

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 1948

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE CURLS.

4812L.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 196, RSMo, by adding thereto six new sections relating to the tobacco master settlement agreement, with penalty provisions and an emergency clause.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 196, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto six new sections, to be known as sections 196.1020, 196.1023, 196.1026, 196.1029, 196.1032, and 196.1035, to read as follows:

196.1020. As used in sections 196.1020 to 196.1035, the following terms mean:

(1) **"Brand family"**, all styles of cigarettes sold under the same trademark and differentiated from one another by means of additional modifiers or descriptors, including but not limited to "menthol", "lights", "kings", and "100s", and includes any brand name alone or in conjunction with any other word trademark, logo, symbol, motto, selling message, recognizable pattern of colors, or any other indicia of product identification identical or similar to, or identifiable with, a previously known brand of cigarettes;

(2) **"Cigarette"**, the same meaning as such term is defined in section 196.1000;

(3) **"Director"**, the director of the Missouri department of revenue;

(4) **"Master settlement agreement"**, the same meaning as such term is defined in section 196.1000;

(5) **"Nonparticipating manufacturer"**, any tobacco product manufacturer that is not a participating manufacturer;

(6) **"Participating manufacturer"**, the same meaning as such term is defined in section II(jj) of the master settlement agreement and all amendments thereto;

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

16 (7) "Qualified escrow fund", the same meaning as such term is defined in section
17 196.1000;

18 (8) "Stamping agent", a person who is authorized to affix tax stamps to packages
19 or other containers or cigarettes under chapter 149 or any person who is required to pay
20 the tax imposed under section 149.160 on other tobacco products;

21 (9) "Tobacco product manufacturer", the same meaning as such term is defined
22 in section 196.1000;

23 (10) "Units sold", the same meaning as such term is defined in section 196.1000.

196.1023. 1. Every tobacco product manufacturer whose cigarettes are sold in this
2 state, whether directly or through a distributor, retailer, or similar intermediary or
3 intermediaries, shall execute and deliver on a form prescribed by the director a
4 certification to the director no later than the thirtieth day of April each year certifying
5 under penalty of perjury that as of the date of such certification such tobacco product
6 manufacturer is a participating manufacturer or is in full compliance with section
7 196.1003.

8 (1) A participating manufacturer shall include in its certification a list of its brand
9 families. The participating manufacturer shall update such list thirty calendar days prior
10 to any addition to or modification of its brand families by executing and delivering a
11 supplemental certification to the director.

12 (2) A nonparticipating manufacturer shall include in its certification:

13 (a) A list of all of its brand families and the number of units sold for each brand
14 family that were sold in the state during the preceding calendar year;

15 (b) A list of all of its brand families that have been sold in the state at any time
16 during the current calendar year;

17 (c) Indicating by an asterisk any brand family sold in the state during the preceding
18 calendar year that is no longer being sold in the state as of the date of such certification;
19 and

20 (d) Identifying by name and address any other manufacturer of such brand
21 families in the preceding or current calendar year. The nonparticipating manufacturer
22 shall update such list thirty calendar days prior to any addition to or modification of its
23 brand families by executing and delivering a supplemental certification to the director.

24 (3) For a nonparticipating manufacturer, such certification shall further certify:

25 (a) That such nonparticipating manufacturer is registered to do business in the
26 state or has appointed a resident agent for service of process and provided notice thereof
27 as required in subsection 1 of section 196.1023;

28 **(b) That such nonparticipating manufacturer has established and continues to**
29 **maintain a qualified escrow fund and has executed a qualified escrow agreement that has**
30 **been reviewed and approved by the director and that governs the qualified escrow fund;**

31 **(c) That such nonparticipating manufacturer is in full compliance with sections**
32 **196.1003 and 196.1020 to 196.1035 and any rules promulgated thereunder;**

