
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6345

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2004 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Commerce & Trade (originally sponsored by Senators Hewitt, Keiser, Honeyford, Winsley and Oke; by request of Liquor Control Board)

READ FIRST TIME 02/02/04.

1 AN ACT Relating to inspection of books, documents, and records
2 pertaining to the transportation or possession of cigarettes; amending
3 RCW 82.24.110 and 70.155.105; reenacting and amending RCW 82.24.130;
4 adding a new section to chapter 82.24 RCW; and prescribing penalties.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 82.24 RCW
7 to read as follows:

8 (1) For the purpose of obtaining information concerning any matter
9 relating to the administration or enforcement of this title, the board,
10 or any of its agents, may inspect: (a) The books, documents, or
11 records of any person transporting cigarettes to any person or entity
12 in this state; and (b) books, documents, or records containing any
13 information relating to the transportation or possession of cigarettes
14 in the possession of a specific common or contract carrier as defined
15 in RCW 81.80.010 doing business in this state.

16 (2) Failure to allow inspection under this section may result in
17 forfeiture and seizure of the cigarettes pursuant to RCW 82.24.130.

1 **Sec. 2.** RCW 82.24.110 and 2003 c 114 s 5 are each amended to read
2 as follows:

3 (1) Each of the following acts is a gross misdemeanor and
4 punishable as such:

5 (a) To sell, except as a licensed wholesaler engaged in interstate
6 commerce as to the article being taxed herein, without the stamp first
7 being affixed;

8 (b) To sell in Washington as a wholesaler to a retailer who does
9 not possess and is required to possess a current cigarette retailer's
10 license;

11 (c) To use or have in possession knowingly or intentionally any
12 forged or counterfeit stamps;

13 (d) For any person other than the department of revenue or its duly
14 authorized agent to sell any stamps not affixed to any of the articles
15 taxed herein whether such stamps are genuine or counterfeit;

16 (e) To violate any of the provisions of this chapter;

17 (f) To violate any lawful rule made and published by the department
18 of revenue or the board;

19 (g) To use any stamps more than once;

20 (h) To refuse to allow the department of revenue or its duly
21 authorized agent, on demand, to make full inspection of any place of
22 business where any of the articles herein taxed are sold or otherwise
23 hinder or prevent such inspection;

24 (i) For any retailer to have in possession in any place of business
25 any of the articles herein taxed, unless the same have the proper
26 stamps attached;

27 (j) For any person to make, use, or present or exhibit to the
28 department of revenue or its duly authorized agent, any invoice for any
29 of the articles herein taxed which bears an untrue date or falsely
30 states the nature or quantity of the goods therein invoiced;

31 (k) For any wholesaler or retailer or his or her agents or
32 employees to fail to produce on demand of the department of revenue all
33 invoices of all the articles herein taxed or stamps bought by him or
34 her or received in his or her place of business within five years prior
35 to such demand unless he or she can show by satisfactory proof that the
36 nonproduction of the invoices was due to causes beyond his or her
37 control;

1 (1) For any person to receive in this state any shipment of any of
2 the articles taxed herein, when the same are not stamped, for the
3 purpose of avoiding payment of tax. It is presumed that persons other
4 than dealers who purchase or receive shipments of unstamped cigarettes
5 do so to avoid payment of the tax imposed herein;

6 (m) For any person to possess or transport in this state a quantity
7 of sixty thousand cigarettes or less unless the proper stamps required
8 by this chapter have been affixed or unless: (i) Notice of the
9 possession or transportation has been given as required by RCW
10 82.24.250; (ii) the person transporting the cigarettes has in actual
11 possession invoices or delivery tickets which show the true name and
12 address of the consignor or seller, the true name and address of the
13 consignee or purchaser, and the quantity and brands of the cigarettes
14 so transported; and (iii) the cigarettes are consigned to or purchased
15 by any person in this state who is authorized by this chapter to
16 possess unstamped cigarettes in this state;

17 (n) To possess, sell, or transport within this state any container
18 or package of cigarettes that does not comply with this chapter;

19 (o) To fail to produce or allow inspection of books, documents, or
20 records by the board or its agents as provided in section 1 of this
21 act.

22 (2) It is unlawful for any person knowingly or intentionally to
23 possess or to transport in this state a quantity in excess of sixty
24 thousand cigarettes unless the proper stamps required by this chapter
25 are affixed thereto or unless: (a) Proper notice as required by RCW
26 82.24.250 has been given; (b) the person transporting the cigarettes
27 actually possesses invoices or delivery tickets showing the true name
28 and address of the consignor or seller, the true name and address of
29 the consignee or purchaser, and the quantity and brands of the
30 cigarettes so transported; and (c) the cigarettes are consigned to or
31 purchased by a person in this state who is authorized by this chapter
32 to possess unstamped cigarettes in this state. Violation of this
33 section shall be punished as a class C felony under Title 9A RCW.

