CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA
Finance Department – Sales Tax Division
155 Heritage Way, Juneau, Alaska 99801
Phone (907) 586-5215 x 4901
Sales.tax.office@juneau.org

August, 2026

****NOTICE OF SALES TAX CODE CHANGES****
New Sales Tax Exemption – HB1: Gold & Silver Specie
Effective August 28, 2026

This notice is to inform merchants of an upcoming change to Alaska State statute that impacts the taxability of gold and silver specie sold within the City & Borough of Juneau.

The Alaska legislature passed House Bill 001 during the 2026 legislative session, which prohibits a city or borough from levying sales tax "*on the value of the gold or silver contained within specie during the sale or exchange of specie*."

Under Alaska law, **"specie" means gold or silver that is valued primarily based on its metal content and is in the form of either:**

- **a coin; or**
- **bullion that is stamped or imprinted with its weight and purity.**

The exemption does not apply simply because an item contains gold or silver. Jewelry, watches, artwork, and other manufactured or finished products containing gold or silver are not considered specie unless they meet the definition above and remain subject to CBJ sales tax unless another exemption applies.

For qualifying specie, this exemption applies only to the intrinsic value of the gold or silver specie at the time of the sale. The exemption does not apply to any non-metal components of the transaction, including dealer premiums, markups, services, or collectible value. That means CBJ sales tax must be assessed on any portion of the sale price of gold or silver specie over the spot price of gold or silver at the time of the sale.

Example: A merchant sells qualifying gold bullion for $3,500 when the value of the gold contained in the bullion is $3,300. The $3,300 value of the gold is exempt from CBJ sales tax, while the remaining $200 is taxable.

Merchants are responsible for maintaining records supporting the exempt amount, including the spot price used to determine the value of the gold or silver at the time of each sale and the methodology used to determine that price.

This exemption becomes effective on August 28, 2026, and applies to qualifying sales made on or after the effective date.

Merchants selling qualifying gold or silver specie may report the exempt portion of the sale under **Code 02 – Prohibited by Federal or State Law** on their CBJ sales tax return.

Additional information and administrative guidelines regarding this exemption are available on the CBJ Sales Tax Office website.

If you have questions regarding this change, please contact the CBJ Sales Tax Office at (907) 586-5215 ext. 4901.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and partnership in maintaining fair and accurate sales tax administration within the City and Borough of Juneau.

Sincerely,

Sales Tax Office

CBJ Sales Tax Office
Phone: (907) 586-5215 x 4901
Email: sales.tax.office@juneau.gov
Website: https://juneau.org/finance/sales-tax