CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 2075

63rd Legislature 2013 2nd Special Session

Passed by the House June 13, 2013 Yeas 53 Nays 33

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Passed by the Senate June 13, 2013 Yeas 30 Nays 19 the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 2075** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

CERTIFICATE

I, Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk of

Chief Clerk

President of the Senate

Approved

FILED

Secretary of State State of Washington

Governor of the State of Washington

## ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 2075

Passed Legislature - 2013 2nd Special Session

State of Washington 63rd Legislature 2013 2nd Special Session

By Representatives Carlyle and Roberts

Read first time 06/12/13.

1 AN ACT Relating to preserving funding deposited into the education legacy trust account used to support common schools and access to 2 higher education by restoring the application of the Washington estate 3 and transfer tax to certain property transfers while modifying the 4 estate and transfer tax to provide tax relief for certain estates; 5 б amending RCW 83.100.020, 83.100.040, 83.100.047, 83.100.047, 7 83.100.120, and 83.100.210; adding a new section to chapter 83.100 RCW; creating new sections; providing an effective date; providing an 8 9 expiration date; and declaring an emergency.

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

Sec. 1. (1) In 2005, to address an unexpected 11 NEW SECTION. 12 significant loss of tax revenue resulting from the Estate of Hemphill decision and to provide additional funding for public education, the 13 14 legislature enacted a stand-alone estate and transfer tax, effective May 17, 2005. The stand-alone estate and transfer tax applies to the 15 16 transfer of property at death. By defining the term "transfer" to mean a "transfer as used in section 2001 of the internal revenue code," the 17 18 legislature clearly expressed its intent that a "transfer" for purposes

of determining the federal taxable estate is also a "transfer" for
 purposes of determining the Washington taxable estate.

3 (2) In *In re Estate of Bracken*, Docket No. 84114-4, the Washington
4 supreme court narrowly construed the term "transfer" as defined in the
5 Washington estate tax code.

6 (3) The legislature finds that it is well established that the term 7 "transfer" as used in the federal estate tax code is construed broadly 8 and extends to the "shifting from one to another of any power or 9 privilege incidental to the ownership or enjoyment of property" that 10 occurs at death. *Fernandez v. Wiener*, 326 U.S. 340, 352 (1945).

11 (4) The legislature further finds that: The Bracken decision held 12 certain qualified terminable interest property (QTIP) of married 13 couples was transferred without incurring Washington state estate tax 14 liability, which: (a) Creates an inequity never intended by the legislature because unmarried individuals did not enjoy any similar 15 opportunities to avoid or greatly reduce their potential Washington 16 17 estate tax liability; and (b) may create disparate treatment between 18 QTIP property and other property transferred between spouses that is 19 eligible for the marital deduction.

(5) Therefore, the legislature finds that it is necessary to 20 21 reinstate the legislature's intended meaning when it enacted the estate 22 tax, restore parity between married couples and unmarried individuals, 23 restore parity between QTIP property and other property eligible for the marital deduction, and prevent the adverse fiscal impacts of the 24 25 Bracken decision by reaffirming its intent that the term "transfer" as 26 used in the Washington estate and transfer tax is to be given its 27 broadest possible meaning consistent with established United States supreme court precedents, subject only to the limits and exceptions 28 29 expressly provided by the legislature.

30 (6) As curative, clarifying, and remedial, the legislature intends
31 for this act to apply both prospectively and retroactively to estates
32 of decedents dying on or after May 17, 2005.

33 **Sec. 2.** RCW 83.100.020 and 2013 c 23 s 341 are each amended to 34 read as follows:

35 ((As used in this chapter:)) The definitions in this section apply 36 throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise. 37 (1)(a) "Applicable exclusion amount" means:

EHB 2075.PL

1 (i) One million five hundred thousand dollars for decedents dying
2 before January 1, 2006;

## 3 (ii) Two million dollars for estates of decedents dying on or after 4 January 1, 2006, and before January 1, 2014; and

