Unofficial Copy Q7 1999 Regular Session 9lr0204 CF 9lr0203

Dry The Speaker (Administration) and Delegates Hirsen Envels Manuiett

By: The Speaker (Administration) and Delegates Hixson, Frush, Marriott, R. Baker, Barkley, Benson, Bobo, Bronrott, Brown, Burns, Carlson, Conroy, Cryor, D. Davis, Dembrow, Dobson, Doory, Dypski, Finifter, Franchot, Goldwater, Grosfeld, Harrison, Healey, Hecht, Heller, Hill, Howard, Hubbard, Hurson, A. Jones, V. Jones, Kirk, Kopp, Krysiak, Mandel, McIntosh, Menes, Moe, Montague, Morhaim, Nathan-Pulliam, Paige, Patterson, Pendergrass, Petzold, Phillips, Pitkin, Sher, Shriver, Stern, Swain, Turner, Valderrama, and Zirkin Zirkin, and D'Amato

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 1999

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 24, 1999

CHAPTER\_\_\_\_

#### 1 AN ACT concerning

2 Tobacco Tax

- 3 FOR the purpose of altering the tobacco tax rate for cigarettes; providing for certain
- 4 increases in the tobacco tax rate for cigarettes; altering a certain discount
- 5 provision under the tobacco tax; imposing the tobacco tax on certain tobacco
- 6 products other than cigarettes; setting the rate of the tobacco tax for other
- tobacco products; defining certain terms; altering certain definitions under the
- 8 tobacco tax law; requiring the Comptroller to establish by regulation a system of
- 9 administering, collecting, and enforcing the tobacco tax on other tobacco
- 10 products; making other tobacco products subject to certain enforcement
- provisions applicable to cigarettes; prohibiting certain acts relating to other
- 12 tobacco products; imposing certain requirements relating to certain
- transportation of other tobacco products; providing for the termination of certain
- 14 provisions of this Act; providing for a delayed effective date for certain
- provisions of this Act; providing for the application of this Act; requiring the
- 16 Governor to make certain appropriations in the budget for certain fiscal years;
- and generally relating to the taxation of cigarettes and other tobacco products.
- 18 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 19 Article Tax General
- 20 Section 12-105 and 12-303(b)

- 1 Annotated Code of Maryland 2 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement) 3 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Article - Tax - General 4 5 Section 12-105 and 12-303(b) 6 Annotated Code of Maryland (1997 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement) 7 (As enacted by Section 1 of this Act) 8 9 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments, Article - Tax - General 10 Section 12-101(a) 11 Annotated Code of Maryland 12 13 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement) 14 BY adding to 15 Article - Tax - General 16 Section 12-101(b-1) and (e-1), 12-302(c), and 12-306 Annotated Code of Maryland 17 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement) 18 19 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Article - Tax - General 20 21 Section 12-101(f), 12-102, 12-103, 12-104, 12-202, 12-203, 13-408, 13-834(c) and (e), 13-835(a), 13-836(a)(1) and (b)(2), 13-837, 13-839, 13-841(b), 22 13-842, 13-1014(a), and 13-1015 23 Annotated Code of Maryland 24 25 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement) 26 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Article - Business Regulation 27 28 Section 16-219 29 Annotated Code of Maryland 30 (1998 Replacement Volume) SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF 31 32 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows: 33 Article - Tax - General 34 12-105.
- 35 (A) The tobacco tax rate FOR CIGARETTES is:

