

ENGROSSED SENATE  
BILL NO. 844

By Snyder of the Senate

and

Phillips of the House

[ revenue and taxation - modifying income tax -  
providing for suspension of licenses - effective  
date -

emergency ]

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 68 O.S. 2001, Section 238.1, is amended to read as follows:

Section 238.1 A. It is the intent of the Legislature that the provisions of this section operate to provide for the collection of income taxes due to the State of Oklahoma by persons holding state licenses in a manner that will maximize flexibility for licensees to pay any such taxes due while minimizing inconvenience to licensees and disruption to operations of licensing entities. It is the further intent of the Legislature that the Oklahoma Tax Commission allow at least six (6) months notice to licensees pursuant to the provisions of subsection C of this section prior to notification of noncompliance to a licensing entity.

B. Each licensing entity shall, on a date that allows the Tax Commission to comply with the notice provisions of subsection A of this section, provide to the Tax Commission a list of all its licensees and such identifying information as may be required by the Tax Commission. Such list and information shall be used by the Tax Commission exclusively for the purpose of collection of income taxes due to the State of Oklahoma. The provisions of any laws making application information confidential shall not apply with respect to

information supplied to the Tax Commission pursuant to the provisions of this section; provided, such information shall be subject to the provisions of Section 205 of ~~Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title.

C. The Tax Commission shall notify any licensee who is not in compliance with the income tax laws of this state. Such notification shall include:

1. A statement that the licensee's license will ~~not be renewed~~ be suspended until the taxpayer is deemed by the Tax Commission to be in compliance with the income tax laws of this state;

2. The reasons that the taxpayer is considered to be out of compliance with the income tax laws of this state, including a statement of the amount of any tax, penalties and interest due or a list of the tax years for which income tax returns have not been filed as required by law;

3. An explanation of the rights of the taxpayer and the procedures which must be followed by the taxpayer in order to come into compliance with the income tax laws of this state; and

4. Such other information as may be deemed necessary by the Tax Commission.

D. A licensee who has entered into and is abiding by a payment agreement, or who has requested relief as an innocent spouse which is pending or has been granted, shall be deemed to be in compliance with the state income tax laws for purposes of this section.

E. If the Tax Commission notifies a licensee who is not in compliance with the income tax laws of this state as required in this section and such licensee does not respond to such notification or fails to come into compliance with the income tax laws of this state after an assessment has been made final or after the Tax Commission determines that every reasonable effort has been made to assist the licensee to come into compliance with the income tax laws of this state, the Tax Commission, notwithstanding the provisions of

Section 205 of this title, shall so notify the licensing entity, which shall ~~not renew~~ suspend the licensee's license ~~at such time as it is subject to renewal~~ and shall notify the applicant of the reason for ~~nonrenewal~~ suspension. Any such suspension shall be effective on the thirtieth working day after the date of such notification and shall continue for a period of not to exceed twenty-four (24) months. If a licensee who has been previously reported by the Tax Commission to a licensing entity as being out of compliance comes into compliance, the Tax Commission shall immediately notify the licensing entity and any suspended license held by such licensee shall be immediately reinstated and the licensee so notified by the licensing entity; provided, if any suspension imposed pursuant to the provisions of this section results in a requirement that the licensee complete continuing education, an examination or any other condition of reinstatement, the licensee shall be required to fulfill such requirements prior to reinstatement of the license. Any and all licensing fees that come due during the suspension period shall be required to be paid in full as a condition of reinstatement. If the licensee does not come into compliance within twenty-four (24) months of the date of suspension, the licensing entity shall proceed to revoke the license. A licensing entity shall not be held liable for any action with respect to a state license pursuant to the provisions of this section.

F. If the Oklahoma Bar Association receives notice that a licensed attorney is not in compliance with the income tax laws of this state as provided in this section, the Bar Association shall begin proceedings by which the attorney may be suspended pursuant to Rule Governing Disciplinary Proceedings. If suspended, the attorney may be reinstated pursuant to reinstatement procedures as provided in the Rules Governing Disciplinary Proceedings.

G. The Tax Commission shall promulgate rules for the implementation of the provisions of this section.

H. As used in this section:

1. "State license" means a license, certificate, registration, permit, approval or other similar document issued by a licensing entity granting to an individual or business a right or privilege to engage in a profession, occupation or business in this state.

"State license" does not include an inactive license issued by a licensing entity which does not grant an individual the right to engage in a profession, occupation or business in this state; and

2. "Licensing entity" means a bureau, department, division, board, agency, commission or other entity of this state or of a municipality in this state that issues a state license.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2004.

SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

Passed the Senate the 4th day of March, 2004.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
2004.

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Presiding Officer of the House  
of Representatives