WASHINGTON LAWS, 1998

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 15. 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.

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 16. Sections 1 through 9, 11, and 13 of this act constitute a new chapter in Title 47 RCW.

Passed the House March 12, 1998.

Passed the Senate March 12, 1998.

Approved by the Governor March 27, 1998, with the exception of certain items that were vetoed.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 27, 1998.

Note: Governor's explanation of partial veto is as follows:

"I am returning herewith, without my approval as to sections 11, 13 and 14, Engrossed Substitute House Bill No. 2615 entitled:

"AN ACT Relating to creating partnerships for strategic freight investments;"

ESHB 2615 creates a Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board to administer grants, targeted at improving freight mobility. This bill is an important step toward solving our state's transportation bottlenecks; however, some sections of the bill are problematic.

Section 11 of ESHB 2615 would require the Department of Transportation (DOT) to make incentive grants to metropolitan planning and regional transportation planning organizations that border Canada, to encourage joint transportation planning activities. While I appreciate the strategic importance of international freight corridors, this section would give superior status to border crossing projects. Section 3 of the bill establishes a level playing field which will allow all freight projects, including those along the Canadian border, to compete for funding on equal terms. Granting priority status for border crossing projects in this instance is not warranted.

Section 13 of ESHB 2615 would require the Governor to personally ensure that this act is "implemented" on its effective date and that the Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board convenes by July 1, 1998. Section 4 of the bill already requires that the Board convene by that date. Also, I understand that it is unlikely that the Board will be able to adopt all of its rules within 90 days of the Legislature's adjournment. While I am certainly committed to the rapid, yet thoughtful implementation of this act, the meaning of "implemented" as it appears in this section is very ambiguous and could have unanticipated consequences.

Section 14 of ESHB 2615 would provide that a \$25 million loan from the state general fund to the motor vehicle fund, as provided in ESHB 2894, be used to facilitate freight mobility, but in a very limited way. It would limit the loan's use to only highway construction projects in DOT's highway improvement program. As distinguished from DOT's current highway improvement program, ESHB 2615 is focused legislation intended to create a targeted freight mobility program with the aim of reducing barriers to freight movement with only incidental benefits to general mobility. Linking this money to the highway improvement program is inconsistent with the primary intent of this bill.

For these reasons, I have vetoed sections 11, 13 and 14 of Engrossed Substitute House Bill No. 2615.

With the exceptions of sections 11, 13 and 14, Engrossed Substitute House Bill No. 2615 is approved."

CHAPTER 176

[Substitute House Bill 2659]
SPECIAL FUEL AND MOTOR VEHICLE FUEL TAXES—REVISIONS

AN ACT Relating to special fuel and motor vehicle fuel taxes; amending RCW 35A.82.010, 82.04.4285, 82.36.020, 82.36.032, 82.36.045, 82.36.047, 82.36.060, 82.36.070, 82.36.080, 82.36.090,

82.36.100, 82.36.120, 82.36.130, 82.36.140, 82.36.150, 82.36.160, 82.36.170, 82.36.180, 82.36.190, 82.36.200, 82.36.210, 82.36.230, 82.36.280, 82.36.300, 82.36.310, 82.36.330, 82.36.35, 82.36.350, 82.36.370, 82.36.375, 82.36.390, 82.36.400, 82.38.020, 82.38.030, 82.38.070, 82.38.080, 82.38.100, 82.38.110, 82.38.120, 82.38.130, 82.38.150, 82.38.160, 82.38.170, 82.38.180, 82.38.190, 82.38.210, 82.38.20, 82.38.230, 82.38.235, 82.38.240, 82.38.260, 43.05.110, 82.47.010, and 82.80.010; reenacting and amending RCW 82.08.0255, 82.12.0256, 82.36.010, and 82.38.140; adding new sections to chapter 82.36 RCW; adding new sections to chapter 82.38 RCW; creating new sections; repealing RCW 82.36.030, 82.36.038, 82.36.220, 82.38.040, 82.38.082, and 82.38.086; prescribing penalties; and providing an effective date.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. The legislature finds and declares that:

- (1) The health, safety, and welfare of the people of the state of Washington are dependent on the state's ability to properly collect the taxes enacted by the legislature;
- (2) The current system for collecting special fuel taxes and motor vehicle fuel tax has allowed many parties to fraudulently evade paying the special fuel taxes and motor vehicle fuel tax due the state; and
- (3) By changing the point of collection of the special fuel taxes and motor vehicle fuel tax from distributors to suppliers, the department of licensing will have fewer parties to collect tax from and enforcement will be enhanced, thus leading to greater revenues for the state.
- Sec. 2. RCW 35A.82.010 and 1995 c 274 s 4 are each amended to read as follows:

A code city shall collect, receive and share in the distribution of state collected and distributed excise taxes to the same extent and manner as general laws relating thereto apply to any class of city or town including, but not limited to, funds distributed to cities under RCW 82.36.020 relating to motor vehicle fuel tax, RCW 82.38.290 relating to use fuel tax, and RCW 82.36.275 and 82.38.080(((9))) (3).

Sec. 3. RCW 82.04.4285 and 1980 c 37 s 6 are each amended to read as follows:

In computing tax there may be deducted from the measure of tax so much of the sale price of motor vehicle fuel as constitutes the amount of tax imposed by the state <u>under chapters 82.36 and 82.38 RCW</u> or the United States government, <u>under 26 U.S.C.</u>, Subtitle D, chapters 31 and 32, upon the sale thereof.

- Sec. 4. RCW 82.08.0255 and 1983 1st ex.s. c 35 s 2 and 1983 c 108 s 1 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:
 - (1) The tax levied by RCW 82.08.020 shall not apply to sales of:
- (a) Motor vehicle fuel used in aircraft by the manufacturer thereof for research, development, and testing purposes; and
 - (b) Motor vehicle and special fuel if:
- (i) The fuel is purchased for the purpose of public transportation and the purchaser is entitled to a refund or an exemption under RCW 82.36.275 or 82.38.080(((9))) (3); or

- (ii) The fuel is purchased by a private, nonprofit transportation provider certified under chapter 81.66 RCW and the purchaser is entitled to a refund or an exemption under RCW 82.36.285 or 82.38.080(((8))) (1)(h); or
 - (iii) The fuel is taxable under chapter 82.36 or 82.38 RCW.
- (2) Any person who has paid the tax imposed by RCW 82.08.020 on the sale of special fuel delivered in this state shall be entitled to a credit or refund of such tax with respect to fuel subsequently established to have been actually transported and used outside this state by persons engaged in interstate commerce. The tax shall be claimed as a credit or refunded through the tax reports required under RCW 82.38.150.
- Sec. 5. RCW 82.12.0256 and 1983 1st ex.s. c 35 s 3 and 1983 c 108 s 2 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

The provisions of this chapter shall not apply in respect to the use of:

- (1) Motor vehicle fuel used in aircraft by the manufacturer thereof for research, development, and testing purposes; and
- (2) Special fuel purchased in this state upon which a refund is obtained as provided in RCW 82.38.180(2); and
 - (3) Motor vehicle and special fuel if:
- (a) The fuel is used for the purpose of public transportation and the purchaser is entitled to a refund or an exemption under RCW 82.36.275 or 82.38.080(((2))) (3); or
- (b) The fuel is purchased by a private, nonprofit transportation provider certified under chapter 81.66 RCW and the purchaser is entitled to a refund or an exemption under RCW 82.36.285 or 82.38.080(((8))) (1)(h); or
- (c) The fuel is taxable under chapter 82.36 or 82.38 RCW: PROVIDED, That the use of motor vehicle and special fuel upon which a refund of the applicable fuel tax is obtained shall not be exempt under this subsection (3)(c), and the director of licensing shall deduct from the amount of such tax to be refunded the amount of tax due under this chapter and remit the same each month to the department of revenue.
- **Sec. 6.** RCW 82.36.010 and 1995 c 287 s 1 and 1995 c 274 s 20 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

((For the purposes of this chapter:

- —— (1) "Motor vehicle" means every vehicle that is in itself a self-propelled unit, equipped with solid rubber, hollow-cushion rubber, or pneumatic rubber tires and capable of being moved or operated upon a public highway, except motor vehicles used as motive power for or in conjunction with farm implements and machines or implements of husbandry;
- (2) "Motor-vehicle fuel" means gasoline or any other inflammable gas or liquid, by whatsoever name such gasoline, gas, or liquid may be known or sold, the chief use of which is as fuel for the propulsion of motor vehicles or motorboats;

- (3) "Distributor" means every person who refines, manufactures, produces. or compounds motor vehicle fuel and sells; distributes, or in any manner uses it in this state; also every person engaged in business as a bona fide wholesale merchant dealing in motor vehicle fuel who either acquires it within the state from any person refining it within or importing it into the state, on which the tax has not been paid, or imports it into this state and sells, distributes, or in any manner uses it in this state; also every person who acquires motor-vehicle fuel, on which the tax has not been paid; and exports it by commercial motor vehicle to a location outside the state. For the purposes of liability for a county fuel tax, "distributor" has that meaning defined in the county ordinance imposing the tax; For the purposes of this subsection, "commercial motor vehicle" means any motor vehicle used, designed, or maintained for transportation of persons or property and: (a) Having two axles and a gross vehicle weight or registered gross vehicle weight exceeding twenty-six thousand pounds; or (b) having three or more axles regardless of weight; or (e) is used in combination, when the weight of such combination exceeds twenty-six thousand pounds gross vehicle weight. "Commercial motor vehicle" does not include recreational vehicles:
- (4) "Service station" means a place operated for the purpose of delivering motor vehicle fuel into the fuel tanks of motor vehicles;
- (5) "Department" means the department of licensing;
 - (6) "Director" means the director of licensing;
- (7) "Dealer" means any person engaged in the retail sale of liquid motor vehicle fuels:
- (8) "Person" means every natural person, firm, partnership, association, or private or public corporation;
- —— (9) "Highway" means every way or place open to the use of the public, as a matter of right, for purposes of vehicular travel;
- (10) "Broker" means every person, other than a distributor, engaged in business as a broker, jobber, or wholesale merchant dealing in motor vehicle fuel or other petroleum products used or usable in propelling motor vehicles, or in other petroleum products which may be used in blending, compounding, or manufacturing of motor vehicle fuel;
- (11) "Producer" means every person, other than a distributor, engaged in the business of producing motor vehicle fuel or other petroleum products used in, or which may be used in, the blending, compounding, or manufacturing of motor vehicle fuel;
- —— (12) "Distribution" means all withdrawals of motor vehicle fuel for delivery to others, to retail service stations, or to unlicensed bulk storage plants;
- —— (13) "Bulk storage plant" means, pursuant to the licensing provisions of RCW 82.36.070, any plant, under the control of the distributor, used for the storage of motor vehicle fuel to which no retail outlets are directly connected by pipe lines;
- (14) "Marine fuel-dealer" means any person engaged in the retail sale of liquid-motor vehicle fuel whose place of business and or sale outlet is located upon a navigable waterway;

- (15) "Alcohol" means alcohol that is produced from renewable resources;
- (16) "Electronic funds transfer" means any transfer of funds, other than a transaction originated by check, draft, or similar paper instrument, which is initiated through an electronic terminal, telephonic instrument, or computer or magnetic tape so as to order, instruct, or authorize a financial institution to debit or credit an account:
- ——(17) "Evasion" or "evade" means to diminish or avoid the computation; assessment, or payment of authorized taxes or fees through:
- —— (a) A knowing: False statement, misrepresentation of fact, or other act of deception; or
- (b) An intentional: Omission, failure to file a return or report, or other act of deception.)) The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.
- (1) "Blended fuel" means a mixture of motor vehicle fuel and another liquid, other than a de minimus amount of the liquid, that can be used as a fuel to propel a motor vehicle.
- (2) "Bond" means a bond duly executed with a corporate surety qualified under chapter 48,28 RCW, which bond is payable to the state of Washington conditioned upon faithful performance of all requirements of this chapter, including the payment of all taxes, penalties, and other obligations arising out of this chapter.
- (3) "Bulk transfer" means a transfer of motor vehicle fuel by pipeline or vessel.
- (4) "Bulk transfer-terminal system" means the motor vehicle fuel distribution system consisting of refineries, pipelines, vessels, and terminals. Motor vehicle fuel in a refinery, pipeline, vessel, or terminal is in the bulk transfer-terminal system. Motor vehicle fuel in the fuel tank of an engine, motor vehicle, or in a railcar, trailer, truck, or other equipment suitable for ground transportation is not in the bulk transfer-terminal system.
 - (5) "Dealer" means a person engaged in the retail sale of motor vehicle fuel.
 - (6) "Department" means the department of licensing.
 - (7) "Director" means the director of licensing.
- (8) "Evasion" or "evade" means to diminish or avoid the computation, assessment, or payment of authorized taxes or fees through:
- (a) A knowing: False statement; misrepresentation of fact; or other act of deception; or
- (b) An intentional: Omission; failure to file a return or report; or other act of deception.
- (9) "Export" means to obtain motor vehicle fuel in this state for sales or distribution outside the state.
- (10) "Highway" means every way or place open to the use of the public, as a matter of right, for the purpose of vehicular travel.
- (11) "Import" means to bring motor vehicle fuel into this state by a means of conveyance other than the fuel supply tank of a motor vehicle.

- (12) "Licensee" means a person holding a license issued under this chapter.
- (13) "Marine fuel dealer" means a person engaged in the retail sale of motor vehicle fuel whose place of business and/or sale outlet is located upon a navigable waterway.
- (14) "Motor vehicle fuel blender" means a person who produces blended motor fuel outside the bulk transfer-terminal system.
- (15) "Motor vehicle fuel distributor" means a person who acquires motor vehicle fuel from a supplier, distributor, or licensee for subsequent sale and distribution.
- (16) "Motor vehicle fuel exporter" means a person who purchases motor vehicle fuel in this state and directly exports the fuel by a means other than the bulk transfer-terminal system to a destination outside of the state. If the exporter of record is acting as an agent, the person for whom the agent is acting is the exporter. If there is no exporter of record, the owner of the motor fuel at the time of exportation is the exporter.
- (17) "Motor vehicle fuel importer" means a person who imports motor vehicle fuel into the state by a means other than the bulk transfer-terminal system. If the importer of record is acting as an agent, the person for whom the agent is acting is the importer. If there is no importer of record, the owner of the motor vehicle fuel at the time of importation is the importer.
- (18) "Motor vehicle fuel supplier" means a person who owns and stores motor vehicle fuel in a terminal facility or who refines and stores motor vehicle fuel at a refinery.
- (19) "Motor vehicle" means a self-propelled vehicle designed for operation upon land utilizing motor vehicle fuel as the means of propulsion.
- (20) "Motor vehicle fuel" means gasoline and any other inflammable gas or liquid, by whatsoever name the gasoline, gas, or liquid may be known or sold, the chief use of which is as fuel for the propulsion of motor vehicles or motorboats.
- (21) "Person" means a natural person, fiduciary, association, or corporation. The term "person" as applied to an association means and includes the partners or members thereof, and as applied to corporations, the officers thereof.
- (22) "Position holder" means a person who holds the inventory position in motor vehicle fuel, as reflected by the records of the terminal operator. A person holds the inventory position in motor vehicle fuel if the person has a contractual agreement with the terminal for the use of storage facilities and terminating services at a terminal with respect to motor vehicle fuel. "Position holder" includes a terminal operator that owns motor vehicle fuel in their terminal.
- (23) "Rack" means a mechanism for delivering motor vehicle fuel from a refinery or terminal into a truck, trailer, railcar, or other means of nonbulk transfer.
- (24) "Refiner" means a person who owns, operates, or otherwise controls a refinery.
- (25) "Removal" means a physical transfer of motor vehicle fuel other than by evaporation, loss, or destruction.

- (26) "Terminal" means a motor vehicle fuel storage and distribution facility that has been assigned a terminal control number by the internal revenue service, is supplied by pipeline or vessel, and from which reportable motor vehicle fuel is removed at a rack.
- (27) "Terminal operator" means a person who owns, operates, or otherwise controls a terminal.
- (28) "Two-party exchange" or "buy-sell agreement" means a transaction in which taxable motor vehicle fuel is transferred from one licensed supplier to another licensed supplier under an exchange or buy-sell agreement whereby the supplier that is the position holder agrees to deliver taxable motor vehicle fuel to the other supplier or the other supplier's customer at the rack of the terminal at which the delivering supplier is the position holder.
- Sec. 7. RCW 82.36.020 and 1983 1st ex.s. c 49 s 26 are each amended to read as follows:
- ((Every distributor shall pay, in addition to any other taxes provided by law, an excise tax to the director at a rate computed in the manner provided in RCW 82.36.025 for each gallon of motor vehicle fuel sold, distributed, or used by him in the state-as well as on each gallon-upon which he has assumed liability for payment of the tax under the provisions of RCW 82.36.100; PROVIDED, That under such regulations as the director may prescribe sales or distribution of motor vehicle-fuel-may-be-made-by-one-licensed-distributor-to-another-licensed distributor-free of the tax. In the computation of the tax, one-quarter of one percent of the net gallonage otherwise taxable shall be deducted by the distributor before computing the tax-due, on account of the losses sustained through handling. The tax imposed hereunder shall be in addition to any other tax required by law, and shall not be imposed under circumstances in which the tax is prohibited by the Constitution or laws of the United States. The tax herein imposed shall be collected and paid to the state but once in respect to any motor vehicle fuel. An invoice shall be rendered by a distributor to a purchaser for each distribution of motor vehicle fuel:))
- (1) There is hereby levied and imposed upon motor vehicle fuel users a tax at the rate computed in the manner provided in RCW 82.36.025 on each gallon of motor vehicle fuel.
- (2) The tax imposed by subsection (1) of this section is imposed when any of the following occurs:
- (a) Motor vehicle fuel is removed in this state from a terminal if the motor vehicle fuel is removed at the rack unless the removal is to a licensed exporter for direct delivery to a destination outside of the state;
- (b) Motor vehicle fuel is removed in this state from a refinery if either of the following applies:
- (i) The removal is by bulk transfer and the refiner or the owner of the motor vehicle fuel immediately before the removal is not a licensee; or
- (ii) The removal is at the refinery rack unless the removal is to a licensed exporter for direct delivery to a destination outside of the state;

- (c) Motor vehicle fuel enters into this state for sale, consumption, use, or storage if either of the following applies:
 - (i) The entry is by bulk transfer and the importer is not a licensee; or
 - (ii) The entry is not by bulk transfer;
- (d) Motor vehicle fuel is removed in this state to an unlicensed entity unless there was a prior taxable removal, entry, or sale of the motor vehicle fuel;
- (e) Blended motor vehicle fuel is removed or sold in this state by the blender of the fuel. The number of gallons of blended motor vehicle fuel subject to the tax is the difference between the total number of gallons of blended motor vehicle fuel removed or sold and the number of gallons of previously taxed motor vehicle fuel used to produce the blended motor vehicle fuel.
- (3) The proceeds of the motor vehicle fuel excise tax collected ((on the net gallonage after the deduction provided for herein and)) after the deductions for payments and expenditures as provided in RCW 46.68.090((7)) shall be distributed as provided in RCW 46.68.100.
- <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 8. (1) A position holder shall remit tax to the department on motor vehicle fuel removed from a terminal as provided in RCW 82.36.020(2)(a). On a two-party exchange, or buy-sell agreement between two suppliers, the receiving exchange partner or buyer, becomes the position holder, who shall remit the tax.
- (2) A refiner shall remit tax to the department on motor vehicle fuel removed from a refinery as provided in RCW 82.36.020(2)(b).
- (3) An importer shall remit tax to the department on motor vehicle fuel imported into this state as provided in RCW 82.36.020(2)(c).
- (4) A blender shall remit tax to the department on the removal or sale of blended motor vehicle fuel as provided in RCW 82.36.020(2)(e).
- <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 9. A terminal operator is jointly and severally liable for remitting the tax imposed under RCW 82.36.020(1) if, at the time of removal:
- (1) The position holder with respect to the motor vehicle fuel is a person other than the terminal operator and is not a licensee;
 - (2) The terminal operator is not a licensee;
- (3) The position holder has an expired internal revenue service notification certificate issued under 26 C.F.R. Part 48; or
- (4) The terminal operator had reason to believe that information on the notification certificate was false.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 10. Upon the taxable removal of motor vehicle fuel, the licensee who acquired or removed the motor vehicle fuel, other than a motor vehicle fuel exporter, shall be entitled to a deduction from the tax liability on the gallonage of taxable motor vehicle fuel removed in order to account for handling losses, as follows: For a motor vehicle fuel supplier acting as a distributor, one-quarter of one percent; and for all other licensees, thirty one-hundredths of one percent. For those licensees required to file tax reports, the handling loss deduction shall be reported on tax reports filed with the department. For motor

vehicle fuel distributors, the handling loss deduction shall be shown on the invoice provided to the motor vehicle fuel distributor by the seller.

