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STATE OF NEW JERSEY 215th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2012 SESSION

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SYNOPSIS

"New Jersey Angel Investor Tax Credit Act"; provides credits against corporation business and gross income taxes for investing in New Jersey emerging technology businesses.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Economic Growth Committee on February 6, 2012, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/18/2012)

2

1 AN ACT providing credits against certain taxes for investing in New 2 Jersey emerging technology businesses, and amending P.L.1997, 3 c.349, and supplementing chapter 4 of Title 54A of the New 4 Jersey Statutes. 5 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State 6 7 of New Jersey: 8 9 1. Section 1 of P.L.1997, c.349 (C.54:10A-5.28) is amended to 10 read as follows: 11 1. [This act] Sections 1 through 3 of P.L.1997, c.349 (C.54:10A-5.28 through 54:10A-5.30) and section 4 of P.L. 12 c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall be 13 14 known and may be cited as the "[Small] New [Jersey-based High-15 Technology Business Investment Jersey Angel Investor Tax Credit 16 Act." 17 (cf: P.L.1997, c.349, s.1) 18 19 2. Section 2 of P.L.1997, c.349 (C.54:10A-5.29) is amended to 20 read as follows: 21 2. As used in this act: 22 "Advanced computing" means a technology used in the 23 designing and developing of computing hardware and software, 24 including innovations in designing the full spectrum of hardware 25 from hand-held calculators to super computers, and peripheral 26 equipment. "Advanced materials" 27 means materials with engineered 28 properties created through the development of specialized 29 processing and synthesis technology, including ceramics, high 30 value-added metals, electronic materials, composites, polymers, and 31 biomaterials. 32 "Biotechnology" means the continually expanding body of 33 fundamental knowledge about the functioning of biological systems 34 from the macro level to the molecular and sub-atomic levels, as 35 well as novel products, services, technologies and sub-technologies 36 developed as a result of insights gained from research advances 37 which add to that body of fundamental knowledge [;]. "Control[,]" with respect to a corporation[,] means ownership, 38 39 directly or indirectly, of stock possessing 80% or more of the total 40 combined voting power of all classes of the stock of the corporation entitled to vote; and "control[,]" with respect to a trust[,] means 41 42 ownership, directly or indirectly, of 80% or more of the beneficial 43 interest in the principal or income of the trust. The ownership of 44 stock in a corporation, of a capital or profits interest in a partnership

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in **bold-faced** brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows: ¹Senate SEG committee amendments adopted February 6, 2012.

3

or association or of a beneficial interest in a trust shall be 1 2 determined in accordance with the rules for constructive ownership 3 of stock provided in subsection (c) of section 267 of the federal Internal Revenue Code of 1986[, 26 U.S.C.s.267] (26 U.S.C. 4 5 <u>s.267</u>), other than paragraph (3) of subsection (c) of that section [;]. 6 "Controlled group" means one or more chains of corporations 7 connected through stock ownership with a common parent 8 corporation if stock possessing at least 80% of the voting power of 9 all classes of stock of each of the corporations is owned directly or 10 indirectly by one or more of the corporations and the common 11 parent owns directly stock possessing at least 80% of the voting 12 power of all classes of stock of at least one of the other 13 corporations[;]. 14 "Director" means the Director of the Division of Taxation in the 15 Department of the Treasury[;]. 16 "Electronic device technology" means a technology involving 17 microelectronics, semiconductors, electronic equipment, and 18 instrumentation, radio frequency, microwave, and millimeter 19 electronics, and optical and optic-electrical devices, or data and 20 digital communications and imaging devices [;]. 21 "Environmental technology" means assessment and prevention 22 of threats or damage to human health or the environment, 23 environmental cleanup, or the development of alternative energy 24 sources; 25 "Information technology" means software publishing, motion 26 picture and video production, television production and post-27 production services, telecommunications, data processing, hosting 28 and related services, custom computer programming services, 29 computer system design, computer facilities management services, 30 other computer related services, and computer training. 31 "Life sciences" means the production of medical equipment, 32 ophthalmic goods, medical or dental instruments, diagnostic 33 substances, biopharmaceutical products; or physical and biological 34 research. 35 "Medical device technology" means a technology involving any 36 medical equipment or product (other than a pharmaceutical product) 37 that has therapeutic value, diagnostic value, or both, and is 38 regulated by the federal Food and Drug Administration[;]. "Mobile communications technology" means a technology 39 40 involving the functionality and reliability of transmission of voice 41 and multimedia data using a communication infrastructure via a 42 computer or a mobile device, that shall include but shall not be 43 limited to smartphones, electronic books and tablets, mp3 players, 44 motor vehicle electronics, home entertainment systems, and other 45 wireless appliances, without having connected to any physical or 46 fixed link.

