Proposed amendments to Assembly Bill 948 (Bonta)

Section 6479.3 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read as follows:

- 6479.3. (a) Except as provided in subdivision (k), any person whose estimated tax liability under this part averages ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or more per month, as determined by the board pursuant to methods of calculation prescribed by the board, shall remit amounts due by an electronic funds transfer under procedures prescribed by the board. Any person who collects use tax on a voluntary basis is not required to remit amounts due by electronic funds transfer.
- (b) Any person whose estimated tax liability under this part averages less than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) per month or any person who voluntarily collects use tax may elect to remit amounts due by electronic funds transfer with the approval of the board.
- (c) Any person remitting amounts due pursuant to subdivision (a) or (b) shall perform electronic funds transfer in compliance with the due dates set forth in Article 1 (commencing with Section 6451) and Article 1.1 (commencing with Section 6470). Payment is deemed complete on the date the electronic funds transfer is initiated, if settlement to the state's demand account occurs on or before the banking day following the date the transfer is initiated. If settlement to the state's demand account does not occur on or before the banking day following the date the transfer is initiated, payment is deemed to occur on the date settlement occurs.
- (d) Any person remitting taxes by electronic funds transfer shall, on or before the due date of the remittance, file a return for the preceding reporting period in the form and manner prescribed by the board. Any person who fails to timely file the required return shall pay a penalty of 10 percent of the amount of taxes, exclusive of prepayments, with respect to the period for which the return is required.
- (e) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), any person required to remit taxes pursuant to this article who remits those taxes by means other than appropriate electronic funds transfer shall pay a penalty of 10 percent of the taxes incorrectly remitted.
- (2) A person required to remit prepayments pursuant to this article who remits a prepayment by means other than an appropriate electronic funds transfer shall pay a penalty of 6 percent of the prepayment amount incorrectly remitted.
- (f) Except as provided in Sections 6476 and 6477, any person who fails to pay any tax to the state or any amount of tax required to be collected and paid to the state, except amounts of determinations made by the board under Article 2 (commencing with Section 6481) or Article 3 (commencing with Section 6511), within the time required shall pay a penalty of 10 percent of the tax or amount of tax, in addition to the tax or amount of tax, plus interest at the modified adjusted rate per month, or fraction thereof, established pursuant to Section 6591.5, from the date on which the tax or the amount of tax required to be collected became due and payable to the state until the date of payment.
- (g) In determining whether a person's estimated tax liability averages ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or more per month, the board may consider tax returns filed pursuant to this part and any other information in the board's possession.
- (h) Except as provided in subdivision (i), the penalties imposed by subdivisions (d), (e), and (f) shall be limited to a maximum of 10 percent of the taxes due, exclusive of prepayments, for any one return. Any person remitting taxes by electronic funds transfer shall be subject to the penalties under this section and not Section 6591.
- (i) The penalties imposed with respect to paragraph (2) of subdivision (e) and Sections 6476 and 6477 shall be limited to a maximum of 6 percent of the prepayment amount.

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- (j) The board shall promulgate regulations pursuant to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code for purposes of implementing this section.
- (k) Before January 1, 2022, a person issued a seller's permit for a place of business that is a dispensary A person licensed to engage in commercial cannabis activity under Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 19300) of Division 8 of the Business and Professions Code or commercial marijuana activity under Division 10 (commencing with Section 26000) of the Business and Professions Code, as defined in subdivision (n) of Section 19300.5 of the Business and Professions Code, may remit amounts due for retail sales at the dispensary by a means other than electronic funds transfer, if the board deems it necessary to facilitate collection of amounts due.

Section 34013 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read as follows:

- 34013. (a) The board shall administer and collect the taxes imposed by this part pursuant to the Fee Collection Procedures Law (Part 30 (commencing with Section 55001) of Division 2), except that subdivision (a) of Section 55050 shall not apply to a person required to pay or collect the tax imposed by this part if the board deems it necessary to facilitate collection of amounts due. For purposes of this part, the references in the Fee Collection Procedures Law to "fee" shall include the tax imposed by this part, and references to "feepayer" shall include a person required to pay or collect the tax imposed by this part.
- (b) The board may prescribe, adopt, and enforce regulations relating to the administration and enforcement of this part, including, but not limited to, collections, reporting, refunds, and appeals.
- (c) The board shall adopt necessary rules and regulations to administer the taxes in this part. Such rules and regulations may include methods or procedures to tag marijuana or marijuana products, or the packages thereof, to designate prior tax payment.
- (d) The board may prescribe, adopt, and enforce any emergency regulations as necessary to implement, administer and enforce its duties under this division. Any emergency regulation prescribed, adopted, or enforced pursuant to this section shall be adopted in accordance with Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, and, for purposes of that chapter, including Section 11349.6 of the Government Code, the adoption of the regulation is an emergency and shall be considered by the Office of Administrative Law as necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, and general welfare. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the emergency regulations adopted by the board may remain in effect for two years from adoption.
- (e) Any person who fails to pay the taxes imposed under this part shall, in addition to owing the taxes not paid, be subject to a penalty of at least one-half the amount of the taxes not paid, and shall be subject to having its license revoked pursuant to Section 26031 of the Business and Professions Code or pursuant to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 19300) of Division 8 of the Business and Professions Code.
- (f) The board may bring such legal actions as are necessary to collect any deficiency in the tax required to be paid, and, upon the board's request, the Attorney General shall bring the actions.