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 11. For the purpose of determining the amount of liability for the tax imposed under this chapter, and to periodically update license information, each licensee, other than a motor vehicle fuel distributor, shall file monthly tax reports with the department, on a form prescribed by the department.

A report shall be filed with the department even though no motor vehicle fuel tax is due for the reporting period. Each tax report shall contain a declaration by the person making the same, to the effect that the statements contained therein are true and made under penalties of perjury, which declaration has the same force and effect as a verification of the report and is in lieu of the verification. The report shall show information as the department may require for the proper administration and enforcement of this chapter. Tax reports shall be filed on or before the twenty-fifth day of the next succeeding calendar month following the period to which the reports relate. If the final filing date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday the next secular or business day shall be the final filing date.

The department, if it deems it necessary in order to ensure payment of the tax imposed under this chapter, or to facilitate the administration of this chapter, may require the filing of reports and tax remittances at shorter intervals than one month.

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 12. (I) The tax imposed by this chapter shall be computed by multiplying the tax rate per gallon provided in this chapter by the number of gallons of motor vehicle fuel subject to the motor vehicle fuel tax.

- (2) Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, tax reports shall be accompanied by a remittance payable to the state treasurer covering the tax amount determined to be due for the reporting period.
- (3) If the tax is paid by electronic funds transfer, the tax shall be paid on or before the tenth calendar day of the month that is the second month immediately following the reporting period. When the reporting period is May, the tax shall be paid on the last business day of June.
- (4) The tax shall be paid by electronic funds transfer whenever the amount due is fifty thousand dollars or more.
- (5) A motor vehicle fuel distributor shall remit tax on motor vehicle fuel purchased from a motor vehicle fuel supplier, and due to the state for that reporting period, to the motor vehicle fuel supplier.
- (6) At the election of the distributor, the payment of the motor vehicle fuel tax owed on motor vehicle fuel purchased from a supplier shall be remitted to the supplier on terms agreed upon between the distributor and supplier or no later than two business days before the last business day of the following month. This election shall be subject to a condition that the distributor's remittances of all amounts of motor vehicle fuel tax due to the supplier shall be paid by electronic funds transfer. The distributor's election may be terminated by the supplier if the

distributor does not make timely payments to the supplier as required by this section. This section shall not apply if the distributor is required by the supplier to pay cash or cash equivalent for motor vehicle fuel purchases.

Sec. 13. RCW 82.36.032 and 1987 c 174 s 7 are each amended to read as follows:

If any ((distributor)) licensee files a fraudulent ((monthly gallonage return)) tax report with intent to evade the tax imposed by this chapter, there shall be added to the amount of deficiency determined by the department a penalty equal to twenty-five percent of the deficiency, in addition to all other penalties prescribed by law.

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 14. A motor vehicle fuel supplier shall, no later than the twentieth calendar day or next state business day after the motor vehicle fuel tax is due from a motor vehicle fuel distributor under this chapter, notify the department of the failure of a motor vehicle fuel distributor to pay the full amount of the tax owed.

Upon notification and submission of satisfactory evidence by a motor vehicle fuel supplier that a motor vehicle fuel distributor has failed to pay the full amount of the tax owed, the department may suspend the license of the motor vehicle fuel distributor.

Upon the suspension, the department shall immediately notify all motor vehicle fuel suppliers that the authority of the motor vehicle fuel distributor to purchase tax-deferred motor vehicle fuel has been suspended and all subsequent purchases of motor vehicle fuel by the motor vehicle fuel distributor must be tax-paid at the time of removal.

If, after notification by the department, a motor vehicle fuel supplier continues to sell tax-deferred motor vehicle fuel to a motor vehicle fuel distributor whose license is suspended, the motor vehicle fuel supplier's license is subject to revocation or suspension under RCW 82.36.190. Furthermore, if notified of a license suspension, a motor vehicle fuel supplier is liable for any unpaid motor vehicle fuel tax owed on motor vehicle fuel sold to a suspended motor vehicle fuel distributor.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 15. A motor vehicle fuel supplier is entitled to a credit of the tax paid over to the department on those sales of motor vehicle fuel for which the supplier has received no consideration from or on behalf of the purchaser. The amount of the tax credit shall not exceed the amount of tax imposed by this chapter on such sales. Such credit may be taken on a tax return subsequent to the tax return on which the tax was paid over to the department. If a credit has been granted under this section, any amounts collected for application against accounts on which such a credit is based shall be reported on a subsequent tax return filed after such collection, and the amount of credit received by the supplier based upon the collected amount shall be returned to the department. In the event the credit has not been paid, the amount of the credit requested by the

supplier shall be adjusted by the department to reflect the decrease in the amount on which the claim is based.

- **Sec. 16.** RCW 82.36.045 and 1996 c 104 s 2 are each amended to read as follows:
- (1) If the department determines that the tax reported by a ((motor vehicle fuel distributor)) licensee is deficient, the department shall assess the deficiency on the basis of information available to it, and shall add a penalty of two percent of the amount of the deficiency.
- (2) If a ((distributor, whether licensed or not licensed)) licensee, or person acting as such, fails, neglects, or refuses to file a motor vehicle fuel tax report the department shall, on the basis of information available to it, determine the tax liability of the ((distributor)) licensee or person for the period during which no report was filed. The department shall add the penalty provided in subsection (1) of this section to the tax. An assessment made by the department under this subsection or subsection (1) of this section is presumed to be correct. In any case, where the validity of the assessment is questioned, the burden is on the person who challenges the assessment to establish by a fair preponderance of evidence that it is erroneous or excessive, as the case may be.
- (3) If a ((distributor)) licensee or person acting as such files a false or fraudulent report with intent to evade the tax imposed by this chapter, the department shall add to the amount of deficiency a penalty equal to twenty-five percent of the deficiency, in addition to the penalty provided in subsections (1) and (2) of this section and all other penalties prescribed by law.
- (4) Motor vehicle fuel tax, penalties, and interest payable under this chapter bears interest at the rate of one percent per month, or fraction thereof, from the first day of the calendar month after the amount or any portion of it should have been paid until the date of payment. If a ((distributor)) licensee or person acting as such establishes by a fair preponderance of evidence that the failure to pay the amount of tax due was attributable to reasonable cause and was not intentional or willful, the department may waive the penalty. The department may waive the interest when it determines the cost of processing or collection of the interest exceeds the amount of interest due.
- (5) Except in the case of a fraudulent report, neglect or refusal to make a report, or failure to pay or to pay the proper amount, the department shall assess the deficiency under subsection (1) or (2) of this section within five years from the last day of the succeeding calendar month after the reporting period for which the amount is proposed to be determined or within five years after the return is filed, whichever period expires later.
- (6) Except in the case of violations of filing a false or fraudulent report, if the department deems mitigation of penalties and interest to be reasonable and in the best interest of carrying out the purpose of this chapter, it may mitigate such assessments upon whatever terms the department deems proper, giving consideration to the degree and extent of the lack of records and reporting errors.

The department may ascertain the facts regarding recordkeeping and payment penalties in lieu of more elaborate proceedings under this chapter.

(7) A ((distributor)) licensee or person acting as such against whom an assessment is made under subsection (1) or (2) of this section may petition for a reassessment within thirty days after service upon the ((distributor)) licensee of notice of the assessment. If the petition is not filed within the thirty-day period, the amount of the assessment becomes final at the expiration of that period.

If a petition for reassessment is filed within the thirty-day period, the department shall reconsider the assessment and, if the ((distributor)) petitioner has so requested in its petition, shall grant the ((distributor)) petitioner an oral hearing and give the ((distributor)) petitioner twenty days' notice of the time and place of the hearing. The department may continue the hearing from time to time. The decision of the department upon a petition for reassessment becomes final thirty days after service of notice upon the ((distributor)) petitioner.

An assessment made by the department becomes due and payable when it becomes final. If it is not paid to the department when due and payable, the department shall add a penalty of ten percent of the amount of the tax.

- (8) In a suit brought to enforce the rights of the state under this chapter, the assessment showing the amount of taxes, penalties, interest, and cost unpaid to the state is prima facie evidence of the facts as shown.
- (9) A notice of assessment required by this section must be served personally or by <u>certified or registered</u> mail. If it is served by mail, service shall be made by deposit of the notice in the United States mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the ((distributor)) respondent at the most current address furnished to the department.
- (10) The tax ((required)) imposed by this chapter, if required to be collected by the seller, is held in trust by the ((seller)) licensee until paid to the department, and a ((seller)) licensee who appropriates or converts the tax collected to his or her own use or to any use other than the payment of the tax to the extent that the money required to be collected is not available for payment on the due date as prescribed in this chapter is guilty of a felony, or gross misdemeanor in accordance with the theft and anticipatory provisions of Title 9A RCW. A person, partnership, corporation, or corporate officer who fails to collect the tax imposed by this section, or who has collected the tax and fails to pay it to the department in the manner prescribed by this chapter, is personally liable to the state for the amount of the tax.

Sec. 17. RCW 82.36.047 and 1991 c 339 s 4 are each amended to read as follows:

When an assessment becomes final in accordance with this chapter, the department may file with the clerk of any county within the state a warrant in the amount of the assessment of taxes, penalties, interest, and a filing fee of five dollars. The clerk of the county in which the warrant is filed shall immediately designate a superior court cause number for the warrant, and the clerk shall cause to be entered in the judgment docket under the superior court cause number assigned to the warrant the name of the ((distributor)) licensee or person

mentioned in the warrant, the amount of the tax, penalties, interest, and filing fee, and the date when the warrant was filed. The aggregate amount of the warrant as docketed becomes a lien upon the title to and interest in all real and personal property of the named person against whom the warrant is issued, the same as a judgment in a civil case duly docketed in the office of the clerk. The warrant so docketed is sufficient to support the issuance of writs of execution and writs of garnishment in favor of the state in the manner provided by law in the case of a civil judgment, wholly or partially unsatisfied. The clerk of the court is entitled to a filing fee of five dollars.

Sec. 18. RCW 82.36.060 and 1996 c 104 s 3 are each amended to read as follows:

((Every person, before becoming a distributor or continuing in business as a distributor, shall make)) (1) An application ((to the department)) for a license ((authorizing the applicant to engage in business as a distributor. Applications for such licenses)) issued under this chapter shall be made to the department on forms to be furnished by the department and shall contain such information as the department deems necessary.

- (2) Every application for a ((distributor's)) license must contain the following information to the extent it applies to the applicant:
- (((1))) (a) Proof as the department may require concerning the applicant's identity, including but not limited to his or her fingerprints or those of the officers of a corporation making the application;
- (((2))) (b) The applicant's form and place of organization including proof that the individual, partnership, or corporation is licensed to do business in this state;
- $((\frac{3}{2}))$ (c) The qualification and business history of the applicant and any partner, officer, or director;
- (((4))) (d) The applicant's financial condition or history including a bank reference and whether the applicant or any partner, officer, or director has ever been adjudged bankrupt or has an unsatisfied judgment in a federal or state court;
- (((5))) (e) Whether the applicant has been adjudged guilty of a crime that directly relates to the business for which the license is sought and the time elapsed since the conviction is less than ten years, or has suffered a judgment within the preceding five years in a civil action involving fraud, misrepresentation, or conversion and in the case of a corporation or partnership, all directors, officers, or partners.
- (3) An applicant for a license as a motor vehicle fuel importer must list on the application each state, province, or country from which the applicant intends to import motor vehicle fuel and, if required by the state, province, or country listed, must be licensed or registered for motor vehicle fuel tax purposes in that state, province, or country.
- (4) An applicant for a license as a motor vehicle fuel exporter must list on the application each state, province, or country to which the exporter intends to export motor vehicle fuel received in this state by means of a transfer outside of the bulk transfer-terminal system and, if required by the state, province, or

country listed, must be licensed or registered for motor vehicle fuel tax purposes in that state, province, or country.

- (5) An applicant for a license as a motor vehicle fuel supplier must have a federal certificate of registry that is issued under the internal revenue code and authorizes the applicant to enter into federal tax-free transactions on motor vehicle fuel in the terminal transfer system.
- (6) After receipt of an application for a license, the director may conduct an investigation to determine whether the facts set forth are true. The director ((may)) shall require a fingerprint record check of the applicant through the Washington state patrol criminal identification system and the federal bureau of investigation before issuance of a license. The results of the background investigation including criminal history information may be released to authorized department personnel as the director deems necessary. The department shall charge a license holder or license applicant a fee of fifty dollars for each background investigation conducted.

An applicant who makes a false statement of a material fact on the application may be prosecuted for false swearing as defined by RCW 9A.72.010.

Before granting any license ((authorizing any person to engage in business as a distributor)) issued under this chapter, the department shall require applicant to file with the department, in such form as shall be prescribed by the department, a corporate surety bond duly executed by the applicant as principal, payable to the state and conditioned for faithful performance of all the requirements of this chapter, including the payment of all taxes, penalties, and other obligations arising out of this chapter. The total amount of the bond or bonds((, required of any-distributor)) shall be fixed by the department and may be increased or reduced by the department at any time subject to the limitations herein provided. In fixing the total amount of the bond or bonds ((required of any distributor)), the department shall require a bond or bonds equivalent in total amount to twice the estimated monthly excise tax determined in such manner as the department may deem proper. If at any time the estimated excise tax to become due during the succeeding month amounts to more than fifty percent of the established bond, the department shall require additional bonds or securities to maintain the marginal ratio herein specified or shall demand excise tax payments to be made weekly or semimonthly to meet the requirements hereof.

The total amount of the bond or bonds required of any ((distributor)) licensee shall never be less than five thousand dollars nor more than ((fifty)) one hundred thousand dollars.

No recoveries on any bond or the execution of any new bond shall invalidate any bond and no revocation of any license shall effect the validity of any bond but the total recoveries under any one bond shall not exceed the amount of the bond.

In lieu of any such bond or bonds in total amount as herein fixed, a ((distributor)) licensee may deposit with the state treasurer, under such terms and conditions as the department may prescribe, a like amount of lawful money of the United States or bonds or other obligations of the United States, the state, or any

county of the state, of an actual market value not less than the amount so fixed by the department.

Any surety on a bond furnished by a ((distributor)) licensee as provided herein shall be released and discharged from any and all liability to the state accruing on such bond after the expiration of thirty days from the date upon which such surety has lodged with the department a written request to be released and discharged, but this provision shall not operate to relieve, release, or discharge the surety from any liability already accrued or which shall accrue before the expiration of the thirty day period. The department shall promptly, upon receiving any such request, notify the ((distributor)) licensee who furnished the bond; and unless the ((distributor)) licensee, on or before the expiration of the thirty day period, files a new bond, or makes a deposit in accordance with the requirements of this section, the department shall forthwith cancel the ((distributor's)) licensee, the department shall cancel ((his or her)) the old bond as soon as the department and the attorney general are satisfied that all liability under the old bond has been fully discharged.

The department may require a ((distributor)) licensee to give a new or additional surety bond or to deposit additional securities of the character specified in this section if, in its opinion, the security of the surety bond theretofore filed by such ((distributor)) licensee, or the market value of the properties deposited as security by the ((distributor)) licensee, shall become impaired or inadequate; and upon the failure of the ((distributor)) licensee to give such new or additional surety bond or to deposit additional securities within thirty days after being requested so to do by the department, the department shall forthwith cancel his or her license.

Sec. 19. RCW 82.36.070 and 1996 c 104 s 4 are each amended to read as follows:

The application in proper form having been accepted for filing, the filing fee paid, and the bond or other security having been accepted and approved, the department shall issue to the applicant ((a)) the appropriate license ((to transact business as a distributor in the state)), and such license shall be valid until canceled or revoked.

The license so issued by the department shall not be assignable, and shall be valid only for the ((distributor)) person in whose name issued.

((The department shall-keep and file all applications and bonds with an alphabetical index thereof, together with a record of all licensed distributors.))

