CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

HOUSE BILL 2758

Chapter 39, Laws of 2012

62nd Legislature 2012 Regular Session

SPIRITS TAXES--COLLECTION AUTHORITY

EFFECTIVE DATE: 03/15/12

Passed by the House February 13, 2012 Yeas 96 Nays 0

FRANK CHOPP

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Passed by the Senate February 27, 2012 Yeas 49 Nays 0

BRAD OWEN

President of the Senate

Approved March 15, 2012, 2:21 p.m.

CERTIFICATE

I, Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **HOUSE BILL 2758** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

BARBARA BAKER

Chief Clerk

FILED

March 15, 2012

CHRISTINE GREGOIRE

Governor of the State of Washington

Secretary of State State of Washington

HOUSE BILL 2758

Passed Legislature - 2012 Regular Session

State of Washington 62nd Legislature 2012 Regular Session

By Representatives Hunter and Alexander; by request of Department of Revenue

Read first time 02/01/12. Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

AN ACT Relating to strengthening the department of revenue's ability to collect spirits taxes imposed under RCW 82.08.150; amending RCW 82.03.190, 66.24.010, 66.08.150, 34.05.422, and 82.32.145; reenacting and amending RCW 82.32.080; adding a new section to chapter 82.08 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 66.28 RCW; creating a new section; and declaring an emergency.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

8 NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. A new section is added to chapter 82.08 RCW, 9 to be codified between RCW 82.08.150 and 82.08.160, to read as follows: (1)(a) If the department determines that a taxpayer is more than 10 11 thirty days delinquent in reporting or remitting spirits taxes on a tax 12 return or assessed by the department, including any applicable 13 penalties and interest on such taxes, the department may request that 14 the liquor control board suspend the taxpayer's spirits license or 15 licenses and refuse to renew any existing spirits license held by the 16 taxpayer or issue any new spirits license to the taxpayer. The 17 department must provide written notice to the affected taxpayer of the 18 department's request to the liquor control board.

(b) Before the department may make a request to the liquor control 1 2 board as authorized in (a) of this subsection (1), the department must have provided the taxpayer with at least seven calendar days prior 3 written notice. This notice must inform the taxpayer that the 4 5 department intends to request that the liquor control board suspend the taxpayer's spirits license or licenses and refuse to renew any existing б 7 license of the taxpayer or issue any new spirits license to the taxpayer unless, within seven calendar days of the date of the notice, 8 the taxpayer submits any unfiled tax returns for reporting spirits 9 taxes and remits full payment of its outstanding spirits tax liability 10 to the department or negotiates payment arrangements for the unpaid 11 spirits taxes. The notice required by this subsection (1)(b) must 12 include information listing any unfiled tax returns; the amount of 13 14 unpaid spirits taxes, including any applicable penalties and interest; who to contact to inquire about payment arrangements; and that the 15 taxpayer may seek administrative review by the department of the 16 17 notice, and the deadline for seeking such review. Nothing in this subsection (1)(b) requires the department to enter into any payment 18 19 arrangement proposed by a taxpayer if the department determines that 20 the taxpayer's proposal is not satisfactory.

(c) The department may not make a request to the liquor control board under subsection (1)(a) of this section relating to any spirits taxes that are the subject of pending administrative review by the department.

25 (2) A taxpayer's right to administrative review of the notice 26 required in subsection (1)(b) of this section:

(a) May be conducted under any rule adopted pursuant to RCW
82.01.060(4) or as a brief adjudicative proceeding under RCW 34.05.485
through 34.05.494; and

30 (b) Does not include the right to challenge the amount of any 31 spirits taxes assessed by the department if the taxpayer previously 32 sought or could have sought administrative review of the assessment as 33 provided in RCW 82.32.160.

34 (3) The notices required by this section may be provided35 electronically in accordance with RCW 82.32.135.

36 (4) For purposes of this section:

37 (a) "Spirits license" has the same meaning as in RCW 38 66.24.010(3)(c); and

(b) "Spirits taxes" means the taxes imposed in RCW 82.08.150.

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Sec. 2. RCW 82.32.080 and 2011 c 24 s 1 and 2010 2nd sp.s. c 2 s
3 2 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

4 (1) When authorized by the department, payment of the tax may be 5 made by uncertified check under such rules as the department 6 prescribes, but, if a check so received is not paid by the bank on 7 which it is drawn, the taxpayer, by whom such check is tendered, will 8 remain liable for payment of the tax and for all legal penalties <u>and</u> 9 <u>interest</u>, the same as if such check had not been tendered.