1 (1) [18] 43 cents for each package of 10 or fewer cigarettes; 2 (2) [36] 86 cents for each package of at least 11 and not more than 20 3 cigarettes; 4 (3) [1.8] 4.3 cents for each cigarette in a package of more than 20 5 cigarettes; and 6 (4) [1.8] 4.3 cents for each cigarette in a package of free sample	
3 cigarettes;  4 (3) [1.8] 4.3 cents for each cigarette in a package of more than 20 5 cigarettes; and  6 (4) [1.8] 4.3 cents for each cigarette in a package of free sample	
5 cigarettes; and 6 (4) [1.8] 4.3 cents for each cigarette in a package of free sample	
7 cigarettes.	
8 (B) THE TOBACCO TAX RATE FOR OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS IS 25% OF WHOLESALE PRICE OF THE OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS.	F <del>THE</del>
10 12-303.	
11 (b) The Comptroller shall allow a licensed wholesaler a discount of [1.36%] 12 0.57% of the purchase price of tax stamps.	
SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland 14 read as follows:	
15 Article - Tax - General	
16 12-105.	
17 (a) (A) The tobacco tax rate for cigarettes is:	
18 (1) [43] 68 cents for each package of 10 or fewer cigarettes;	
19 (2) [86 cents] \$1.36 for each package of at least 11 and not more than 20 20 cigarettes;	
21 (3) [4.3] 6.8 cents for each cigarette in a package of more than 20 22 cigarettes; and	
23 (4) [4.3] 6.8 cents for each cigarette in a package of free sample	
24 cigarettes.	
<ul> <li>24 cigarettes.</li> <li>25 (b) The tobacco tax rate for other tobacco products is 25% of the wholesale</li> <li>26 price of the other tobacco products.</li> </ul>	
25 (b) The tobacco tax rate for other tobacco products is 25% of the wholesale	F THE
<ul> <li>25 (b) The tobacco tax rate for other tobacco products is 25% of the wholesale</li> <li>26 price of the other tobacco products.</li> <li>27 (B) THE TOBACCO TAX RATE FOR OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS IS 15% O</li> </ul>	F THE

1 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland 2 read as follows: 3 Article - Tax - General 4 12-101. 5 In this title the following words have the meanings indicated. (a) "OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCT" MEANS: 6 (B-1)7 ANY CIGAR OR ROLL FOR SMOKING, OTHER THAN A CIGARETTE, (1) 8 MADE IN WHOLE OR IN PART OF TOBACCO; OR 9 ANY OTHER TOBACCO OR PRODUCT MADE PRIMARILY FROM 10 TOBACCO, OTHER THAN A CIGARETTE, THAT IS INTENDED FOR CONSUMPTION BY 11 SMOKING OR CHEWING OR AS SNUFF. 12 (E-1)"WHOLESALE PRICE" MEANS THE PRICE FOR WHICH A WHOLESALER 13 SELLS BUYS OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS TO A RETAILER, EXCLUSIVE OF ANY 14 DISCOUNT, TRADE ALLOWANCE, REBATE, OR OTHER REDUCTION. 15 (f) "Wholesaler" means, unless the context requires otherwise[,]: a person who acts as a wholesaler as defined in § 16-201 of the 16 (1) 17 Business Regulation Article; OR A PERSON WHO: 18 (2) 19 (I) HOLDS OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS FOR SALE TO ANOTHER 20 PERSON FOR RESALE; OR (II)SELLS OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS TO ANOTHER PERSON FOR 21 22 RESALE. 23 12-102. Except as provided in § 12-104 of this title, a tax is imposed on cigarettes 25 AND OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS in the State. A county, municipal corporation, special taxing district, or other political 26 27 subdivision of the State may not impose a tax on cigarettes. 28 12-103. A rebuttable presumption exists that any cigarette OR OTHER TOBACCO 30 PRODUCT in the State is subject to the tobacco tax. Cigarettes OR OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS are contraband [cigarettes] 32 TOBACCO PRODUCTS if they:

1 2	under this tit	(1) le or und			sold in the State in a manner that is not authorized Business Regulation Article; or
			he record	s required	y vehicle in the State by a person who does not d by § 16-219 of the Business Regulation es OR OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS.
	(c) burden of pro to the tobacc	oving tha			garettes OR OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS has the OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS are not subject
9	12-104.				
	(a) PRODUCTS TOBACCO	S for a pu	rpose oth		on who possesses cigarettes OR OTHER TOBACCO elling or transporting the cigarettes OR OTHER
13	(b)	The toba	acco tax o	does not a	apply to:
14		(1)	cigarette	es that[:	
	Article is ho exchange or		sale outs		saler under Title 16 of the Business Regulation tate or to a United States armed forces
	SALE OUT		IE STAT		CO PRODUCTS THAT A WHOLESALER IS HOLDING FOR A UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES EXCHANGE OR
21		(3)	CIGAR	ETTES C	OR OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS THAT:
22		[(2)]	(I)	a consur	mer brings into the State:
23			[(i)]	1.	if the quantity brought from another state does not exceed:
	State, OTHE		ACCO PF	[1.] RODUCT	A. for a nonresident consumer traveling through this S HAVING A RETAIL VALUE OF \$25 OR 1 carton OF
27 28	HAVING A	RETAII	L VALUI	[2.] E OF \$5 (	B. for any other consumer, OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS OR 2 packages OF CIGARETTES; or
29 30	installation of	or reserva	[(ii)] ation does	2. s not exce	if the quantity brought from a United States armed forces eed:
33		BACCO			A. for a consumer who is a member of an armed forces a purchase at an armed forces exchange, VING A RETAIL VALUE OF \$50 OR 2 cartons OF