(iii) For estates of decedents dying in calendar year 2014 and each 5 6 calendar year thereafter, the amount in (a)(ii) of this subsection must be adjusted annually, except as otherwise provided in this subsection 7 (1)(a)(iii). The annual adjustment is determined by multiplying two 8 million dollars by one plus the percentage by which the most recent 9 October consumer price index exceeds the consumer price index for 10 October 2012, and rounding the result to the nearest one thousand 11 dollars. No adjustment is made for a calendar year if the adjustment 12 13 would result in the same or a lesser applicable exclusion amount than the applicable exclusion amount for the immediately preceding calendar 14 year. The applicable exclusion amount under this subsection 15 (1)(a)(iii) for the decedent's estate is the applicable exclusion 16 amount in effect as of the date of the decedent's death. 17

18 (b) For purposes of this subsection, "consumer price index" means 19 the consumer price index for all urban consumers, all items, for the 20 Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton metropolitan area as calculated by the United 21 States bureau of labor statistics.

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(2) "Decedent" means a deceased individual( $(\dot{\tau})$ ).

23  $((\frac{2}{2}))$  <u>(3)</u> "Department" means the department of revenue, the 24 director of that department, or any employee of the department 25 exercising authority lawfully delegated to him or her by the 26 director(( $\div$ )).

27 (((3))) (4) "Federal return" means any tax return required by 28 chapter 11 of the internal revenue  $code((\dot{\tau}))$ .

29 (((4))) (5) "Federal tax" means a tax under chapter 11 of the 30 internal revenue code $((\div))$ .

31 (((5))) (6) "Gross estate" means "gross estate" as defined and used 32 in section 2031 of the internal revenue code $((\dot{\tau}))$ .

33 (((6))) (7) "Person" means any individual, estate, trust, receiver, 34 cooperative association, club, corporation, company, firm, partnership, 35 joint venture, syndicate, or other entity and, to the extent permitted 36 by law, any federal, state, or other governmental unit or subdivision 37 or agency, department, or instrumentality thereof(( $\div$ )). 1 (((<del>(7)</del>)) <u>(8)</u> "Person required to file the federal return" means any 2 person required to file a return required by chapter 11 of the internal 3 revenue code, such as the personal representative of an estate((+)).

4 (((-8))) <u>(9)</u> "Property" means property included in the gross 5 estate((+)).

6 (((<del>(9)</del>)) <u>(10)</u> "Resident" means a decedent who was domiciled in 7 Washington at time of death((+)).

8 ((<del>(10)</del>)) <u>(11)</u> "Taxpayer" means a person upon whom tax is imposed 9 under this chapter, including an estate or a person liable for tax 10 under RCW 83.100.120((*i*)).

11 (((11))) (12) "Transfer" means "transfer" as used in section 2001 12 of the internal revenue code and includes any shifting upon death of 13 the economic benefit in property or any power or legal privilege 14 incidental to the ownership or enjoyment of property. However, 15 "transfer" does not include a qualified heir disposing of an interest 16 in property qualifying for a deduction under RCW 83.100.046 or ceasing 17 to use the property for farming purposes(( $\dot{\tau}$ )).

18 (((12))) (13) "Internal revenue code" means((, for the purposes of 19 this chapter and RCW 83.110.010,)) the United States internal revenue 20 code of 1986, as amended or renumbered as of January 1, 2005((;)).

21 (((13))) (14) "Washington taxable estate" means the federal taxable 22 estate((, less: (a) One million five hundred thousand dollars for 23 decedents dying before January 1, 2006; and (b) two million dollars for 24 decedents dying on or after January 1, 2006; and (c) the amount of any 25 deduction allowed under RCW 83.100.046; and)) and includes, but is not 26 limited to, the value of any property included in the gross estate 27 under section 2044 of the internal revenue code, regardless of whether the decedent's interest in such property was acquired before May 17, 28 2005, (a) plus amounts required to be added to the Washington taxable 29 estate under RCW 83.100.047, (b) less: (i) The applicable exclusion 30 amount; (ii) the amount of any deduction allowed under RCW 83.100.046; 31 (iii) amounts allowed to be deducted from the Washington taxable estate 32 under RCW 83.100.047; and (iv) the amount of any deduction allowed 33 under section 3 of this act. 34

35 (((14))) (15) "Federal taxable estate" means the taxable estate as 36 determined under chapter 11 of the internal revenue code without regard 37 to: (a) The termination of the federal estate tax under section 2210 of the internal revenue code or any other provision of law, and (b) the deduction for state estate, inheritance, legacy, or succession taxes allowable under section 2058 of the internal revenue code.

