
SENATE BILL 5881

State of Washington

56th Legislature

1999 Regular Session

By Senators Thibaudeau, Oke, Costa and Winsley; by request of Governor Locke and Attorney General

Read first time 02/15/1999. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to regulation of tobacco products under the access
2 to minors statutes; amending RCW 70.155.010, 70.155.020, 70.155.030,
3 70.155.040, 70.155.050, 70.155.100, 70.155.110, and 70.155.130; adding
4 a new section to chapter 70.155 RCW; and prescribing penalties.

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

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 70.155.010 and 1993 c 507 s 2 are each amended to read
7 as follows:

8 The definitions set forth in RCW 82.24.010 shall apply to RCW
9 70.155.020 through 70.155.130. In addition, for the purposes of this
10 chapter, unless otherwise required by the context:

11 (1) "Board" means the Washington state liquor control board.

12 (2) "Minor" refers to an individual who is less than eighteen years
13 old.

14 (3) "Package" or "container" means a package or container that
15 holds twenty or more cigarettes.

16 (4) "Public place" means a public street, sidewalk, or park, or any
17 area open to the public in a publicly owned and operated building.

1 (~~(4)~~) (5) "Sample" means a tobacco product distributed to members
2 of the general public at no cost or at nominal cost for product
3 promotion purposes.

4 (~~(5)~~) (6) "Sampler" means a person engaged in the business of
5 sampling other than a retailer.

6 (~~(6)~~) (7) "Sampling" means the distribution of samples to members
7 of the general public in a public place.

8 (~~(7)~~) (8) "Tobacco product" means a product that contains tobacco
9 and is intended for human ~~(consumption)~~ use.

10 **Sec. 2.** RCW 70.155.020 and 1993 c 507 s 3 are each amended to read
11 as follows:

12 A person who holds a license issued under RCW ~~(82.24.520)~~
13 82.24.510(1)(b) or 82.24.530 shall:

14 (1) Display the license or a copy in a prominent location at the
15 outlet for which the license is issued; and

16 (2) Display a sign concerning the prohibition of tobacco sales to
17 minors.

18 Such sign shall:

19 (a) Be posted so that it is clearly visible to anyone purchasing
20 tobacco products from the licensee;

21 (b) Be designed and produced by the department of health to read:
22 "THE SALE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS TO PERSONS UNDER AGE 18 IS STRICTLY
23 PROHIBITED BY STATE LAW. IF YOU ARE UNDER 18, YOU COULD BE PENALIZED
24 FOR PURCHASING OR POSSESSING A TOBACCO PRODUCT; PHOTO ID REQUIRED"; and

25 (c) Be provided free of charge by the liquor control board.

26 **Sec. 3.** RCW 70.155.030 and 1994 c 202 s 1 are each amended to read
27 as follows:

28 (1) No person shall sell or permit to be sold any tobacco product
29 through any device that mechanically dispenses tobacco products unless
30 the device is located fully within premises from which minors are
31 prohibited or in industrial worksites where minors are not employed and
32 not less than ten feet from all entrance or exit ways to and from each
33 premise. The board shall adopt rules that allow an exception to the
34 requirement that a device be located not less than ten feet from all
35 entrance or exit ways to and from a premise if it is architecturally
36 impractical for the device to be located not less than ten feet from
37 all entrance and exit ways.

1 (2) Beginning July 1, 2000, self-service displays of tobacco
2 products are prohibited. All in-store tobacco products must be sold
3 from behind the counter or from within locked display units. This
4 section does not apply to retailers who sell tobacco products
5 exclusively.

6 **Sec. 4.** RCW 70.155.040 and 1993 c 507 s 5 are each amended to read
7 as follows:

8 (1) No person shall sell or permit to be sold ((cigarettes not)) a
9 package or container of fewer than twenty cigarettes. All cigarettes
10 must be sold in ((the)) original unopened packages or containers to
11 which the stamps required by RCW 82.24.060 have been affixed.

12 (2) This section does not apply to the sale of loose leaf tobacco
13 by a retail business that generates a minimum of sixty percent of
14 annual gross sales from the sale of tobacco products.

15 **Sec. 5.** RCW 70.155.050 and 1993 c 507 s 6 are each amended to read
16 as follows:

17 (1) No person may engage in the business of sampling tobacco
18 products within the state unless licensed to do so by the board. If a
19 firm contracts with a manufacturer to distribute samples of the
20 manufacturer's products, that firm is deemed to be the person engaged
21 in the business of sampling.

22 (2) The board shall issue a license to a sampler not otherwise
23 disqualified by RCW 70.155.100 upon application and payment of the fee.

24 (3) A sampler's license expires on the thirtieth day of June of
25 each year and must be renewed annually upon payment of the appropriate
26 fee.

27 (4) The board shall annually determine the fee for a sampler's
28 license and each renewal. However, the fee for a manufacturer whose
29 employees distribute samples within the state is five hundred dollars
30 per annum, and the fee for all other samplers must be not less than
31 fifty dollars per annum.

