

HB 1666 -- SALES TAX EXEMPTION ON ITEMS SOLD AT PRISON CANTEENS

SPONSOR: Shumake

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Committee on Ways and Means by a vote of 12 to 1.

This bill authorizes a state and local sales and use tax exemption for items purchased at a prison canteen or commissary.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the law is not very clear and items purchased at a prison canteen have not been taxed before February 1, 2014. An inmate receives \$8.50 monthly to purchase needed personal hygiene items. Some inmates have other sources of income from their families or a job. Prison canteens offer many items for sale, but prices are often higher. Profits from the sale of canteen items fund special activities within the prison.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Shumake.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.