



STATE OF FLORIDA  
**DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**  
*"State Emergency Response Team"*

**JEB BUSH**  
Governor

**CRAIG FUGATE**  
Director

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**EMERGENCY MANAGERS APPLAUD SALES TAX HOLIDAY  
FOR HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS**

*~Governor Bush signs legislation to promote preps for 2005 hurricane season ~*

**TALLAHASSEE** - Governor Jeb Bush today signed into law (HB 6001) establishing a sales tax holiday on hurricane preparedness items and urged all Floridians to prepare for the 2005 hurricane season. Emergency management officials support this preparedness effort as an excellent opportunity to get essential disaster supplies for the upcoming year.

"The unprecedented 2004 hurricane season impacted every Floridian," said Governor Bush "This sales tax holiday will make it easier for residents to be ready for the upcoming season."

State and local emergency managers applaud the legislative initiative and encourage families to take advantage of the sales tax holiday that begins on the first day of hurricane season, June 1, and runs through June 12, 2005.

"All indications are that we will have another active hurricane season," said Director Craig Fugate, of the Florida Division of Emergency Management. "Floridians have an excellent opportunity to stock up on disaster- supply items and save money. There is no excuse not to be ready."

Some of the supply items that will be tax exempt are:

- Flashlights under \$20
- Weather radios, portable radios or two way radios under \$50
- First aid kits under \$50
- Gas or diesel fuel tanks under \$25
- Flexible waterproof sheeting under \$50
- Ground anchor system or tie down kit under \$30
- Regular types of portable light batteries under \$30
- Non-electrical food coolers under \$30
- Portable generators under \$750

The 2005 Atlantic hurricane season begins on June 1. For more information on the 2005 season and disaster preparedness and the sales tax holiday, visit [www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org), which has new geographical information and the State of Florida at [www.myflorida.com](http://www.myflorida.com)

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