

Assembly Bill No. 919

Passed the Assembly August 22, 2014

Chief Clerk of the Assembly

Passed the Senate August 21, 2014

Secretary of the Senate

This bill was received by the Governor this _____ day
of _____, 2014, at _____ o'clock ____M.

Private Secretary of the Governor

CHAPTER _____

An act to add Section 6018.2 to the Revenue and Taxation Code, relating to taxation, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 919, Williams. Sales and use taxes: veterans: itinerant vendors: repayment.

Existing sales and use tax laws impose a tax on retailers measured by the gross receipts from the sale of tangible personal property sold at retail in this state, or on the storage, use, or other consumption in this state of tangible personal property purchased from a retailer for storage, use, or other consumption in this state, measured by sales price. That law, with certain exceptions, defines a retailer as a seller who makes any retail sale of tangible personal property and as a person who makes more than 2 retail sales of tangible personal property during any 12-month period, and defines a retail sale as a sale of tangible personal property for any purpose other than resale in the regular course of business.

Existing law, from April 1, 2010, to January 1, 2022, provides that a qualified itinerant vendor, as defined, is a consumer, and not a retailer, of tangible personal property owned and sold by the qualified itinerant vendor, except for alcoholic beverages or items sold for more than \$100, so that the retail sale subject to tax is the sale of tangible personal property to the qualified itinerant vendor and not the sale by the qualified itinerant vendor.

This bill would provide a procedure for a qualified veteran, who is a person who met specified requirements for being a qualified itinerant vendor, to submit a claim for qualified repayments, as defined, with the State Board of Equalization, as provided. This bill would, on or before March 1, 2016, require the board to certify to the Controller the amount of qualified repayments to be made to each qualified veteran, and would appropriate \$50,000 from the General Fund to the board to make the payments of qualified repayments. This bill would limit the total amount of money available to make qualified repayments to not more than \$50,000. This bill would require the board to report to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee, the Assembly Committee on Revenue and

Taxation, and the Senate Committee on Governance and Finance, the name of each qualified veteran who was issued a qualified repayment and the amount of the qualified repayment. This bill would require the Controller to transfer any balance remaining from the amount reported to the Controller back to the General Fund.

This bill would make findings regarding the public purpose served by the bill.

Appropriation: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(a) Prior to the enactment of Chapter 621 of the Statutes of 2009 (Senate Bill 809 of the 2009–10 Regular Session), which became operative on April 1, 2010, there was considerable uncertainty among honorably discharged veterans with respect to their responsibilities under California’s Sales and Use Tax Law. These veterans relied upon Section 16102 of the Business and Professions Code, which exempts honorably discharged veterans from payment of any license, tax or fee whatsoever, for their sales of goods, wares, or merchandise owned by them (except alcoholic beverages), and as a result, failed to pay sales tax or to collect sales tax reimbursement on their retail sales.

(b) This uncertainty resulted in deficiency assessments by the State Board of Equalization against these veterans and subsequent payments to the board by these veterans of the tax, interest, and penalty for amounts that the board determined to be due.

(c) For the public purpose of assuring equity in the payment of sales tax among qualified veterans for tangible personal property owned and sold by those veterans for one hundred dollars (\$100) or less, excluding alcoholic beverages, it is the intent of the Legislature that the sales tax, interest, and any penalties paid by these veterans on those sales during the period on and after April 1, 2002, and before April 1, 2010, for which there was no sales tax reimbursement collected from customers, be repaid in accordance with the provisions of this act.

SEC. 2. Section 6018.2 is added to the Revenue and Taxation Code, to read:

6018.2. (a) A qualified veteran may receive from the state a qualified repayment if all provisions of this section are satisfied.

(b) The procedures set forth in this section shall be the procedure and remedy for the claims for a repayment of taxes, interest, or penalties paid by a qualified veteran under the Sales and Use Tax Law (Part 1 (commencing with Section 6001)), Section 35 of Article XIII of the California Constitution, local sales tax imposed in accordance with the Bradley-Burns Uniform Local Sales and Use Tax Law (Part 1.5 (commencing with Section 7200)), and local transactions and use taxes imposed in accordance with the Transactions and Use Tax Law (Part 1.6 (commencing with Section 7251)) during the eight-year period beginning on and after April 1, 2002, and before April 1, 2010.

(c) (1) For purposes of this section, a “qualified veteran” means a person who meets all of the following requirements:

(A) The person met the requirements of a qualified itinerant vendor as set forth in Section 6018.3 during the period in which the sales were made.

(B) The person paid to the board taxes imposed under the Sales and Use Tax Law (Part 1 (commencing with Section 6001)), Section 35 of Article XIII of the California Constitution, taxes imposed in accordance with the Bradley-Burns Uniform Local Sales and Use Tax Law (Part 1.5 (commencing with Section 7200)), and transactions and use taxes imposed in accordance with the Transactions and Use Tax Law (Part 1.6 (commencing with Section 7251)) during the period beginning April 1, 2002, and before April 1, 2010, for which no sales tax reimbursement was collected from customers, and also paid any interest or penalties associated with those tax liabilities.

(2) “Qualified repayment” means an amount equal to the amount described in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1), less any amounts previously refunded, credited, or paid to a qualified veteran through any means whatsoever.

(d) (1) Before January 1, 2016, a qualified veteran may file a claim for a qualified repayment with the board.

(2) The claim shall be in writing, and shall be completed in accordance with any instructions or regulations as the board may prescribe, including, but not limited to, proof of payment of the tax, interest, or penalties described in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (c).

(3) On or before March 1, 2016, the board shall certify to the Controller the amount of qualified repayments to be made to each qualified veteran pursuant to this section. The total amount of money available to make qualified repayments shall not exceed fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000). If the total amount of claims filed exceeds fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000), the board shall determine the pro rata share due to each qualified veteran based on the proportion each claim bears to the total amount of claims and shall report that amount for certification.

(4) There is hereby appropriated fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) from the General Fund to the board to make the payments of qualified repayments to qualified veterans.

(5) No interest shall be paid on any qualified repayment made pursuant to this section.

(6) (A) On or before May 1, 2016, the board shall report to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee, the Assembly Committee on Revenue and Taxation, and the Senate Committee on Governance and Finance, the name of each qualified veteran who was issued a qualified repayment pursuant to this section and the amount of the qualified repayment.

(B) The requirement for submitting a report imposed under subparagraph (A) is inoperative on May 1, 2020, pursuant to Section 10231.5 of the Government Code, and the report shall be submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code.

(7) Upon notification by the board, the Controller shall transfer any balance remaining from the amount appropriated in paragraph (4) back to the General Fund.

SEC. 3. The Legislature finds and declares that the addition of Section 6018.2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code by this act serves a public purpose, as described in Section 1 of this act, and does not constitute a gift of public funds within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XVI of the California Constitution.

Approved _____, 2014

Governor