	HAVING A armed forces				B. OR 2 pa									ODUCTS
	has, in the ve Article for th				by § 16	5-219 o	of the	Busine	ss Reg	gulation		erson		
7		[(4)]	(III)	are held	in stora	age in a	a licer	nsed sto	orage	wareho	use.			
8	12-202.													
9 10	(a) return:	A whole	saler sha	ll comple	ete and	file wit	th the	Compt	troller	a tobac	co tax			
11		(1)	FOR CI	GARET1	TES:									
	which the w											montl	h in	
	each month unstamped c				es not l				_		n other	dates	for	
18 19	PERIODS T	(2) HAT TH	FOR OT								ES ANI	D FOI	R THE	
	(b) PRICE OF 0 12-203.		urn shall FOBACC											
23	(a)	Each wh	olesaler	shall:										
24		(1)	keep an	invoice f	or each	purch	ase of	tax sta	amps;					
25 26	packages; ar	(2) nd	maintair	a daily 1	ecord o	of the t	ax sta	mps af	fixed	to cigar	ette			
27 28	OTHER TO	(3) BACCO	maintair PRODU						each	sale of	cigarett	es OR	1	
29	(b)	A whole	saler sha	11:										
30 31	period of 6 y	(1) years or fo	keep the or a short								ction for	ra		
32		(2)	allow the	e Comptr	oller to	exami	ine th	e recor	ds.					

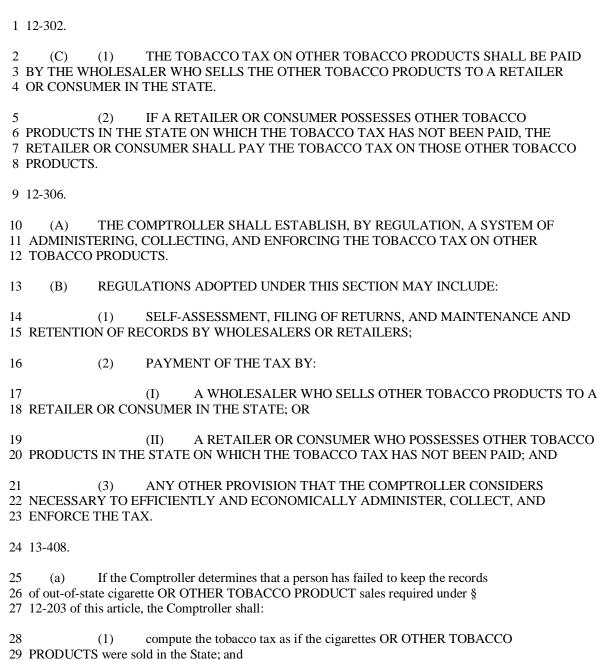
30

31

34 due.

(2)

assess the tax due.



If the Comptroller determines that a person has possessed or transported

32 cigarettes OR OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS on which the tobacco tax has not been paid 33 as required under Title 12 of this article, the Comptroller shall assess the tobacco tax

1	13-834.
2	(c) "Contraband [cigarettes] TOBACCO PRODUCTS" means cigarettes OR OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS, as defined in § 12-101 of this article:
4	(1) on which tobacco tax is not paid; and
	(2) that are delivered, possessed, sold, or transported in the State in a manner not authorized under Title 12 of this article or Title 16 of the Business Regulation Article.
8	(e) "Conveyance" means:
9 10	(1) an aircraft, vehicle, or vessel used to transport alcoholic beverages [or], cigarettes, OR OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS; and
	(2) a tank car, vehicle, or vessel that is used to transport motor fuel and that, exclusive of any tank used for its own propulsion, has a capacity exceeding 50 gallons.
14	13-835.
15	(a) The Comptroller or a peace officer of the State may:
16 17	(1) seize contraband alcoholic beverages or contraband [cigarettes] TOBACCO PRODUCTS in the State without a warrant;
20 21	(2) stop and search a conveyance in the State if the Comptroller or officer knows or has reason to suspect that the conveyance is being used to transport IN THE STATE CONTRABAND TOBACCO PRODUCTS HAVING A RETAIL VALUE OF \$100 OR MORE OR contraband alcoholic beverages [or 5 or more cartons of contraband cigarettes in the State]; and
23 24	(3) seize a conveyance being used in the State to transport contraband alcoholic beverages or contraband [cigarettes] TOBACCO PRODUCTS.
25	13-836.
26 27	(a) (1) If contraband alcoholic beverages or contraband [cigarettes] TOBACCO PRODUCTS are seized:
28 29	(i) the Comptroller or police officer shall give a notice of seizure to the person from whom the property is seized at the time of the seizure; and
30	(ii) The Comptroller shall:
31 32	1. where possible, give a notice of seizure to the registered owner of a seized conveyance; and
33 34	2. publish a notice of seizure of the conveyance in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the seizure occurred.