Each ((distributor)) licensee shall be assigned a license number ((upon qualifying for a license hereunder)), and the department shall issue to each ((such)) licensee a license certificate which shall be displayed conspicuously ((by the distributor)) at his or her principal place of business. The department may refuse to issue or may revoke a motor vehicle fuel ((distributor)) license, to a person:

- (1) Who formerly held a motor vehicle fuel ((distributor's)) license that, before the time of filing for application, has been revoked or canceled for cause;
- (2) Who is a subterfuge for the real party in interest whose license has been revoked or canceled for cause;
- (3) Who, as an individual licensee or officer, director, owner, or managing employee of a nonindividual licensee, has had a motor vehicle fuel ((distributor)) license revoked or canceled for cause;
- (4) Who has an unsatisfied debt to the state assessed under either chapter 82.36, ((82.37,)) 82.38, 82.42, or 46.87 RCW;
- (5) Who formerly held as an individual, officer, director, owner, managing employee of a nonindividual licensee, or subterfuge for a real party in interest, a license issued by the federal government or a state that allowed a person to buy or sell untaxed motor vehicle or special fuel, which license, before the time of filing for application, has been revoked for cause;
- (6) Who pled guilty to or was convicted as an individual, corporate officer, director, owner, or managing employee in this or any other state or in any federal jurisdiction of a gross misdemeanor or felony crime directly related to the business or has been subject to a civil judgment involving fraud, misrepresentation, conversion, or dishonesty, notwithstanding chapter 9.96A RCW:
- (7) Who misrepresented or concealed a material fact in obtaining a license or in reinstatement thereof;
- (8) Who violated a statute or administrative rule regulating fuel taxation or distribution:
 - (9) Who failed to cooperate with the department's investigations by:
 - (a) Not furnishing papers or documents;
- (b) Not furnishing in writing a full and complete explanation regarding a matter under investigation by the department; or
- (c) Not responding to subpoenas issued by the department, whether or not the recipient of the subpoena is the subject of the proceeding;
 - (10) Who failed to comply with an order issued by the director; or
 - (11) Upon other sufficient cause being shown.

Before such a refusal or revocation, the department shall grant the applicant a hearing and shall give the applicant at least twenty days' written notice of the time and place of the hearing.

For the purpose of considering an application for a ((distributor's)) license issued under this chapter, the department may inspect, cause an inspection, investigate, or cause an investigation of the records of this or any other state or of the federal government to ascertain the veracity of the information on the application form and the applicant's criminal and licensing history.

The department may, in the exercise of reasonable discretion, suspend a motor vehicle ((distributor)) <u>fuel</u> license at any time before and pending such a hearing for unpaid taxes or reasonable cause.

- **Sec. 20.** RCW 82.36.080 and 1961 c 15 s 82.36.080 are each amended to read as follows:
- (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to ((be a distributor without first securing a license from the director)) engage in business in this state as any of the following unless the person is the holder of an uncanceled license issued by the department authorizing the person to engage in that business:
 - (a) Motor vehicle fuel supplier;
 - (b) Motor vehicle fuel distributor;
 - (c) Motor vehicle fuel exporter;
 - (d) Motor vehicle fuel importer; or
 - (e) Motor vehicle fuel blender,
- (2) A person engaged in more than one activity for which a license is required must have a separate license classification for each activity, but a motor vehicle fuel supplier is not required to obtain a separate license classification for any other activity for which a license is required.
- (3) If any person ((becomes)) acts as a ((distributor)) licensee without first securing the license required herein the excise tax shall be immediately due and payable on account of all motor vehicle fuel distributed or used by ((him)) the person. The director shall proceed forthwith to determine from the best available sources, the amount of the tax, and ((he)) the director shall immediately assess the tax in the amount found due, together with a penalty of one hundred percent of the tax, and shall make ((his)) a certificate of such assessment and penalty. In any suit or proceeding to collect the tax or penalty, or both, such certificate shall be prima facie evidence that the person therein named is indebted to the state in the amount of the tax and penalty therein stated. Any tax or penalty so assessed may be collected in the manner prescribed in this chapter with reference to delinquency in payment of the tax or by an action at law, which the attorney general shall commence and prosecute to final determination at the request of the director. The foregoing remedies of the state shall be cumulative and no action taken pursuant to this section shall relieve any person from the penal provisions of this chapter.
- **Sec. 21.** RCW 82.36.090 and 1967 c 153 s 2 are each amended to read as follows:

((Whenever a distributor)) A licensee who ceases to engage in business ((as a distributor)) within the state by reason of the discontinuance, sale, or transfer of ((his)) the business((; he)) shall notify the director in writing at the time the discontinuance, sale, or transfer takes effect. Such notice shall give the date of discontinuance, and, in the event of a sale or transfer of the business, the date thereof and the name and address of the purchaser or transferee thereof. All taxes, penalties, and interest under this chapter, not yet due and payable, shall become due and payable concurrently with such discontinuance, sale, or transfer, and any such ((distributor)) licensee shall make a report and pay all such taxes, interest, and penalties, and surrender to the director the license certificate theretofore issued to him or her.

If an overpayment of tax was made by the ((distributor)) licensee, prior to the discontinuance or transfer of his or her business, such overpayment may be refunded to such ((distributor or may be credited to the transferce of such business if such transferce qualifies as a distributor under the provisions of this chapter)) licensee.

Sec. 22. RCW 82.36.100 and 1983 1st ex.s. c 49 s 28 are each amended to read as follows:

Every person other than a ((distributor)) licensee who acquires any motor vehicle fuel within this state upon which payment of tax is required under the provisions of this chapter, or imports such motor vehicle fuel into this state and sells, distributes, or in any manner uses it in this state shall, if the tax has not been paid, apply for a license to carry on such activities, ((file-bond, make reports;)) comply with all ((regulations)) the ((director-may-prescribe in respect thereto)) provisions of this chapter, and pay an excise tax at the rate computed in the manner provided in RCW 82.36.025 for each gallon thereof so sold, distributed. or used during the fiscal year for which such rate is applicable ((in the manner provided for distributors, and the director shall issue a license to such person in the manner provided for issuance of licenses to distributors)). The proceeds of the tax imposed by this section shall be distributed in the manner provided for the distribution of the motor vehicle fuel excise tax in RCW 82.36.020. ((However. a distributor-licensed under this chapter may deliver motor vehicle fuel to an importer in individual quantities of five hundred gallons or less and assume the liability for payment of the tax to this state. Under such conditions, the importer is exempt from the requirements of this section.)) For failure to comply with this chapter such person is subject to the same penalties imposed upon ((distributors)) licensees. The director shall pursue against such persons the same procedure and remedies for audits, adjustments, collection, and enforcement of this chapter as is provided with respect to ((distributors)) licensees. Nothing in this section may be construed as classifying such persons as ((distributors)) licensees.

Sec. 23. RCW 82.36.120 and 1994 c 262 s 21 are each amended to read as follows:

If a ((distributor)) licensee is delinquent in the payment of an obligation imposed under this chapter, the department may give notice of the amount of the delinquency by registered or certified mail to all persons having in their possession or under their control any credits or other personal property belonging to such ((distributor)) licensee, or owing any debts to such ((distributor)) licensee at the time of receipt by them of such notice. Upon service, the notice and order to withhold and deliver constitutes a continuing lien on property of the taxpayer. The department shall include in the caption of the notice to withhold and deliver "continuing lien." The effective date of a notice to withhold and deliver served under this section is the date of service of the notice. A person so notified shall neither transfer nor make any other disposition of such credits, personal property, or debts until the department consents to a transfer or other disposition. All

persons so notified must, within twenty days after receipt of the notice, advise the department of any and all such credits, personal property, or debts in their possession, under their control or owing by them, as the case may be, and shall deliver upon demand the credits, personal property, or debts to the department or its duly authorized representative to be applied to the indebtedness involved.

If a person fails to answer the notice within the time prescribed by this section, it is lawful for the court, upon application of the department and after the time to answer the notice has expired, to render judgment by default against the person for the full amount claimed by the department in the notice to withhold and deliver, together with costs.

Sec. 24. RCW 82.36.130 and 1961 c 15 s 82.36.130 are each amended to read as follows:

If any ((distributor)) licensee is in default for more than ten days in the payment of any excise taxes or penalties thereon, the director shall issue a warrant under the official seal of ((his)) the director's office directed to the sheriff of any county of the state commanding him or her to levy upon and sell the goods and chattels of the ((distributor)) licensee, without exemption, found within his or her jurisdiction, for the payment of the amount of such delinquency, with the added penalties and interest and the cost of executing the warrant, and to return such warrant to the director and to pay the director the money collected by virtue thereof within the time to be therein specified, which shall not be less than twenty nor more than sixty days from the date of the warrant. The sheriff to whom the warrant is directed shall proceed upon it in all respects and with like effect and in the same manner as prescribed by law in respect to executions issued against goods and chattels upon judgment by a court of record and shall be entitled to the same fees for his or her services to be collected in the same manner.

Sec. 25. RCW 82.36.140 and 1961 c 15 s 82.36.140 are each amended to read as follows:

In a suit or action by the state on any bond filed with the director recovery thereon may be had without first having sought or exhausted its remedy against the ((distributor)) licensee; nor shall the fact that the state has pursued, or is in the course of pursuing, any remedy against the ((distributor)) licensee waive its right to collect the taxes, penalties, and interest by proceeding against such bond or against any deposit of money or securities made by the ((distributor)) licensee.

Sec. 26. RCW 82.36.150 and 1965 ex.s. c 79 s 5 are each amended to read as follows:

Every ((distributor)) licensee shall keep a true and accurate record on such form as the director may prescribe of all stock of petroleum products on hand, of all raw gasoline, gasoline stock, diesel oil, kerosene, kerosene distillates, casinghead gasoline and other petroleum products needed in, or which may be used in, compounding, blending, or manufacturing motor vehicle fuel; of the amount of crude oil refined, the gravity thereof and the yield therefrom, as well as of such other matters relating to transactions in petroleum products as the director may

require. Every ((distributor)) licensee shall take a physical inventory of the petroleum products at least once during each calendar month and have the record of such inventory and of the other matters mentioned in this section available at all times for the inspection of the director. Upon demand of the director every ((distributor)) licensee shall furnish a statement under oath as to the contents of any records to be kept hereunder.

((Every producer shall keep a true and accurate record in such form as may be prescribed by the director of all manufacture and distribution of easing-head gasoline, kerosene distillates and other petroleum products used in, or which may be used in, the blending, compounding, or manufacturing of motor vehicle fuel, and every broker shall likewise keep a true and accurate record of all purchases of such petroleum products in such manner as to disclore the vendor, the quantity purchased, the correct description of the commodity, and the means of transportation from such broker to the vendee. All records required by this section shall be available at all times for the inspection of the director or his representative who may require a statement under oath as to contents thereof.))

Sec. 27. RCW 82.36.160 and 1996 c 104 s 5 are each amended to read as follows:

Every ((distributor)) licensee shall maintain in the office of his or her principal place of business in this state, for a period of five years, records of motor vehicle fuel received, sold, distributed, or used by the ((distributor)) licensee, in such form as the director may prescribe, together with invoices, bills of lading, and other pertinent papers as may be required under the provisions of this chapter.

Every dealer purchasing motor vehicle fuel taxable under this chapter for the purpose of resale, shall maintain within this state, for a period of two years a record of motor vehicle fuels received, the amount of tax paid to the ((distributor)) licensee as part of the purchase price, together with delivery tickets, invoices, and bills of lading, and such other records as the director shall require.

Sec. 28. RCW 82.36.170 and 1961 c 15 s 82.36.170 are each amended to read as follows:

The director may, from time to time, require additional reports from ((distributors, brokers, dealers, or producers)) any licensee with reference to any of the matters herein concerned. Such reports shall be made and filed on forms prepared by the director.

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 29. The department may require a person other than a licensee engaged in the business of selling, purchasing, distributing, storing, transporting, or delivering motor vehicle fuel to submit periodic reports to the department regarding the disposition of the fuel. The reports must be on forms prescribed by the department and must contain such information as the department may require.

Sec. 30. RCW 82.36.180 and 1967 ex.s. c 89 s 6 are each amended to read as follows:

The director, or ((his)) duly authorized agents, may make such examinations of the records, stocks, facilities, and equipment of ((distributors, producers, brokers)) any licensee, and service stations, and such other investigations as ((he may deem)) deemed necessary in carrying out the provisions of this chapter. If such examinations or investigations disclose that any reports of ((distributors of motor vehicle fuel)) licensees theretofore filed with the director pursuant to the requirements of this chapter have shown incorrectly the gallonage of motor vehicle fuel distributed or the tax accruing thereon, the director may make such changes in subsequent reports and payments of such ((distributors)) licensees as ((he may deem)) deemed necessary to correct the errors disclosed.

Every such ((distributor)) licensee or such other person not maintaining records in this state so that an audit of such records may be made by the director or ((his)) a duly authorized representative shall be required to make the necessary records available to the director ((at-his)) upon request and at ((his)) a designated office within this state; or, in lieu thereof, the director or ((his)) a duly authorized representative shall proceed to any out-of-state office at which the records are prepared and maintained to make such examination.

Sec. 31. RCW 82.36.190 and 1990 c 250 s 80 are each amended to read as follows:

The department shall <u>suspend or</u> revoke the license of any ((distributor)) <u>licensee</u> refusing or neglecting to comply with any provision of this chapter. The department shall mail by registered mail addressed to such ((distributor)) <u>licensee</u> at ((his)) <u>the</u> last known address a notice of intention to cancel, which notice shall give the reason for cancellation. The cancellation shall become effective without further notice if within ten days from the mailing of the notice the ((distributor)) <u>licensee</u> has not made good his <u>or her</u> default or delinquency.

The department may cancel any license issued to any ((distributor)) licensee, such cancellation to become effective sixty days from the date of receipt of the written request of such ((distributor)) licensee for cancellation thereof, and the department may cancel the license of any ((distributor)) licensee upon investigation and sixty days notice mailed to the last known address of such ((distributor)) licensee if the department ascertains and finds that the person to whom the license was issued is no longer engaged in ((the)) business ((of a distributor)), and has not been so engaged for the period of six months prior to such cancellation. No license shall be canceled upon the request of any ((distributor)) licensee unless the ((distributor)) licensee, prior to the date of such cancellation, pays to the state all taxes imposed by the provisions of this chapter, together with all penalties accruing by reason of any failure on the part of the ((distributor)) licensee to make accurate reports or pay said taxes and penalties.

In the event the license of any ((distributor)) licensee is canceled, and in the further event that the ((distributor)) licensee pays to the state all excise taxes due and payable by him or her upon the receipt, sale, or use of motor vehicle fuel, together with any and all penalties accruing by reason of any failure on the part of the ((distributor)) licensee to make accurate reports or pay said taxes and

penalties, the department shall cancel the bond filed by the ((distributor)) licensee.

Sec. 32. RCW 82.36.200 and 1965 ex.s. c 79 s 7 are each amended to read as follows:

The director or ((his)) authorized agents may at any time during normal business hours examine the records, stocks, facilities and equipment of any person engaged in the transportation of motor vehicle fuel within the state of Washington for the purpose of checking shipments or use of motor vehicle fuel, detecting diversions thereof or evasion of taxes on same in enforcing the provisions of this chapter.

Sec. 33. RCW 82.36.210 and 1965 ex.s. c 79 s 8 are each amended to read as follows:

Every person operating any conveyance for the purpose of hauling, transporting or delivering motor vehicle fuel in bulk ((to points in this state from any point without this state)), shall ((before entering upon the public highways of this state with such conveyance;)) have and possess during the entire time they are hauling motor vehicle fuel, an invoice, bill of sale, or other statement showing the ((true)) name ((and)), address, and license number of the seller or consignor, the destination, name, and address of the purchaser or consignee, license number, if ((any)) applicable, and the number of gallons. The person hauling such motor vehicle fuel shall at the request of any ((sheriff, deputy sheriff, constable, highway patrolman)) law enforcement officer, or authorized representative of the department, or other person authorized by law to inquire into, or investigate said matters, produce ((and offer)) for inspection such invoice, bill of sale, or other statement and shall permit such official to inspect and gauge the contents of the vehicle. ((If the hauler fails to produce the invoice, bill of sale, or other statement, or if when produced it fails to disclose the aforesaid information, the officer or other person authorized to make inquiry, shall take and impound the motor-vehicle fuel together with the conveying equipment until the tax-on-the motor vehicle fuel, together with penalty equal to one hundred percent of the tax, and other expenses, charges, and costs have been paid. In case of default, and the taking and impounding herein provided for, the tax, damages, and costs shall be collected, even though the full excise tax may have already been paid on the motor vehicle fuel. In case the tax, damages and other charges are not paid within forty-eight hours after the taking of said property, the director may proceed to sell it in the mode and manner provided by law for the sale of personal property under execution:))

Sec. 34. RCW 82.36.230 and 1993 c 54 s 4 are each amended to read as follows:

The provisions of this chapter requiring the payment of taxes do not apply to motor vehicle fuel imported into the state in interstate or foreign commerce and intended to be sold while in interstate or foreign commerce, nor to motor vehicle fuel exported from this state by a ((qualified distributor)) licensee nor to any

motor vehicle fuel sold by a ((qualified distributor)) licensee to the armed forces of the United States or to the national guard for use exclusively in ships or for export from this state. The ((distributor)) licensee shall report such imports, exports and sales to the department at such times, on such forms, and in such detail as the department may require, otherwise the exemption granted in this section is null and void, and all fuel shall be considered distributed in this state fully subject to the provisions of this chapter. Each invoice covering exempt sales shall have the statement "Ex Washington Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax" clearly marked thereon.

To claim any exemption from taxes under this section on account of sales by a ((licensed distributor)) licensee of motor vehicle fuel for export, the purchaser shall obtain from the selling ((distributor)) licensee, and such selling ((distributor)) licensee must furnish the purchaser, an invoice giving such details of the sale for export as the department may require, copies of which shall be furnished the department and the entity of the state or foreign jurisdiction of destination which is charged by the laws of that state or foreign jurisdiction with the control or monitoring, or both, of the sales or movement of motor vehicle fuel in that state or foreign jurisdiction. For the purposes of this section, motor vehicle fuel distributed to a federally recognized Indian tribal reservation located within the state of Washington is not considered exported outside this state.

