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Relating to Jefferson County; to reenact Act 406 of the 1967 Regular Session (Acts 1967, p. 1032), to authorize an occupational tax in Jefferson County; to remove certain exemptions originally provided in Act 406; to expressly repeal Act 99-669, 1999 Second Special Session; to ratify and confirm the actions of the county governing body in previously levying and collecting the taxes levied under Act 406 and to provide that the provisions hereof are retroactive and curative to the extent herein set out; to provide for a referendum; and to provide that if a majority of the voters vote against the continuation of the tax, the authority to levy the tax would be phased out.

- 15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:
- Section 1. This act shall apply only to Jefferson County.
- Section 2. As used in this act, the following words and terms shall have the meanings ascribed to them:
- (1) BUSINESS. Business, vocation, occupation,calling, or profession.
  - (2) COUNTY. Jefferson County.
- 23 (3) GOVERNING BODY. The Jefferson County Commission.
- Section 3. The purpose of this act is to reenact Act
- 25 406 of the 1967 Regular Session (Acts 1967, p. 1032) without

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the exemption originally granted by Act 406 to any person
required to pay a privilege or license tax to the state or the
county by Article 1, Chapter 20, Title 51 of the Code of
Alabama 1940.

Section 4. The governing body of the county is authorized to levy an occupational or license or privilege tax upon any person for engaging in any business in the county for which the person is not required by law to pay any tax pursuant to Section 40-16-4, 40-21-50, 40-21-52, 40-21-53, 40-21-56, or 40-21-60 of the Code of Alabama 1975.

Section 5. The tax hereby authorized to be levied shall be paid to that officer or employee of the county chargeable with the duty of collecting license or privilege taxes payable to the county.

Section 6. The tax authorized to be levied by the governing body of the county on any person for engaging in any business may not exceed the rate of forty-five hundredths of one percent (.0045) of compensation, excluding benefits, or net income before taxes, whichever is less, of business activity conducted in the county. The tax may not be increased without the approval of the Alabama Legislature.

Section 7. All actions of the governing body in continuously levying, collecting, and enforcing the levy of the county occupational and license taxes pursuant to Act 406 since the time of the initial levies thereof, particularly

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from and after the effective date of Act 99-669, 1999 Second Special Session (Acts 1999, p. 168) are hereby ratified, validated, and confirmed. This act is therefore intended to be retroactive and curative to November 29, 1999; and all the exemptions originally provided in Act 406 shall remain in effect, except for the exemption for any person required to pay a privilege or license tax to the state or the county by Article 1, Chapter 20, Title 51 of the Code of Alabama 1940, which shall expire January 1, 2010, and the rate of tax shall be the rate at which the tax was levied on the effective date of this act until January 1, 2010, at which time the maximum shall be the rate specified in Section 6. On and after January 1, 2010, the county governing body shall have no authority to levy an occupational tax under Act 406.

Section 8. The tax authorized to be levied by this act shall be phased out commencing October 1, 2012, unless its authorization is approved at a referendum held on the date of the primary election in June 2012. If a majority of the votes cast at the referendum are in favor of the continued authorization of the occupational tax, the tax shall continue to be authorized. If a majority of the votes cast at such referendum are not in favor of the continuation of the authorization of the occupational tax, the governing body is authorized to phase out the tax over a five-year period commencing October 1, 2012, with the rate of the tax reduced

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1	by 20 percent on October 1, 2012, and October 1 of each year			
2	for four years thereafter, at which time the tax shall			
3	terminate.			
4	Section 9. All laws or parts of laws which conflict			
5	with this act are repealed, and Act 99-669, 1999 Second			
6	Special Session (Acts 1999 Second Special Session, p. 168), is			
7	expressly repealed.			
8	Section 10. If any provision of this act shall be			
9	held by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid,			
10	such invalidity shall not affect any other provisions of this			
11	act and the act shall be given full force and effect as			
12	completely as if the invalid provision had not been included.			
13	Section 11. This act shall become effective			
14	immediately following its passage and approval by the			

Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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4		Speaker of the House of Repres	entatives	
5	<u> </u>			
6		President and Presiding Officer	of the Senate	
7	House of Representatives			
8 9 10	I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and was passed by the House 12-AUG-09, as amended.			
11 12 13		Greg Pappas Clerk		
14				
15				
16	Senate	14-AUG-09	Passed	