4 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 83.100 RCW 5 to read as follows:

6 (1) For the purposes of determining the tax due under this chapter, 7 a deduction is allowed for the value of the decedent's qualified 8 family-owned business interests, not to exceed two million five hundred 9 thousand dollars, if:

10 (a) The value of the decedent's qualified family-owned business 11 interests exceed fifty percent of the decedent's Washington taxable 12 estate determined without regard to the deduction for the applicable 13 exclusion amount;

14 (b) During the eight-year period ending on the date of the 15 decedent's death, there have been periods aggregating five years or 16 more during which:

17 (i) Such interests were owned by the decedent or a member of the 18 decedent's family;

(ii) There was material participation, within the meaning of section 2032A(e)(6) of the internal revenue code, by the decedent or a member of the decedent's family in the operation of the trade or business to which such interests relate;

(c) The qualified family-owned business interests are acquired by any qualified heir from, or passed to any qualified heir from, the decedent, within the meaning of RCW 83.100.046(2), and the decedent was at the time of his or her death a citizen or resident of the United States; and

(d) The value of the decedent's qualified family-owned businessinterests is not more than six million dollars.

30 (2)(a) Only amounts included in the decedent's federal taxable 31 estate may be deducted under this subsection.

32 (b) Amounts deductible under RCW 83.100.046 may not be deducted 33 under this section.

34 (3)(a) There is imposed an additional estate tax on a qualified 35 heir if, within three years of the decedent's death and before the date 36 of the qualified heir's death:

1 (i) The material participation requirements described in section 2 2032A(c)(6)(b)(ii) of the internal revenue code are not met with 3 respect to the qualified family-owned business interest which was 4 acquired or passed from the decedent;

5 (ii) The qualified heir disposes of any portion of a qualified 6 family-owned business interest, other than by a disposition to a member 7 of the qualified heir's family or a person with an ownership interest 8 in the qualified family-owned business or through a qualified 9 conservation contribution under section 170(h) of the internal revenue 10 code;

(iii) The qualified heir loses United States citizenship within the meaning of section 877 of the internal revenue code or with respect to whom section 877(e)(1) applies, and such heir does not comply with the requirements of section 877(g) of the internal revenue code; or

(iv) The principal place of business of a trade or business of the qualified family-owned business interest ceases to be located in the United States.

(b) The amount of the additional estate tax imposed under this subsection is equal to the amount of tax savings under this section with respect to the qualified family-owned business interest acquired or passed from the decedent.

(c) Interest applies to the tax due under this subsection for the period beginning on the date that the estate tax liability was due under this chapter and ending on the date the additional estate tax due under this subsection is paid. Interest under this subsection must be computed as provided in RCW 83.100.070(2).

(d) The tax imposed by this subsection is due the day that is six months after any taxable event described in (a) of this subsection occurred and must be reported on a return as provided by the department.

(e) The qualified heir is personally liable for the additional tax 31 32 imposed by this subsection unless he or she has furnished a bond in favor of the department for such amount and for such time as the 33 department determines necessary to secure the payment of amounts due 34 35 under this subsection. The qualified heir, on furnishing a bond 36 satisfactory to the department, is discharged from personal liability 37 for any additional tax and interest under this subsection and is entitled to a receipt or writing showing such discharge. 38

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(f) Amounts due under this subsection attributable to any qualified 1 2 family-owned business interest are secured by a lien in favor of the state on the property in respect to which such interest relates. 3 The 4 lien under this subsection (3)(f) arises at the time the Washington return is filed on which a deduction under this section is taken and 5 continues in effect until: (i) The tax liability under this subsection б has been satisfied or has become unenforceable by reason of lapse of 7 8 time; or (ii) the department is satisfied that no further tax liability will arise under this subsection. 9

10 (g) Security acceptable to the department may be substituted for 11 the lien imposed by (f) of this subsection.