To claim any ((exemption from taxes under this section)) refund of taxes previously paid on account of sales of motor vehicle fuel to the armed forces of the United States or to the national guard, the ((distributor)) licensee shall be required to execute an exemption certificate in such form as shall be furnished by the department, containing a certified statement by an authorized officer of the armed forces having actual knowledge of the purpose for which the exemption is claimed. ((Any claim for exemption based on such sales shall be made by the distributor within six months of the date of sale.)) The provisions of this section exempting motor vehicle fuel sold to the armed forces of the United States or to the national guard from the tax imposed hereunder do not apply to any motor vehicle fuel sold to contractors purchasing such fuel either for their own account or as the agents of the United States or the national guard for use in the performance of contracts with the armed forces of the United States or the national guard.

The department may at any time require of any ((distributor)) licensee any information the department deems necessary to determine the validity of the claimed exemption, and failure to supply such data will constitute a waiver of all right to the exemption claimed. The department is hereby empowered with full authority to promulgate rules and regulations and to prescribe forms to be used by ((distributors)) licensees in reporting to the department so as to prevent evasion of the tax imposed by this chapter.

Upon request from the officials to whom are entrusted the enforcement of the motor <u>vehicle</u> fuel tax law of any other state, the District of Columbia, the United States, its territories and possessions, the provinces, or the Dominion of Canada,

the department may forward to such officials any information which the department may have relative to the import or export of any motor vehicle fuel by any ((distributor)) licensee: PROVIDED, That such governmental unit furnish like information to this state.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 35. A licensee, other than a motor vehicle fuel exporter, is entitled to a refund of motor vehicle fuel tax previously paid on motor vehicle fuel which is purchased from the licensee by a person who is exempt from payment of the motor vehicle fuel tax imposed by this chapter. Application for the refund shall be accompanied by an invoice or proof satisfactory to the department documenting each sale wherein the purchaser was exempt the motor vehicle fuel tax. Claims for refunds shall be made under this chapter.

Sec. 36. RCW 82.36.280 and 1993 c 141 s 1 are each amended to read as follows:

Any person who uses any motor vehicle fuel for the purpose of operating any internal combustion engine not used on or in conjunction with any motor vehicle licensed to be operated over and along any of the public highways, and as the motive power thereof, upon which motor vehicle fuel excise tax has been paid, shall be entitled to and shall receive a refund of the amount of the motor vehicle fuel excise tax paid on each gallon of motor vehicle fuel so used, whether such motor vehicle excise tax has been paid either directly to the vendor from whorn the motor vehicle fuel was purchased or indirectly by adding the amount of such excise tax to the price of such fuel. No refund shall be made for motor vehicle fuel consumed by any motor vehicle as herein defined that is required to be registered and licensed as provided in chapter 46.16 RCW; and is operated over and along any public highway except that a refund shall be allowed for motor vehicle fuel consumed:

- (1) In a motor vehicle owned by the United States that is operated off the public highways for official use;
- (2) By auxiliary equipment not used for motive power, provided such consumption is accurately measured by a metering device that has been specifically approved by the department or is established by either of the following formulae:
- (a) For fuel used in pumping fuel or heating oils by a power take-off unit on a delivery truck, refund shall be allowed claimant for tax paid on fuel purchased at the rate of three-fourths of one gallon for each one thousand gallons of fuel delivered: PROVIDED, That claimant when presenting his <u>or her</u> claim to the department in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, shall provide to said claim, invoices of fuel oil delivered, or such other appropriate information as may be required by the department to substantiate his <u>or her</u> claim; or
- (b) For fuel used in operating a power take-off unit on a cement mixer truck or load compactor on a garbage truck, claimant shall be allowed a refund of twenty-five percent of the tax paid on all fuel used in such a truck; and

- (c) The department is authorized to establish by rule additional formulae for determining fuel usage when operating other types of equipment by means of power take-off units when direct measurement of the fuel used is not feasible. The department is also authorized to adopt rules regarding the usage of on board computers for the production of records required by this chapter((; and
- ——(3) Before December 31, 1992, in a commercial vehicle as defined in RCW 46.04.140 or a farm vehicle as defined in RCW 46.04.181, if the motor vehicle fuel consumed contains nine and one-half percent or more by volume of alcohol and the commercial vehicle or farm vehicle is operated off the public highways of this state)).

Sec. 37. RCW 82.36.300 and 1963 ex.s. c 22 s 21 are each amended to read as follows:

Every person who shall export any motor vehicle fuel for use outside of this state and who has paid the motor vehicle fuel excise tax upon such motor vehicle fuel shall be entitled to and shall receive a refund of the amount of the motor vehicle fuel excise tax paid on each gallon of motor vehicle fuel so exported. For the purposes of this section, motor vehicle fuel distributed to a federally recognized Indian tribal reservation located within the state of Washington is not considered exported outside this state.

Sec. 38. RCW 82.36.310 and 1995 c 318 s 3 are each amended to read as follows:

Any person claiming a refund for motor vehicle fuel used or exported as in this chapter provided shall not be entitled to receive such refund until he presents to the director a claim upon forms to be provided by the director with such information as the director shall require, which claim to be valid shall in all cases be accompanied by the ((original)) invoice or invoices issued to the claimant at the time of the purchases of the motor vehicle fuel, approved as to invoice form by the director((:-PROVIDED, That in the event of the loss or destruction of the original invoice or invoices, the person claiming a refund may submit in lieu thereof a duplicate copy of such invoice certified by the vendor, but no payment of refund based upon such duplicate invoice shall be made until after expiration of such statutory period specified in RCW 82.36.330 for filing of refund applications)). The requirement to provide invoices may be waived for small refund amounts, as determined by the department. Claims for refund of motor vehicle fuel tax must be at least twenty dollars.

Any person claiming refund by reason of exportation of motor vehicle fuel shall in addition to the invoices required furnish to the director the export certificate therefor, and the signature on the exportation certificate shall be certified by a notary public. In all cases the claim shall be signed by the person claiming the refund, if it is a corporation, by some proper officer of the corporation, or if it is a limited liability company, by some proper manager or member of the limited liability company.

Sec. 39. RCW 82.36.330 and 1971 ex.s. c 180 s 9 are each amended to read as follows:

Upon the approval of the director of the claim for refund, the state treasurer shall draw a warrant upon the state treasury for the amount of the claim in favor of the person making such claim and the warrant shall be paid from the excise tax collected on motor vehicle fuel: PROVIDED, That the state treasurer shall deduct from each marine use refund claim an amount equivalent to one cent per gallon and shall deposit the same in the coastal protection fund created by RCW 90.48.390. Applications for refunds of excise tax shall be filed in the office of the director not later than the close of the last business day of a period thirteen months from the date of purchase of such motor fuel, and if not filed within this period the right to refund shall be forever barred, except that such limitation shall not apply to claims for loss or destruction of motor vehicle fuel as provided by the provisions of RCW 82.36.370. The department shall pay interest of one percent on any refund payable under this chapter that is issued more than thirty state business days after the receipt of a claim properly filed and completed in accordance with this section. After the end of the thirty business-day period. additional interest shall accrue at the rate of one percent on the amount payable for each thirty calendar-day period, until the refund is issued. Any person or the member of any firm or the officer or agent of any corporation who makes any false statement in any claim required for the refund of excise tax, as provided in this chapter, or who collects or causes to be repaid to him or to any other person any such refund without being entitled to the same under the provisions of this chapter shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

Sec. 40. RCW 82.36.335 and 1997 c 183 s 8 are each amended to read as follows:

in lieu of the collection and refund of the tax on motor vehicle fuel used by a ((distributor)) licensee in such a manner as would entitle a purchaser to claim refund under this chapter, credit may be given the ((distributor)) licensee upon the ((distributor's)) licensee's tax return in the determination of the amount of the ((distributor's)) licensee's tax. Payment credits shall not be carried forward and applied to subsequent tax returns.

Sec. 41. RCW 82.36.350 and 1961 c 15 s 82.36.350 are each amended to read as follows:

If upon investigation the director determines that any claim has been supported by an invoice or invoices fraudulently made or altered in any manner to support the claim, ((he)) the director may suspend the pending and all further refunds to any such person making the claim for a period not to exceed one year.

- Sec. 42. RCW 82.36.370 and 1967 c 153 s 5 are each amended to read as follows:
- (1) A refund shall be made in the manner provided in this chapter or a credit given allowing for the excise tax paid or accrued on all motor vehicle fuel which

is lost or destroyed, while applicant shall be the owner thereof, through fire, lightning, flood, wind storm, or explosion.

- (2) A refund shall be made in the manner provided in this chapter or a credit given allowing for the excise tax paid or accrued on all motor vehicle fuel of five hundred gallons or more which is lost or destroyed, while applicant shall be the owner thereof, through leakage or other casualty except evaporation, shrinkage or unknown causes: PROVIDED, That the director shall be notified in writing as to the full circumstances surrounding such loss or destruction and the amount of the loss or destruction within thirty days from the day of discovery of such loss or destruction.
- (3) Recovery for such loss or destruction under either subsection (1) or (2) must be susceptible to positive proof thereby enabling the director to conduct such investigation and require such information as ((he)) the director may deem necessary.

In the event that the director is not satisfied that the fuel was lost or destroyed as claimed, wherefore required information or proof as required hereunder is not sufficient to substantiate the accuracy of the claim, ((he)) the director may deem as sufficient cause the denial of all right relating to the refund or credit for the excise tax on motor vehicle fuel alleged to be lost or destroyed.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 43. A motor vehicle fuel distributor, motor vehicle fuel importer, or motor vehicle fuel blender, under rules adopted by the department, is entitled to a refund of the tax paid on those sales of motor vehicle fuel for which no consideration has been received from or on hehalf of the purchaser and that has been declared to be worthless accounts receivable. The amount of tax refunded must not exceed the amount of tax paid by the motor vehicle fuel distributor, motor vehicle fuel importer, or motor vehicle fuel blender under this chapter. If the motor vehicle fuel distributor, motor vehicle fuel importer, or motor vehicle fuel blender suhsequently collects any amount from the account declared worthless, the amount collected shall be apportioned between the charges for the fuel and tax thereon. The motor vehicle fuel tax collected must he returned to the department.

Sec. 44. RCW 82.36.375 and 1965 ex.s. c 79 s 16 are each amended to read as follows:

Unless otherwise provided, any credit for erroneous overpayment of tax made by a ((distributor)) licensee to be taken on a subsequent return or any claim of refund for tax erroneously overpaid by a ((distributor)) licensee, pursuant to the provisions of RCW 82.36.090, must be so taken within ((three)) five years after the date on which the overpayment was made to the state. Failure to take such credit or claim such refund within the time prescribed in this section shall constitute waiver of any and all demands against this state on account of overpayment hereunder.

Except in the case of a fraudulent report or neglect or refusal to make a report every notice of additional tax, penalty or interest assessed hereunder shall be

served on the ((distributor)) <u>licensee</u> within ((three)) <u>five</u> years from the date upon which such additional taxes became due.

Sec. 45. RCW 82.36.390 and 1996 c 104 s 6 are each amended to read as follows:

Any person who((-through false statement, trick, or device, or otherwise,)) obtains motor vehicle fuel for export and fails to export the same or any portion thereof, or causes such motor vehicle fuel or any thereof not to be exported, or who diverts said motor vehicle fuel or any thereof or who causes it to be diverted from interstate or foreign transit begun in this state, or who unlawfully returns such fuel or any thereof to this state and sells or uses it or any thereof in this state or causes it or any thereof to be used or sold in this state and fails to notify the ((distributor)) licensee from whom such motor vehicle fuel was originally purchased ((of his or her act)), and any ((distributor)) licensee or ((other)) person who conspires with any person to withhold from export, or divert from interstate or foreign transit begun in this state, or to return motor vehicle fuel to this state for sale or use with intent to avoid any of the taxes imposed by this chapter, is guilty of a felony, or gross misdemeanor in accordance with the theft and anticipatory provisions of Title 9A RCW. Each shipment illegally diverted or illegally returned shall be a separate offense, and the unit of each shipment shall be the cargo of one vessel, or one railroad carload, or one automobile truck load, or such truck and trailer load, or one drum, or one barrel, or one case or one can.

Sec. 46. RCW 82.36.400 and 1971 ex.s. c 156 s 3 are each amended to read as follows:

It shall be unlawful for any person to commit any of the following acts:

- (1) To display, or cause to permit to be displayed, or to have in possession, any motor vehicle fuel ((distributor's)) license knowing the same to be fictitious or to have been suspended, canceled, revoked or altered;
- (2) To lend to, or knowingly permit the use of, by one not entitled thereto, any motor vehicle fuel ((distributor's)) license issued to the person lending it or permitting it to be used;
- (3) To display or to represent as one's own any motor vehicle fuel ((distributor's)) license not issued to the person displaying the same;
- (4) To use a false or fictitious name or give a false or fictitious address in any application or form required under the provisions of this chapter, or otherwise commit a fraud in any application, record, or report;
- (5) To refuse to permit the director, or any agent appointed by him <u>or her</u> in writing, to examine his <u>or her</u> books, records, papers, storage tanks, or other equipment pertaining to the use or sale and delivery of motor vehicle fuels within the state.

Except as otherwise provided, any person violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor and shall, upon conviction thereof, be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than five hundred dollars nor more

than one thousand dollars and costs of prosecution, or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 47. A motor vehicle fuel distributor who incurs liability in December 1998 for the motor vehicle fuel tax imposed under this chapter shall report the liability and pay the tax in January 1999 in the manner required by this chapter as it existed before January 1, 1999.

A motor vehicle fuel distributor shall inventory all motor vehicle fuel that is on hand or in possession as of 12:01 a.m. on January 1, 1999, and is not in the bulk transfer-terminal system and shall report the results of the inventory to the department no later than the last business day of February 1999. The report of inventory must be made on a form prescribed by the department.

A motor vehicle fuel distributor may pay the tax due on motor vehicle fuel in inventory any time before February 28, 2000, but at least one-twelfth of the amount due must be paid by the last day of each month starting with February 1999. Payments not received in accordance with this section are late and are subject to the interest and penalty provisions of this chapter. Payments made after February 2000 are late and are subject to the interest and penalty provisions of this chapter.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 48. (1) It is intended that the ultimate liability for the tax imposed under this chapter be upon the motor vehicle fuel user, regardless of the manner in which collection of the tax is provided for in this chapter. The tax on motor vehicle fuel imposed under this chapter, if not previously imposed and paid, must be paid over to the department by the users of such motor vehicle fuel, unless such use is exempt from the motor vehicle fuel tax.

(2) This section does not apply to agreements entered into under RCW 82.36.450 hetween the department and federally recognized Indian tribes, nor does it apply to the consent decrees entered in *Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation v. Washington Department of Licensing*, No. CS-92-248-JLQ (E.D. Wash.) and *Teo v. Steffenson*, No. CY-93-3050-AAM (E.D. Wash.).

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 49. The department of licensing may enter into a motor vehicle fuel tax cooperative agreement with another state or Canadian province for the administration, collection, and enforcement of each state's or Canadian province's motor vehicle fuel taxes.

Sec. 50. RCW 82.38.020 and 1995 c 287 s 3 are each amended to read as follows:

((As used in this chapter:

- (2) "Department" means the department of licensing.
- (3) "Highway" means every way or place open to the use of the public, as a matter of right, for the purpose of vehicular travel.

- (4) "Motor vehicle" means every self-propelled vehicle designed for operation upon land utilizing special fuel as the means of propulsion.
- (5) "Special fuel" means and includes all combustible gases and liquids suitable for the generation of power for propulsion of motor vehicles, except that it does not include motor vehicle fuel as defined in chapter 82.36 RCW:
- (6) "Bulk storage" means the placing of special fuel by a special fuel dealer into a receptacle other than the fuel supply tank of a motor vehicle.
- (7) "Special fuel dealer" means any person engaged in the business of delivering special fuel into the fuel supply tank or tanks of a motor vehicle not then owned or controlled by him, or into bulk storage facilities for subsequent use in a motor vehicle. For this purpose the term "fuel supply tank or tanks" does not include eargo tanks even though fuel is withdrawn directly therefrom for propulsion of the vehicle.
- (8) "Special fuel user" means any person purchasing special fuel into bulk storage without payment of the special fuel tax for subsequent use in a motor vehicle, or any person engaged in interstate commercial operation of motor vehicles any part of which is within this state.
- (9) "Service station" means any location at which fueling of motor vehicles is offered to the general public.
- (11) "Bond" means: (a) A bond duly executed by such special fuel dealer or special fuel user as principal with a corporate surety qualified under the provisions of chapter 48.28 RCW which bond shall be payable to the state of Washington conditioned upon faithful performance of all requirements of this chapter, including the payment of all taxes, penalties, and other obligations of such dealer, arising out of this chapter; or (b) a deposit with the state treasurer by the special fuel dealer or special fuel user, under such terms and conditions as the department may prescribe, a like amount of lawful money of the United States or bonds or other obligations of the United States, the state of Washington, or any county of said state, of an actual market value not less than the amount so fixed by the department; or (c) such other instruments as the department may determine and prescribe by rule to protect the interests of the state and to insure compliance of the requirements of this chapter.
- (12) "Lessor" means any person (a) whose principal business is the bona fide leasing or renting of motor vehicles without drivers for compensation to the general public, and (b) who maintains established places of business and whose lease or rental contracts require such motor vehicles to be returned to the established places of business.
- (13) "Natural gas" means naturally occurring mixtures of hydrocarbon gases and vapors consisting principally of methane, whether in gaseous or liquid form.
- (14) "Standard pressure and temperature" means fourteen and seventy-three hundredths pounds of pressure per square inch at sixty degrees Fahrenheit.

