, and enforced in accordance with:

85 (i) (A) Part 1, Tax Collection; or

86 (B) Part 2, Local Sales and Use Tax Act; and

87 (ii) Chapter 1, General Taxation Policies.

88 (b) A rural county jail facilities tax shall be levied for a period of 10 years and may be
89 reauthorized at the end of the 10-year period by the county legislative body as provided in

Subsection (2).

(c) A rural county jail facilities tax under this part is not subject to Subsections [59-12-205](#)(2) through (5).

(6) The commission shall retain and deposit an administrative charge in accordance with Section [59-1-306](#) from the revenue the commission collects from a tax under this part.

Section 3. Section **59-12-2403** is enacted to read:

59-12-2403. Enactment, repeal, or change in the rate of a rural county jail facilities tax -- Annexation -- Notice.

(1) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (2), if a county enacts or repeals a rural county jail facilities tax or changes the rate of a rural county jail facilities tax, the enactment, repeal, or change shall take effect:

(i) on the first day of a calendar quarter; and

(ii) after a 90-day period beginning on the date the commission receives notice meeting the requirements of Subsection (1)(b) from the county.

(b) The notice described in Subsection (1)(a)(ii) shall state:

(i) that the county will enact, repeal, or change the rate of a rural county jail facilities tax;

(ii) the statutory authority for the rural county jail facilities tax;

(iii) the effective date of the enactment, repeal, or change in the rate of the rural county jail facilities tax; and

(iv) if the county enacts or changes the rate of the rural county jail facilities tax, the rate of the rural county jail facilities tax.

(2) (a) If the billing period for a transaction begins before the effective date of the enactment of a rural county jail facilities tax or the increase in the rate of a rural county jail facilities tax, the enactment of the tax or the tax rate increase shall take effect on the first day of the first billing period that begins after the effective date of the enactment of the tax or the tax rate increase.

(b) If the billing period for a transaction begins before the effective date of the repeal of a rural county jail facilities tax or the decrease in the rate of a rural county jail facilities tax, the repeal of the tax or the tax rate decrease shall take effect on the first day of the last billing period that began before the effective date of the repeal of the tax or the tax rate decrease.

121 (c) If a tax due under this part on a catalogue sale is computed on the basis of sales and
122 use tax rates published in the catalogue, an enactment, repeal, or change in the rate of a tax
123 described in Subsection (1)(a) shall take effect:

124 (i) on the first day of a calendar quarter; and

125 (ii) beginning 60 days after the effective date of the enactment, repeal, or change in the
126 rate of the tax under Subsection (1)(a).

127 (3) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (4), if an annexation will result in the
128 enactment, repeal, or change in the rate of a rural county jail facilities tax for an annexing area,
129 the enactment, repeal, or change shall take effect:

130 (i) on the first day of a calendar quarter; and

131 (ii) after a 90-day period beginning on the date the commission receives notice meeting
132 the requirements of Subsection (3)(b) from the county that annexes the annexing area.

133 (b) The notice described in Subsection (3)(a)(ii) shall state:

134 (i) that the annexation described in Subsection (3)(a) will result in the enactment,
135 repeal, or change in the rate of a rural county jail facilities tax for the annexing area;

136 (ii) the statutory authority for the rural county jail facilities tax;

137 (iii) the effective date of the enactment, repeal, or change in the rate of the rural county
138 jail facilities tax; and

139 (iv) if the annexation results in the enactment or change in the rate of a rural county jail
140 facilities tax for the annexing area, the rate of the rural county jail facilities tax.

141 (4) (a) If the billing period for a transaction begins before the effective date of the
142 enactment of a rural county jail facilities tax or the increase in the rate of a rural county jail
143 facilities tax, the enactment of the tax or the tax rate increase shall take effect on the first day of
144 the first billing period that begins after the effective date of the enactment of the tax or the tax
145 rate increase.

146 (b) If the billing period for a transaction begins before the effective date of the repeal of
147 a rural county jail facilities tax or the decrease in the rate of a rural county jail facilities tax, the
148 repeal of the tax or the tax rate decrease shall take effect on the first day of the last billing
149 period that began before the effective date of the repeal of the tax or the tax rate decrease.

150 (c) If a tax due under this part on a catalogue sale is computed on the basis of sales and
151 use tax rates published in the catalogue, an enactment, repeal, or change in the rate of a tax

described in Subsection (3)(a) shall take effect:

(i) on the first day of a calendar quarter; and

(ii) beginning 60 days after the effective date of the enactment, repeal, or change in the rate of the tax under Subsection (3)(a).

(5) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, and for purposes of Subsections (2)(c) and (4)(c), the commission may by rule define the term "catalogue sale."

Section 4. Section **59-12-2404** is enacted to read:

59-12-2404. Seller or certified service provider reliance on commission information.

