

**Sales Tax Streamlining and Modernization Commission**  
Minutes of Meeting  
2015-2016 Interim  
November 18, 2015

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Representative Julie Stokes, chairman of the Sales Tax Streamlining and Modernization Commission, called the meeting to order at 9:51 a.m. in Room 6, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The secretary called the roll.

**II. ROLL CALL**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Representative Julie Stokes, chairman  
Don Allison  
Bob Angelico, designee for Mr. Ron Gitz  
Representative Michael E. Danahay  
Jason DeCuir  
Scott Drenkard  
Jessica Elliott  
Dannie Garrett  
Paula Jeansonne  
Vanessa LaFleur  
Michael Norton  
Dawn Starns  
Jeanine Theriot

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Rona Daigle  
Bob Israel  
Senator Ronnie Johns  
Daryl Purpera  
Natalie Robottom

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Sandy Painting, secretary  
Elise Read, senior legislative analyst  
Tina Vanichchagorn, attorney

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Ken Scheer, house sergeant at arms  
Julia Thomas, senate sergeant at arms

**III. BUSINESS**

Joseph R. Crosby, Multistate Associates, Inc., 515 King Street, Suite 300, Alexandria, VA 22314, presented a PowerPoint titled "Sales Tax on Services Theory and Challenges". (See Exhibit A)

Chairman Stokes referred the committee members to a pie chart of the current Louisiana sales tax exemptions; Stelly exemptions, \$874,123,121 at 29%; sales tax "other," \$910,830,089 at 31%; intergovernmental, \$195,752; 189 at 7%; gasoline \$365,837,353 at 12%; business utilities, \$411,969,090 at 14%, business machine manufacturing & equipment, \$73,440,402 at 2%; and all others, \$142,412,099 at 5%. Mr. Crosby, Chairman Stokes, and the commission members discussed the variations between sales exemptions among different states. Chairman Stokes then provided an overview of the cumulative effect of tax legislation changes from 2014 to 2015. She referred the commission members to a spreadsheet of the sales tax exemptions. (See Exhibit B)

Scott Drenkard, director of state projects, Tax Foundation, 1325 G Street NW, Suite 950, Washington, DC 20005, (202) 464-5111, provided a PowerPoint, "Louisiana Fiscal Reform, A Framework for the Future". (See Exhibit C) He discussed various options for tax exemption reform.

**IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

Chairman Stokes noted that the next meeting of the Sales Tax Streamlining and Modernization Commission would be held December 8, 2015.

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Dan Garrett offered a motion to adjourn at 12:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Julie Stokes  
Sales Tax Streamlining and Modernization Commission