- (15) "Evasion" or "evade" means to diminish or avoid the computation; assessment, or payment of authorized taxes or fees through:
- —— (a) A knowing: False statement, misrepresentation of fact, or other act of deception; or
- (b) An intentional: Omission, failure to file a return or report, or other act of deception.)) The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.
- (1) "Blended special fuel" means a mixture of undyed diesel fuel and another liquid, other than a de minimus amount of the liquid, that can be used as a fuel to propel a motor vehicle.
- (2) "Blender" means a person who produces blended special fuel outside the bulk transfer-terminal system.
- (3) "Bond" means a bond duly executed with a corporate surety qualified under chapter 48.28 RCW, which bond is payable to the state of Washington conditioned upon faithful performance of all requirements of this chapter, including the payment of all taxes, penalties, and other obligations arising out of this chapter.
- (4) "Bulk transfer-terminal system" means the special fuel distribution system consisting of refineries, pipelines, vessels, and terminals. Special fuel in a refinery, pipeline, vessel, or terminal is in the bulk transfer-terminal system. Special fuel in the fuel tank of an engine, motor vehicle, or in a railcar, trailer, truck, or other equipment suitable for ground transportation is not in the bulk transfer-terminal system.
 - (5) "Bulk transfer" means a transfer of special fuel by pipeline or vessel.
- (6) "Bulk storage" means the placing of special fuel into a receptacle other than the fuel supply tank of a motor vehicle.
 - (7) "Department" means the department of licensing.
- (8) "Dyed special fuel user" means a person authorized by the Internal Revenue Code to operate a motor vehicle on the highway using dyed special fuel, in which the use is not exempt from the special fuel tax.
- (9) "Evasion" or "evade" means to diminish or avoid the computation, assessment, or payment of authorized taxes or fees through;
- (a) A knowing: False statement; misrepresentation of fact; or other act of deception; or
- (b) An intentional: Omission; failure to file a return or report; or other act of deception.
- (10) "Export" means to obtain special fuel in this state for sales or distribution outside the state.
- (11) "Highway" means every way or place open to the use of the public, as a matter of right, for the purpose of vehicular travel,
- (12) "Import" means to bring special fuel into this state by a means of conveyance other than the fuel supply tank of a motor vehicle.

- (13) "International fuel tax agreement licensee" means a special fuel user operating qualified motor vehicles in interstate commerce and licensed by the department under the international fuel tax agreement.
- (14) "Lessor" means a person: (a) Whose principal business is the bona fide leasing or renting of motor vehicles without drivers for compensation to the general public; and (b) who maintains established places of business and whose lease or rental contracts require the motor vehicles to be returned to the established places of husiness.
 - (15) "Licensee" means a person holding a license issued under this chapter.
- (16) "Motor vehicle" means a self-propelled vehicle designed for operation upon land utilizing special fuel as the means of propulsion.
- (17) "Natural gas" means naturally occurring mixtures of hydrocarbon gases and vapors consisting principally of methane, whether in gaseous or liquid form.
- (18) "Person" means a natural person, fiduciary, association, or corporation. The term "person" as applied to an association means and includes the partners or members thereof, and as applied to corporations, the officers thereof.
- (19) "Position holder" means a person who holds the inventory position in special fuel, as reflected by the records of the terminal operator. A person holds the inventory position in special fuel if the person has a contractual agreement with the terminal for the use of storage facilities and terminating services at a terminal with respect to special fuel. "Position holder" includes a terminal operator that owns special fuel in their terminal.
- (20) "Rack" means a mechanism for delivering special fuel from a refinery or terminal into a truck, trailer, railcar, or other means of nonbulk transfer.
- (21) "Refiner" means a person who owns, operates, or otherwise controls a refinery.
- (22) "Removal" means a physical transfer of special fuel other than by evaporation, loss, or destruction.
- (23) "Special fuel" means and includes all combustible gases and liquids suitable for the generation of power for propulsion of motor vehicles, except that it does not include motor vehicle fuel as defined in chapter 82.36 RCW, nor does it include dyed special fuel as defined by federal regulations. However, if the federal regulations authorize dyed special fuel to be used in highway vehicles, that usage is considered taxable under this chapter, unless otherwise exempted.
- (24) "Special fuel distributor" means a person who acquires special fuel from a supplier, distributor, or licensee for subsequent sale and distribution.
- (25) "Special fuel exporter" means a person, who purchases special fuel in this state and directly exports the fuel by a means other than the bulk transferterminal system to a destination outside of the state.
- (26) "Special fuel importer" means a person who imports special fuel into the state by a means other than the bulk transfer-terminal system. If the importer of record is acting as an agent, the person for whom the agent is acting is the importer. If there is no importer of record, the owner of the special fuel at the time of importation is the importer.

- (27) "Special fuel supplier" means a person who owns and stores special fuel in a terminal facility or who refines and stores special fuel at a refinery.
- (28) "Special fuel user" means a person engaged in uses of special fuel that are not specifically exempted from the special fuel tax imposed under this chapter.
- (29) "Terminal" means a special fuel storage and distribution facility that has been assigned a terminal control number by the internal revenue service, is supplied by pipeline or vessel, and from which reportable special fuel is removed at a rack.
- (30) "Terminal operator" means a person who owns, operates, or otherwise controls a terminal.
- (31) "Two-party exchange" or "buy-sell agreement" means a transaction in which taxable special fuel is transferred from one licensed supplier to another licensed supplier under an exchange or buy-sell agreement whereby the supplier that is the position holder agrees to deliver taxable special fuel to the other supplier or the other supplier's customer at the rack of the terminal at which the delivering supplier is the position holder.
- Sec. 51. RCW 82.38.030 and 1996 c 104 s 7 are each amended to read as follows:
- (1) There is hereby levied and imposed upon special fuel users a tax at the rate computed in the manner provided in RCW 82.36.025 ((per)) on each gallon of special fuel, or each one hundred cubic feet of compressed natural gas, measured at standard pressure and temperature ((on the use of special fuel in any motor vehicle operated upon the highways of this state during the fiscal year for which such rate is applicable)).
- (2) The tax ((shall be collected by the special fuel dealer and shall be paid over to the department as hereinafter provided: (a) With respect to all special fuel delivered by a special fuel dealer into supply tanks of motor vehicles or into storage facilities used for the fueling of motor vehicles at unbonded service stations in this state; or (b) in all other transactions where the purchaser is not the holder of a valid special fuel license issued pursuant to this chapter allowing the purchase of untaxed special fuel, except sales of special fuel for export. To claim an exemption on account of sales by a licensed special fuel dealer for export, the purchaser shall obtain from the selling special fuel dealer, and such selling special fuel dealer must furnish the purchaser, an invoice giving such details of the sale for export as the director may require, copies of which shall be furnished the department and the entity of the state or foreign jurisdiction of destination which is charged by the laws of that state or foreign jurisdiction with the control or monitoring or both, of the sales or movement of special fuel in that state or foreign jurisdiction.
- ———(3) The tax shall be paid over to the department by the special fuel user as hereinafter provided with respect to the taxable use of special fuel upon which the tax has not previously been imposed.

- It is expressly provided that delivery of special fuel may be made without collecting the tax otherwise imposed, when such deliveries are made by a bonded special fuel dealer to special fuel users who are authorized by the department as hereinafter-provided, to purchase fuel without payment of tax to the bonded special fuel dealer.
 - (4))) imposed by subsection (1) of this section is imposed when:
- (a) Special fuel is removed in this state from a terminal if the special fuel is removed at the rack unless the removal is to a licensed exporter for direct delivery to a destination outside of the state, or the removal is to a special fuel distributor for direct delivery to an international fuel tax agreement licensee under section 83 of this act:
- (b) Special fuel is removed in this state from a refinery if either of the following applies:
- (i) The removal is by bulk transfer and the refiner or the owner of the special fuel immediately before the removal is not a licensee; or
- (ii) The removal is at the refinery rack unless the removal is to a licensed exporter for direct delivery to a destination outside of the state, or the removal is to a special fuel distributor for direct delivery to an international fuel tax agreement licensee under section 83 of this act;
- (c) Special fuel enters into this state for sale, consumption, use, or storage if either of the following applies:
 - (i) The entry is by bulk transfer and the importer is not a licensee; or
 - (ii) The entry is not by bulk transfer;
- (d) Special fuel is removed in this state to an unlicensed entity unless there was a prior taxable removal, entry, or sale of the special fuel;
- (e) Blended special fuel is removed or sold in this state by the blender of the fuel. The number of gallons of blended special fuel subject to tax is the difference between the total number of gallons of blended special fuel removed or sold and the number of gallons of previously taxed special fuel used to produced the blended special fuel;
- (f) Dyed special fuel is used on a highway, as authorized by the Internal Revenue Code, unless the use is exempt from the special fuel tax; and
- (g) Special fuel purchased by an international fuel tax agreement licensee under section 83 of this act is used on a highway.
- (3) The tax ((required)) imposed by this chapter, if required to be collected by the ((seller)) licensee, is held in trust by the ((seller)) licensee until paid to the department, and a ((seller)) licensee who appropriates or converts the tax collected to his or her own use or to any use other than the payment of the tax to the extent that the money required to be collected is not available for payment on the due date as prescribed in this chapter is guilty of a felony, or gross misdemeanor in accordance with the theft and anticipatory provisions of Title 9A RCW. A person, partnership, corporation, or corporate officer who fails to collect the tax imposed by this section, or who has collected the tax and fails to pay it to

the department in the manner prescribed by this chapter, is personally liable to the state for the amount of the tax.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 52. The tax under RCW 82.38.030, if not previously imposed and paid, must be paid over to the department by special fuel users and persons licensed under the international fuel tax agreement or other fuel tax reciprocity agreements entered into with the state of Washington, on the use of special fuel to operate motor vehicles on the highways of this state, unless the use is exempt from the tax under this chapter.

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 53. (1) A position holder shall remit tax to the department on special fuel removed from a terminal as provided in RCW 82.38.030(2)(a). On a two-party exchange, or buy-sell agreement between two suppliers, the receiving exchange partner or buyer becomes the position holder, who shall remit the tax.

- (2) A refiner shall remit tax to the department on special fuel removed from a refinery as provided in RCW 82.38.030(2)(b).
- (3) An importer shall remit tax to the department on special fuel imported into this state as provided in RCW 82.38.030(2)(c).
- (4) A blender shall remit tax to the department on the removal or sale of blended special fuel as provided in RCW 82.38.030(2)(e).
- (5) A dyed special fuel user shall remit tax to the department on the use of dyed special fuel as provided in RCW 82.38.030(2)(f).

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 54. A terminal operator is jointly and severally liable for remitting the tax imposed under RCW 82.38.030(1) if, at the time of removal:

- (1) The position holder with respect to the special fuel is a person other than the terminal operator and is not a licensee;
 - (2) The terminal operator is not a licensee;
- (3) The position holder has an expired internal revenue service notification certificate issued under chapter 26, C.F.R. Part 48; or
- (4) The terminal operator had reason to believe that information on the notification certificate was false.

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 55. A terminal operator is jointly and severally liable for remitting the tax imposed under RCW 82.38.030(I) if, in connection with the removal of special fuel that is not dyed or marked in accordance with internal revenue service requirements, the terminal operator provides a person with a bill of lading, shipping paper, or similar document indicating that the special fuel is dyed or marked in accordance with internal revenue service requirements.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 56. A person may not operate or maintain a motor vehicle on a public highway of this state with dyed special fuel in the fuel supply tank unless the use is authorized by the Internal Revenue Code and the person is the holder of an uncanceled dyed special fuel user license issued to him or her by the department. The special fuel tax set forth in RCW 82.38.030 is imposed on users of dyed special fuel authorized by the Internal Revenue Code to operate on-

highway motor vehicles using dyed special fuel, unless the use is exempt from the special fuel tax.

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 57. (1) Special fuel that is dyed satisfies the dyeing requirements of this chapter if it meets the dyeing requirements of the internal revenue service, including, but not limited to, requirements respecting type, dosage, and timing.

- (2) Marking must meet the marking requirements of the internal revenue service.
- (3) As required by the internal revenue service, notice is required with respect to dyed special fuel. A notice stating "DYED DIESEL FUEL, NONTAXABLE USE ONLY, PENALTY FOR TAXABLE USE" must be:
- (a) Provided by the terminal operator to a person who receives dyed special fuel at a terminal rack of that terminal operator;
- (b) Provided by a seller of dyed special fuel to its buyer if the special fuel is located outside the bulk transfer-terminal system and is not sold from a retail pump posted in accordance with the requirements of this subsection; or
- (c) Posted by a seller on a retail pump where it sells dyed special fuel for use by its buyer.
- **Sec. 58.** RCW 82.38.070 and 1990 c 250 s 83 are each amended to read as follows:

A special fuel ((dealer-shall-be)) supplier is entitled((,-under-rules-and regulations prescribed by the department;)) to a credit of the tax paid over to the department on those sales of special fuel for which the ((dealer)) supplier has received no consideration from or on behalf of the purchaser((-which have been declared by the dealer to be worthless-accounts-receivable, and which have been elaimed as bad debts for federal income tax purposes)). The amount of the tax ((refunded)) credit shall not exceed the amount of tax imposed by this chapter on such sales. If a ((refund)) credit has been granted under this section, any amounts collected for application against the accounts on which such a ((refund)) credit is based shall be reported ((with the first)) on a subsequent return filed after such collection, and the amount of ((refund)) credit received by the ((dealer)) supplier based upon the collected amount shall be returned to the department. In the event the ((refund)) credit has not been paid, the amount of the ((refund)) credit requested by the ((dealer)) supplier shall be adjusted by the department to reflect the decrease in the amount on which the claim is based. ((The department may require the dealer to submit periodical reports listing accounts which are delinquent for ninety days or more.))

NEW SECTION. Sec. 59. A special fuel distributor, special fuel importer, or special fuel blender, under rules adopted by the department, is entitled to a refund of the tax paid on those sales of special fuel for which no consideration has been received from or on behalf of the purchaser and that have been declared to be worthless accounts receivable. The amount of the tax refunded must not exceed the amount of tax paid by the special fuel distributor, special fuel

importer, or special fuel blender paid under this chapter. If the special fuel distributor, special fuel importer, or special fuel blender subsequently collects any amount from the account declared worthless, the amount collected shall be apportioned between the charges for the fuel and tax thereon. The special fuel tax collected must be returned to the department.

- Sec. 60. RCW 82.38.080 and 1996 c 244 s 6 are each amended to read as follows:
- (1) There is exempted from the tax imposed by this chapter, the use of fuel for:
- (((1))) (a) Street and highway construction and maintenance purposes in motor vehicles owned and operated by the state of Washington, or any county or municipality;
 - (((2))) (b) Publicly owned fire fighting equipment;
 - (((3))) (c) Special mobile equipment as defined in RCW 46.04.552;
- (((4))) (d) Power pumping units or other power take-off equipment of any motor vehicle which is accurately measured by metering devices that have been specifically approved by the department or which is established by ((either)) any of the following formulae:
- (((a))) (i) Pumping propane, or fuel or heating oils or milk picked up from a farm or dairy farm storage tank by a power take-off unit on a delivery truck, at ((the)) a rate ((of three-fourths of one gallon-for each one thousand gallons of fuel delivered or milk picked up)) determined by the department: PROVIDED, That claimant when presenting his or her claim to the department in accordance with ((the provisions of)) this chapter, shall provide to ((said)) the claim, invoices of propane, or fuel or heating oil delivered, or such other appropriate information as may be required by the department to substantiate his or her claim; ((or
- (b))) (ii) Operating a power take-off unit on a cement mixer truck or a load compactor on a garbage truck at the rate of twenty-five percent of the total gallons of fuel used in such a truck; ((and)) or
- (((e))) (iii) The department is authorized to establish by rule additional formulae for determining fuel usage when operating other types of equipment by means of power take-off units when direct measurement of the fuel used is not feasible. The department is also authorized to adopt rules regarding the usage of on board computers for the production of records required by this chapter;
- (((5))) (e) Motor vehicles owned and operated by the United States government;
 - (((6))) (f) Heating purposes;
- (((7))) (g) Moving a motor vehicle on a public highway between two pieces of private property when said moving is incidental to the primary use of the motor vehicle;
- (((8))) (h) Transportation services for persons with special transportation needs by a private, nonprofit transportation provider regulated under chapter 81.66 RCW; ((and

- (9))) (i) Vehicle refrigeration units, mixing units, or other equipment powered by separate motors from separate fuel tanks; and
- (j) The operation of a motor vehicle as a part of or incidental to logging operations upon a highway under federal jurisdiction within the boundaries of a federal area if the federal government requires a fee for the privilege of operating the motor vehicle upon the highway, the proceeds of which are reserved for constructing or maintaining roads in the federal area, or requires maintenance or construction work to be performed on the highway for the privilege of operating the motor vehicle on the highway.
- (2) There is exempted from the tax imposed by this chapter the removal or entry of special fuel under the following circumstances and conditions:
- (a) If it is the removal from a terminal or refinery of, or the entry or sale of, a special fuel if all of the following apply:
- (i) The person otherwise liable for the tax is a licensee other than a dyed special fuel user or international fuel tax agreement licensee;
 - (ii) For a removal from a terminal, the terminal is a licensed terminal; and
- (iii) The special fuel satisfies the dyeing and marking requirements of this chapter:
- (b) If it is an entry or removal from a terminal or refinery of taxable special fuel transferred to a refinery or terminal and the persons involved, including the terminal operator, are licensed; and
- (c)(i) If it is a special fuel that, under contract of sale, is shipped to a point outside this state by a supplier by means of any of the following:
 - (A) Facilities operated by the supplier;
- (B) Delivery by the supplier to a carrier, customs broker, or forwarding agent, whether hired by the purchaser or not, for shipment to the out-of-state point;
- (C) Delivery by the supplier to a vessel clearing from port of this state for a port outside this state and actually exported from this state in the vessel.
 - (ii) For purposes of this subsection (2)(c):
- (A) "Carrier" means a person or firm engaged in the business of transporting for compensation property owned by other persons, and includes both common and contract carriers; and
- (B) "Forwarding agent" means a person or firm engaged in the business of preparing property for shipment or arranging for its shipment.
- (3) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, every urban passenger transportation system and carriers as defined by chapters 81.68 and 81.70 RCW shall be exempt from the provisions of this chapter requiring the payment of special fuel taxes. For the purposes of this section "urban passenger transportation system" means every transportation system, publicly or privately owned, having as its principal source of revenue the income from transporting persons for compensation by means of motor vehicles and/or trackless trolleys, each having a seating capacity for over fifteen persons over prescribed routes in such a manner that the routes of such motor vehicles and/or trackless trolleys, either alone or in conjunction with routes of other such motor vehicles and/or

trackless trolleys subject to routing by the same transportation system, shall not extend for a distance exceeding twenty-five road miles beyond the corporate limits of the county in which the original starting points of such motor vehicles are located: PROVIDED, That no refunds or credits shall be granted on special fuel used by any urban transportation vehicle or vehicle operated pursuant to chapters 81.68 and 81.70 RCW on any trip where any portion of said trip is more than twenty-five road miles beyond the corporate limits of the county in which said trip originated.

