

Jan. 31, 2017

The Standardized Sales Tax Project is a simplification effort undertaken by locally collecting home rule cities and towns in conjunction with the business community and the Colorado General Assembly. This project is built on the strong partnership between municipal governments and the business community to work together to make locally collected taxes easier to file, report, and remit.

The General Assembly adopted Senate Joint Resolution (SJR) 14-038, asking the Colorado Municipal League (CML) to work with its members to develop a package of standardized definitions, reprising a successful effort led by CML in 1992. CML supported SJR14-038. The goals in developing these definitions were to add clarity about current tax practices without a fiscal impact. No new tax is levied and no increase in tax revenue is expected, because the updated definitions were drafted to reflect current tax practices.

Government and business recognize that the use of different definitions by locally collecting municipalities for the same sales tax term is a source of complexity for businesses that operate in multiple municipalities. Using standardized definitions minimizes this complexity.

CML's membership has been strongly supportive of simplification efforts originating at the local level – and the CML Executive Board has recommended adoption of these definitions to its membership. Likewise, we urge you to consider the benefits of standardized sales tax definitions to your locally collecting city or town, as well as your resident businesses and multi-jurisdictional businesses that work hard to collect your sales tax.

The following statewide associations, in addition to CML, support the adoption standardized sales tax definitions by all 69 locally collecting home rule municipalities: Colorado Assocition of Commerce & Industry, Colorado Retail Council, Colorado Automobile Dealers Association, and Simplify Colorado Sales Tax.

Sincerely,

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