(h) For purposes of the assessment or correction of an assessment for additional taxes and interest imposed under this subsection, the limitations period in RCW 83.100.095 begins to run on the due date of the return required under (d) of this subsection.

(i) For purposes of this subsection, a qualified heir may not be treated as disposing of an interest described in section 2057(e)(1)(A) of the internal revenue code by reason of ceasing to be engaged in a trade or business so long as the property to which such interest relates is used in a trade or business by any member of the qualified heir's family.

(4)(a) The department may require a taxpayer claiming a deduction
under this section to provide the department with the names and contact
information of all qualified heirs.

(b) The department may also require any qualified heir to submit to 25 26 the department on an ongoing basis such information as the department 27 determines necessary or useful in determining whether the qualified heir is subject to the additional tax imposed in subsection (3) of this 28 29 The department may not require such information more section. 30 frequently than twice per year. The department may impose a penalty on a qualified heir who fails to provide the information requested within 31 32 thirty days of the date the department's written request for the information was sent to the qualified heir. The amount of the penalty 33 under this subsection is five hundred dollars and may be collected in 34 35 the same manner as the tax imposed under subsection (3) of this 36 section.

37 (5) For purposes of this section, references to section 2057 of the

internal revenue code refer to section 2057 of the internal revenue
 code, as existing on December 31, 2003.

3 (6) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

4 (a) "Member of the decedent's family" and "member of the qualified
5 heir's family" have the same meaning as "member of the family" in RCW
6 83.100.046(10).

7 (b) "Qualified family-owned business interest" has the same meaning
8 as provided in section 2057(e) of the internal revenue code of 1986.

9 (c) "Qualified heir" has the same meaning as provided in section 10 2057(i) of the internal revenue code of 1986.

11 (7) This section applies to the estates of decedents dying on or 12 after January 1, 2014.

13 Sec. 4. RCW 83.100.040 and 2010 c 106 s 234 are each amended to 14 read as follows:

(1) A tax in an amount computed as provided in this section is imposed on every transfer of property located in Washington. For the purposes of this section, any intangible property owned by a resident is located in Washington.

- 19 (2)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, the amount of 20 tax is the amount provided in the following table:
- 21
- 22

23					Of Washington
24	If Washington Taxable		The amount of Tax Equals		Taxable Estate Value
25	Estate is at least	But Less Than	Initial Tax Amount	Plus Tax Rate %	Greater than
26	\$0	\$1,000,000	\$0	10.00%	\$0
27	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$100,000	14.00%	\$1,000,000
28	\$2,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$240,000	15.00%	\$2,000,000
29	\$3,000,000	\$4,000,000	\$390,000	16.00%	\$3,000,000
30	\$4,000,000	\$6,000,000	\$550,000	(( <del>17.00%</del> ))	\$4,000,000
31				<u>18.00%</u>	
32	\$6,000,000	\$7,000,000	(( <del>\$890,000</del> ))	(( <del>18.00%</del> ))	\$6,000,000
33			<u>\$910,000</u>	<u>19.00%</u>	
34	\$7,000,000	\$9,000,000	(( <del>\$1,070,000</del> ))	(( <del>18.50%</del> ))	\$7,000,000
35			\$1,100,000	19.50%	

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(b) If any property in the decedent's estate is located outside of Washington, the amount of tax is the amount determined in (a) of this subsection multiplied by a fraction. The numerator of the fraction is the value of the property located in Washington. The denominator of the fraction is the value of the decedent's gross estate. Property qualifying for a deduction under RCW 83.100.046 must be excluded from the numerator and denominator of the fraction.

((\$1,440,000))

\$1,490,000

((<del>19.00%</del>))

20.00%

10 (3) The tax imposed under this section is a stand-alone estate tax 11 that incorporates only those provisions of the internal revenue code as 12 amended or renumbered as of January 1, 2005, that do not conflict with 13 the provisions of this chapter. The tax imposed under this chapter is 14 independent of any federal estate tax obligation and is not affected by 15 termination of the federal estate tax.