(2)(a) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, payment of 10 the tax must be made by electronic funds transfer, as defined in RCW 11 82.32.085. As an alternative to electronic funds transfer, the 12 department may authorize other forms of electronic payment, such as 13 payment by credit card. All taxes administered by this chapter are 14 15 subject to this requirement, except that the department may exclude any 16 taxes not reported on the combined excise tax return or any successor 17 return from the electronic payment requirement in this subsection.

(b) The department may waive the electronic payment requirement in this subsection for any taxpayer or class of taxpayers, for good cause or for whom the department has assigned a reporting frequency that is less than quarterly. In the discretion of the department, a waiver under this subsection may be made temporary or permanent, and may be made on the department's own motion.

(c) The department is authorized to accept payment of taxes by
electronic funds transfer or other acceptable forms of electronic
payment from taxpayers that are not subject to the mandatory electronic
payment requirements in this subsection.

(3)(a) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, returns must be filed electronically using the department's online tax filing service or other method of electronic reporting as the department may authorize.

32 (b) The department may waive the electronic filing requirement in 33 this subsection for any taxpayer or class of taxpayers, for good cause 34 or for whom the department has assigned a reporting frequency that is 35 less than quarterly. In the discretion of the department, a waiver 36 under this subsection may be made temporary or permanent, and may be 37 made on the department's own motion.

(c) The department is authorized to allow electronic filing of
 returns from taxpayers that are not subject to the mandatory electronic
 filing requirements in this subsection.

(4)(a)(i) The department, for good cause shown, may extend the time 4 for making and filing any return, and may grant such reasonable 5 additional time within which to make and file returns as it may deem б 7 proper, but any permanent extension granting the taxpayer a reporting date without penalty more than ten days beyond the due date, and any 8 extension in excess of thirty days must be conditional on deposit with 9 10 the department of an amount to be determined by the department which is approximately equal to the estimated tax liability for the reporting 11 12 period or periods for which the extension is granted. In the case of 13 a permanent extension or a temporary extension of more than thirty days 14 the deposit must be deposited within the state treasury with other tax funds and a credit recorded to the taxpayer's account which may be 15 applied to taxpayer's liability upon cancellation of the permanent 16 17 extension or upon reporting of the tax liability where an extension of more than thirty days has been granted. 18

(ii) The department must review the requirement for deposit at least annually and may require a change in the amount of the deposit required when it believes that such amount does not approximate the tax liability for the reporting period or periods for which the extension is granted.

(b) During a state of emergency declared under RCW 43.06.010(12), the department, on its own motion or at the request of any taxpayer affected by the emergency, may extend the time for making or filing any return as the department deems proper. The department may not require any deposit as a condition for granting an extension under this subsection (4)(b).

(5)(a) The department must keep full and accurate records of all 30 funds received and disbursed by it. Subject to the provisions of RCW 31 32 82.32.105, 82.32.052, and 82.32.350, the department must apply the payment of the taxpayer ((first-against-penalties-and-interest,-and 33 34 then upon the tax, without regard to any direction of the taxpayer)) in 35 the following order, without regard to any direction of the taxpayer: 36 (i) Interest; (ii) penalties; (iii) fees; (iv) other nontax amounts; 37 (v) taxes, except spirits taxes; and (vi) spirits taxes.

(b) For purposes of this subsection, "spirits taxes" has the same
 meaning as in section 1 of this act.

(6) The department may refuse to accept any return that is not 3 accompanied by a remittance of the tax shown to be due thereon or that 4 is not filed electronically as required in this section. When such 5 return is not accepted, the taxpayer is deemed to have failed or 6 7 refused to file a return and is subject to the procedures provided in RCW 82.32.100 and to the penalties provided in RCW 82.32.090. 8 The 9 above authority to refuse to accept a return may not apply when a 10 return is timely filed electronically and a timely payment has been made by electronic funds transfer or other form of electronic payment 11 12 as authorized by the department.

13 (7) Except for returns and remittances required to be transmitted 14 to the department electronically under this section and except as otherwise provided in this chapter, a return or remittance that is 15 transmitted to the department by United States mail is deemed filed or 16 17 received on the date shown by the post office cancellation mark stamped upon the envelope containing it. A return or remittance that is 18 transmitted to the department electronically is deemed filed or 19 received according to procedures set forth by the department. 20

(8)(a) For purposes of subsections (2) and (3) of this section, good cause" means the inability of a taxpayer to comply with the requirements of subsection (2) or (3) of this section because:

(i) The taxpayer does not have the equipment or software necessary
to enable the taxpayer to comply with subsection (2) or (3) of this
section;

(ii) The equipment or software necessary to enable the taxpayer to comply with subsection (2) or (3) of this section is not functioning properly;

30 (iii) The taxpayer does not have access to the internet using the 31 taxpayer's own equipment;

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(iv) The taxpayer does not have a bank account or a credit card;

33 (v) The taxpayer's bank is unable to send or receive electronic 34 funds transfer transactions; or

35 (vi) Some other circumstance or condition exists that, in the 36 department's judgment, prevents the taxpayer from complying with the 37 requirements of subsection (2) or (3) of this section.