Sec. 61. RCW 82.38.090 and 1995 c 20 s 13 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) It shall be unlawful for any person to ((act as a special fuel dealer or a special fuel user)) engage in business in this state as any of the following unless ((such)) the person is the holder of an uncanceled ((special fuel dealer's or a special fuel user's)) license issued to him or her by the department((-

A special fuel dealer's license authorizes a person to deliver previously untaxed special fuel into the fuel supply tanks of motor vehicles, collect the special fuel tax on behalf of the state at the time of delivery, and remit the taxes collected to the state as provided herein. A licensed special fuel dealer may also deliver untaxed special fuel into bulk storage facilities of a licensed special fuel user or dealer without collecting the special fuel tax. Special fuel dealers, when making deliveries of special fuel into bulk storage to any person not holding a valid special fuel license, must collect the special fuel tax at time of delivery, unless the person to whom the delivery is made is specifically exempted from the tax as provided herein.

——A special fuel user's license authorizes a person to purchase special fuel into bulk storage for use in motor vehicles either on or off the public highways of this state without payment of the special fuel tax at time of purchase. Holders of special fuel licenses are all subject to the bonding, reporting, tax payment, and record-keeping-provisions of this chapter. All purchases of special fuel by a licensed special fuel user directly into the fuel supply tank of a motor vehicle are subject to the special fuel tax at time of purchase. Special authorization may be given to farmers, logging companies, and construction companies to purchase special fuel directly into the supply tanks of nonhighway equipment or into portable slip tanks for nonhighway use without payment of the special fuel tax:)) authorizing the person to engage in that business:

- (a) Special fuel supplier:
- (b) Special fuel distributor;
- (c) Special fuel exporter:
- (d) Special fuel importer:
- (e) Special fuel blender;
- (f) Dyed special fuel user; or
- (g) International fuel tax agreement licensee.
- (2) A person engaged in more than one activity for which a license is required must have a separate license classification for each activity, but a special

fuel supplier is not required to obtain a separate license classification for any other activity for which a license is required.

- (3) Special fuel users operating motor vehicles in interstate commerce having two axles and a gross vehicle weight or registered gross vehicle weight not exceeding twenty-six thousand pounds are not required to be licensed. Special fuel users operating motor vehicles in interstate commerce having two axles and a gross vehicle weight or registered gross vehicle weight exceeding twenty-six thousand pounds, or having three or more axles regardless of weight, or a combination of vehicles, when the combination exceeds twenty-six thousand pounds gross vehicle weight, must comply with the licensing and reporting requirements of this chapter. A copy of the license must be carried in each motor vehicle entering this state from another state or province.
- Sec. 62. RCW 82.38.100 and 1983 c 78 s 1 are each amended to read as follows:
- (1) Any special fuel user operating a motor vehicle into this state for commercial purposes may make application for a trip permit ((in lieu of a special fuel user's license required in RCW 82.38.090 and 82.38.120 which)) that shall be good for a period of three consecutive days beginning and ending on the dates specified on the face of the permit issued, and only for the vehicle for which it is issued.
- (2) Every permit shall identify, as the department may require, the vehicle for which it is issued and shall be completed in its entirety, signed, and dated by the operator before operation of the vehicle on the public highways of this state. Correction of data on the permit such as dates, vehicle license number, or vehicle identification number invalidates the permit. A violation of, or a failure to comply with, this subsection is a gross misdemeanor.
- (3) For each permit issued, there shall be collected a filing fee of one dollar, an administrative fee of ten dollars, and an excise tax of nine dollars. Such fees and tax shall be in lieu of the special fuel tax otherwise assessable against the permit holder for importing and using special fuel in a motor vehicle on the public highways of this state and no report of mileage shall be required with respect to such vehicle. Trip permits will not be issued if the applicant has outstanding fuel taxes, penalties or interest owing to the state or has had a special fuel license revoked for cause and the cause has not been removed.
- (4) Blank permits may be obtained from field offices of the department of transportation, Washington state patrol, department of licensing, or other agents appointed by the department. The department may appoint county auditors or businesses as agents for the purpose of selling trip permits to the public. County auditors or businesses so appointed may retain the filing fee collected for each trip permit to defray expenses incurred in handling and selling the permits.
- (5) All fees and excise taxes collected by the department for trip permits shall be credited and deposited in the same manner as the special fuel tax collected under this chapter and shall not be subject to exchange, refund, or credit.

- **Sec. 63.** RCW 82.38.110 and 1996 c 104 s 8 are each amended to read as follows:
- (1) Application for a ((special fuel dealer's license or a special fuel user's)) license issued under this chapter shall be made to the department. The application shall be filed upon a form prepared and furnished by the department and shall contain such information as the department deems necessary.
- (2) Every application for a special fuel ((dealer's)) license, other than an application for a dyed special fuel user or international fuel tax agreement license, must contain the following information to the extent it applies to the applicant:
- (((1))) (a) Proof as the department ((may)) shall require concerning the applicant's identity, including but not limited to his or her fingerprints or those of the officers of a corporation making the application;
- (((2))) (b) The applicant's form and place of organization including proof that the individual, partnership, or corporation is licensed to do business in this state;
- $((\frac{3}{2}))$ (c) The qualification and business history of the applicant and any partner, officer, or director;
- (((4))) (d) The applicant's financial condition or history including a bank reference and whether the applicant or any partner, officer, or director has ever been adjudged bankrupt or has an unsatisfied judgment in a federal or state court;
- (((5))) (e) Whether the applicant has been adjudged guilty of a crime that directly relates to the business for which the license is sought and the time elapsed since the conviction is less than ten years, or has suffered a judgment within the preceding five years in a civil action involving fraud, misrepresentation, or conversion and in the case of a corporation or partnership, all directors, officers, or partners.
- (3) An applicant for a license as a special fuel importer must list on the application each state, province, or country from which the applicant intends to import fuel and, if required by the state, province, or country listed, must be licensed or registered for special fuel tax purposes in that state, province, or country,
- (4) An applicant for a license as a special fuel exporter must list on the application each state, province, or country to which the exporter intends to export special fuel received in this state by means of a transfer outside the bulk transfer-terminal system and, if required by the state, province, or country listed, must be licensed or registered for special fuel tax purposes in that state, province, or country.
- (5) An applicant for a license as a special fuel supplier must have a federal certificate of registry that is issued under the Internal Revenue Code and authorizes the applicant to enter into federal tax-free transactions on special fuel in the terminal transfer system.
- (6) After receipt of an application for a license, the director ((may)) shall conduct an investigation to determine whether the facts set forth are true. The director ((may)) shall require a fingerprint record check of the applicant through the Washington state patrol criminal identification system and the federal bureau

of investigation before issuance of a license. The results of the background investigation including criminal history information may be released to authorized department personnel as the director deems necessary. The department shall charge a license holder or license applicant a fee of fifty dollars for each background investigation conducted.

(7) An applicant who makes a false statement of a material fact on the application may be prosecuted for false swearing as defined by RCW 9A.72.040.

- ((No)) (8) A special fuel ((dealer's)) license may <u>not</u> be issued to any person or continued in force unless such person has furnished hond, as defined in RCW 82.38.020, in such form as the department may require, to secure his or her compliance with this chapter, and the payment of any and all taxes, interest, and penalties due and to become due hereunder. The requirement of furnishing a hond ((shall)) <u>may</u> be waived for special fuel ((dealers)) <u>distributors</u> who only deliver special fuel into the fuel tanks of marine vessels, <u>for dyed special fuel users and for persons issued licenses under the international fuel tax agreement</u>.
- (9) The department may require a ((special fuel user)) licensee to post a bond if the ((special fuel user)) licensee, after having been licensed, has failed to file timely reports or has failed to remit taxes due, or when an investigation or audit indicates problems severe enough that the department, in its discretion, determines that a bond is required to protect the interests of the state. The department may also adopt rules prescribing conditions that, in the department's discretion, require a bond to protect the interests of the state.
- (10) The total amount of the bond or bonds required of any ((special fuel dealer or special fuel user)) licensee shall be equivalent to three times the estimated monthly fuel tax, determined in such manner as the department may deem proper: PROVIDED, That those ((special fuel dealers)) licensees having held a special fuel license for five or more years without having said license suspended or revoked by the department shall he permitted to reduce the amount of their bond to twice the estimated monthly tax liability: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the total amount of the bond or bonds shall never be less than five hundred dollars nor more than ((fifty)) one hundred thousand dollars.
- (11) An application for a dyed special fuel user license must be made to the department. The application must be filed upon a form prescribed by the department and contain such information as the department deems necessary.
- (12) An application for an international fuel tax agreement license must be made to the department. The application must be filed upon a form prescribed by the department and contain such information as the department may require.
- **Sec. 64.** RCW 82.38.120 and 1996 c 104 s 9 are each amended to read as follows:

Upon receipt and approval of an application and bond, if required, the department shall issue ((to the applicant)) a license to ((act as a special fuel dealer or a special fuel user)) the applicant. However, the department may refuse to issue a ((special-fuel-dealer's)) license ((or a special-fuel-user's license)) to any person:

- (1) Who formerly held ((either type of)) a license issued under chapter 82.36 or 82.42 RCW or this chapter which, prior to the time of filing for application, has been revoked for cause;
- (2) Who is a subterfuge for the real party in interest whose license prior to the time of filing for application, has been revoked for cause;
- (3) Who, as an individual licensee, or officer, director, owner, or managing employee of a nonindividual licensee, has had a special fuel license revoked for cause;
- (4) Who has an unsatisfied debt to the state assessed under either chapter 82.36, 82.38, ((or)) 46.87, or 82.42 RCW;
- (5) Who formerly held as an individual, officer, director, owner, managing employee of a nonindividual licensee, or subterfuge for a real party in interest, a license issued by the federal government or a state that allowed a person to buy or sell untaxed motor vehicle or special fuel, which license, before the time of filing for application, has been revoked for cause;
- (6) Who pled guilty to or was convicted as an individual, officer, director, owner, or managing employee of a nonindividual licensee in this or any other state or in any federal jurisdiction of a gross misdemeanor or felony crime directly related to the business or has been subject to a civil judgment involving fraud, misrepresentation, conversion, or dishonesty, notwithstanding chapter 9.96A RCW;
- (7) Who misrepresented or concealed a material fact in obtaining a license or in reinstatement thereof;
- (8) Who violated a statute or administrative rule regulating fuel taxation or distribution;
 - (9) Who failed to cooperate with the department's investigations by:
 - (a) Not furnishing papers or documents;
- (b) Not furnishing in writing a full and complete explanation regarding a matter under investigation by the department; or
- (c) Not responding to subpoenas issued by the department, whether or not the recipient of the subpoena is the subject of the proceeding;
 - (10) Who failed to comply with an order issued by the director; or
 - (11) Upon other sufficient cause being shown.

Before such refusal, the department shall grant the applicant a hearing and shall grant the applicant at least twenty days written notice of the time and place thereof.

The department shall determine from the information shown in the application or other investigation the kind and class of license to be issued. For the purpose of considering any application for a special fuel ((dealer's)) license, the department may inspect, cause an inspection, investigate, or cause an investigation of the records of this or any other state or of the federal government to ascertain the veracity of the information on the application form and the applicant's criminal and licensing history.

All licenses shall be posted in a conspicuous place or kept available for inspection at the principal place of business of the owner thereof. License holders shall reproduce the license by photostat or other method and keep a copy on display for ready inspection at each additional place of business or other place of storage from which special fuel is sold, delivered or used and in each motor vehicle used by the license holder to transport special fuel purchased by him or her for resale, delivery or use. ((Every licensed special fuel user operating a motor vehicle registered in a jurisdiction other than this state shall reproduce the license and carry a photocopy thereof with each motor vehicle being operated upon the highways of this state.

A special fuel dealer may use special fuel in motor vehicles owned or operated by the dealer without securing a license as a special fuel user but the dealer is subject to all other conditions, requirements, and liabilities imposed herein upon a special fuel user.))

Each special fuel ((dealer's license and special fuel user's)) license shall be valid until the expiration date if shown on the license, or until suspended or revoked for cause or otherwise canceled.

No special fuel ((dealer's license or special fuel user's)) license shall be transferable.

Sec. 65. RCW 82.38.130 and 1994 c 262 s 24 are each amended to read as follows:

The department may revoke the license of any ((special fuel dealer, or special fuel user)) licensee for any of the grounds constituting cause for denial of a license set forth in RCW 82.38.120 or for other reasonable cause. Before revoking such license the department shall notify the licensee to show cause within twenty days of the date of the notice why the license should not be revoked: PROVIDED, That at any time prior to and pending such bearing the department may, in the exercise of reasonable discretion, suspend such license.

The department shall cancel any ((license to act as a)) special fuel ((dealer, or a special fuel user)) license immediately upon surrender thereof by the holder.

Any surety on a bond furnished by a ((special fuel dealer or special fuel user)) licensee as provided ((herein)) in this chapter shall be released and discharged from any and all liability to the state accruing on such bond after the expiration of forty-five days from the date which such surety shall have lodged with the department a written request to be released and discharged, but this provision shall not operate to relieve, release, or discharge the surety from any liability already accrued or which shall accrue before the expiration of the forty-five day period. The department shall promptly, upon receiving any such request, notify the ((special fuel dealer or special fuel user)) licensee who furnished the bond, and unless the ((special fuel dealer or special fuel user shall)) licensee, on or before the expiration of the forty-five day period, files a new bond, in accordance with ((the requirements of)) this section, ((or make a deposit in licu thereof as provided in RCW 82.38.020(11),)) the department forthwith shall cancel the special fuel dealer's or special fuel user's license.

The department may require a ((special fuel dealer or special fuel user to give a)) new or additional surety bond ((or to deposit additional securities)) of the character specified in RCW 82.38.020(((11))) (3) if, in its opinion, the security of the surety bond therefor filed by such ((special fuel dealer or special fuel user, or the market value of the properties deposited as security by such special fuel dealer or special fuel user)) licensee, shall become impaired or inadequate. Upon failure of the ((special fuel dealer or special fuel user)) licensee to give such new or additional surety bond ((or to deposit additional securities)) within forty-five days after being requested to do so by the department, or after he or she shall fail or refuse to file reports and remit or pay taxes at the intervals fixed by the department, the department forthwith shall cancel his or her license.

- Sec. 66. RCW 82.38.140 and 1996 c 104 s 10 and 1996 c 90 s 2 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:
- (1) Every ((special fuel dealer, special fuel user;)) licensee and every person importing, manufacturing, refining, dealing in, transporting, blending, or storing special fuel in this state shall keep for a period of not less than five years open to inspection at all times during the business hours of the day to the department or its authorized representatives, a complete record of all special fuel purchased or received and all of such products sold, delivered, or used by them. Such records shall show:
 - (a) The date of each receipt;
 - (b) The name and address of the person from whom purchased or received;
- (c) The number of gallons received at each place of business or place of storage in the state of Washington;
 - (d) The date of each sale or delivery;
 - (e) The number of gallons sold, delivered, or used for taxable purposes;
- (f) The number of gallons sold, delivered, or used for any purpose not subject to the tax imposed ((herein)) in this chapter;
- (g) The name, address, and special fuel license number of the purchaser if the special fuel tax is not collected on the sale or delivery;
- (h) The inventories of special fuel on hand at each place of business at the end of each month.
- (2)(a) All ((special-fuel users using special-fuel)) international fuel tax agreement licensees and dyed special fuel users authorized to use dyed special fuel on highway in vehicles licensed for highway operation shall maintain detailed mileage records on an individual vehicle basis.
- (b) Such operating records shall show both on-highway and off-highway usage of special fuel on a daily basis for each vehicle.
- (c) In the absence of operating records that show both on-highway and off-highway usage of special fuel on a daily basis for each vehicle, fuel consumption must be computed under RCW 82.38.060.
- (3) ((Persons using special fuel for heating purposes only are not required to maintain records of fuel usage:

- (4) Invoices shall be prepared for sales and deliveries of special fuel in the manner and containing such information as may be prescribed by the department:
 Every special fuel dealer or special fuel user making such sales or deliveries of special fuel and every person so receiving and purchasing special fuel must each retain one copy of each such invoice as part of the dealer's permanent records for the time and purposes above provided:
- (5) Every special fuel user shall keep, in addition to the dealer's records of deliveries into motor vehicles, a complete record as prescribed by the department of the total gallons of special fuel used for other purposes during each month and the purposes for which said special fuel was used.
- (6) Subsections (1)(f), (2)(b), and (5) of this section do not apply to special fuel users when the special fuel is used off-highway in farming, construction, or logging operations. Upon filing a special fuel user tax report, every such special fuel user shall certify and bear the burden of proof as to the number of gallons of special fuel used off-highway.)) The department may require a person other than a licensee engaged in the business of selling, purchasing, distributing, storing, transporting, or delivering special fuel to submit periodic reports to the department regarding the disposition of the fuel. The reports must be on forms prescribed by the department and must contain such information as the department may require.
- (4) Every person operating any conveyance for the purpose of hauling, transporting, or delivering special fuel in bulk shall have and possess during the entire time the person is hauling special fuel, an invoice, bill of sale, or other statement showing the name, address, and license number of the seller or consigner, the destination, name, and address of the purchaser or consignee, license number, if applicable, and the number of gallons. The person hauling such special fuel shall at the request of any law enforcement officer or authorized representative of the department, or other person authorized by law to inquire into, or investigate those types of matters, produce for inspection such invoice, bill of sale, or other statement and shall permit such official to inspect and gauge the contents of the vehicle.
- **Sec. 67.** RCW 82.38.150 and 1996 c 104 s 11 are each amended to read as follows:

For the purpose of determining the amount of liability for the tax herein imposed, and to periodically update license information, each ((special fuel dealer and each)) licensee, other than a special fuel distributor, an international fuel tax agreement licensee, or a dyed special fuel user, shall file monthly tax reports with the department, on forms prescribed by the department. ((Special fuel dealers shall file the reports at the intervals as shown in the following schedule:

Estimated Yearly	
Tax-Liability	Reporting Frequency
¢ ስ ¢1ሰስ	
\$ 0 -\$100	Yearly
\$101 - 250	Semi-yearly
****	201111

<u>Dyed special</u> fuel users whose estimated yearly tax liability is two hundred fifty dollars or less, shall file a report yearly, and <u>dyed</u> special fuel users whose estimated yearly tax liability is more than two hundred fifty dollars, shall file reports quarterly. <u>Special fuel users licensed under the international fuel tax agreement shall file reports quarterly.</u> <u>Special fuel distributors subject to the pollution liability insurance agency fee and reporting requirements shall remit pollution liability insurance agency returns and any associated payment due to the department annually.</u>

The department shall establish the reporting frequency for each applicant at the time the special fuel license is issued. If it becomes apparent that any ((special-fuel)) licensee is not reporting in accordance with the above schedule. the department shall change the licensee's reporting frequency by giving thirty days' notice to the licensee by mail to the licensee's address of record. A report shall be filed with the department even though no special fuel was used, or tax is due, for the reporting period. Each tax report shall contain a declaration by the person making the same, to the effect that the statements contained therein are true and are made under penalties of perjury, which declaration shall have the same force and effect as a verification of the report and is in lieu of such verification. The report shall show such information as the department may reasonably require for the proper administration and enforcement of this chapter. For counties within which an additional excise tax on special fuel has been levied by that jurisdiction under RCW 82,80,010, the report must show the quantities of special fuel sold, distributed, or withdrawn from bulk storage by the reporting dealer or user within the county's boundaries and the tax liability from its levy. ((The special fuel dealer or special fuel user)) A licensee shall file ((the)) a tax report on or before the twenty-fifth day of the next succeeding calendar month following the period to which it relates.