34 (3) All agents, employees, and others who aid, abet, or otherwise
35 participate in any way in the violation of the provisions of this
36 chapter or in any of the offenses described in this chapter shall be
37 guilty and punishable as principals, to the same extent as any
38 wholesaler or retailer or any other person violating this chapter.

1 **Sec. 3.** RCW 82.24.130 and 2003 c 114 s 7, 2003 c 113 s 4, and 2003
2 c 25 s 9 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

3 (1) The following are subject to seizure and forfeiture:

4 (a) Subject to RCW 82.24.250, any articles taxed in this chapter
5 that are found at any point within this state, which articles are held,
6 owned, or possessed by any person, and that do not have the stamps
7 affixed to the packages or containers; any container or package of
8 cigarettes possessed or held for sale that does not comply with this
9 chapter; and any container or package of cigarettes that is
10 manufactured, sold, or possessed in violation of RCW 82.24.570.

11 (b) Subject to RCW 82.24.250, any articles taxed in this chapter
12 that are found at any point within this state, which articles are held,
13 owned, or possessed by any person failing to produce or allow
14 inspection of books, documents, or records by the board or its agents
15 as provided in section 1 of this act.

16 (c) All conveyances, including aircraft, vehicles, or vessels,
17 which are used, or intended for use, to transport, or in any manner to
18 facilitate the transportation, for the purpose of sale or receipt of
19 property described in (a) of this subsection, except:

20 (i) A conveyance used by any person as a common or contract carrier
21 having in actual possession invoices or delivery tickets showing the
22 true name and address of the consignor or seller, the true name of the
23 consignee or purchaser, and the quantity and brands of the cigarettes
24 transported, unless it appears that the owner or other person in charge
25 of the conveyance is a consenting party or privy to a violation of this
26 chapter;

27 (ii) A conveyance subject to forfeiture under this section by
28 reason of any act or omission of which the owner thereof establishes to
29 have been committed or omitted without his or her knowledge or consent;

30 (iii) A conveyance encumbered by a bona fide security interest if
31 the secured party neither had knowledge of nor consented to the act or
32 omission.

33 ~~((+e))~~ (d) Any vending machine used for the purpose of violating
34 the provisions of this chapter.

35 ~~((+d))~~ (e) Any cigarettes that are stamped, sold, imported, or
36 offered or possessed for sale in this state in violation of RCW
37 70.158.030(3). For the purposes of this subsection (1)~~((+d))~~ (e),
38 "cigarettes" has the meaning as provided in RCW 70.158.020(3).

1 (~~(e)~~) (f) All cigarettes sold, delivered, or attempted to be
2 delivered in violation of RCW 70.155.105.

3 (2) Property subject to forfeiture under this chapter may be seized
4 by any agent of the department authorized to collect taxes, any
5 enforcement officer of the board, or law enforcement officer of this
6 state upon process issued by any superior court or district court
7 having jurisdiction over the property. Seizure without process may be
8 made if:

9 (a) The seizure is incident to an arrest or a search under a search
10 warrant or an inspection under an administrative inspection warrant; or

11 (b) The department, the board, or the law enforcement officer has
12 probable cause to believe that the property was used or is intended to
13 be used in violation of this chapter and exigent circumstances exist
14 making procurement of a search warrant impracticable.

15 (3) Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this section,
16 articles taxed in this chapter which are in the possession of a
17 wholesaler, licensed under Washington state law, for a period of time
18 necessary to affix the stamps after receipt of the articles, shall not
19 be considered contraband unless they are manufactured, sold, or
20 possessed in violation of RCW 82.24.570.

21 **Sec. 4.** RCW 70.155.105 and 2003 c 113 s 2 are each amended to read
22 as follows:

23 (1) It is unlawful for a person who mails, ships, or otherwise
24 delivers cigarettes to fail to:

25 (a) Verify the age of the receiver of the cigarettes upon delivery;
26 and

27 (b) Obtain in writing, before the first delivery sale of
28 cigarettes, verification of the receiver's address and that the
29 receiver of the cigarettes is not a minor. The statement must also
30 confirm that the purchaser understands: (i) That signing another
31 person's name to the certification is a violation of RCW
32 9A.60.040(1)(a); (ii) that the sale of cigarettes to a minor is a
33 violation of RCW 26.28.080; (iii) that the purchase of cigarettes by
34 minors is a violation of RCW 70.155.080; and (iv) that he or she has
35 the option to receive mailings from a tobacco company about tobacco
36 products.