4

"New Jersey emerging technology business" means a company 1 2 ¹with fewer than 225 employees, of whom at least 75 percent are filling a position in New Jersey, that is¹ doing business, employing 3 4 or owning capital or property, or maintaining an office ¹[,]¹ in this State ¹[that] and: (1)¹ has qualified research expenses paid or 5 incurred for research conducted in this State ¹[or]; (2)¹ conducts 6 7 pilot scale manufacturing in this State ¹[, and has fewer than 225] 8 employees, of whom at least 75 percent are filling a position in New 9 Jersey]; or (3) conducts technology commercialization in this State 10 in the fields of advanced computing, advanced materials, 11 biotechnology, electronic device technology, information 12 technology, life sciences, medical device technology, mobile 13 communications technology, or renewable energy technology¹.

"Partnership" means a syndicate, group, pool, joint venture or
other unincorporated organization through or by means of which
any business, financial operation or venture is carried on, and which
is not a trust or estate, a corporation or a sole proprietorship[;].

18 "Pilot scale manufacturing" means design, construction, and 19 testing of preproduction prototypes and models in the fields of 20 advanced computing, advanced materials, biotechnology, electronic 21 device technology, [environmental technology, and] information 22 technology, life sciences, medical device technology, mobile 23 communications technology, and renewable energy technology, 24 other than for commercial sale, excluding sales of prototypes or 25 sales for market testing if total gross receipts, as calculated 26 [pursuant to] in the manner provided in section 6 of P.L.1945, 27 c.162 (C.54:10A-6), from such sales of the product, service or 28 process do not exceed \$1,000,000[;].

"Qualified investment" means the non-refundable [investment, at 29 risk in a small New Jersey-based high-technology business,] 30 31 transfer of cash [that is transferred] to [the small] a New [Jersey-32 based high-technology Jersey emerging technology business by a 33 taxpayer that is not a related person of the [small] New [Jersey-34 based high-technology Jersey emerging technology business, the 35 transfer of which is in connection with either (1) a transaction in 36 exchange for stock, interests in partnerships or joint ventures, 37 licenses (exclusive or non-exclusive), rights to use technology, 38 marketing rights, warrants, options or any items similar to those 39 included herein, including but not limited to options or rights to 40 acquire any of the items included herein; or (2) a purchase, 41 production, or research agreement.

"Qualified research expenses" means qualified research expenses
as defined in section 41 of the federal Internal Revenue Code of
1986[, 26 U.S.C.s.41] (26 U.S.C. s.41), as in effect on June 30,
1992, in the fields of advanced computing, advanced materials,