Subject to the written approval of the department, tax reports may cover a period ending on a day other than the last day of the calendar month. Taxpayers granted approval to file reports in this manner will file such reports on or before the twenty-fifth day following the end of the reporting period. No change to this reporting period will be made without the written authorization of the department.

If the final filing date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday the next secular or business day shall be the final filing date. Such reports shall be considered filed or received on the date shown by the post office cancellation mark stamped upon an envelope containing such report properly addressed to the department, or on the date it was mailed if proof satisfactory to the department is available to establish the date it was mailed.

The department, if it deems it necessary in order to insure payment of the tax imposed by this chapter, or to facilitate the administration of this chapter, has the authority to require the filing of reports and tax remittances at shorter intervals than one month if, in its opinion, an existing bond has become insufficient.

((The department may permit any special fuel user whose sole use of special fuel is in motor vehicles or equipment exempt from tax as provided in RCW 82.38.075 and 82.38.080 (1), (2), (3), (8), and (9), in lieu of the reports required in this section, to submit reports annually or as requested by the department, in such form as the department may require.

A special fuel user whose sole use of special fuel is for purposes other than the propulsion of motor vehicles upon the public highways of this state shall not be required to submit the reports required in this section.))

- **Sec. 68.** RCW 82.38.160 and 1987 c 174 s 5 are each amended to read as follows:
- (1) The tax imposed by this chapter shall be computed ((as follows: (a) With respect to special fuel upon which the tax has been collected by the seller thereof as a special fuel dealer;)) by multiplying the tax rate per gallon provided in this chapter by the number of gallons of special fuel ((delivered)) subject to the special fuel tax((; (b) with respect to special fuel on which the tax has not been paid to a special fuel dealer in this state and which has been consumed by the purchaser thereof as a special fuel user, by multiplying the tax rate per gallon provided in this chapter by the number of gallons of special fuel consumed by him in the propulsion of a motor vehicle on the highways of this state)).
- (2) A special fuel distributor shall remit tax on special fuel purchased from a special fuel supplier, and due to the state for that reporting period, to the special fuel supplier.
- (3) At the election of the distributor, the payment of the special fuel tax owed on special fuel purchased from a supplier shall be remitted to the supplier on terms agreed upon between the distributor and the supplier or no later than two business days before the last business day of the following month. This election shall be subject to a condition that the distributor's remittances of all amounts of special fuel tax due to the supplier shall be paid by electronic funds transfer. The distributor's election may be terminated by the supplier if the distributor does not make timely payments to the supplier as required by this section. This section shall not apply if the distributor is required by the supplier to pay cash or cash equivalent for special fuel purchases.
- (4) Except as provided in subsection (((3))) (5) of this section, the tax return shall be accompanied by a remittance payable to the state treasurer covering the tax ((moneys collected by the special fuel dealer or the)) amount determined to be due ((hereunder by licensed users of special fuels during)) for the ((preceding)) reporting period.
- (((3))) (5) If the tax is paid by electronic funds transfer ((and the reporting period ends on the last day of a calendar month)), the tax shall be paid on or before the ((state business day immediately preceding the last state business day of the month following the end of)) tenth calendar day of the month that is the second month immediately following the reporting period. When the reporting period is May, the tax shall be paid on the last state business day of June. If the tax is paid by electronic funds transfer and the reporting period ends on a day

other than the last day of a calendar month as provided in RCW 82.38.150, the tax shall be paid on or before ((the state business day immediately preceding)) the last state business day of the thirty-day period following the end of the reporting period.

(((4))) (6) The tax shall be paid by electronic funds transfer whenever the amount due is fifty thousand dollars or more.

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 69. A special fuel supplier shall, no later than the twentieth day or next business day after the special fuel tax is due from the special fuel distributor under RCW 82.38.160(2), notify the department of the failure of a special fuel distributor to pay the full amount of the tax owed.

Upon notification and submission of satisfactory evidence by a special fuel supplier that a special fuel distributor has failed to comply with RCW 82.38.160(2), the department may suspend the license of the special fuel distributor.

Upon the suspension, the department shall immediately notify all special fuel suppliers that the authority of the special fuel distributor to purchase tax-deferred special fuel has been suspended and all subsequent purchases of special fuel by the special fuel distributor must be tax-paid at the time of removal.

If, after notification by the department, a special fuel supplier continues to sell tax-deferred special fuel to a special fuel distributor whose license is suspended, the special fuel supplier's license is subject to revocation or suspension under RCW 82.38.130. Furthermore, if notified of a license suspension, a special fuel supplier is liable for any unpaid special fuel tax owed on special fuel sold to a suspended special fuel distributor.

- Sec. 70. RCW 82.38.170 and 1996 c 104 s 12 are each amended to read as follows:
- (1) If any ((special fuel dealer or special fuel user)) licensee fails to pay any taxes collected or due the state of Washington ((by said dealer or user)) within the time prescribed by RCW 82.38.150 and 82.38.160, ((said dealer or user)) the licensee shall pay in addition to such tax a penalty of ten percent of the amount thereof.
- (2) If it be determined by the department that the tax reported by any ((special fuel dealer or special fuel user)) licensee is deficient it may proceed to assess the deficiency on the basis of information available to it and there shall be added to this deficiency a penalty of ten percent of the amount of the deficiency.
- (3) If any ((special fuel dealer or special fuel user)) licensee, whether or not he or she is licensed as such, fails, neglects, or refuses to file a special fuel tax report required under this chapter, the department may, on the basis of information available to it, determine the tax liability of the ((special fuel dealer or the special fuel user)) licensee for the period during which no report was filed, and to the tax as thus determined, the department shall add the penalty and interest provided in subsection (2) of this section. An assessment made by the department pursuant to this subsection or to subsection (2) of this section shall be

presumed to be correct, and in any case where the validity of the assessment is drawn in question, the burden shall be on the person who challenges the assessment to establish by a fair preponderance of the evidence that it is erroneous or excessive as the case may be.

- (4) If any ((special fuel dealer or special fuel user shall)) licensee establishes by a fair preponderance of evidence that his or her failure to file a report or pay the proper amount of tax within the time prescribed was due to reasonable cause and was not intentional or willful, the department may waive the penalty prescribed in subsections (1), (2), and (3) of this section.
- (5) If any ((special fuel dealer or special fuel user shall)) licensee files a false or fraudulent report with intent to evade the tax imposed by this chapter, there shall be added to the amount of deficiency determined by the department a penalty equal to twenty-five percent of the deficiency, in addition to the penalty provided in subsection (2) of this section and all other penalties prescribed by law.
- (6) Any <u>special</u> fuel tax, penalties, and interest payable under this chapter shall bear interest at the rate of one percent per month, or fraction thereof, from the first day of the calendar month after the amount or any portion thereof should have been paid until the date of payment: PROVIDED, That the department may waive the interest when it determines that the cost of processing the collection of the interest exceeds the amount of interest due.
- (7) Except in the case of violations of filing a false or fraudulent report, if the department deems mitigation of penalties and interest to be reasonable and in the best interests of carrying out the purpose of this chapter, it may mitigate such assessments upon whatever terms the department deems proper, giving consideration to the degree and extent of the lack of records and reporting errors. The department may ascertain the facts regarding recordkeeping and payment penalties in lieu of more elaborate proceedings under this chapter.
- (8) Except in the case of a fraudulent report or of neglect or refusal to make a report, every deficiency shall be assessed under subsection (2) of this section within five years from the twenty-fifth day of the next succeeding calendar month following the reporting period for which the amount is proposed to be determined or within five years after the return is filed, whichever period expires the later.
- (9) Any ((special fuel dealer or special fuel user)) licensee against whom an assessment is made under the provisions of subsections (2) or (3) of this section may petition for a reassessment thereof within thirty days after service upon the ((special fuel dealer or special fuel user)) licensee of notice thereof. If such petition is not filed within such thirty day period, the amount of the assessment becomes final at the expiration thereof.

If a petition for reassessment is filed within the thirty day period, the department shall reconsider the assessment and, if the ((special fuel dealer or special fuel user)) licensee has so requested in his or her petition, shall grant such ((special fuel dealer or special fuel user)) licensee an oral hearing and give the ((special fuel dealer or special fuel user)) licensee ten days' notice of the time and place thereof. The department may continue the hearing from time to time. The

decision of the department upon a petition for reassessment shall become final thirty days after service upon the ((special fuel dealer or special fuel user)) licensee of notice thereof.

Every assessment made by the department shall become due and payable at the time it becomes final and if not paid to the department when due and payable, there shall be added thereto a penalty of ten percent of the amount of the tax.

- (10) Any notice of assessment required by this section shall be served personally or by <u>certified or registered</u> mail; if by mail, service shall be made by depositing such notice in the United States mail, postage prepaid addressed to the ((special fuel dealer or special fuel user)) <u>licensee</u> at his or her address as the same appears in the records of the department.
- (11) Any licensee who has had ((either their)) the licensee's special fuel ((user)) license ((or special fuel dealer license, or both,)) revoked shall pay a one hundred dollar penalty prior to the issuance of a new license.
- (12) Any person who, upon audit or investigation by the department, is found to have not paid special fuel taxes as required by this chapter shall be subject to cancellation of all vehicle registrations for vehicles utilizing special fuel as a means of propulsion. Any unexpired Washington tonnage on the vehicles in question may be transferred to a purchaser of the vehicles upon application to the department who shall hold such tonnage in its custody until a sale of the vehicle is made or the tonnage has expired.
- (13) Unless expressly authorized by the Internal Revenue Code and this chapter, a person using dyed special fuel in the propulsion of a motor vehicle upon the highways of this state is subject to a civil penalty of ten dollars for each gallon of dyed special fuel placed into the supply tank of the motor vehicle, or one thousand dollars, whichever is greater. The civil penalty collected as a result of this subsection must be deposited in the motor vehicle fund. The penalties must be collected and administered under this chapter.
- (14) For the purposes of enforcement of this section, the Washington state patrol or other commercial vehicle safety alliance-ce, ified officers may inspect, collect, and secure samples of special fuel used in the propulsion of a vehicle operated upon the highways of this state to detect the presence of dye or other chemical compounds.
- (15) The Washington state patrol shall, by January 1, 1999, develop and implement procedures for collection, analysis, and storage of fuel samples collected under this chapter.
- (16) RCW 43.05.110 does not apply to the civil penalties imposed under subsection (13) of this section.
- **Sec. 71.** RCW 82.38.180 and 1972 ex.s. c 138 s 4 are each amended to read as follows:

Any person who has paid a special fuel tax either directly or to the vendor from whom it was purchased may file a claim with the department for a refund of the tax so paid and shall be reimbursed and repaid the amount of:

- (1) Any taxes previously paid on special fuel used for purposes other than for the propulsion of motor vehicles upon the public highways in this state.
- (2) Any taxes previously paid on special fuel exported for use outside of this state. Special fuel carried from this state in the fuel tank of a motor vehicle is deemed to be exported from this state. Special fuel distributed to a federally recognized Indian tribal reservation located within the state of Washington is not considered exported outside this state.
 - (3) Any tax, penalty, or interest erroneously or illegally collected or paid.
- (4) Any taxes previously paid on all special fuel which is lost or destroyed, while applicant shall be the owner thereof, through fire, lightning, flood, wind storm, or explosion.
- (5) Any taxes previously paid on all special fuel of five hundred gallons or more which is lost or destroyed while applicant shall be the owner thereof, through leakage or other casualty except evaporation, shrinkage, or unknown causes.
- (6) Any taxes previously paid on special fuel that is inadvertently mixed with dved special fuel.

Recovery for such loss or destruction under either subsection (4) ((er)), (5), or (6) of this section must be susceptible to positive proof thereby enabling the department to conduct such investigation and require such information as they may deem necessary. In the event that the department is not satisfied that the fuel was lost ((er)), destroyed, or contaminated as claimed because information or proof as required hereunder is not sufficient to substantiate the accuracy of the claim, they may deem such as sufficient cause to deny all right relating to the refund or credit for the excise tax paid on special fuel alleged to be lost or destroyed.

No refund or claim for credit shall be approved by the department unless the gallons of special fuel claimed as nontaxable satisfy the conditions specifically set forth in this section and the nontaxable event or use occurred during the period covered by the refund claim. Refunds or claims for credit by sellers or users of special fuel shall not be allowed for anticipated nontaxable use or events.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 72. (1) Upon application, the department may give special authorization to farmers, logging companies, and construction companies to purchase nondyed special fuel directly into the supply tanks of nonhighway equipment or into portable slip tanks for nonhighway use without payment of the special fuel tax. Purchases of this nondyed special fuel must be made at a card lock facility owned and operated by a special fuel distributor who is required to pay the special fuel tax on nondyed special fuel delivered to the card lock facility and has elected to sell the special fuel in this manner. The election is solely at the discretion of the special fuel distributor and must be approved by the department.

(2) A special fuel distributor who has paid the special fuel tax on nondyed special fuel purchased by a holder of a special authorization may file a claim for refund of the special fuel tax paid. A claim for refund of the special fuel tax paid under this section is allowed only if all the following apply:

- (a) Special fuel tax was paid by the distributor on the nondyed special fuel to which the claim relates and the claim is supported by an invoice or invoices showing such payment;
- (b) The special fuel distributor sold the special fuel to a holder of a valid special authorization issued by the department;
- (c) The claim contains the name and special authorization number of each purchaser and the number of gallons sold to the purchaser;
- (d) The claim contains a statement that the special fuel distributor has not included the amount of the tax in the sale price of the nondyed special fuel and has not collected the special fuel tax from the purchaser; and
- (e) The claim contains a statement that the special fuel covered by the claim did not contain visible evidence of dye.
- (3) Each claim for refund under this section must be made on a form prescribed by the department and must be for a period of not less than one week.
- (4) The department may terminate the election of a special fuel distributor if the special fuel distributor fails to comply with this section.
- (5) The department shall require a holder of a special authorization to submit a request at least once every two years for renewal of the special authorization upon forms supplied by the department. The department shall prescribe the information to be submitted by the special authorization holder and shall determine whether the special authorization shall continue.
- (6) For any special fuel purchased under this special authorization, a special authorization holder shall retain records required under RCW 82.38.190 for refund submittals for three years following the purchase date of the fuel.
- (7) Notwithstanding the special provisions provided under this section, the special authorization holder is subject to all provisions of this chapter that apply to refund claims.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 73. A licensee, other than a special fuel exporter, is entitled to a refund of the special fuel tax previously paid on special fuel which has been purchased from the licensee by a person who is exempt from payment of the special fuel tax imposed by this chapter. Application for the refund shall be accompanied by an invoice or proof satisfactory to the department documenting each sale wherein the purchaser was exempt from the special fuel tax. Claims for refunds shall be made under this chapter.

- **Sec. 74.** RCW 82.38.190 and 1997 c 183 s 10 are each amended to read as follows:
- (1) Claims under RCW 82.38.180 shall be filed with the department on forms prescribed by the department and shall show the date of filing and the period covered in the claim, the number of gallons of special fuel used for purposes subject to tax refund, and such other facts and information as may be required. Every such claim shall be supported by an invoice or invoices issued to or by the claimant, as may be prescribed by the department, and such other information as the department may require. The requirement to provide invoices may be waived

for small refund amounts, as determined by the department. Claims for refund of special fuel tax must be for at least twenty dollars.

- (2) Any amount determined to be refundable by the department under RCW 82.38.180 shall first be credited on any amounts then due and payable from ((the special fuel dealer or special fuel user or to any)) a person to whom the refund is due, and the department shall then certify the balance thereof to the state treasurer, who shall thereupon draw his or her warrant for ((such)) the certified amount to ((such special fuel dealer or special fuel user or any)) the person.
- (3) No refund or credit shall be approved by the department unless a written claim for refund or credit stating the specific grounds upon which the claim is founded is filed with the department:
- (a) Within thirteen months from the date of purchase or from the last day of the month following the close of the reporting period for which the refundable amount or credit is due with respect to refunds or credits allowable under RCW 82.38.180((, subsections)) (1), (2), (4), and (5), and if not filed within this period the right to refund shall be forever barred.
- (b) Within ((three)) five years from the last day of the month following the close of the reporting period for which the overpayment is due with respect to the refunds or credits allowable under RCW 82.38.180(3). The department shall refund any amount paid that has been verified by the department to be more than ten dollars over the amount actually due for the reporting period. Payment credits shall not be carried forward and applied to subsequent tax returns for a person licensed under this chapter.
- (4) Within thirty days after disallowing any claim in whole or in part, the department shall serve written notice of its action on the claimant.
- (5) Interest shall be paid upon any refundable amount or credit due under RCW 82.38.180(3) at the rate of one percent per month from the last day of the calendar month following the reporting period for which the refundable amount or credit is due.

The interest shall be paid:

- (a) In the case of a refund, to the last day of the calendar month following the date upon which the person making the overpayment, if he <u>or she</u> has not already filed a claim, is notified by the department that a claim may be filed or the date upon which the claim is approved by the department, whichever date is earlier.
- (b) In the case of a credit, to the same date as that to which interest is computed on the tax or amount against which the credit is applied.
- If the department determines that any overpayment has been made intentionally or by reason of carelessness, it shall not allow any interest thereon.
- (6) The department shall pay interest of one percent on any refund payable under RCW 82.38.180 (1), (2), or (6) that is issued more than thirty state business days after the receipt of a claim properly filed and completed in accordance with this section. After the end of the thirty business-day period, additional interest shall accrue at the rate of one percent on the amount payable for each thirty calendar-day period, until the refund is issued.

