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Proposed Committee Substitute by the Committee on Appropriations (Appropriations Subcommittee on Finance and Tax)

A bill to be entitled 1 2 An act relating to tax administration; amending s. 3 198.30, F.S.; deleting a requirement for circuit 4 judges to monthly report certain information to the 5 Department of Revenue relating to the estates of 6 certain decedents; amending s. 206.02, F.S.; deleting 7 requirements to pay license taxes for a terminal 8 supplier license, an importer, exporter, or blender of 9 motor fuels license, or a wholesaler of motor fuel 10 license; conforming a provision to changes made by the act; amending s. 206.021, F.S.; deleting a requirement 11 12 to pay license taxes for a carrier license; amending 13 s. 206.022, F.S.; deleting a requirement to pay 14 license taxes for a terminal operator license; amending s. 206.03, F.S.; conforming a provision to 15 changes made by the act; amending s. 206.045, F.S.; 16 conforming a provision to changes made by the act; 17 repealing ss. 206.405 and 206.406, F.S., relating to 18 19 receipt for payment of license taxes and disposition 20 of license tax funds, respectively; amending s. 21 206.41, F.S.; deleting a requirement for the 2.2 department to deduct a specified fee from certain 23 motor fuel refund claims; amending s. 206.9943, F.S.; 24 deleting a requirement to pay license fees for a 25 pollutant tax license; amending s. 206.9952, F.S.; 26 deleting a requirement to pay license fees for a 27 natural gas fuel retailer license; amending s.

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28 206.9865, F.S.; deleting a requirement to pay 29 application fees for an aviation fuel tax license for 30 commercial air carriers; amending s. 212.0515, F.S.; deleting a requirement for vending machine operators 31 32 to post a specified notice on vending machines; 33 deleting a provision requiring the department to pay 34 an informant certain rewards for reporting vending 35 machines without the notice; conforming provisions to 36 changes made by the act; amending s. 212.0596, F.S.; 37 deleting an authorization for procedures that waive 38 registration fees in relation to the use tax on mail 39 order purchases by certain persons; amending s. 40 212.18, F.S.; deleting a requirement for certificates of registration fees for certain dealers in relation 41 42 to the sales and use tax; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 336.021, F.S.; 43 44 specifying a condition for the reimposition of ninthcent fuel taxes on motor and diesel fuels by a county; 45 amending s. 336.025, F.S.; specifying a condition for 46 the reimposition of local option fuel taxes on motor 47 and diesel fuels by a county; providing construction 48 49 relating to requirements on a decision to rescind a tax; amending s. 376.70, F.S.; deleting a requirement 50 51 for drycleaning or dry drop-off facilities to pay 52 registration fees to the department; amending s. 53 376.75, F.S.; deleting a requirement to pay 54 registration fees for certain persons producing, 55 importing, selling, or using perchloroethylene; 56 amending s. 443.131, F.S.; revising a deadline for

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57	employers of employees performing domestic services to
58	annually report wages and pay certain contributions
59	under the Reemployment Assistance Program Law;
60	defining the term "holiday"; amending s. 443.141,
61	F.S.; specifying a due date of certain employer
62	contributions if such date falls on a weekend or
63	holiday; defining the term "holiday"; conforming
64	cross-references; amending s. 443.163, F.S.; deleting
65	a form name; authorizing reemployment assistance tax
66	collection service providers to waive a certain
67	penalty under certain circumstances; amending s.
68	733.2121, F.S.; providing that a personal
69	representative may serve a notice to creditors on the
70	department only under certain circumstances; deleting
71	a provision providing construction; reenacting s.
72	733.701, F.S., relating to notifying creditors, to
73	incorporate the amendment made to s. 733.2121, F.S.,
74	in a reference thereto; amending s. 206.998, F.S.;
75	conforming cross-references; repealing s. 1 of ch.
76	2007-339, s. 13 of ch. 2008-173, s. 6 of ch. 2009-131,
77	ss. 8(2) and 24 of ch. 2010-138, s. 6 of ch. 2010-149,
78	s. 7 of ch. 2010-166, s. 35 of ch. 2011-76, s. 4 of
79	ch. 2011-93, s. 3 of ch. 2011-229, s. 25 of ch. 2012-
80	32, and s. 3 of ch. 2013-46, Laws of Florida, relating
81	to obsolete emergency rulemaking authority of the
82	department; providing an effective date.
83	
81	Bo It Enacted by the Logislature of the State of Florida.

