## Chapter 275

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H.B. No. 2126

Т	AN ACT
2	relating to the franchise tax rate applicable to certain taxable
3	entities that sell telephone prepaid calling cards.
4	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
5	SECTION 1. Section 171.002, Tax Code, is amended by adding
6	Subsection (c-2) to read as follows:
7	(c-2) For purposes of Subsection (c)(3), the provision of
8	telecommunications services does not include selling telephone
9	prepaid calling cards.
0	SECTION 2. This Act applies only to a report originally due

on or after the effective date of this Act.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2126 was passed by the House on April 20, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 143, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2126 was passed by the Senate on May 18, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED:

5-29-2017

Date

Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

3:00 PM O'CLOCK

MAY 2 9 2017

Secretary of State

# LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD Austin, Texas

#### FISCAL NOTE, 85TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

#### May 9, 2017

TO: Honorable Jane Nelson, Chair, Senate Committee on Finance

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB2126 by Button (Relating to the franchise tax rate applicable to certain taxable entities

that sell telephone prepaid calling cards.), As Engrossed

#### No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend Chapter 171 of the Tax Code, regarding the franchise tax, by adding a subsection stating that the provision of telecommunications services does not include selling telephone prepaid calling cards. In order for a taxable entity to be eligible for the reduced tax rate for being primarily engaged in wholesale and retail trade the entity may not provide retail or wholesale utilities including telecommunications services.

The Comptroller's position is that selling prepaid calling cards is not selling telecommunications services. Therefore the bill would have no effect on franchise tax liability and no fiscal impact to the state.

The bill would take effect January 1, 2018.

### **Local Government Impact**

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 304 Comptroller of Public Accounts

LBB Staff: UP, KK, SD

# LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD Austin, Texas

### FISCAL NOTE, 85TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

#### March 28, 2017

TO: Honorable Dennis Bonnen, Chair, House Committee on Ways & Means

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB2126 by Button (Relating to the franchise tax rate applicable to certain taxable entities that sell telephone prepaid calling cards.), As Introduced

### No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend Chapter 171 of the Tax Code, regarding the franchise tax, by adding a subsection stating that the provision of telecommunications services does not include selling telephone prepaid calling cards. In order for a taxable entity to be eligible for the reduced tax rate for being primarily engaged in wholesale and retail trade the entity may not provide retail or wholesale utilities including telecommunications services.

The Comptroller's position is that selling prepaid calling cards is not selling telecommunications services. Therefore the bill would have no effect on franchise tax liability and no fiscal impact to the state.

The bill would take effect January 1, 2018.

#### **Local Government Impact**

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 304 Comptroller of Public Accounts

LBB Staff: UP, KK, SD

# LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD Austin, Texas

#### **TAX/FEE EQUITY NOTE**

#### 85TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

#### March 27, 2017

TO: Honorable Dennis Bonnen, Chair, House Committee on Ways & Means

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB2126 by Button (Relating to the franchise tax rate applicable to certain taxable entities that sell telephone prepaid calling cards.), As Introduced

No statistically significant impact on the overall distribution of a state tax or fee burden among individuals and businesses is anticipated from the provisions of this bill.

Source Agencies: LBB Staff: UP, KK