33 **(d) a. The name, address, and telephone number of the financial institution where**
34 **the nonparticipating manufacturer has established such qualified escrow fund required**
35 **under section 196.1003 and all rules promulgated thereunder;**

36 **b. The account number of such qualified escrow fund and any subaccount number**
37 **for the state;**

38 **c. The amount such nonparticipating manufacturer placed in such fund for**
39 **cigarettes sold in the state during the preceding calendar year, the date and amount of each**
40 **such deposit, and such evidence or verification as may be deemed necessary by the director**
41 **to confirm the foregoing; and**

42 **d. The amount and date of any withdrawal or transfer of funds the**
43 **nonparticipating manufacturer made at any time from such fund or from any other**
44 **qualified escrow fund into which it ever made escrow payments under section 196.1003 and**
45 **all rules promulgated thereunder.**

46 **(4) A tobacco product manufacturer may not include a brand family in its**
47 **certification unless:**

48 **(a) In the case of a participating manufacturer, such participating manufacturer**
49 **affirms that the brand family is deemed to be its cigarettes for purposes of calculating its**
50 **payments under the master settlement agreement for the relevant year, in the volume and**
51 **shares determined under the master settlement agreement; and**

52 **(b) In the case of a nonparticipating manufacturer, such nonparticipating**
53 **manufacturer affirms that the brand family is deemed to be its cigarettes for purposes of**
54 **section 196.1003. Nothing in this section shall be construed as limiting or otherwise**
55 **affecting the state's right to maintain that a brand family constitutes cigarettes of a**
56 **different tobacco product manufacturer for purposes of calculating payments under the**
57 **master settlement agreement or for purposes of section 196.1003.**

58 **(5) Tobacco product manufacturers shall maintain all invoices and documentation**
59 **of sales and other such information relied upon for such certification for a period of five**
60 **years, unless otherwise required by law to maintain them for a greater period of time.**

61 **2. By July 1, 2011, the director shall develop and make available for public**
62 **inspection or publish on its website a directory listing of all tobacco product manufacturers**
63 **that have provided current and accurate certifications conforming to the requirements of**

64 subsection 1 of this section and all brand families that are listed in such certifications,
65 except:

66 (1) The director shall not include or retain in such directory the name or brand
67 families of any nonparticipating manufacturer that fails to provide the required
68 certification or whose certification the director determines is not in compliance with
69 subdivisions (2) and (3) of subsection 1 of this section, unless the director has determined
70 that such violation has been cured to the satisfaction of the director;

71 (2) Neither a tobacco product manufacturer nor brand family shall be included or
72 retained in the directory if the director concludes in the case of a nonparticipating
73 manufacturer that:

74 (a) Any escrow payment required under section 196.1003 for any period for any
75 brand family whether or not listed by such nonparticipating manufacturer has not been
76 fully paid into a qualified escrow fund governed by a qualified escrow agreement that has
77 been approved by the director; or

78 (b) Any outstanding final judgment including interest thereon for violations of
79 section 196.1003 has not been fully satisfied for such brand family and such manufacturer;

80 (3) Every stamping agent shall provide and update as necessary an electronic mail
81 address to the director for the purpose of receiving any notifications that may be required
82 by sections 196.1020 to 196.1035.

83 3. It shall be unlawful for any person to:

84 (1) Affix a stamp to a package or other container of cigarettes of a tobacco product
85 manufacturer or brand family not included in the directory; or

86 (2) Sell, offer, or possess for sale in this state, or import for personal consumption
87 in this state, cigarettes of a tobacco product manufacturer or brand family not included
88 in the directory.

196.1026. 1. Any nonresident or foreign nonparticipating manufacturer that has
2 not registered to do business in this state as a foreign corporation or business entity shall
3 as a condition precedent to having its brand families listed or retained in the directory
4 appoint and continually engage without interruption the services of an agent in this state
5 to act as agent for the service of process on whom all process, and any action or proceeding
6 against it concerning or arising out of the enforcement of sections 196.1003 and 196.1020
7 to 196.1035 may be served in any manner authorized by law. Such service shall constitute
8 legal and valid service of process on the nonparticipating manufacturer. The
9 nonparticipating manufacturer shall provide the name, address, phone number, and proof
10 of the appointment and availability of such agent to the satisfaction of the director.

