

**SECTION 18.(b)** This section is effective when it becomes law and applies to penalties assessed on or after that date and to refund requests that have not been finally determined as of that date.

**SECTION 19.** G.S. 115D-31.3(j) reads as rewritten:

"(j) Use of funds in low-wealth counties. – Funds retained by colleges or distributed to colleges pursuant to this section may be used to supplement local funding for maintenance of plant if the college does not receive maintenance of plant funds pursuant to G.S. 115D-31.2, and if the county in which the main campus of the community college is ~~located~~located meets all of the following:

- (1) Is designated as a Tier 1 or Tier 2 county in accordance with ~~G.S. 105-129.3~~, G.S. 143B-437.08.
- (2) Had an unemployment rate of at least two percent (2%) above the State average or greater than seven percent (7%), whichever is higher, in the prior calendar ~~year, and year.~~
- (3) Is a county whose wealth, as calculated under the formula for distributing supplemental funding for schools in low-wealth counties, is eighty percent (80%) or less of the State average.

Funds may be used for this purpose only after all local funds appropriated for maintenance of plant have been expended."

**SECTION 20.** G.S. 119-17 is repealed.

**SECTION 21.(b)** Section 39 of Part IX of Chapter 908 of the 1983 Session Laws reads as rewritten:

"**Sec. 39.** Every owner of a business subject to the tax levied by this Part shall, on and after the first day of the calendar month set by the governing body in the resolution levying the tax, collect the occupancy tax provided by this Part. This tax shall be collected as part of the charge for the furnishing of any taxable accommodations. The tax shall be stated and charged separately from the sales records, and shall be paid by the purchaser to the owner of the business as trustee for and on account of the city. The occupancy tax levied under this Part shall be added to the sales price and shall be passed on to the purchaser instead of being borne by the owner of the business. The city tax collector shall design, print, and furnish to all appropriate businesses in the city the necessary forms for filing returns and instructions to ensure the full collection of the tax. Every person liable for the tax imposed pursuant to this Part shall, on or before the ~~15th~~ 20th day of each month, prepare and submit a return on the prescribed form stating the total gross receipts derived during the preceding month from rentals upon which the tax is levied. The tax shall be due and payable to the tax collector on a monthly basis.

Any person who fails or refuses to file the return required by this Part shall pay a penalty of ten dollars (\$10.00) for each day's omission. In addition, any person who refuses to file the return or pay the tax for a period of 30 days after the time required for filing the return or for paying the tax shall pay a penalty of five percent (5%) of the tax due. An additional penalty of five percent (5%) shall be imposed for each additional month or fraction thereof in which the occupancy tax is not paid.

Any person who willfully attempts in any manner to evade the occupancy tax or who willfully fails to pay the tax or make and file the required return, shall, in addition to all other penalties provided by law, be guilty of a misdemeanor and be punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000), imprisonment not to exceed six months, or both."

**SECTION 21.(c)** Subsection (a) of Section 26 of Part VII of Chapter 908 of the 1983 Session Laws reads as rewritten:

"(a) Any tax levied under this Part is due and payable to the county in monthly installments on or before the ~~15th~~ 20th day of the month following the month in which the tax accrues. Every person, firm, corporation, or association liable for the tax shall, on or before the ~~15th~~ 20th day of each month, prepare and render a return on a form prescribed by the county. The return shall state the total gross receipts derived in the preceding month from rentals upon which the tax is levied."

**SECTION 21.(d)** Subsection (a) of Section 4 of Chapter 988 of the 1983 Session Laws reads as rewritten:

"(a) Any tax levied under this act is due and payable to the county in monthly installments