5

biotechnology, electronic device technology, [environmental 1 2 technology, or <u>information technology</u>, life sciences, medical device technology [;], mobile communications technology, or 3 4 renewable energy technology. 5 "Related person" means: 6 a. a corporation, partnership, association or trust controlled by 7 the taxpayer; 8 b. an individual, corporation, partnership, association or trust 9 that is in the control of the taxpayer; 10 c. a corporation, partnership, association or trust controlled by 11 an individual, corporation, partnership, association or trust that is in 12 the control of the taxpayer; or 13 d. a member of the same controlled group as the taxpayer[;]. 14 "Small New Jersey-based high-technology business" means a corporation doing business, employing or owning capital or 15 16 property, or maintaining an office, in this State that has qualified 17 research expenses paid or incurred for research conducted in this 18 State or conducts pilot scale manufacturing in this State, and has 19 fewer than 225 employees, of whom 75% are New Jersey-based 20 employees filling a position or job in this State; and 21 "Renewable energy technology" means a technology involving 22 the generation of electricity from solar energy; wind energy; wave 23 or tidal action; geothermal energy; the combustion of gas from the 24 anaerobic digestion of food waste and sewage sludge at a biomass 25 generating facility; the combustion of methane gas captured from a 26 landfill; and a fuel cell powered by methanol, ethanol, landfill gas, 27 digestor gas, biomass gas, or other renewable fuel but not powered 28 by a fossil fuel. 29 "Tax year" means the fiscal or calendar accounting [year] period 30 of a taxpayer. 31 (cf: P.L.1997, c.349, s.2) 32 33 3. Section 3 of P.L.1997, c.349 (C.54:10A-5.30) is amended to 34 read as follows: 35 3. a. A taxpayer, upon approval of the taxpayer's application 36 therefor by the New Jersey Economic Development Authority and 37 in consultation with the director, shall be allowed a credit against 38 the tax imposed pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162 39 (C.54:10A-5), in an amount equal to 10% of the qualified 40 investment made by the taxpayer **[**during each of the three tax years 41 beginning on or after January 1 next following enactment of this 42 act,] in a [small] New [Jersey-based high-technology] Jersey emerging technology business, up to a maximum allowed credit of 43 44 \$500,000 for the tax year for each qualified investment made by the 45 taxpayer. [An unused credit may be carried forward for use in future years, subject to the \$500,000 per year limitation. 46

6

b. A credit shall not be allowed pursuant to section 1 of
P.L.1993, c.175 (C.54:10A-5.24), for expenses paid from funds for
which a credit is allowed, or which are includable in the calculation
of a credit allowed, under this section.

5 The tax imposed for a tax year pursuant to section 5 of 6 P.L.1945, c.162, shall first be reduced by the amount of any credit allowed pursuant to section 19 of P.L.1983, c.303 (C.52:27H-78), 7 8 then by any credit allowed pursuant to section 12 of P.L.1985, c.227 9 (C.55:19-13), then by any credit allowed pursuant to section 42 of 10 P.L.1987, c.102 (C.54:10A-5.3), then by any credit allowed under 11 section 3 of P.L.1993, c.170 (C.54:10A-5.6), then by any credit 12 allowed under section 3 or 4 of P.L.1993, c.171 (C.54:10A-5.18 or 13 C.54:10A-5.19), then by any credit allowed under section 1 of 14 P.L.1993, c.175 (C.54:10A-5.24), and then by any credit allowed 15 under section 1 of P.L.1993, c.150 (C.27:26A-15), prior to applying 16 any credits allowable pursuant to this section. Credits allowable 17 pursuant to this section shall be applied in the order of the credits' 18 tax years. The amount of the credits applied under this section 19 against the tax imposed pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162, for a tax year shall not exceed 50% of the tax liability otherwise due 20 21 and shall not reduce the tax liability to an amount less than the 22 statutory minimum provided in subsection (e) of section 5 of 23 P.L.1945, c.162 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the 24 order of priority in which the credit allowed by this section and any 25 other credits allowed by law may be taken shall be as prescribed by the director. 26

27 c. Except as provided in subsection d. of this section, the 28 amount of tax year credit otherwise allowable under this section 29 which cannot be applied for the tax year against tax liability otherwise due for that tax year to the limitations of subsection b. 30 31 of this section] may either be carried over, if necessary, to the 15 32 tax years following [a credit's] the tax year for which the credit was allowed or, at the election of the taxpayer, be claimed as and 33 34 treated as an overpayment for the purposes of R.S.54:49-15, 35 provided, however, that section 7 of P.L.1992, c.175 (C.54:49-15.1) 36 shall not apply.