32 (5) A sampler's license entitles the licensee, and employees or
33 agents of the licensee, to distribute samples at any lawful location in
34 the state during the term of the license. A person engaged in sampling
35 under the license shall carry the license or a copy at all times.

1 **Sec. 6.** RCW 70.155.100 and 1998 c 133 s 3 are each amended to read
2 as follows:

3 (1) The liquor control board may suspend or revoke a retailer's
4 license held by a business at any location, or may impose a monetary
5 penalty as set forth in subsection (2) of this section, if the liquor
6 control board finds that the licensee has violated RCW 26.28.080,
7 70.155.020, 70.155.030, 70.155.040, 70.155.050, 70.155.060, 70.155.070,
8 or 70.155.090.

9 (2) The sanctions that the liquor control board may impose against
10 a person licensed under RCW 82.24.530 and 70.155.050 and 70.155.060
11 based upon one or more findings under subsection (1) of this section
12 may not exceed the following:

13 (a) For violation of RCW 26.28.080 or 70.155.020:

14 (i) A monetary penalty of one hundred dollars for the first
15 violation within any two-year period;

16 (ii) A monetary penalty of three hundred dollars for the second
17 violation within any two-year period;

18 (iii) A monetary penalty of one thousand dollars and suspension of
19 the license for a period of six months for the third violation within
20 any two-year period;

21 (iv) A monetary penalty of one thousand five hundred dollars and
22 suspension of the license for a period of twelve months for the fourth
23 violation within any two-year period;

24 (v) Revocation of the license with no possibility of reinstatement
25 for a period of five years for the fifth or more violation within any
26 two-year period;

27 (b) For violations of RCW 70.155.030, a monetary penalty in the
28 amount of one hundred dollars for each day upon which such violation
29 occurred;

30 (c) For violations of RCW 70.155.040 occurring on the licensed
31 premises:

32 (i) A monetary penalty of one hundred dollars for the first
33 violation within any two-year period;

34 (ii) A monetary penalty of three hundred dollars for the second
35 violation within any two-year period;

36 (iii) A monetary penalty of one thousand dollars and suspension of
37 the license for a period of six months for the third violation within
38 any two-year period;

1 (iv) A monetary penalty of one thousand five hundred dollars and
2 suspension of the license for a period of twelve months for the fourth
3 violation within any two-year period;

4 (v) Revocation of the license with no possibility of reinstatement
5 for a period of five years for the fifth or more violation within any
6 two-year period;

7 (d) For violations of RCW 70.155.050 and 70.155.060, a monetary
8 penalty in the amount of three hundred dollars for each violation;

9 (e) For violations of RCW 70.155.070, a monetary penalty in the
10 amount of one thousand dollars for each violation.

11 (3) The liquor control board may impose a monetary penalty upon any
12 person other than a licensed cigarette retailer or licensed sampler if
13 the liquor control board finds that the person has violated RCW
14 26.28.080, 70.155.020, 70.155.030, 70.155.040, 70.155.050, 70.155.060,
15 70.155.070, or 70.155.090.

16 (4) The monetary penalty that the liquor control board may impose
17 based upon one or more findings under subsection (3) of this section
18 may not exceed the following:

19 (a) For violation of RCW 26.28.080 or 70.155.020, fifty dollars for
20 the first violation and one hundred dollars for each subsequent
21 violation;

22 (b) For violations of RCW 70.155.030, one hundred dollars for each
23 day upon which such violation occurred;

24 (c) For violations of RCW 70.155.040, one hundred dollars for each
25 violation;

26 (d) For violations of RCW 70.155.050 and 70.155.060, three hundred
27 dollars for each violation;

28 (e) For violations of RCW 70.155.070, one thousand dollars for each
29 violation.

30 (5) The liquor control board may impose sanctions against a person
31 licensed under RCW 82.24.510(1)(b) or 82.24.530 for violations of rules
32 under this chapter and for which a statutory penalty is not proscribed.

33 (6) The liquor control board may develop and offer a class for
34 retail clerks and use this class in lieu of a monetary penalty for the
35 clerk's first violation.

36 ((+6+)) (7) The liquor control board may issue a cease and desist
37 order to any person who is found by the liquor control board to have
38 violated or intending to violate the provisions of this chapter, RCW
39 26.28.080 or 82.24.500, requiring such person to cease specified

1 conduct that is in violation. The issuance of a cease and desist order
2 shall not preclude the imposition of other sanctions authorized by this
3 statute or any other provision of law.

4 ~~((+7))~~ (8) The liquor control board may seek injunctive relief to
5 enforce the provisions of RCW 26.28.080 or 82.24.500 or this chapter.
6 The liquor control board may initiate legal action to collect civil
7 penalties imposed under this chapter if the same have not been paid
8 within thirty days after imposition of such penalties. In any action
9 filed by the liquor control board under this chapter, the court may, in
10 addition to any other relief, award the liquor control board reasonable
11 attorneys' fees and costs.