(b) "Good cause" also includes any circumstance that, in the 1 2 department's judgment, supports the efficient or effective administration of the tax laws of this state, including providing 3 relief from the requirements of subsection (2) or (3) of this section 4 to any taxpayer that is voluntarily collecting and remitting this 5 state's sales or use taxes on sales to Washington customers but has no 6 7 legal requirement to be registered with the department.

8 **Sec. 3.** RCW 82.03.190 and 1998 c 54 s 2 are each amended to read 9 as follows:

(1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, any 10 11 person having received notice of a denial of a petition or a notice of 12 determination made under RCW 82.32.160, 82.32.170, 82.34.110, or 13 82.49.060 may appeal by filing in accordance with RCW 1.12.070 a notice of appeal with the board of tax appeals within thirty days after the 14 mailing of the notice of such denial or determination. 15 In the notice 16 of appeal the taxpayer ((shall)) <u>must</u> set forth the amount of the tax 17 which the taxpayer contends should be reduced or refunded and the reasons for such reduction or refund, in accordance with rules of 18 practice and procedure prescribed by the board. However, if the notice 19 20 of appeal relates to an application made to the department under 21 chapter 82.34 RCW, the taxpayer ((shall)) <u>must</u> set forth the amount to which the taxpayer claims the credit or exemption should apply, and the 22 23 grounds for such contention, in accordance with rules of practice and 24 procedure prescribed by the board. The board ((shall)) must transmit 25 a copy of the notice of appeal to the department and all other named 26 parties within thirty days of its receipt by the board. If the 27 taxpayer intends that the hearing before the board be held pursuant to the administrative procedure act (chapter 34.05 RCW), the notice of 28 appeal ((shall)) must also so state. In the event that the notice of 29 appeal does not so state, the department may, within thirty days from 30 31 the date of its receipt of the notice of appeal, file with the board notice of its intention that the hearing be held pursuant to the 32 administrative procedure act. 33

34 (2) No person may file a notice of appeal with the board of tax
 35 appeals to contest the amount of spirits taxes assessed or asserted to
 36 be due by the department of revenue unless the person has first paid

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the full amount of the contested spirits taxes. For purposes of this 1 2 subsection, "spirits taxes" has the same meaning as in section 1 of

this act. 3

4 Sec. 4. RCW 66.24.010 and 2011 c 195 s 1 are each amended to read as follows: 5

6 (1) Every license ((shall)) must be issued in the name of the 7 applicant, and the holder thereof ((shall)) may not allow any other 8 person to use the license.

9 (2) For the purpose of considering any application for a license, or the renewal of a license, the board may cause an inspection of the 10 11 premises to be made, and may inquire into all matters in connection 12 with the construction and operation of the premises. For the purpose of reviewing any application for a license and for considering the 13 denial, suspension, revocation, or renewal or denial thereof, of any 14 license, the liquor control board may consider any prior criminal 15 16 conduct of the applicant including an administrative violation history 17 record with the board and a criminal history record information check. The board may submit the criminal history record information check to 18 the Washington state patrol and to the identification division of the 19 20 federal bureau of investigation in order that these agencies may search 21 their records for prior arrests and convictions of the individual or individuals who filled out the forms. The board ((shall)) must require 22 23 fingerprinting of any applicant whose criminal history record 24 information check is submitted to the federal bureau of investigation. The provisions of RCW 9.95.240 and of chapter 9.96A RCW ((shall)) do 25 26 not apply to such cases. Subject to the provisions of this section, the board may, in its discretion, grant or deny the renewal or license 27 applied for. Denial may be based on, without limitation, the existence 28 of chronic illegal activity documented in objections submitted pursuant 29 30 to subsections (8)(d) and (12) of this section. Authority to approve 31 an uncontested or unopposed license may be granted by the board to any staff member the board designates in writing. Conditions for granting 32 such authority ((shall)) <u>must</u> be adopted by rule. No retail license of 33 any kind may be issued to: 34

(a) A person doing business as a sole proprietor who has not 35 36 resided in the state for at least one month prior to receiving a

1 license, except in cases of licenses issued to dining places on 2 railroads, boats, or aircraft;

3 (b) A copartnership, unless all of the members thereof are 4 qualified to obtain a license, as provided in this section;

5 (c) A person whose place of business is conducted by a manager or 6 agent, unless such manager or agent possesses the same qualifications 7 required of the licensee;

8 (d) A corporation or a limited liability company, unless it was 9 created under the laws of the state of Washington or holds a 10 certificate of authority to transact business in the state of 11 Washington.

