S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

3345

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

February 17, 2011

Introduced by Sen. KRUGER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations

AN ACT to amend the tax law, in relation to biofuel production credit for production of cellulosic ethanol

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Section 28 of the tax law, as added by section 1 of part X of chapter 62 of the laws of 2006, subdivision (a) as amended by section 1 of part A of chapter 57 of the laws of 2010, is renumbered section 35 and amended to read as follows:

S 35. Biofuel production credit. (a) General. A taxpayer subject to tax under article nine, nine-A or twenty-two of this chapter shall be allowed a credit against such tax pursuant to the provisions referenced in subdivision (d) of this section. The credit (or pro rata share of earned credit in the case of a partnership) for each gallon of biofuel produced at a biofuel plant on or after January first, two thousand six shall equal fifteen cents per gallon, OR TWENTY-FIVE CENTS PER GALLON FOR THE PRODUCTION OF CELLULOSIC ETHANOL, after the production of the first forty thousand gallons per year presented to market. The credit under this section shall be capped at two and one-half million dollars per taxpayer per taxable year for up to no more than four consecutive taxable years per biofuel plant. If the taxpayer is a partner in a partnership or shareholder of a New York S corporation, then the cap imposed by the preceding sentence shall be applied at the entity level, so that the aggregate credit allowed to all the partners or shareholders of each such entity in the taxable year does not exceed two and one-half million dollars.

(b) Definitions. For the purpose of this section, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [ ] is old law to be omitted.

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(1) "Biofuel" means a fuel which includes biodiesel and ethanol. The term "biodiesel" shall mean a fuel comprised exclusively of mono-alkyl esters of long chain fatty acids derived from vegetable oils or animal fats, designated B100, which meets the specifications of American Society of Testing and Materials designation D 6751-02. The term "ethanol" shall mean ethyl alcohol manufactured in the United States and its territories and sold (i) for fuel use and which has been rendered unfit for beverage use in a manner and which is produced at a facility approved by the federal bureau of alcohol, tobacco and firearms for the production of ethanol for fuel, or (ii) as denatured ethanol used by blenders and refiners which has been rendered unfit for beverage use. The term "biofuel" may also include any other standard approved by the New York state energy and research development authority.

(2) "CELLULOSIC ETHANOL" MEANS THE PRODUCTION OF ETHANOL FROM LIGNOCELLULOSIC BIOMASS FEEDSTOCKS NOT USED FOR FOOD PRODUCTION THAT ARE ALTERED THROUGH ACTIVITIES REFERENCED IN SUBPARAGRAPH FIVE OF PARAGRAPH (B) OF SUBDIVISION ONE OF SECTION THIRTY-ONE HUNDRED TWO-E OF THE PUBLIC AUTHORITIES LAW. SUCH LIGNOCELLULOSIC BIOMASS FEEDSTOCKS MAY INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT NECESSARILY LIMITED TO, SWITCHGRASSES OR WILLOWS, AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY RESIDUES, CLEAN WOOD AND WOOD WASTES, PULP AND PAPER MILL WASTES OR EXTRACTS, AND NON-RECYCLABLE PAPER. ANY QUESTION AS TO WHETHER ANY FEEDSTOCK QUALIFIES UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH SHALL BE DETERMINED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE NEW YORK STATE ENERGY AND RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY IN CONSULTATION WITH THE COMMISSIONER OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AND THE COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS.

(3) "Biofuel plant" means a commercial facility located in New York state at which one or more biofuels are produced. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, ANY COMMERCIAL FACILITY WHERE CELLULOSIC ETHANOL IS PRODUCED SHALL BE CONSIDERED A SEPARATE BIOFUEL PLANT.

(c) Reporting requirements. A taxpayer wishing to claim a credit under this section shall annually certify to the commissioner (i) that biofuel produced at the eligible biofuel plant meets all existing standards for biofuel and (ii) the amount of biofuel produced at the eligible biofuel plant during a taxable year.

(d) Cross-references. For application of the credit provided for in this section, see the following provisions of this chapter:

(1) Article 9: Section 187-c.

(2) Article 9-A: Section 210, subdivision 38.

(3) Article 22: Section 606, subsections (i) and (jj).

S 2. Subsection (jj) of section 606 of the tax law, as added by section 5 of part X of chapter 62 of the laws of 2006, is amended to read as follows:

(jj) Biofuel production credit. A taxpayer shall be allowed a credit to be computed as provided in section [twenty-eight] THIRTY-FIVE of this chapter, against the tax imposed by this article. If the amount of the credit allowed under this subsection for any taxable year shall exceed the taxpayer's tax for such year, the excess shall be treated as an overpayment of tax to be credited or refunded in accordance with the provisions of section six hundred eighty-six of this article, provided, however, that no interest shall be paid thereon.

S 3. This act shall take effect immediately.