

No. 2024-052 February 8, 2024

## KPMG report: State and local tax, technology-related developments (table, fourth quarter 2023)

A report of U.S. state and local tax developments concerning technology-related tax issues, for the fourth quarter of 2023, provides updates in table format and covers topics such as access to telecommunications services, web-based services, software, and streaming services.

Read the <u>KPMG report</u> [PDF 208 KB] of state and local technology-related tax developments for the fourth quarter of 2023.

## **Highlights**

- Florida: In a Technical Assistance Advisement, the state Department of Revenue determined that a
  customized digital video messaging service was subject to the communications service tax (CST). The
  taxpayer's service offered customers the ability to customize and transmit messages pre-recorded by
  entertainers, musicians, athletes, or other social media personalities. In the Department's view, the
  services involved the "transmission of video, audio, or other programming services to a purchaser," which
  are included in the definition of taxable video services.
- Missouri: The state Supreme Court held that a retailer's subsidiary was exempt from use tax for its
  purchase and use of IT equipment that was intended to be resold to other subsidiaries. The state
  Department of Revenue argued that the subsidiary's actions of installing, testing, and repackaging the
  equipment indicated it was not solely for resale. The court disagreed, holding that the subsidiary's
  exchange of ownership of the equipment within its regular business qualified as a "sale" and "resale" for
  purposes of the tax exemption.
- New Mexico: The state Taxation and Revenue Department finalized amendments to regulations
  regarding the application of gross receipts tax to digital advertising services. The amendments provide
  definitions and specify that the "receipts of a provider of a digital platform that displays digital advertising
  services, whose digital platform may be accessed or viewed within New Mexico, from the sale of
  advertising services to advertisers within and without New Mexico are subject to the gross receipts tax."
- Utah: A State Tax Commission judge held that a taxpayer must pay sales tax on subscription fees for streaming services. Although streaming services are not taxable in Utah, the bundling of the streaming services with an offline download feature made the entire service taxable as a bundled transaction.

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