(3)(a) The board may, in its discretion, subject to the provisions of RCW 66.08.150, suspend or cancel any license; and all rights of the licensee to keep or sell liquor thereunder ((shall)) <u>must</u> be suspended or terminated, as the case may be.

(b) The board ((shall)) <u>must</u> immediately suspend the license or 16 17 certificate of a person who has been certified pursuant to RCW 74.20A.320 by the department of social and health services as a person 18 who is not in compliance with a support order. If the person has 19 continued to meet all other requirements for reinstatement during the 20 21 suspension, reissuance of the license or certificate ((shall be)) is 22 automatic upon the board's receipt of a release issued by the department of social and health services stating that the licensee is 23 24 in compliance with the order.

25 (c) <u>Upon_written_notification_by_the_department_of_revenue_in</u> accordance with section 1 of this act that a person is more than thirty 26 27 <u>days_delinquent_in_reporting_or_remitting_spirits_taxes_to_the</u> department, the board must suspend all spirits licenses held by that 28 person. The board must also refuse to renew any existing spirits 29 license of, or issue any new spirits license to, the person or any 30 other applicant controlled directly or indirectly by that person. The 31 board may not reinstate a person's spirits license or renew or issue a 32 new spirits license to that person, or an applicant controlled directly 33 or indirectly by that person, until such time as the department of 34 35 revenue notifies the board that the person is current in reporting and remitting spirits taxes or that the department consents to the 36 37 reinstatement or renewal of the person's spirits license or the issuance of a new spirits license to the person. For purposes of this 38

1 section: (i) "Spirits license" means any license issued by the board
2 under the authority of this chapter that authorizes the licensee to
3 sell spirits; and (ii) "spirits taxes" has the same meaning as in
4 section 1 of this act.

(d) The board may request the appointment of administrative law 5 judges under chapter 34.12 RCW who ((shall)) must have power to 6 7 administer oaths, issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses and the production of papers, books, accounts, documents, and testimony, 8 witnesses, and to receive testimony in any 9 examine inquiry, 10 investigation, hearing, or proceeding in any part of the state, under such rules and regulations as the board may adopt. 11

12 (((d))) <u>(e)</u> Witnesses ((shall-be)) are allowed fees and mileage 13 each way to and from any such inquiry, investigation, hearing, or 14 proceeding at the rate authorized by RCW 34.05.446. Fees need not be 15 paid in advance of appearance of witnesses to testify or to produce 16 books, records, or other legal evidence.

17 ((((e)))) (<u>f</u>) In case of disobedience of any person to comply with the order of the board or a subpoena issued by the board, or any of its 18 members, or administrative law judges, or on the refusal of a witness 19 to testify to any matter regarding which he or she may be lawfully 20 21 interrogated, the judge of the superior court of the county in which 22 the person resides, on application of any member of the board or administrative law judge, ((shall)) must compel obedience by contempt 23 24 proceedings, as in the case of disobedience of the requirements of a 25 subpoena issued from said court or a refusal to testify therein.

(4) Upon receipt of notice of the suspension or cancellation of a 26 27 license, the licensee ((shall)) must forthwith deliver up the license to the board. Where the license has been suspended only, the board 28 ((shall)) must return the license to the licensee at the expiration or 29 termination of the period of suspension. The board ((shall)) must 30 notify all vendors in the city or place where the licensee has its 31 32 premises of the suspension or cancellation of the license; and no employee may allow or cause any liquor to be delivered to or for any 33 person at the premises of that licensee. 34

35 (5)(a) At the time of the original issuance of a spirits, beer, and 36 wine restaurant license, the board ((shall)) <u>must</u> prorate the license 37 fee charged to the new licensee according to the number of calendar quarters, or portion thereof, remaining until the first renewal of that
 license is required.

(b) Unless sooner canceled, every license issued by the board 3 ((shall)) must expire at midnight of the thirtieth day of June of the 4 5 fiscal year for which it was issued. However, if the board deems it feasible and desirable to do so, it may establish, by rule pursuant to б 7 chapter 34.05 RCW, a system for staggering the annual renewal dates for any and all licenses authorized by this chapter. If such a system of 8 9 staggered annual renewal dates is established by the board, the license fees provided by this chapter ((shall)) must be appropriately prorated 10 during the first year that the system is in effect. 11

12 (6) Every license issued under this section ((shall be)) is subject 13 to all conditions and restrictions imposed by this title or by rules 14 adopted by the board. All conditions and restrictions imposed by the board in the issuance of an individual license may be listed on the 15 16 face of the individual license along with the trade name, address, and 17 expiration date. Conditions and restrictions imposed by the board may also be included in official correspondence separate from the license. 18 All spirits licenses are subject to the condition that the spirits 19 license holder must report and remit to the department of revenue all 20 21 spirits taxes by the date due.