(7) No injunction or writ of mandate or other legal or equitable process shall issue in any suit, action or proceeding in any court against this state or against any officer of the state to prevent or enjoin the collection under this chapter of any tax or any amount of tax required to be collected.

Sec. 75. RCW 82.38.210 and 1979 c 40 s 15 are each amended to read as follows:

If any ((special fuel dealer, supplier, or user)) licensee liable for the remittance of tax imposed by this chapter fails to pay the same, the amount thereof, including any interest, penalty, or addition to such tax, together with any costs that may accrue in addition thereto, shall be a lien in favor of the state upon all franchises, property, and rights to property, whether real or personal, then belonging to or thereafter acquired by such person, whether such property is employed by such person for personal or business use or is in the hands of a trustee, or receiver, or assignee for the benefit of creditors, from the date the taxes were due and payable, until the amount of the lien is paid or the property sold in payment thereof. The lien shall have priority over any lien or encumbrance whatsoever, except the lien of other state taxes having priority by law, and except that such lien shall not be valid as against any bona fide mortgagee, pledgee, judgment creditor, or purchaser whose rights have attached prior to the time the department has filed and recorded notice of such lien as hereinafter provided.

In order to avail itself of the lien hereby created, the department shall file with any county auditor a statement of claim and lien specifying the amount of delinquent taxes, penalties and interest claimed by the department. From the time of filing for record, the amount required to be paid shall constitute a lien upon all franchises, property and rights to property, whether real or personal, then belonging to or thereafter acquired by such person in the county. Any lien as provided in this section may also be filed in the office of the secretary of state. Filing in the office of the secretary of state shall be of no effect, however, until the lien or copy thereof shall have been filed with the county auditor in the county where the property is located. When a lien is filed in compliance herewith and with the secretary of state, such filing shall have the same effect as if the lien had been duly filed for record in the office of the auditor in each county of this state.

Sec. 76. RCW 82.38.220 and 1994 c 262 s 26 are each amended to read as follows:

In the event any ((special-fuel user or special-fuel-dealer)) licensee is delinquent in the payment of any obligation imposed under this chapter, the department may give notice of the amount of such delinquency by registered or certified mail to all persons having in their possession or under their control any credits or other personal property belonging to ((such user or dealer)) the licensee or owing any debts to ((such user or dealer)) the licensee, at the time of the receipt by them of such notice. Any person so notified shall neither transfer nor make other disposition of such credits, personal property, or debts until the department consents to a transfer or other disposition. All persons so notified

must, within twenty days after receipt of the notice, advise the department of any and all such credits, personal property, or debts in their possession, under their control or owing by them, as the case may be, and shall immediately deliver such credits, personal property, or debts to the department or its duly authorized representative to be applied to the indebtedness involved.

Upon service, the notice and order to withhold and deliver constitutes a continuing lien on property of the taxpayer. The department shall include in the caption of the notice to withhold and deliver "continuing lien." The effective date of a notice to withhold and deliver served under this section is the date of service of the notice.

If a person fails to answer the notice within the time prescribed by this section, it is lawful for the court, upon application of the department and after the time to answer the notice has expired, to render judgment by default against the party named in the notice to withhold and deliver for the full amount claimed by the department in the notice to withhold and deliver, together with costs.

Sec. 77. RCW 82.38.230 and 1979 c 40 s 17 are each amended to read as follows:

Whenever any ((special-fuel-user, supplier-or-dealer)) licensee is delinquent in the payment of any obligation imposed hereunder, and such delinquency continues after notice and demand for payment by the department, the department shall proceed to collect the amount due from the ((user, supplier or dealer)) licensee in the following manner: The department shall seize any property subject to the lien of said excise tax, penalty, and interest and thereafter sell it at public auction to pay said obligation and any and all costs that may have been incurred on account of the seizure and sale. Notice of such intended sale and the time and place thereof shall be given to such delinquent ((user, supplier or dealer)) licensee and to all persons appearing of record to have an interest in such property. The notice shall be given in writing at least ten days before the date set for the sale by enclosing it in an envelope addressed to ((such user, supplier or dealer)) the licensee at ((his)) the licensee's address as the same appears in the records of the department and, in the case of any person appearing of record to have an interest in such property, addressed to such person at his or her last known residence or place of business, and depositing such envelope in the United States mail, postage prepaid. In addition, the notice shall be published for at least ten days before the date set for the sale in a newspaper of general circulation published in the county in which the property seized is to be sold. If there is no newspaper of general circulation in such county, the notice shall be posted in three public places in the county for a period of ten days. The notice shall contain a description of the property to be sold, together with a statement of the amount due ((hereunder)) under this chapter, the name of the ((user, supplier or dealer)) licensee and the further statement that unless such amount is paid on or before the time fixed in the notice the property will be sold in accordance with law.

The department shall then proceed to sell the property in accordance with the law and the notice, and shall deliver to the purchaser a bill of sale or deed which

shall vest title in the purchaser. If upon any such sale the moneys received exceed the amount due to the state ((hereunder)) under this chapter from the delinquent ((user, supplier or dealer)) licensee, the excess shall be returned to ((such user, supplier-or-dealer)) the licensee and ((his)) the licensee's receipt obtained ((therefor)) for the excess. If any person having an interest in or lien upon the property has filed with the department prior to such sale, notice of such interest or lien, the department shall withhold payment of any such excess to ((such user; supplier-or-dealer)) the licensee pending a determination of the rights of the respective parties thereto by a court of competent jurisdiction. If for any reason the receipt of ((such-user, supplier or dealer shall not be)) the licensee is not available, the department shall deposit such excess with the state treasurer as trustee for ((such user, supplier or dealer, his)) the licensee or the licensee's heirs. successors, or assigns: PROVIDED, That prior to making any seizure of property as ((herein)) provided for in this section, the department may first serve upon the ((user's, supplier's, or dealer's)) licensee's bondsman a notice of the delinquency, with a demand for the payment of the amount due.

Sec. 78. RCW 82.38.235 and 1979 c 40 s 22 are each amended to read as follows:

Whenever any assessment shall have become final in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, the department may file with the clerk of any county within the state a warrant in the amount of the assessment of taxes, penalties plus interest and a filing fee of five dollars. The clerk of the county wherein the warrant is filed shall immediately designate a superior court cause number for such warrant, and the clerk shall cause to be entered in the judgment docket under the superior court cause number assigned to the warrant, the name of the ((special fuel user, supplier or dealer)) licensee mentioned in the warrant, the amount of the tax, penalties, interest and filing fee and the date when such warrant was filed. The aggregate amount of such warrant as docketed shall become a lien upon the title to, and interest in all real and personal property of named person against whom the warrant is issued, the same as a judgment in a civil case duly docketed in the office of such clerk. Such warrant so docketed shall be sufficient to support the issuance of writs of execution and writs of garnishment in favor of the state in the manner provided by law in the case of civil judgment, wholly or partially unsatisfied. The clerk of the court shall be entitled to a filing fee of five dollars, which shall be added to the amount of the warrant.

Sec. 79. RCW 82.38.240 and 1971 ex.s. c 175 s 25 are each amended to read as follows:

Whenever any ((special fuel user or special fuel dealer)) licensee is delinquent in the payment of any obligation hereunder the department may transmit notice of such delinquency to the attorney general who shall at once proceed to collect by appropriate legal action the amount due the state from ((such user or dealer)) the licensee. In any suit brought to enforce the rights of the state hereunder, a certificate by the department showing the delinquency shall be

prima facie evidence of the amount of the obligation, of the delinquency thereof and of compliance by the department with all provisions of this chapter relating to such obligation.

Sec. 80. RCW 82.38.260 and 1995 c 274 s 25 are each amended to read as follows:

The department shall enforce the provisions of this chapter, and may prescribe, adopt, and enforce reasonable rules and regulations relating to the administration and enforcement thereof. The Washington state patrol and its officers shall aid the department in the enforcement of this chapter, and, for this purpose, are declared to be peace officers, and given police power and authority throughout the state to arrest on sight any person known to have committed a violation of the provisions of this chapter.

The department or its authorized representative is hereby empowered to examine the books, papers, records and equipment of any ((special fuel dealer, special fuel user,)) licensee or any person dealing in, transporting, or storing special fuel as defined in this chapter and to investigate the character of the disposition which any person makes of such special fuel in order to ascertain and determine whether all taxes due hereunder are being properly reported and paid. The fact that such books, papers, records and equipment are not maintained in this state at the time of demand shall not cause the department to lose any right of such examination under this chapter when and where such records become available.

The department or its authorized representative is further empowered to investigate the disposition of special fuel by any person where the department has reason to believe that untaxed special fuel has been diverted to a use subject to the taxes imposed by this chapter without said taxes being paid in accordance with the requirements of this chapter.

For the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this chapter it shall be presumed that all special fuel delivered to service stations as well as all special fuel otherwise received ((by a special fuel dealer or a special fuel user)) into storage and dispensing equipment designed to fuel motor vehicles is delivered ((by the special fuel dealer or special fuel user)) into the fuel supply tanks of motor vehicles and consumed in the propulsion of motor vehicles on the highways of this state, unless the contrary is established by satisfactory evidence.

The department shall, upon request from the officials to whom are entrusted the enforcement of the special fuel tax law of any other state, the District of Columbia, the United States, its territories and possessions, the provinces or the Dominion of Canada, forward to such officials any information which he or she may have relative to the receipt, storage, delivery, sale, use, or other disposition of special fuel by any ((special fuel dealer or special fuel user, provided such)) licensee if the other state or states furnish like information to this state.

Returns required by this chapter, exclusive of schedules, itemized statements and other supporting evidence annexed thereto, shall at all reasonable times be open to the public.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 81. It is intended that the ultimate liability for the tax imposed under this chapter be upon the user, regardless of the manner in which collection of the tax is provided for in this chapter. However, this section does not apply to agreements between the department and federally recognized Indian tribes entered into under RCW 82.38.310, nor does it apply to the consent decrees entered in Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation v. Washington Department of Licensing, No. CS-92-248-JLQ (E.D. Wash.) and Teo v. Steffenson, No. CY-93-3050-AAM (E.D. Wash.).

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 82. A special fuel distributor who incurs liability in December 1998 for the special fuel tax imposed under this chapter shall report the liability and pay the tax in January 1999 in the manner required by this chapter as it existed before January 1, 1999.

A special fuel distributor or special fuel user shall inventory all special fuel, including dyed special fuel, that is on hand or in the person's possession as of 12:01 a.m. on January 1, 1999, and is not in the bulk transfer-terminal system and shall report the results of the inventory to the department no later than the last business day of February 1999. The report of inventory must be made on a form prescribed by the department.

A special fuel distributor may pay the tax due on special fuel in inventory any time before February 28, 2000, but at least one-twelfth of the amount due must be paid by the last day of each month starting with February 1999. Payments not received in accordance with this section are late and are subject to the interest and penalty provisions of this chapter. Payments made after February 2000 are late and are subject to the interest and penalty provisions of this chapter.

A special fuel user shall pay the tax due on fuel in inventory in accordance with the filing frequency assigned to the user before the effective date of this section. Payments not received in accordance with the filing frequency are late and are subject to the interest and penalty provisions of this chapter.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 83. (1) An international fuel tax agreement licensee who meets the qualifications in subsection (2) of this section may be given special authorization by the department to purchase special fuel delivered into bulk storage without payment of the special fuel tax at the time the fuel is purchased. The special authorization applies only to full truck-trailer loads filled at a terminal rack and delivered directly to the bulk storage facilities of the special authorization holder. The licensee shall pay special fuel tax on the fuel at the time the licensee files their international fuel tax agreement tax return and accompanying schedule with the department. The accompanying schedule shall be provided in a form and manner determined by the department and shall contain information on purchases and usage of all nondyed special fuel purchased during the reporting period. In addition, by the fifteenth day of the month following the month in which fuel under the special authorization was purchased, the licensee must report to the department, the name of the seller and the number of gallons

purchased for each purchase of such fuel, and any other information as the department may require.

- (2) To receive or maintain special authorization under subsection (1) of this section, the following conditions regarding the international fuel tax agreement licensee must apply:
- (a) During the period encompassing the four consecutive calendar quarters immediately preceding the fourth calendar quarter of the previous year, the number of gallons consumed outside the state of Washington as reported on the licensee's international fuel tax agreement tax returns must have been equal to at least twenty percent of the nondyed special fuel gallons, including fuel used onroad and off-road, purchased by the licensee in the state of Washington, as reported on the accompanying schedules required under subsection (1) of this section:
- (b) The licensee must have been licensed under the provisions of the international fuel tax agreement during each of the four consecutive calendar quarters immediately preceding the fourth calendar quarter of the previous year; and
 - (c) The licensee has not violated the reporting requirements of this section.
- (3) A special fuel distributor who sells special fuel under the special authorization provisions of this section is not liable for the special fuel tax on the fuel. By the fifteenth day of the month following the month in which the fuel was sold, the special fuel distributor shall report to the department, the name and special authorization number of the purchaser and the number of gallons sold for each purchase of such special fuel, and any other information as the department may require. The special fuel supplier will report such sales, in a manner prescribed by the department, at the time the special fuel supplier submits the monthly tax report.
- (4) A supplier selling special fuel under the provisions of this section shall not be responsible for taxes due for special fuel purchased under the provisions of this section.
- (5) An international fuel tax agreement licensee who qualifies for a special authorization under this section for calendar year 1999 is not subject to the special fuel user requirements of section 82 of this act.
- **Sec. 84.** RCW 43.05.110 and 1995 c 403 s 612 are each amended to read as follows:

The department of agriculture, fish and wildlife, health, licensing, or natural resources may issue a civil penalty provided for by law without first issuing a notice of correction if: (1) The person has previously been subject to an enforcement action for the same or similar type of violation of the same statute or rule or has been given previous notice of the same or similar type of violation of the same statute or rule; or (2) compliance is not achieved by the date established by the department in a previously issued notice of correction, if the department has responded to any request for review of such date by reaffirming the original date or establishing a new date; (3) the violation has a probability of

placing a person in danger of death or bodily harm, has a probability of causing more than minor environmental harm, or has a probability of causing physical damage to the property of another in an amount exceeding one thousand dollars; or (4) the violation was committed by a business that employed fifty or more employees on at least one day in each of the preceding twelve months. In addition, the department of fish and wildlife may issue a civil penalty provided for by law without first issuing a notice of correction for a violation of any rule dealing with seasons, catch or bag limits, gear types, or geographical areas for fish or wildlife removal, reporting, or disposal.

This section does not apply to the civil penalties imposed under RCW 82.38.170(13).

Sec. 85. RCW 82.47.010 and 1991 c 173 s 2 are each amended to read as follows:

The definitions set forth in this section shall apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

- (1) "Motor vehicle fuel" has the meaning given in RCW 82.36.010(((2))).
- (2) "Special fuel" has the meaning given in RCW 82.38.020(((5))).
- (3) "Motor vehicle" has the meaning given in RCW 82.36.010(((1))).

Sec. 86. RCW 82.80.010 and 1991 c 339 s 12 are each amended to read as follows:

- (1) Subject to the conditions of this section, any county may levy, by approval of its legislative body and a majority of the registered voters of the county voting on the proposition at a general or special election, additional excise taxes equal to ten percent of the state-wide motor vehicle fuel tax rate under RCW 82.36.025 on each gallon of motor vehicle fuel as defined in RCW 82.36.010(((2))) and on each gallon of special fuel as defined in RCW 82.38.020(((5))) sold within the boundaries of the county. Vehicles paying an annual license fee under RCW 82.38.075 are exempt from the county fuel excise tax. An election held under this section must be held not more than twelve months before the date on which the proposed tax is to be levied. The ballot setting forth the proposition shall state the tax rate that is proposed. The county's authority to levy additional excise taxes under this section includes the incorporated and unincorporated areas of the county. The additional excise taxes are subject to the same exceptions and rights of refund as applicable to other motor vehicle fuel and special fuel excise taxes levied under chapters 82.36 and 82.38 RCW. The proposed tax shall not be levied less than one month from the date the election results are certified by the county election officer. commencement date for the levy of any tax under this section shall be the first day of January, April, July, or October.
- (2) Every person subject to the tax shall pay, in addition to any other taxes provided by law, an additional excise tax to the director of licensing at the rate levied by a county exercising its authority under this section.

- (3) The state treasurer shall distribute monthly to the levying county and cities contained therein the proceeds of the additional excise taxes collected under this section, after the deductions for payments and expenditures as provided in RCW 46.68.090 (1) and (2) and under the conditions and limitations provided in RCW 82.80.080.
- (4) The proceeds of the additional excise taxes levied under this section shall be used strictly for transportation purposes in accordance with RCW 82.80.070.
- (5) The department of licensing shall administer and collect the county fuel taxes. The department shall deduct a percentage amount, as provided by contract, for administrative, collection, refund, and audit expenses incurred. The remaining proceeds shall be remitted to the custody of the state treasurer for monthly distribution under RCW 82.80.080.

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 87. The department of licensing shall adopt rules necessary to implement this act and shall seek the assistance of the fuel tax advisory committee in developing and adopting the rules.

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 88. The department of licensing may enter into a fuel tax cooperative agreement with another state or Canadian province for the administration, collection, and enforcement of each state's or Canadian province's fuel taxes.

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 89. The following acts or parts of acts are each repealed:

- (1) RCW 82.36.030 and 1996 c 104 s 1, 1994 c 262 s 18, 1993 c 54 s 2, 1991 c 339 s 14, 1990 c 42 s 202, 1987 c 174 s 2, & 1961 c 15 s 82.36.030;
 - (2) RCW 82.36.038 and 1987 c 174 s 3;
- (3) RCW 82.36.220 and 1963 ex.s. c 22 s 20, 1961 ex.s. c 21 s 31, & 1961 c 15 s 82.36.220:
- (4) RCW 82.38.040 and 1990 c 250 s 81, 1973 1st ex.s. c 156 s 2, & 1971 ex.s. c 175 s 5;
 - (5) RCW 82.38.082 and 1987 c 294 s 1; and
 - (6) RCW 82.38.086 and 1981 c 342 s 6.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 90. (1) Sections 8 through 12, 14, 15, 29, 35, 43, and 47 through 49 of this act are each added to chapter 82.36 RCW.

(2) Sections 52 through 57, 59, 69, 72, 73, 81 through 83, and 88 of this act are each added to chapter 82.38 RCW.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 91. This act takes effect January 1, 1999.

Passed the House February 12, 1998.

Passed the Senate March 11, 1998.

Approved by the Governor March 27, 1998.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 27, 1998.