37 d. A taxpayer may not carry over any amount of credit [or credits] allowed under subsection a. of this section to a tax year 38 39 during which a corporate acquisition with respect to which the 40 taxpayer was a target corporation occurred or during which the 41 taxpayer was a party to a merger or a consolidation, or to any 42 subsequent tax year, if the credit was allowed for a tax year prior to 43 the year of acquisition, merger or consolidation, except that if in the 44 case of a corporate merger or corporate consolidation the taxpayer 45 can demonstrate, through the submission of a copy of the plan of 46 merger or consolidation and such other evidence as may be required 47 by the director, the identity of the constituent corporation which

7

1 was the acquiring person, a credit allowed to the acquiring person 2 may be carried over by the taxpayer. As used in this subsection, 3 means the constituent corporation the "acquiring person" 4 stockholders of which own the largest proportion of the total voting 5 power in the surviving or consolidated corporation after the merger 6 or consolidation. 7 The Executive Director of the New Jersey Economic e. 8 Development Authority, in consultation with the director, shall 9 adopt rules in accordance with the "Administrative Procedure Act," 10 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) as are necessary to implement 11 sections 1 through 3 of P.L.1997, c.349 (C.54:10A-5.28 through 12 54:10A-5.30) and section 4 of P.L., c. (C.) (pending before 13 the Legislature as this bill), including but not limited to: examples 14 of and the determination of qualified investments of which 15 applicants must provide documentation with their tax credit 16 application; the promulgation of procedures and forms necessary to 17 apply for a credit; and provisions for credit applicants to be charged 18 an initial application fee, and ongoing service fees, to cover the 19 administrative costs related to the credit. 20 The amount of credits approved by the Executive Director of the 21 New Jersey Economic Development Authority, and in consultation 22 with the director, pursuant to subsection a. of this section and 23 pursuant to section 4 of P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the 24 Legislature as this bill) shall not exceed a cumulative total of 25 \$25,000,000 in any calendar year to apply against the tax imposed 26 pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-5) and the tax 27 imposed pursuant to the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," 28 N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. If the cumulative amount of credits allowed 29 to taxpayers in a calendar year exceeds the amount of credits 30 available in that year, then taxpayers who have first applied for and 31 have not been allowed a credit amount for that reason shall be 32 allowed, in the order in which they have submitted an application, 33 the amount of the tax credit on the first day of the next succeeding 34 calendar year in which tax credits under this section and section 4 35 of P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) 36 are not in excess of the amount of credits available. 37 (cf: P.L.1997, c.349, s.3) 38 39 4. (New section) A taxpayer, upon approval of the a. 40 taxpayer's application therefor by the New Jersey Economic 41 Development Authority, and in consultation with the director, shall 42 be allowed a credit against the tax otherwise due for the taxable

year under the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 44 et seq., in an amount equal to 10 percent of the qualified investment 45 made by the taxpayer in a New Jersey emerging technology 46 business, up to a maximum allowed credit of \$500,000 for the 47 taxable year for each qualified investment made by the taxpayer.

43

8

b. The amount of the credit allowed pursuant to this section
shall be applied against the tax otherwise due under the "New
Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., after all other
credits and payments. If the credit exceeds the amount of tax
liability otherwise due, that amount of excess shall be an
overpayment for the purposes of N.J.S.54A:9-7, provided, however,
that subsection (f) of N.J.S.54A:9-7 shall not apply.

8 c. A partnership shall not be allowed a credit under this section 9 directly, but the amount of credit of a taxpayer in respect of a 10 distributive share of partnership income under the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., shall be determined 11 12 by allocating to the taxpayer that proportion of the credit acquired 13 by the partnership that is equal to the taxpayer's share, whether or 14 not distributed, of the total distributive income or gain of the 15 partnership for its taxable year ending within or with the taxpayer's 16 taxable year. For the purposes of subsection b. of this section, the 17 amount of tax liability that would be otherwise due of a taxpayer is 18 that proportion of the total liability of the taxpayer that the 19 taxpayer's share of the partnership income or gain included in gross 20 income bears to the total gross income of the taxpayer.