(7) Every licensee ((shall)) <u>must</u> post and keep posted its license,
 or licenses, and any additional correspondence containing conditions
 and restrictions imposed by the board in a conspicuous place on the
 premises.

(8)(a) Unless (b) of this subsection applies, before the board issues a new or renewal license to an applicant it ((shall)) <u>must</u> give notice of such application to the chief executive officer of the incorporated city or town, if the application is for a license within an incorporated city or town, or to the county legislative authority, if the application is for a license outside the boundaries of incorporated cities or towns.

33 (b) If the application for a special occasion license is for an 34 event held during a county, district, or area fair as defined by RCW 35 15.76.120, and the county, district, or area fair is located on 36 property owned by the county but located within an incorporated city or 37 town, the county legislative authority ((shall)) <u>must</u> be the entity 1 notified by the board under (a) of this subsection. The board 2 ((shall)) <u>must</u> send a duplicate notice to the incorporated city or town 3 within which the fair is located.

(c) The incorporated city or town through the official or employee 4 selected by it, or the county legislative authority or the official or 5 employee selected by it, ((shall have)) has the right to file with the 6 7 board within twenty days after the date of transmittal of such notice for applications, or at least thirty days prior to the expiration date 8 for renewals, written objections against the applicant or against the 9 premises for which the new or renewal license is asked. The board may 10 extend the time period for submitting written objections. 11

(d) The written objections ((shall)) <u>must</u> include a statement of 12 13 all facts upon which such objections are based, and in case written 14 objections are filed, the city or town or county legislative authority may request and the liquor control board may in its discretion hold a 15 If the 16 hearing subject to the applicable provisions of Title 34 RCW. 17 board makes an initial decision to deny a license or renewal based on the written objections of an incorporated city or town or county 18 legislative authority, the applicant may request a hearing subject to 19 the applicable provisions of Title 34 RCW. If such a hearing is held 20 21 at the request of the applicant, liquor control board representatives 22 ((shall)) must present and defend the board's initial decision to deny a license or renewal. 23

24 (e) Upon the granting of a license under this title the board 25 ((shall)) must send written notification to the chief executive officer of the incorporated city or town in which the license is granted, or to 26 27 the county legislative authority if the license is granted outside the boundaries of incorporated cities or towns. When the license is for a 28 special occasion license for an event held during a county, district, 29 or area fair as defined by RCW 15.76.120, and the county, district, or 30 31 area fair is located on county-owned property but located within an 32 incorporated city or town, the written notification ((shall)) must be sent to both the incorporated city or town and the county legislative 33 authority. 34

(9)(a) Before the board issues any license to any applicant, it shall give (i) due consideration to the location of the business to be conducted under such license with respect to the proximity of churches, schools, and public institutions and (ii) written notice, with receipt

verification, of the application to public institutions identified by 1 2 the board as appropriate to receive such notice, churches, and schools within five hundred feet of the premises to be licensed. The board 3 ((shall)) may not issue a liquor license for either on-premises or off-4 5 premises consumption covering any premises not now licensed, if such premises are within five hundred feet of the premises of any tax-6 7 supported public elementary or secondary school measured along the most direct route over or across established public walks, streets, or other 8 9 public passageway from the main entrance of the school to the nearest public entrance of the premises proposed for license, and if, after 10 receipt by the school of the notice as provided in this subsection, the 11 board receives written objection, within twenty days after receiving 12 13 such notice, from an official representative or representatives of the 14 school within five hundred feet of said proposed licensed premises, indicating to the board that there is an objection to the issuance of 15 16 such license because of proximity to a school. The board may extend 17 the time period for submitting objections. For the purpose of this section, "church" means a building erected for and used exclusively for 18 religious worship and schooling or other activity in connection 19 therewith. For the purpose of this section, "public institution" means 20 21 institutions of higher education, parks, community centers, libraries, 22 and transit centers.

(b) No liquor license may be issued or reissued by the board to any motor sports facility or licensee operating within the motor sports facility unless the motor sports facility enforces a program reasonably calculated to prevent alcohol or alcoholic beverages not purchased within the facility from entering the facility and such program is approved by local law enforcement agencies.