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(b)

(2)

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A police officer who seizes any contraband [cigarettes] TOBACCO

3	PRODUCTS or conveyance used to transport contraband [cigarettes] TOBACCO PRODUCTS shall deliver the seized cigarettes OR OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS and conveyance to the Comptroller.
5	13-837.
6 7	The owner or another person with an interest in seized property may file a claim for the return of the property with the Comptroller within 30 days after:
8 9	(1) the seizure of alcoholic beverages, cigarettes, OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS, motor fuel or conveyances used to transport motor fuel; or
10 11	(2) a notice of seizure of a conveyance used to transport alcoholic beverages [or], cigarettes, OR OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS is published.
12	13-839.
	(a) If a person files a claim for return of seized alcoholic beverages, cigarettes, OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS, or a conveyance used for their transportation under § 13-837 of this subtitle, the Comptroller or the Comptroller's designee shall:
16	(1) promptly act on the request and hold an informal hearing;
19	(2) direct the return of alcoholic beverages [or], cigarettes, OR OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS unless the Comptroller or Comptroller's designee has satisfactory proof that the person was not in compliance with any provisions of Title 5 or Title 12 of this article at the time of seizure; and
23	(3) direct the return of the conveyance if the Comptroller or Comptroller's designee has satisfactory proof that the owner of the conveyance was not willfully evading any provisions of Title 5 or Title 12 of this article at the time of seizure.
27	(b) The Comptroller or Comptroller's designee shall grant or deny the application for return of seized alcoholic beverages, cigarettes, OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS, or a conveyance in accordance with subsection (a) of this section by mailing the person a notice of final determination.
29	13-841.
32	(b) (1) The Comptroller shall sell contraband [cigarettes] TOBACCO PRODUCTS seized under this title and forfeited to a State institution, a nonprofit charitable institution, a licensed cigarette wholesaler, or a licensed cigarette manufacturer in the manner the Comptroller determines.
	(2) The Comptroller shall sell at public auction a conveyance that is seized under this title in connection with contraband [cigarettes] TOBACCO PRODUCTS and forfeited.

- 1 13-842. 2 A person who possessed contraband alcoholic beverages, contraband 3 [cigarettes] TOBACCO PRODUCTS, or contraband motor fuel that are seized and sold 4 under this section is not relieved from any penalty under this title. 5 13-1014. A person who willfully possesses, sells, or attempts to sell unstamped or 6 (a) 7 improperly stamped cigarettes OR OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS ON WHICH THE 8 TOBACCO TAX HAS NOT BEEN PAID in the State in violation of Title 12 of this article 9 is guilty of a misdemeanor and, on conviction, is subject to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 10 or imprisonment not exceeding 1 year or both. 11 13-1015. 12 A person who willfully transports in the State unstamped cigarettes OR OTHER 13 TOBACCO PRODUCTS ON WHICH THE TOBACCO TAX HAS NOT BEEN PAID in violation 14 of § 16-219 of the Business Regulation Article is guilty of a felony and, on conviction, 15 is subject to a fine not exceeding \$25 for each carton of cigarettes transported or 16 imprisonment not exceeding 1 year or both. 17 **Article - Business Regulation** 18 16-219. 19 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS" HAS THE MEANING 20 STATED IN § 12-101 OF THE TAX - GENERAL ARTICLE. (B) 21 A person who transports cigarettes OR OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS by 22 vehicle on a public road shall have in the vehicle a delivery ticket or invoice that 23 states: 24 (1) the name and address of the seller or consignor; the name and address of a buyer or consignee who is: 25 (2) a person in the State authorized by Title 12 of the Tax - General 27 Article to hold unstamped cigarettes OR OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS ON WHICH THE 28 TOBACCO TAX HAS NOT BEEN PAID; or 29 a person in another jurisdiction authorized to hold cigarettes OR (ii)
- 30 OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS on which the tax imposed by that jurisdiction has not
- 31 been paid; and
- 32 the quantity and brands of the cigarettes OR OTHER TOBACCO
- 33 PRODUCTS that are being transported.
- SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That for fiscal year 2001 and
- 35 each fiscal year thereafter, the Governor shall include in the budget capital