1 (2) It is unlawful for a person to mail, ship, or otherwise deliver
2 cigarettes in connection with a delivery sale unless before the first
3 delivery sale to the consumer that person:

4 (a) Either verifies the information contained in the certification
5 provided by the prospective consumer in subsection (1) of this section
6 against a commercially available data base, or obtains a photocopy of
7 an officially issued identification containing the bearer's age,
8 signature, and photograph. The only forms of identification that are
9 acceptable as proof of age for the purchase for tobacco products are:

10 (i) A liquor control authority card of identification issued by a state
11 of the United States or a province of Canada, (ii) a driver's license,
12 instruction permit, or identification card issued by a state of the
13 United States or a province of Canada, (iii) a United States military
14 identification card, (iv) a passport, or (v) a merchant marine
15 identification card issued by the United States coast guard;

16 (b) Provides to the prospective consumer through electronic mail or
17 other means a notice that meets the requirements of subsection (3) of
18 this section; and

19 (c) In the case of an order for cigarettes pursuant to an
20 advertisement on the internet, receives payment for the delivery sale
21 from the prospective consumer by a credit card or debit card, or by
22 check that has been issued in the prospective consumer's name.

23 (3) The notice required under subsection (2)(b) of this section
24 must include:

25 (a) A prominent and clearly legible statement that cigarette sales
26 to minors are illegal;

27 (b) A prominent and clearly legible statement that consists of one
28 of the warnings set forth in section 4(a)(1) of the federal cigarette
29 labeling and advertising act (15 U.S.C. Sec. 1333(a)(1)) rotated on a
30 quarterly basis;

31 (c) A prominent and clearly legible statement that sales of
32 cigarettes are restricted to those consumers who provide verifiable
33 proof of age in accordance with subsection (1) of this section; and

34 (d) A prominent and clearly legible statement that cigarette sales
35 are subject to tax pursuant to chapters 82.24 and 82.12 RCW, with an
36 explanation of how the tax has been or is to be paid with respect to a
37 delivery sale.

1 (4) It is unlawful for a person who mails, ships, or otherwise
2 delivers cigarettes in connection with a delivery sale to fail to:

3 (a) Include as part of the bill of lading, or other shipping
4 documents, a clear and conspicuous statement that states: "Cigarettes:
5 Washington Law Prohibits Shipping to Individuals Under 18, and Requires
6 the Payment of all Applicable Taxes";

7 (b) Contract only with private carriers who employ delivery agents
8 who will verify the receiver of the cigarettes is not a minor upon
9 delivery. The only forms of identification that are acceptable as
10 proof of age for the purchase for tobacco products are: (i) A liquor
11 control authority card of identification issued by a state of the
12 United States or a province of Canada, (ii) a driver's license,
13 instruction permit, or identification card issued by a state of the
14 United States or a province of Canada, (iii) a United States military
15 identification card, (iv) a passport, or (v) a merchant marine
16 identification card issued by the United States coast guard;

17 (c) Provide to the delivery service retained for the delivery sale
18 evidence of full compliance with this section.

19 (5)(a) Before making delivery sales or mailings, shipping, or
20 otherwise delivering cigarettes to a Washington address in connection
21 with any sales, any person who mails, ships, or otherwise delivers
22 cigarettes shall file with the board a statement setting forth the
23 person's name, trade name, and the address of the person's principal
24 place of business and any other place of business.

25 (b) Any person who mails, ships, or otherwise delivers cigarettes
26 in connection with a delivery sale shall within fifteen days after the
27 first of each month file with the board a report of all delivery sales
28 made by the person within this state for the preceding month. The
29 report shall show the name and address of the consumer to whom the
30 cigarettes were sold, the kind and (~~quality~~) quantity, the dollar
31 amount of each kind sold, and the date of delivery thereof.

32 (6)(a) Any person other than a delivery service who violates any of
33 the provisions of this section is guilty of a class C felony punishable
34 by up to five years in prison and a fine of ten thousand dollars, and
35 payment of the cost of investigation and prosecution, including
36 attorneys' fees.

37 (b) Any person other than a delivery service who commits a second
38 or subsequent violation of this section is (~~guilty of~~) guilty of a

1 class B felony punishable by up to ten years in prison and a fine of
2 twenty thousand dollars, and payment of the cost of investigation and
3 prosecution, including attorneys' fees.

4 (c) Any delivery service that violates any provision of this
5 section shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor punishable by up to one
6 year in jail and a fine of five thousand dollars.

7 (7) Any person that fails to collect or remit to the department of
8 revenue any tax required under chapter 82.24 RCW in connection with a
9 delivery sale shall be assessed, in addition to any other penalty, a
10 penalty of five times the retail value of the cigarettes involved.

11 (8) For the purpose of obtaining information concerning any matter
12 relating to the administration or enforcement of this title, the board
13 or any of its agents may inspect the books, documents, and records of
14 any person who makes delivery sales or mailings, or ships or otherwise
15 delivers cigarettes or retains another person to make delivery sales or
16 mailings, or to ship or otherwise deliver cigarettes insofar as such
17 books, documents, and/or records pertain to the financial transaction
18 involved. If such a person neglects or refuses to produce and submit
19 for inspection any book, record, or document as required by this
20 section when requested to do so by the board or its agent, then the
21 board or the attorney general may seek an order in superior court
22 compelling such production of books, records, or documents.

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