(c) It is the intent under this subsection (9) that a retail 29 license ((shall)) may not be issued by the board where doing so would, 30 in the judgment of the board, adversely affect a private school meeting 31 32 the requirements for private schools under Title 28A RCW, which school is within five hundred feet of the proposed licensee. 33 The board ((shall)) <u>must</u> fully consider and give substantial weight to objections 34 filed by private schools. If a license is issued despite the proximity 35 of a private school, the board ((shall)) <u>must</u> state in a letter 36 37 addressed to the private school the board's reasons for issuing the 38 license.

1 (10) The restrictions set forth in subsection (9) of this section 2 ((shall)) do not prohibit the board from authorizing the assumption of 3 existing licenses now located within the restricted area by other 4 persons or licenses or relocations of existing licensed premises within 5 the restricted area. In no case may the licensed premises be moved 6 closer to a church or school than it was before the assumption or 7 relocation.

8 (11)(a) Nothing in this section prohibits the board, in its 9 discretion, from issuing a temporary retail or distributor license to 10 an applicant to operate the retail or distributor premises during the 11 period the application for the license is pending. The board may 12 establish a fee for a temporary license by rule.

(b) A temporary license issued by the board under this section ((shall)) <u>must</u> be for a period not to exceed sixty days. A temporary license may be extended at the discretion of the board for additional periods of sixty days upon payment of an additional fee and upon compliance with all conditions required in this section.

(c) Refusal by the board to issue or extend a temporary license shall not entitle the applicant to request a hearing. A temporary license may be canceled or suspended summarily at any time if the board determines that good cause for cancellation or suspension exists. RCW 66.08.130 applies to temporary licenses.

(d) Application for a temporary license ((shall)) <u>must</u> be on such form as the board shall prescribe. If an application for a temporary license is withdrawn before issuance or is refused by the board, the fee which accompanied such application ((shall)) <u>must</u> be refunded in full.

(12) In determining whether to grant or deny a license or renewal 28 of any license, the board ((shall)) <u>must</u> give substantial weight to 29 objections from an incorporated city or town or county legislative 30 31 authority based upon chronic illegal activity associated with the 32 applicant's operations of the premises proposed to be licensed or the applicant's operation of any other licensed premises, or the conduct of 33 the applicant's patrons inside or outside the licensed premises. 34 "Chronic illegal activity" means (a) a pervasive pattern of activity 35 that threatens the public health, safety, and welfare of the city, 36 37 town, or county including, but not limited to, open container 38 violations, assaults, disturbances, disorderly conduct, or other

criminal law violations, or as documented in crime statistics, police 1 2 reports, emergency medical response data, calls for service, field data, or similar records of a law enforcement agency for the city, 3 town, county, or any other municipal corporation or any state agency; 4 5 or (b) an unreasonably high number of citations for violations of RCW 46.61.502 associated with the applicant's or licensee's operation of 6 7 any licensed premises as indicated by the reported statements given to 8 law enforcement upon arrest.

9 Sec. 5. RCW 66.08.150 and 2007 c 370 s 3 are each amended to read 10 as follows:

The action, order, or decision of the board as to any denial of an application for the reissuance of a permit or license or as to any revocation, suspension, or modification of any permit or license ((shall)) <u>must</u> be an adjudicative proceeding and subject to the applicable provisions of chapter 34.05 RCW.

16 (1) An opportunity for a hearing may be provided an applicant for 17 the reissuance of a permit or license prior to the disposition of the 18 application, and if no such opportunity for a prior hearing is provided 19 then an opportunity for a hearing to reconsider the application must be 20 provided the applicant.

(2) An opportunity for a hearing must be provided a permittee or licensee prior to a revocation or modification of any permit or license and, except as provided in subsection (4) of this section, prior to the suspension of any permit or license.

25 (3) No hearing ((shall)) may be required until demanded by the 26 applicant, permittee, or licensee.

(4) The board may summarily suspend a license or permit for a 27 period of up to one hundred eighty days without a prior hearing if it 28 finds that public health, safety, or welfare imperatively require 29 30 emergency action, and it incorporates a finding to that effect in its 31 order. Proceedings for revocation or other action must be promptly instituted and determined. An administrative law judge may extend the 32 summary suspension period for up to one calendar year in the event the 33 proceedings for revocation or other action cannot be completed during 34 the initial one hundred eighty day period due to actions by the 35 36 licensee or permittee. The board's enforcement division ((shall)) must

complete a preliminary staff investigation of the violation before
 requesting an emergency suspension by the board.

3 (5) The issues that may be considered at a hearing to contest a 4 suspension of a license or the denial of an application for a new 5 license or renewal of an existing license, under RCW 66.24.010(3)(c), 6 do not include the right to challenge the amount of any spirits taxes 7 assessed_against_the_licensee_or_applicant_by_the_department_of 8 revenue. For purposes of this subsection, "spirits taxes" has the same 9 meaning as in section 1 of this act.