21 d. The Executive Director of the New Jersey Economic 22 Development Authority, in consultation with the director, shall 23 adopt rules in accordance with the "Administrative Procedure Act," 24 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) as are necessary to implement 25 sections 1 through 3 of P.L.1997, c.349 (C.54:10A-5.28 through 54:10A-5.30) and 1 this section 1 [4 of P.L. 26 , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)]¹, including but not 27 28 limited to: examples of and the determination of qualified 29 investments of which applicants must provide documentation with 30 their tax credit application; the promulgation of procedures and 31 forms necessary to apply for a credit; and provisions for credit 32 applicants to be charged an initial application fee, and ongoing 33 service fees, to cover the administrative costs related to the credit.

34 The amount of credits approved by the Executive Director of the 35 New Jersey Economic Development Authority and the Director of 36 the Division of Taxation in the Department of the Treasury pursuant 37 to subsection a. of this section and pursuant to section 3 of 38 P.L.1997, c.349 (C.54:10A-5.30) shall not exceed a cumulative total 39 of \$25,000,000 in any calendar year to apply against the tax 40 imposed pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-5), and 41 the tax imposed pursuant to the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax 42 Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. If the cumulative amount of credits 43 allowed to taxpayers in a calendar year exceeds the amount of 44 credits available in that year, then taxpayers who have first applied 45 for and have not been allowed a credit amount for that reason shall 46 be allowed, in the order in which they have submitted an 47 application, the amount of the tax credit on the first day of the next

succeeding calendar year in which tax credits under this section and
 section 3 of P.L.1997, c.349 (C.54:10A-5.30) are not in excess of

3 the amount of credits available.

4 e. As used in this section:

5 "Advanced computing" means a technology used in the
6 designing and developing of computing hardware and software,
7 including innovations in designing the full spectrum of hardware
8 from hand-held calculators to super computers, and peripheral
9 equipment.

"Advanced materials" means materials with engineered
properties created through the development of specialized
processing and synthesis technology, including ceramics, high
value-added metals, electronic materials, composites, polymers, and
biomaterials.

15 "Biotechnology" means the continually expanding body of 16 fundamental knowledge about the functioning of biological systems 17 from the macro level to the molecular and sub-atomic levels, as 18 well as novel products, services, technologies and sub-technologies 19 developed as a result of insights gained from research advances 20 which add to that body of fundamental knowledge.

21 "Control" with respect to a corporation, means ownership, 22 directly or indirectly, of stock possessing 80 percent or more of the 23 total combined voting power of all classes of the stock of the 24 corporation entitled to vote; and "control," with respect to a trust, 25 means ownership, directly or indirectly, of 80 percent or more of 26 the beneficial interest in the principal or income of the trust. The 27 ownership of stock in a corporation, of a capital or profits interest in 28 a partnership or association or of a beneficial interest in a trust shall 29 be determined in accordance with the rules for constructive 30 ownership of stock provided in subsection (c) of section 267 of the 31 federal Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. s.267), other than 32 paragraph (3) of subsection (c) of that section.

33 "Controlled group" means one or more chains of corporations 34 connected through stock ownership with a common parent 35 corporation if stock possessing at least 80 percent of the voting 36 power of all classes of stock of each of the corporations is owned 37 directly or indirectly by one or more of the corporations and the 38 common parent owns directly stock possessing at least 80 percent of 39 the voting power of all classes of stock of at least one of the other 40 corporations.

41 "Director" means the Director of the Division of Taxation in the42 Department of the Treasury.

43 "Electronic device technology" means a technology involving
44 microelectronics, semiconductors, electronic equipment, and
45 instrumentation, radio frequency, microwave, and millimeter
46 electronics, and optical and optic-electrical devices, or data and
47 digital communications and imaging devices.

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"Information technology" means software publishing, motion
picture and video production, television production and postproduction services, telecommunications, data processing, hosting
and related services, custom computer programming services,
computer system design, computer facilities management services,
other computer related services, and computer training.

7 "Life sciences" means the production of medical equipment,
8 ophthalmic goods, medical or dental instruments, diagnostic
9 substances, biopharmaceutical products; or physical and biological
10 research.