16 **Sec. 5.** RCW 83.100.047 and 2005 c 516 s 13 are each amended to 17 read as follows:

(1) If the federal taxable estate on the federal return is 18 19 determined by making an election under section 2056 or 2056A of the 20 internal revenue code, or if no federal return is required to be filed, 21 the department may provide by rule for a separate election on the Washington return, consistent with section 2056 or 2056A of the 22 23 internal revenue code, for the purpose of determining the amount of tax 24 due under this chapter. The election ((shall be)) is binding on the 25 estate and the beneficiaries, consistent with the internal revenue 26 code. All other elections or valuations on the Washington return 27 ((shall)) must be made in a manner consistent with the federal return, if a federal return is required, and such rules as the department may 28 29 provide.

30 (2) Amounts deducted for federal income tax purposes under section
31 642(g) of the <u>internal revenue code of 1986((, shall)) are not ((be))</u>
32 allowed as deductions in computing the amount of tax due under this
33 chapter.

34 (3) Notwithstanding any department rule, if a taxpayer makes an
 35 election consistent with section 2056 of the internal revenue code as

\$9.000.000

permitted under this section, the taxpayer's Washington taxable estate, and the surviving spouse's Washington taxable estate, must be adjusted as follows:

4 (a) For the taxpayer that made the election, any amount deducted by
5 reason of section 2056(b)(7) of the internal revenue code is added to,
6 and the value of property for which a Washington election under this
7 section was made is deducted from, the Washington taxable estate.

8 (b) For the estate of the surviving spouse, the amount included in 9 the estate's gross estate pursuant to section 2044 (a) and (b)(1)(A) of 10 the internal revenue code is deducted from, and the value of any 11 property for which an election under this section was previously made 12 is added to, the Washington taxable estate.

13 Sec. 6. RCW 83.100.047 and 2009 c 521 s 192 are each amended to 14 read as follows:

(1)(a) If the federal taxable estate on the federal return is 15 determined by making an election under section 2056 or 2056A of the 16 17 internal revenue code, or if no federal return is required to be filed, 18 the department may provide by rule for a separate election on the Washington return, consistent with section 2056 or 19 2056A of the 20 internal revenue code and (b) of this subsection, for the purpose of 21 determining the amount of tax due under this chapter. The election 22 ((shall be)) is binding on the estate and the beneficiaries, consistent 23 with the <u>internal revenue</u> code and (b) of this subsection. All other 24 elections or valuations on the Washington return ((shall)) must be made 25 in a manner consistent with the federal return, if a federal return is 26 required, and such rules as the department may provide.

27 (b) The department ((shall)) must provide by rule that a state 28 registered domestic partner is deemed to be a surviving spouse and 29 entitled to a deduction from the Washington taxable estate for any interest passing from the decedent to his or her domestic partner, 30 31 consistent with section 2056 or 2056A of the internal revenue code but regardless of whether such interest would be deductible from the 32 federal gross estate under section 2056 or 2056A of the <u>i</u>nternal 33 34 revenue code.

35 (2) Amounts deducted for federal income tax purposes under section
 36 642(g) of the <u>internal revenue code of 1986 ((shall)) are not ((be))</u>

allowed as deductions in computing the amount of tax due under this
 chapter.

3 (3) Notwithstanding any department rule, if a taxpayer makes an 4 election consistent with section 2056 of the internal revenue code as 5 permitted under this section, the taxpayer's Washington taxable estate, 6 and the surviving spouse's Washington taxable estate, must be adjusted 7 as follows:

8 (a) For the taxpayer that made the election, any amount deducted by 9 reason of section 2056(b)(7) of the internal revenue code is added to, 10 and the value of property for which a Washington election under this 11 section was made is deducted from, the Washington taxable estate.

12 (b) For the estate of the surviving spouse, the amount included in 13 the estate's gross estate pursuant to section 2044 (a) and (b)(1)(A) of 14 the internal revenue code is deducted from, and the value of any 15 property for which an election under this section was previously made 16 is added to, the Washington taxable estate.