11 **2. The nonparticipating manufacturer shall provide notice to the director thirty**
12 **calendar days prior to termination of the authority of an agent and shall further provide**
13 **proof to the satisfaction of the director of the appointment of a new agent no less than five**
14 **calendar days prior to the termination of an existing agent appointment. In the event an**
15 **agent terminates an agency appointment, the nonparticipating manufacturer shall notify**
16 **the director of the termination within five calendar days and shall include proof to the**
17 **satisfaction of the director of the appointment of a new agent.**

18 **3. Any nonparticipating manufacturer whose cigarettes are sold in this state and**
19 **who has not appointed and engaged an agent as herein required shall be deemed to have**
20 **appointed the secretary of state as such agent and may be proceeded against in courts of**
21 **this state by service of process upon the secretary of state. However, the appointment of**
22 **the secretary of state as such agent shall not satisfy the condition precedent for having the**
23 **brand families of the nonparticipating manufacturer included or retained in the directory.**

196.1029. 1. Not later than twenty days after the end of each calendar quarter and
2 **more frequently if so directed by the director, each stamping agent shall submit such**
3 **information as the director requires to facilitate compliance with sections 196.1020 to**
4 **196.1035, including but not limited to a list by brand family of the total number of**
5 **cigarettes or, in the case of roll your own, the equivalent stick count for which the stamping**
6 **agent affixed stamps during the previous calendar quarter or otherwise paid the tax due**
7 **for such cigarettes. The stamping agent shall maintain and make available to the director**
8 **all invoices and documentation of sales of all nonparticipating manufacturer cigarettes and**
9 **any other information relied upon in reporting to the director for a period of five years.**

10 **2. The director is authorized to disclose to the attorney general any information**
11 **received under sections 196.1020 to 196.1035 and requested by the attorney general for**
12 **purposes of determining compliance with and enforcing the provisions of sections 196.1020**
13 **to 196.1035. The director and attorney general shall share with each other the information**
14 **received under sections 196.1003 and 196.1020 to 196.1035, or corresponding laws of other**
15 **states.**

16 **3. The director may require at any time from the nonparticipating manufacturer**
17 **proof from the financial institution in which such manufacturer has established a qualified**
18 **escrow fund for the purpose of compliance with section 196.1003 of the amount of money**
19 **in such fund exclusive of interest, and the amount and date of each deposit to such fund,**
20 **and the amount and date of each withdrawal from such fund.**

21 **4. In addition to any other information required to be submitted under sections**
22 **196.1020 to 196.1035, the director may require a stamping agent or tobacco product**
23 **manufacturer to submit any additional information, including but not limited to samples**

24 of the packaging or labeling of each brand family, as is necessary to enable the director to
25 determine whether a tobacco product manufacturer is in compliance with sections 196.1020
26 to 196.1035.

196.1032. 1. In addition to or in lieu of any other civil or criminal remedy provided
2 by law, upon a determination that a stamping agent or any person has violated subsection
3 3 of section 196.1023 or any regulation adopted under sections 196.1020 to 196.1035, the
4 director may revoke or suspend the license of any stamping agent in the manner provided
5 in subsection 3 of section 149.035. Each stamp affixed and each sale or offer to sell
6 cigarettes in violation of subsection 3 of section 196.1023 shall constitute a separate
7 violation. For each such violation, the director may also impose a civil penalty in an
8 amount not to exceed the greater of five hundred percent of the retail value of the
9 cigarettes or five thousand dollars upon a determination of a violation of subsection 3 of
10 section 196.1023 or any regulations adopted thereunder.