"Medical device technology" means a technology involving any
medical equipment or product (other than a pharmaceutical product)
that has therapeutic value, diagnostic value, or both, and is
regulated by the federal Food and Drug Administration.

15 "Mobile communications technology" means a technology 16 involving the functionality and reliability of transmission of voice 17 and multimedia data using a communication infrastructure via a 18 computer or a mobile device, that shall include but shall not be 19 limited to smartphones, electronic books and tablets, mp3 players, 20 motor vehicle electronics, home entertainment systems, and other 21 wireless appliances, without having connected to any physical or 22 fixed link.

23 "New Jersey emerging technology business" means a company 24 ¹with fewer than 225 employees, of whom at least 75 percent are filling a position in New Jersey, that is¹ doing business, employing 25 or owning capital or property, or maintaining an office¹[,]¹ in this 26 State '[that] and: $(1)^{1}$ has qualified research expenses paid or 27 incurred for research conducted in this State 1 [or]; (2) 1 conducts 28 pilot scale manufacturing in this State¹[, and has fewer than 225] 29 30 employees, of whom at least 75 percent are filling a position in New 31 Jersey]; or (3) conducts technology commercialization in this State in the fields of advanced computing, advanced materials, 32 33 biotechnology, electronic device technology, information 34 technology, life sciences, medical device technology, mobile communications technology, or renewable energy technology¹. 35

"Partnership" means a syndicate, group, pool, joint venture or
other unincorporated organization through or by means of which
any business, financial operation or venture is carried on, and which
is not a trust or estate, a corporation or a sole proprietorship.

40 "Pilot scale manufacturing" means design, construction, and 41 testing of preproduction prototypes and models in the fields of 42 advanced computing, advanced materials, biotechnology, electronic 43 device technology, information technology, life sciences, medical 44 device technology, mobile communications technology, or 45 renewable energy technology, other than for commercial sale, 46 excluding sales of prototypes or sales for market testing if total 47 gross receipts, as calculated in the manner provided in section 6 of

P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-6), from such sales of the product, 1 service or process do not exceed \$1,000,000. 2 3 "Qualified investment" means the non-refundable transfer of 4 cash to a New Jersey emerging technology business by a taxpayer 5 that is not a related person of the New Jersey emerging technology business, the transfer of which is in connection with either (1) a 6 7 transaction in exchange for stock, interests in partnerships or joint 8 ventures, licenses (exclusive or non-exclusive), rights to use 9 technology, marketing rights, warrants, options or any items similar 10 to those included herein, including but not limited to options or 11 rights to acquire any of the items included herein; or (2) a purchase, 12 production, or research agreement. 13 "Qualified research expenses" means qualified research expenses 14 as defined in section 41 of the federal Internal Revenue Code of 15 1986 (26 U.S.C. s.41), as in effect on June 30, 1992, in the fields of advanced computing, advanced materials, biotechnology, electronic 16 17 device technology, information technology, life sciences, medical 18 technology, mobile communications technology, or device 19 renewable energy technology. 20 "Related person" means: 21 a corporation, partnership, association or trust controlled by a. 22 the taxpayer; 23 b. an individual, corporation, partnership, association or trust 24 that is in the control of the taxpayer; 25 a corporation, partnership, association or trust controlled by c. 26 an individual, corporation, partnership, association or trust that is in 27 the control of the taxpayer; or d. a member of the same controlled group as the taxpayer. 28 29 "Renewable energy technology" means a technology involving 30 the generation of electricity from solar energy; wind energy; wave 31 or tidal action; geothermal energy; the combustion of gas from the 32 anaerobic digestion of food waste and sewage sludge at a biomass 33 generating facility; the combustion of methane gas captured from a 34 landfill; and a fuel cell powered by methanol, ethanol, landfill gas, 35 digestor gas, biomass gas, or other renewable fuel but not powered 36 by a fossil fuel. 37 5. This act shall take effect immediately and section 3 shall 38 39 apply to privilege periods beginning on or after January 1, ¹[2011] 40 2012^{1} and section 4 shall apply to taxable years beginning on or

41 after January 1, **1**[2011] <u>2012</u>¹.