17 Sec. 7. RCW 83.100.120 and 1981 2nd ex.s. c 7 s 83.100.120 are 18 each amended to read as follows:

(1)(a) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, any 19 20 personal representative who distributes any property without first 21 paying, securing another's payment of, or furnishing security for 22 payment of the taxes due under this chapter is personally liable for 23 the taxes due to the extent of the value of any property that may come or may have come into the possession of the personal representative. 24 25 Security for payment of the taxes due under this chapter ((shall)) must 26 be in an amount equal to or greater than the value of all property that 27 is or has come into the possession of the personal representative, as 28 of the time the security is furnished.

(b) For the estates of decedents dying prior to April 9, 2006, a personal representative is not personally liable for taxes due on the value of any property included in the gross estate and the Washington taxable estate as a result of section 2044 of the internal revenue code unless the property is located in the state of Washington or the property has or will come into the possession or control of the personal representative.

36 (2) Any person who has the control, custody, or possession of any 37 property and who delivers any of the property to the personal

representative or legal representative of the decedent outside 1 2 Washington without first paying, securing another's payment of, or furnishing security for payment of the taxes due under this chapter is 3 4 liable for the taxes due under this chapter to the extent of the value of the property delivered. Security for payment of the taxes due under 5 6 this chapter ((shall)) must be in an amount equal to or greater than the value of all property delivered to the personal representative or 7 8 legal representative of the decedent outside Washington by such a 9 person.

10 (3) For the purposes of this section, persons who do not have 11 possession of a decedent's property include anyone not responsible 12 primarily for paying the tax due under this section or their 13 transferees, which includes but is not limited to mortgagees or 14 pledgees, stockbrokers or stock transfer agents, banks and other 15 depositories of checking and savings accounts, safe-deposit companies, 16 and life insurance companies.

(4) For the purposes of this section, any person who has the 17 control, custody, or possession of any property and who delivers any of 18 19 the property to the personal representative or legal representative of 20 the decedent may rely upon the release certificate or the release of 21 nonliability certificate, furnished by the department to the personal 22 representative, as evidence of compliance with the requirements of this 23 chapter, and make such deliveries and transfers as the personal 24 representative may direct without being liable for any taxes due under 25 this chapter.

26 **Sec. 8.** RCW 83.100.210 and 2010 c 106 s 111 are each amended to 27 read as follows:

(1) The following provisions of chapter 82.32 RCW have full force 28 29 and application with respect to the taxes imposed under this chapter 30 unless the context clearly requires otherwise: RCW 82.32.110, 82.32.120, 82.32.130, 82.32.320, 82.32.330, and 82.32.340. 31 The definitions in this chapter have full force and application with 32 respect to the application of chapter 82.32 RCW to this chapter unless 33 34 the context clearly requires otherwise.

35 (2) <u>In addition to the provisions stated in subsection (1) of this</u>
 36 <u>section, the following provisions of chapter 82.32 RCW have full force</u>
 37 <u>and application with respect to the taxes, penalties, and interest</u>

1 imposed under section 3 of this act: RCW 82.32.090, 82.32.117, 2 82.32.135, 82.32.210, 82.32.220, 82.32.230, 82.32.235, 82.32.237, 3 82.32.245, and 82.32.265.

4 <u>(3)</u> The department may enter into closing agreements as provided in 5 RCW 82.32.350 and 82.32.360.

6 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 9. Sections 2 and 5 of this act apply both 7 prospectively and retroactively to all estates of decedents dying on or 8 after May 17, 2005.

9 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 10. This act does not affect any final 10 judgment, no longer subject to appeal, entered by a court of competent 11 jurisdiction before the effective date of this section.

12 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 11. Section 4 of this act applies to estates of 13 decedents dying on or after January 1, 2014.

14 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 12. If any provision of this act or its 15 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the 16 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other 17 persons or circumstances is not affected.

18 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 13. Section 5 of this act expires January 1, 19 2014.

20 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 14. This act is necessary for the immediate 21 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the 22 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect 23 immediately, except for sections 3, 4, and 6 of this act which take 24 effect January 1, 2014.

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