HOUSE BILL No. 2436

By Representatives Findley, Barnes, Burroughs, Crow, Flaharty, Kirk, Loganbill, O'Brien and Toelkes

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AN ACT relating to sales taxation; concerning refunds of sales tax paid on food; amending K.S.A. 2000 Supp. 79-3633 and 79-3635 and repealing the existing sections.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 2000 Supp. 79-3633 is hereby amended to read as follows: 79-3633. As used in K.S.A. 79-3620 and 79-3632 to 79-3639 and amendments thereto, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

- (a) "Income" means adjusted gross income determined under the Kansas income tax act without regard to the modifications specified by subsections (c)(i), (ii) regarding Kansas public employee retirement system retirement benefits, (vii), (ix) and (xii) of K.S.A. 79-32,117, and amendments thereto.
- (b) "Household" means a claimant and all other persons for whom a personal exemption is claimed who together occupy a common residence.
- (c) "Claimant" means a person who has filed a claim for a refund or credit under the provisions of this act and was, during the entire calendar year preceding the year in which the claim was filed for relief under this act, domiciled in this state, was a member of a household, had income of not more than \$25,000 \$40,000 in the calendar year for which a claim is filed and was: (1) A person having a disability; (2) a person other than a person included under (1), who has attained 55 years of age in the calendar year for which a claim is filed or (3) a person other than a person included under (1) or (2) having one or more dependent children under 18 years of age residing at the person's homestead during the calendar year for which a claim is filed.
- (d) "Head of household" means the person filing a claim under the provisions of this act.
- (e) "Disability" means (1) inability to engage in any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment which can be expected to result in death or has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months, and an individual shall be determined to be under a disability only if the physical or mental impairment or impairments are of such severity that

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 the individual is not only unable to do the individual's previous work but cannot, considering age, education and work experience, engage in any other kind of substantial gainful work which exists in the national economy, regardless of whether such work exists in the immediate area in which the individual lives or whether a specific job vacancy exists for the individual, or whether the individual would be hired if application was made for work. For purposes of the preceding sentence (with respect to any individual), "work which exists in the national economy" means work which exists in significant numbers either in the region where the individual lives or in several regions of the country; for purposes of this subsection, a "physical or mental impairment" is an impairment that results from anatomical, physiological or psychological abnormalities which are demonstrable by medically acceptable clinical and laboratory diagnostic techniques; or

- (2) blindness and inability by reason of blindness to engage in substantial gainful activity requiring skills or abilities comparable to those of any gainful activity in which the individual has previously engaged with some regularity and over a substantial period of time.
- (f) "Blindness" means central visual acuity of $^{20}/_{200}$ or less in the better eye with the use of a correcting lens. An eye which is accompanied by a limitation in the fields of vision such that the widest diameter of the visual field subtends an angle no greater than 20 degrees shall be considered for the purpose of this paragraph as having a central visual acuity of $^{20}/_{200}$ or less.
- Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2000 Supp. 79-3635 is hereby amended to read as follows: 79-3635. (a) (1) A claimant shall be entitled to a refund of retailers' sales taxes paid upon food during the calendar year 1998 2001 and each year thereafter in the amount hereinafter provided. There shall be allowed for each member of a household of a claimant having income of \$12,500 \$20,000 or less, an amount equal to \$60. There shall be allowed for each member of a household of a claimant having income of more than \$12,500 \$20,000 but not more than \$25,000 \$40,000, an amount equal to \$30. There shall be allowed for a claimant who qualifies for an additional personal exemption amount pursuant to K.S.A. 79-32,121, and amendments thereto, an additional amount of \$30 or \$60, as the case requires. All such claims shall be paid from the sales tax refund fund upon warrants of the director of accounts and reports pursuant to vouchers approved by the director of taxation or by a person or persons designated by the director.
- (2) As an alternative to the procedure described by paragraph 1, for all taxable years commencing after December 31, 1997 2000, there shall be allowed as a credit against the tax liability of a resident individual imposed under the Kansas income tax act an amount equal to \$60 or \$30,

as the case requires, for each member of a household. There shall be allowed for a claimant who qualifies for an additional personal exemption amount pursuant to K.S.A. 79-32,121, and amendments thereto, an additional amount of \$30 or \$60, as the case requires. If the amount of such tax credit exceeds the claimant's income tax liability for such taxable year, such excess amount shall be refunded to the claimant.

- (b) A head of household shall make application for refunds for all members of the same household upon a common form provided for the making of joint claims. All claims paid to members of the same household shall be paid as a joint claim by means of a single warrant.
- (c) No claim for a refund of taxes under the provisions of K.S.A. 79-3632 *et seq.* shall be paid or allowed unless such claim is actually filed with and in the possession of the department of revenue on or before April 15 of the year next succeeding the year in which such taxes were paid. The director of taxation may: (1) Extend the time for filing any claim under the provisions of this act when good cause exists therefor; or (2) accept a claim filed after the deadline for filing in the case of sickness, absence or disability of the claimant if such claim has been filed within four years of such deadline.
- Sec. 3. K.S.A. 2000 Supp. 79-3633 and 79-3635 are hereby repealed. Sec. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.