- 1 appropriations for education facilities in the State in a total amount equal to the
- 2 estimated increase in State revenues for the fiscal year resulting from the enactment
- 3 of Section 2 of this Act.
- 4 SECTION 5. 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That all cigarettes used,
- 5 possessed, or held in the State on or after July 1, 1999 by any person for sale or use
- 6 in the State shall be subject to the full tobacco tax of 86 cents on cigarettes imposed by
- 7 this Act. This requirement includes: (1) cigarettes in vending machines or other
- 8 mechanical dispensers; and (2) cigarettes (generally referred to as "floor stock") in
- 9 packages which already bear stamps issued by the Comptroller under the State
- 10 Tobacco Tax Act but for an amount less than the full tax imposed of 43 cents for each
- 11 10 cigarettes or fractional part thereof; all cigarettes held for sale by any person in
- 12 the State on or after July 1, 1999 that bear a tax stamp issued by the Comptroller of
- 13 a value less than 86 cents for each pack of 20 cigarettes must be stamped with the
- 14 additional stamps necessary to make the aggregate value equal to 86 cents. In lieu of
- 15 the additional stamps necessary to make the aggregate tax value equal to 86 cents,
- 16 the Comptroller may provide an alternate method of collecting the additional tax. The
- 17 revenue attributable to this requirement shall be remitted to the Comptroller by
- 18 September 30, 1999. Except as provided above, on and after July 1, 1999, no
- 19 Maryland stamp shall be used except the stamp issued by the Comptroller to evidence
- 20 the tobacco tax on cigarettes of 86 cents imposed by this Act.
- 21 SECTION 6. 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That all cigarettes used,
- 22 possessed, or held in the State on or after July 1, 2000 by any person for sale or use
- 23 in the State shall be subject to the full tobacco tax of \$1.36 on cigarettes imposed by
- 24 this Act. This requirement includes: (1) cigarettes in vending machines or other
- 25 mechanical dispensers; and (2) cigarettes (generally referred to as "floor stock") in
- 26 packages which already bear stamps issued by the Comptroller under the State
- 27 Tobacco Tax Act but for an amount less than the full tax imposed of 68 cents for each
- 28 10 cigarettes or fractional part thereof; all cigarettes held for sale by any person in
- 29 the State on or after July 1, 2000 that bear a tax stamp issued by the Comptroller of
- 30 a value less than \$1.36 for each pack of 20 cigarettes must be stamped with the
- 31 additional stamps necessary to make the aggregate value equal to \$1.36. In lieu of the
- 32 additional stamps necessary to make the aggregate tax value equal to \$1.36, the
- 33 Comptroller may provide an alternate method of collecting the additional tax. The
- 34 revenue attributable to this requirement shall be remitted to the Comptroller by
- 35 September 30, 2000. Except as provided above, on and after July 1, 2000, no
- 36 Maryland stamp shall be used except the stamp issued by the Comptroller to evidence
- 37 the tobacco tax on cigarettes of \$1.36 imposed by this Act.
- 38 SECTION 7. 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the tobacco tax on
- 39 tobacco products other than cigarettes imposed by this Act shall be applicable to all
- 40 other tobacco products that are sold by a wholesaler to a retailer in the State on or
- 41 after October 1, 1999 July 1, 2000.
- 42 SECTION 8. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 1 of this Act
- 43 shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30, 2000, with no
- 44 further action required by the General Assembly, Section 1 of this Act shall be of no
- 45 further force and effect.

- SECTION 9. 7. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 2 Sections 2 and 3 of this Act shall take effect July 1, 2000.
- SECTION <u>10.</u> <u>8.</u> AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That <u>Sections 1 and 3</u> through 8 of, except as provided in Section 7 of this Act, this Act shall take effect July
- 5 1, 1999.