

**SUBJECT:** Expanding sales tax exemption for sales of coins and precious metals

**COMMITTEE:** Ways and Means — favorable, without amendment

**VOTE:** 7 ayes — Oliveira, McCall, Bonnen, Craddick, Y. Davis, Keffer, Sadler  
0 nays  
4 absent — Heflin, Hilbert, T. King, Ramsay

**WITNESSES:** None

**BACKGROUND:** Since 1989, the sale of certain coins and precious metals has been exempt from the state sales tax if the total sale price equals \$1,000 or more. This exemption applies to gold, silver, or other collectible coins and to gold, silver, or platinum bullion.

**DIGEST:** HB 230 would lower to \$100 the total sale price at which the sale of coins or bullion would become exempt from the sales tax.

This bill would take effect on the first day of the first calendar quarter beginning on or after the date that it could take effect under the state constitution. If the bill were finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the members of each house, the exemption would apply to sales on or after July 1, 1999. Otherwise, it would apply to sales on or after October 1, 1999.

**NOTES:** According to the fiscal note, no significant fiscal implication to the state is expected.