10 **Sec. 6.** RCW 34.05.422 and 1989 c 175 s 13 are each amended to read 11 as follows:

12 (1) Unless otherwise provided by law: (a) Applications for rate changes and uncontested applications for licenses may, in the agency's 13 discretion, be conducted as adjudicative proceedings; (b) applications 14 15 for licenses that are contested by a person having standing to contest 16 under the law and review of denials of applications for licenses or 17 rate changes ((shall)) must be conducted as adjudicative proceedings; and (c) an agency may not revoke, suspend, or modify a license unless 18 19 the agency gives notice of an opportunity for an appropriate 20 adjudicative proceeding in accordance with this chapter or other 21 statute.

22 (2) An agency with authority to grant or deny a professional or 23 occupational license ((shall)) must notify an applicant for a new or 24 renewal license not later than twenty days prior to the date of the examination required for that license of any grounds for denial of the 25 26 license which are based on specific information disclosed in the application submitted to the agency. The agency ((shall)) must notify 27 the applicant either that the license is denied or that the decision to 28 grant or deny the license will be made at a future date. If the agency 29 fails to give the notification prior to the examination and the 30 31 applicant is denied licensure, the examination fee ((shall)) must be refunded to the applicant. If the applicant takes the examination, the 32 agency ((shall)) <u>must</u> notify the applicant of the result. 33

34 (3) When a licensee has made timely and sufficient application for 35 the renewal of a license or a new license with reference to any 36 activity of a continuing nature, an existing full, temporary, or 37 provisional license does not expire until the application has been

1 finally determined by the agency, and, in case the application is 2 denied or the terms of the new license limited, until the last day for 3 seeking review of the agency order or a later date fixed by order of 4 the reviewing court.

5 (4) If the agency finds that public health, safety, or welfare 6 imperatively requires emergency action, and incorporates a finding to 7 that effect in its order, summary suspension of a license may be 8 ordered pending proceedings for revocation or other action. These 9 proceedings ((shall)) must be promptly instituted and determined.

10 (5) This section does not apply to requests made by the department 11 of revenue, under the authority of section 1 of this act, to the liquor 12 control board to suspend a person's spirits license and to refuse to 13 renew any spirits license held by the person and to issue any new 14 spirits license to the person.

15 NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. A new section is added to chapter 66.28 RCW, 16 to be codified between RCW 66.28.030 and 66.28.040, to read as follows: (1) By the 15th day of each month, all spirits certificate of 17 approval holders must file with the board, in a form and manner 18 required by the board, a report of all spirits delivered to purchasers 19 20 in this state during the preceding month along with a copy of the 21 invoices for all such purchases or other information required by the board that would disclose the identity of the purchasers. 22

(2) A spirits certificate of approval holder may not ship or cause
to be transported into this state any spirits unless the purchaser to
whom the spirits are to be delivered is:

26 (a) Licensed by the board to sell spirits in this state, and the27 license is in good standing; or

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(b) Otherwise legally authorized to sell spirits in this state.

(3) The liquor control board must maintain on its web site a list
of all purchasers that meet the conditions of subsection (2) of this
section.

32 (4) A violation of this section is grounds for suspension of a 33 spirits certificate of approval license in accordance with RCW 34 66.08.150, in addition to any punishment as may be authorized by RCW 35 66.28.030. 1 Sec. 8. RCW 82.32.145 and 2010 1st sp.s. c 23 s 801 are each 2 amended to read as follows:

(1) Whenever the department has issued a warrant under RCW 3 82.32.210 for the collection of unpaid ((retail-sales-tax-funds 4 5 collected and held in trust under RCW 82.08.050)) trust fund taxes from a limited liability business entity and that business entity has been 6 7 terminated, dissolved, or abandoned, or is insolvent, the department may pursue collection of the entity's unpaid ((sales)) trust fund 8 9 taxes, including penalties and interest on those taxes, against any or 10 all of the responsible individuals. For purposes of this subsection, "insolvent" means the condition that results when the sum of the 11 12 entity's debts exceeds the fair market value of its assets. The 13 department may presume that an entity is insolvent if the entity 14 refuses to disclose to the department the nature of its assets and liabilities. 15

16 (2) Personal liability under this section may be imposed for state 17 and local ((sales)) trust fund taxes.

18 (3)(a) For a responsible individual who is the current or a former 19 chief executive or chief financial officer, liability under this 20 section applies regardless of fault or whether the individual was or 21 should have been aware of the unpaid ((sales)) trust fund tax liability 22 of the limited liability business entity.