A seller or certified service provider is not liable for failing to collect a rural county jail facilities tax if the seller's or certified service provider's failure to collect the rural county jail facilities tax is as a result of the seller's or certified service provider's reliance on incorrect data provided by the commission in a database created by the commission:

(1) containing tax rates, boundaries, or local taxing jurisdiction assignments; or

(2) indicating the taxability of tangible personal property, a product transferred electronically, or a service.

Section 5. Section **59-12-2405** is enacted to read:

59-12-2405. Certified service provider or model 2 seller reliance on commission certified software.

(1) Except as provided in Subsection (2) and subject to Subsection (4), a certified service provider or model 2 seller is not liable for failing to collect a rural county jail facilities tax if:

(a) the certified service provider or model 2 seller relies on software the commission certifies; and

(b) the certified service provider's or model 2 seller's failure to collect a rural county jail facilities tax is a result of the seller's or certified service provider's reliance on incorrect data:

(i) provided by the commission; or

(ii) in the software the commission certifies.

(2) The relief from liability described in Subsection (1) does not apply if a certified

183 service provider or model 2 seller incorrectly classifies an item or transaction into a product
184 category the commission certifies.

185 (3) If the taxability of a product category is incorrectly classified in software the
186 commission certifies, the commission shall:

187 (a) notify a certified service provider or model 2 seller of the incorrect classification of
188 the taxability of a product category in software the commission certifies; and

189 (b) state in the notice required by Subsection (3)(a) that the certified service provider or
190 model 2 seller is liable for failing to collect the correct amount of tax under this part on the
191 incorrectly classified product category if the certified service provider or model 2 seller fails to
192 correct the taxability of the item or transaction within 10 days after the day on which the
193 certified service provider or model 2 seller receives the notice.

194 (4) If a certified service provider or model 2 seller fails to correct the taxability of an
195 item or transaction within 10 days after the day on which the certified service provider or
196 model 2 seller receives the notice described in Subsection (3), the certified service provider or
197 model 2 seller is liable for failing to collect the correct amount of tax under this part on the
198 item or transaction.

199 Section 6. Section **59-12-2406** is enacted to read:

200 **59-12-2406. Purchaser relief from liability.**

201 (1) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (1)(b), a purchaser is relieved from a penalty
202 under Section [59-1-401](#) for failure to pay a rural county jail facilities tax or an underpayment of
203 the rural county jail facilities tax if:

204 (i) the purchaser's seller or certified service provider relies on incorrect data provided
205 by the commission:

206 (A) on a tax rate;

207 (B) on a boundary;

208 (C) on a taxing jurisdiction; or

209 (D) in the taxability matrix the commission provides in accordance with the agreement;

210 or

211 (ii) the purchaser, regardless of whether the purchaser holds a direct payment permit in
212 accordance with Section [59-12-107.1](#), relies on incorrect data provided by the commission:

213 (A) on a tax rate;

214 (B) on a boundary;

215 (C) on a taxing jurisdiction; or

216 (D) in the taxability matrix the commission provides in accordance with the agreement.

217 (b) For purposes of Subsection (1)(a), a purchaser is not relieved from a penalty under

218 Section 59-1-401 for failure to pay a tax due under this part or an underpayment if the

219 purchaser's, the purchaser's seller's, or the purchaser's certified service provider's reliance on

220 incorrect data provided by the commission is a result of conduct that is:

221 (i) fraudulent;

222 (ii) intentional; or

223 (iii) willful.

224 (2) In addition to the relief from a penalty described in Subsection (1), a purchaser is

225 not liable for a tax or interest under Section 59-1-402 for failure to pay a rural county jail

226 facilities tax or an underpayment of the rural county jail facilities tax if:

227 (a) the purchaser's seller or certified service provider relies on:

228 (i) incorrect data provided by the commission:

229 (A) on a tax rate;

230 (B) on a boundary; or

231 (C) on a taxing jurisdiction; or

232 (ii) an erroneous classification by the commission:

233 (A) in the taxability matrix the commission provides in accordance with the agreement;

234 and

235 (B) with respect to a term that is in the library of definitions and that is listed as taxable

236 or exempt, included in or excluded from "sales price," or included in or excluded from a

237 definition; or

238 (b) the purchaser, regardless of whether the purchaser holds a direct payment permit in

239 accordance with Section 59-12-107.1, relies on:

240 (i) incorrect data provided by the commission:

241 (A) on a tax rate;

242 (B) on a boundary; or

243 (C) on a taxing jurisdiction; or

244 (ii) an erroneous classification by the commission:

245 (A) in the taxability matrix the commission provides in accordance with the agreement;

246 and

247 (B) with respect to a term that is in the library of definitions and that is listed as taxable

248 or exempt, included in or excluded from "sales price," or included in or excluded from a

249 definition.

250 Section 7. **Effective date.**

251 This bill takes effect on July 1, 2024.