New York State Department of Taxation and Finance

Taxpayer Services Division Technical Services Bureau

TSB-M-79 (5)S Sales Tax February 2, 1979

TELEVISION SETS USED BY PATIENTS IN HOSPITALS

At a meeting held on November 30, 1978, the Tax Commission adopted the following policy

with regard to television sets used by patients in hospitals.

Effective March 1, 1979, the receipts from charges for television sets placed in hospitals for use

by patients are not subject to sales tax whether such receipts are derived through the use of coin-

operated mechanisms or through the collection of periodic (daily, weekly or monthly) charges.

Beginning March 1, 1979, suppliers purchasing television sets which will be placed in hospitals

for use by patients will be required to pay the applicable New York State and local sales tax on

their purchases of such television sets.

In those instances prior to March 1, 1979, where the suppliers, relying on previously published

information, purchased television sets for resale (rental) and remitted sales tax to the State Tax

Commission, they will not, on audit be assessed a retroactive sales tax on their purchases of the

television sets.

Suppliers who prior to March 1, 1979 provided television sets to patients in hospitals, and who

neither collected sales tax on their rental charges nor paid sales tax on either the charges or the

original purchase of the set, will on audit be assessed a tax based on the original purchase price

of the sets.