(b) For any other responsible individual, liability under this section applies only if he or she willfully fails to pay or to cause to be paid to the department the ((sales)) trust fund taxes due from the limited liability business entity.

27 (4)(a) Except as provided in this subsection (4)(a), a responsible individual who is the current or a former chief executive or chief 28 financial officer is liable under this section only for ((sales)) trust 29 fund tax liability accrued during the period that he or she was the 30 chief financial 31 chief executive or officer. However, if the 32 responsible individual had the responsibility or duty to remit payment of the limited liability business entity's ((sales)) trust fund taxes 33 to the department during any period of time that the person was not the 34 chief executive or chief financial officer, that individual is also 35 36 liable for ((sales)) trust fund tax liability that became due during 37 the period that he or she had the duty to remit payment of the limited liability business entity's taxes to the department but was not the
 chief executive or chief financial officer.

3 (b) All other responsible individuals are liable under this section 4 only for ((sales)) <u>trust fund</u> tax liability that became due during the 5 period he or she had the responsibility or duty to remit payment of the 6 limited liability business entity's taxes to the department.

7 (5) Persons described in subsection (3)(b) of this section are 8 exempt from liability under this section in situations where nonpayment 9 of the limited liability business entity's ((sales)) <u>trust fund</u> taxes 10 is due to reasons beyond their control as determined by the department 11 by rule.

(6) Any person having been issued a notice of assessment under this
section is entitled to the appeal procedures under RCW 82.32.160,
82.32.170, 82.32.180, 82.32.190, and 82.32.200.

(7) This section does not relieve the limited liability business entity of its ((sales)) trust fund tax liability or otherwise impair other tax collection remedies afforded by law.

(8) Collection authority and procedures prescribed in this chapterapply to collections under this section.

(9) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout thissection unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(a) "Chief executive" means: The president of a corporation; or for other entities or organizations other than corporations or if the corporation does not have a president as one of its officers, the highest ranking executive manager or administrator in charge of the management of the company or organization.

(b) "Chief financial officer" means: The treasurer of a corporation; or for entities or organizations other than corporations or if a corporation does not have a treasurer as one of its officers, the highest senior manager who is responsible for overseeing the financial activities of the entire company or organization.

32 (c) "Limited liability business entity" means a type of business 33 entity that generally shields its owners from personal liability for 34 the debts, obligations, and liabilities of the entity, or a business 35 entity that is managed or owned in whole or in part by an entity that 36 generally shields its owners from personal liability for the debts, 37 obligations, and liabilities of the entity. Limited liability business 38 entities include corporations, limited liability companies, limited liability partnerships, trusts, general partnerships and joint ventures in which one or more of the partners or parties are also limited liability business entities, and limited partnerships in which one or more of the general partners are also limited liability business entities.

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(d) "Manager" has the same meaning as in RCW 25.15.005.

7 (e) "Member" has the same meaning as in RCW 25.15.005, except that 8 the term only includes members of member-managed limited liability 9 companies.

10 (f) "Officer" means any officer or assistant officer of a 11 corporation, including the president, vice president, secretary, and 12 treasurer.

(g)(i) "Responsible individual" includes any current or former officer, manager, member, partner, or trustee of a limited liability business entity with an unpaid tax warrant issued by the department.

16 (ii) "Responsible individual" also includes any current or former 17 employee or other individual, but only if the individual had the 18 responsibility or duty to remit payment of the limited liability 19 business entity's unpaid ((sales)) trust fund tax liability reflected 20 in a tax warrant issued by the department.

21 (iii) Whenever any taxpayer has one or more limited liability 22 business entities as a member, manager, or partner, "responsible 23 individual" also includes any current and former officers, members, or 24 managers of the limited liability business entity or entities or of any 25 other limited liability business entity involved directly in the 26 management of the taxpayer. For purposes of this subsection 27 (9)(g)(iii), "taxpayer" means a limited liability business entity with an unpaid tax warrant issued against it by the department. 28

29 (h) <u>"Trust fund taxes" means taxes collected from purchasers and</u> 30 <u>held in trust under RCW 82.08.050, including taxes imposed under RCW</u> 31 <u>82.08.020 and 82.08.150.</u>

32 <u>(i)</u> "Willfully fails to pay or to cause to be paid" means that the 33 failure was the result of an intentional, conscious, and voluntary 34 course of action.

35 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 9. This act must be liberally construed to 36 effectuate the intent of the legislature to provide for the effective 37 collection of liquor taxes imposed in RCW 82.08.150.

<u>NEW_SECTION.</u> Sec. 10. If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

5 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 11. This act is necessary for the immediate 6 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the 7 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect 8 immediately.

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