12 ~~((+8))~~ (9) All proceedings under subsections (1) through ~~((+6))~~
13 (5) and (7) of this section shall be conducted in accordance with
14 chapter 34.05 RCW.

15 ~~((+9))~~ (10) The liquor control board may reduce or waive either
16 the penalties or the suspension or revocation of a license, or both, as
17 set forth in this chapter where the elements of proof are inadequate or
18 where there are mitigating circumstances. Mitigating circumstances may
19 include, but are not limited to, an exercise of due diligence by a
20 retailer. Further, the board may exceed penalties set forth in this
21 chapter based on aggravating circumstances.

22 **Sec. 7.** RCW 70.155.110 and 1993 c 507 s 12 are each amended to
23 read as follows:

24 (1) The liquor control board shall, in addition to the board's
25 other powers and authorities, have the authority to enforce the
26 provisions of this chapter and RCW 26.28.080~~((+4))~~ and 82.24.500. The
27 liquor control board shall have full power to revoke or suspend the
28 license of any retailer or wholesaler in accordance with the provisions
29 of RCW 70.155.100.

30 (2) The liquor control board and the board's authorized agents or
31 employees shall have full power and authority to enter any place of
32 business where tobacco products are sold for the purpose of enforcing
33 the provisions of this chapter.

34 (3) For the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this chapter and
35 RCW 26.28.080~~((+4))~~ and 82.24.500, a peace officer or enforcement
36 officer of the liquor control board who has reasonable grounds to
37 believe a person observed by the officer purchasing, attempting to
38 purchase, or in possession of tobacco products is under the age of

1 eighteen years of age, may detain such person for a reasonable period
2 of time and in such a reasonable manner as is necessary to determine
3 the person's true identity and date of birth. Further, tobacco
4 products possessed by persons under the age of eighteen years of age
5 are considered contraband and may be seized by a peace officer or
6 enforcement officer of the liquor control board.

7 (4) The liquor control board may work with local county health
8 departments or districts and local law enforcement agencies to conduct
9 random, unannounced, inspections to assure compliance.

10 (5) The liquor control board is authorized under chapter ..., Laws
11 of 1999 (this act) to adopt rules necessary to implement this chapter
12 and RCW 26.28.080 relating to the enforcement of provisions regarding
13 distribution of tobacco products, especially relating to minors.

14 (6) No person may knowingly or willfully resist or oppose any
15 state, county, or municipal peace officer, or liquor enforcement
16 officer, in the discharge of his or her duties under this chapter, or
17 aid and abet such resistance or opposition. A violation of this
18 subsection is a misdemeanor.

19 **Sec. 8.** RCW 70.155.130 and 1993 c 507 s 14 are each amended to
20 read as follows:

21 (~~This chapter preempts political subdivisions from adopting or~~
22 ~~enforcing requirements for the licensure and regulation of tobacco~~
23 ~~product promotions and sales within retail stores, except that~~
24 ~~political subdivisions that have adopted ordinances prohibiting~~
25 ~~sampling by January 1, 1993, may continue to enforce these ordinances.~~
26 ~~No political subdivision may: (1) Impose fees or license requirements~~
27 ~~on retail businesses for possessing or selling cigarettes or tobacco~~
28 ~~products, other than general business taxes or license fees not~~
29 ~~primarily levied on tobacco products; or (2) regulate or prohibit~~
30 ~~activities covered by RCW 70.155.020 through 70.155.080.)) Except as
31 provided in this section, this chapter does not ((otherwise preempt
32 political subdivisions from adopting ordinances regulating the sale,
33 purchase, use, or promotion of tobacco products not inconsistent with
34 chapter 507, Laws of 1993)) supersede or preempt any local laws or
35 ordinances regarding the same subject matter. No political subdivision
36 may: (1) Adopt or enforce license requirements for retail businesses
37 that sell tobacco products; or (2) impose fees or license requirements
38 on retail businesses for possessing or selling tobacco products, other~~

1 than general business taxes or license fees not primarily levied on
2 tobacco products.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** A new section is added to chapter 70.155 RCW
4 to read as follows:

5 No tobacco manufacturer, wholesaler, or agent thereof, may pay the
6 monetary penalty of a tobacco retailer licensed under Title 82 RCW, nor
7 may a tobacco retailer licensed under Title 82 RCW accept moneys for
8 payment of a monetary penalty from a tobacco manufacturer, wholesaler,
9 or agent thereof. A violation of this section is a gross misdemeanor
10 punishable by a minimum fine of two thousand five hundred dollars for
11 the first offense and five thousand dollars for each offense
12 thereafter.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** If any provision of this act or its
14 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the
15 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other
16 persons or circumstances is not affected.

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