



CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
JIMMY PATRONIS'
RUNDOWN
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

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Floridians,

With the 2020 Hurricane Season just around the corner, it is critical to start preparing now before the next storm takes aim at our state. **The 2020 Disaster Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday begins today, Friday, May 29, and extends through Thursday, June 4, 2020.**

While many Floridians are still dealing with the financial impacts related to COVID-19, it is crucial to take advantage of this sales tax holiday to save money while ensuring your home and family are protected. Experts are predicting an active storm season, so now is the time to get prepared. Don't wait until a storm is approaching, it may be too late!

For more information on disaster tips and resources, visit my website at [PrepareFL.com](https://www.preparefl.com).

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS 2020

Sales Tax Holiday

\$10 OR LESS

- Reusable ice (ice packs)

\$20 OR LESS

- Any portable self-powered light source:
 - > flashlights
 - > lanterns
 - > candles

\$25 OR LESS

- Any gas or diesel fuel container, including LP gas and kerosene containers

\$30 OR LESS

- Batteries, including rechargeable batteries, listed sizes only (excluding automobile and boat batteries):
 - > AA-cell and AAA-cell
 - > C-cell
 - > D-cell
 - > 6-volt
 - > 9-volt
- Coolers and ice chests
 - > (food-storage; non electrical)

\$50 OR LESS

- Tarpaulins (tarps)
- Visqueen, plastic sheeting, plastic drop cloths, and other flexible waterproof sheeting
- Ground anchor systems
- Tie-down kits
- Bungee cords
- Ratchet straps
- Radios (powered by battery, solar or hand crank)
 - > Two-way
 - > Weather band

\$750 OR LESS

- Portable generators used to provide light or communications, or to preserve food in the event of a power outage

ALWAYS EXEMPT

- Bottled water (unflavored, uncarbonated)
- Canned food, including meats, vegetables, fruits, peanut butter, and other nonperishable items
- First aid kits
- Prescription and non-prescription medications
 - > (all Rx and most over the counter are exempt)
- Baby food and formulas

MAY 29 - JUNE 4



Yesterday, I announced that my office is in the process of requesting that private vendors to the state of Florida verify whether they are majority owned by United States interests. This information will be used to better identify businesses that are majority-Communist Party of China owned that do business with the state of Florida. We believe this is a prudent step to see if some of these businesses may be controlled or owned by the Chinese government, and by calling on businesses to self-identify whether they're majority American-owned, we'll be able to narrow the scope of our inquiry to potentially withhold funds and hold the Communist Party of China accountable. Additional information is available [here](#).

Additionally, as your CFO, I believe that financial literacy is key to a strong financial future and I was excited to help launch the statewide [MoneyWise Florida](#) initiative last week. Financial literacy is vital to ensuring Floridians are financially successful, and it is important that we are providing the tools necessary to ensure for a strong financial future. As we face the impacts of COVID-19, it's more important than ever to take advantage of these resources and educate yourself and family on how to best manage finances.

This comprehensive effort is meant to provide practical advice to help millions of Floridians with topics ranging from getting jobs, climbing out of debt, securing a mortgage, saving for a child's college education, and planning for a secure retirement, among many others. For additional information, visit [MoneyWise Florida](#).

Sincerely,

Stay Connected



Jimmy Patronis
Chief Financial Officer
State of Florida



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