§ 18B-804.1 Rounding of transactions.

(a) Definitions. – The following definitions apply in this section:

(1) Cash. – As defined in 12 U.S.C. § 4001.

(2) Total transaction amount. – The final amount due from the customer, including all applicable taxes and fees.

(b) **(Effective until July 1, 2027)** Application. – If the one-cent piece is no longer in production, an ABC store may round the total transaction amount to the nearest five-cent interval in lieu of calculating the total transaction amount to the nearest one-cent interval. An ABC store that rounds transactions must do so in accordance with this section. The following principles apply under this section:

(1) The hundredths place is used to determine the cents in which the final digit of the total transaction amount ends.

(2) Rounding to the nearest five-cent interval does not apply to a transaction for which payment is made by a noncash method, including electronic funds transfer, check, gift card, money order, credit card, debit card, electronic payment, or other noncash payment method. In a mixed tender transaction, rounding applies only to the portion of the transaction paid in cash.

(3) Funds derived from rounding up transactions by an ABC store are treated as gross receipts and shall be distributed in accordance with G.S. 18B-805.

(b) **(Effective July 1, 2027)** Application. – If the one-cent piece is no longer in production, an ABC store shall, in accordance with this section, round the total transaction amount to the nearest five-cent interval in lieu of calculating the total transaction amount to the nearest one-cent interval. The following principles apply under this section:

(1) The hundredths place is used to determine the cents in which the final digit of the total transaction amount ends.

(2) Rounding to the nearest five-cent interval does not apply to a transaction for which payment is made by a noncash method, including electronic funds transfer, check, gift card, money order, credit card, debit card, electronic payment, or other noncash payment method. In a mixed tender transaction, rounding applies only to the portion of the transaction paid in cash.

(3) Funds derived from rounding up transactions by an ABC store are treated as gross receipts and shall be distributed in accordance with G.S. 18B-805.

(c) Rounding Methodology. – An entity that rounds a cash transaction as permitted by this section must use the following methodology:

(1) Rounding down. – If the final digit of the total transaction amount of a cash transaction ends in one cent, two cents, six cents, or seven cents, the final digit must be rounded down to the nearest five-cent interval.

(2) Rounding up. – If the final digit of the total transaction amount of a cash transaction ends in three cents, four cents, eight cents, or nine cents, the final digit must be rounded up to the nearest five-cent interval.

(3) No rounding. – If the final digit of the total transaction amount of a cash transaction ends in zero cents or five cents, the final digit may not be rounded up or down.

(d) No Effect on Sales Price or Sales Tax. – Rounding to the nearest five-cent interval under this section does not alter the uniform State sales price, the amount of tax owed or collected under Article 5 of Chapter 105 of the General Statutes, or any surcharges, assessments, or fees imposed on the sale. This section does not affect the rounding rule in G.S. 105-164.10 for computing the sales tax due in a transaction and does not relieve ABC stores from the duty to calculate sales tax in accordance with G.S. 105-164.10 and remit to the Department of Revenue

the exact amount of sales tax shown on an invoice or receipt. Nothing in this section authorizes the rounding of the amount of sales tax due.

(e) No Civil Cause of Action. – There is no civil cause of action against an ABC store based on a rounding adjustment done in accordance with this section. (2026-31, s. 14(b).)