11 2. Any cigarettes that have been sold, offered for sale, or possessed for sale in this
12 state in violation of subsection 3 of section 196.1023 shall be deemed contraband and such
13 cigarettes shall be subject to seizure and forfeiture as provided in chapter 149 and all such
14 cigarettes so seized and forfeited shall be destroyed and not resold.

15 3. The attorney general on behalf of the director may seek an injunction to restrain
16 a threatened or actual violation of subsection 3 of section 196.1023, or subsection 1 or 4 of
17 section 196.1029 by a stamping agent and to compel the stamping agent to comply with
18 such provisions. In any action brought under this section, the state shall be entitled to
19 recover the costs of investigation, costs of the action, and reasonable attorney fees.

20 4. It shall be unlawful for a person to sell or distribute cigarettes, or acquire, hold,
21 own, possess, transport, import, or cause to be imported cigarettes that the person knows
22 or should know are intended for distribution or sale in the state in violation of subsection
23 3 of section 196.1023. A violation of this section is a class A misdemeanor.

24 5. A person who violates subsection 3 of section 196.1023 engages in an unfair
25 practice in violation of section 407.020.

196.1035. 1. A determination of the director not to list or to remove from the
2 directory a brand family or tobacco product manufacturer shall be subject to review under
3 chapter 621.

4 2. No person shall be issued a license or granted a renewal of a license under
5 chapter 149 unless such person has certified in writing under the penalty of perjury that
6 such person will comply fully with sections 196.1020 to 196.1035.

7 3. For the calendar year 2010, if the effective date of sections 196.1020 to 196.1035
8 is later than March 16, 2010:

9 **(1) The first report of stamping agents required in subsection 1 of section 196.1029**
10 **shall be due thirty calendar days after such effective date;**

11 **(2) The certification by a tobacco product manufacturer described in subsection**
12 **1 of section 196.1023 shall be due forty-five calendar days after such effective date; and**

13 **(3) The directory described in subsection 2 of section 196.1023 shall be published**
14 **or made available within one hundred thirty-five calendar days after such effective date.**

15 **4. The director may promulgate rules necessary to effect the purpose of sections**
16 **196.1020 to 196.1035.**

17 **5. In any action brought by the state to enforce sections 196.1020 to 196.1035, the**
18 **state shall be entitled to recover the costs of investigation, expert witness fees, costs of the**
19 **action, and reasonable attorney fees.**

20 **6. If a court of competent jurisdiction determines that a person has violated sections**
21 **196.1020 to 196.1035, the court shall order any profits, gains, gross receipts, or other**
22 **benefits from the violation to be disgorged and paid to the state treasurer for deposit in the**
23 **"Tobacco Control Special Fund", which is hereby created. Unless otherwise expressly**
24 **provided, the remedies or penalties provided by sections 196.1020 to 196.1035 are**
25 **cumulative to each other and to the remedies or penalties available under all other laws of**
26 **this state.**

27 **7. If a court of competent jurisdiction finds that the provisions of sections 196.1003**
28 **and 196.1020 to 196.1035 conflict and cannot be harmonized, the provisions of section**
29 **196.1003 shall control. If any section or portion of a section in sections 196.1020 to**
30 **196.1035 causes section 196.1003 to no longer constitute a qualifying or model statute, as**
31 **those terms are defined in the master settlement agreement, that portion of sections**
32 **196.1020 to 196.1035 shall be invalid. If any section or portion of a section in sections**
33 **196.1020 to 196.1035 is for any reason held to be invalid, unlawful, or unconstitutional,**
34 **such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of sections 196.1020 to**
35 **196.1035.**

Section B. Because immediate action is necessary to protect the economic welfare of the
2 citizens of this state, section A of this act is deemed necessary for the immediate preservation
3 of the public health, welfare, peace, and safety, and is hereby declared to be an emergency act
4 within the meaning of the constitution, and section A of this act shall be in full force and effect
5 upon its passage and approval.

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