84 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 85

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86 Section 1. Section 198.30, Florida Statutes, is amended to 87 read:

198.30 Circuit judge to report names of decedents, etc.-88 89 Each circuit judge of this state shall, on or before the 10th 90 day of every month, notify the Agency for Health Care 91 Administration department of the names of all decedents; the 92 names and addresses of the respective personal representatives, 93 administrators, or curators appointed; the amount of the bonds, 94 if any, required by the court; and the probable value of the 95 estates, in all estates of decedents whose wills have been 96 probated or propounded for probate before the circuit judge or 97 upon which letters testamentary or upon whose estates letters of administration or curatorship have been sought or granted, 98 99 during the preceding month; and such report shall contain any 100 other information that which the circuit judge may have concerning the estates of such decedents. In addition, a copy of 101 102 this report shall be provided to the Agency for Health Care Administration. A circuit judge shall also furnish forthwith 103 104 such further information, from the records and files of the 105 circuit court in regard to such estates, as the department may 106 from time to time require.

Section 2. Effective January 1, 2018, subsections (2), (3), and (4), paragraph (a) of subsection (7), and paragraph (b) of subsection (8) of section 206.02, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

111 206.02 Application for license; temporary license; terminal 112 suppliers, importers, exporters, blenders, biodiesel 113 manufacturers, and wholesalers.-

114

(2) To procure a terminal supplier license, a person shall

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115 file with the department an application under oath, and in such 116 form as the department may prescribe, setting forth:

(a) The name under which the person will transact business
within the state and that person's registration number under s.
4101 of the Internal Revenue Code.

(b) The location, with street number address, of his or her
principal office or place of business and the location where
records will be made available for inspection.

123 (c) The name and complete residence address of the owner or 124 the names and addresses of the partners, if such person is a 125 partnership, or of the principal officers, if such person is a 126 corporation or association; and, if such person is a corporation 127 organized under the laws of another state, territory, or 128 country, he or she shall also indicate the state, territory, or 129 country where the corporation is organized and the date the 130 corporation was registered with the Department of State as a 131 foreign corporation authorized to transact business in the 132 state.

133

134 The application shall require a \$30 license tax. Each license 135 <u>must shall</u> be renewed annually through application, including an 136 annual \$30 license tax.

(3) To procure an importer, exporter, or blender of motor
fuels license, a person shall file with the department an
application under oath, and in such form as the department may
prescribe, setting forth:

(a) The name under which the person will transact businesswithin the state.

143

(b) The location, with street number address, of his or her

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144 principal office or place of business and the location where 145 records will be made available for inspection.

(c) The name and complete residence address of the owner or 146 the names and addresses of the partners, if such person is a 147 148 partnership, or of the principal officers, if such person is a 149 corporation or association; and, if such person is a corporation 150 organized under the laws of another state, territory, or 151 country, he or she shall also indicate the state, territory, or 152 country where the corporation is organized and the date the 153 corporation was registered with the Department of State as a 154 foreign corporation authorized to transact business in the 155 state.

157 The application shall require a \$30 license tax. Each license 158 <u>must shall</u> be renewed annually through application, including an 159 annual \$30 license tax.

(4) To procure a wholesaler of motor fuel license, a person
shall file with the department an application under oath and in
such form as the department may prescribe, setting forth:

(a) The name under which the person will transact businesswithin the state.

(b) The location, with street number address, of his or her principal office or place of business within this state and the location where records will be made available for inspection.

(c) The name and complete residence address of the owner or the names and addresses of the partners, if such person is a partnership, or of the principal officers, if such person is a corporation or association; and, if such person is a corporation organized under the laws of another state, territory, or

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173 country, he or she shall also indicate the state, territory, or 174 country where the corporation is organized and the date the 175 corporation was registered with the Department of State as a 176 foreign corporation authorized to transact business in the 177 state.

The application shall require a \$30 license tax. Each license must shall be renewed annually through application, including an annual \$30 license fee.

182 (7) (a) If all applicants for a license hold a current 183 license in good standing of the same type and kind, the 184 department shall issue a temporary license upon the filing of a completed application, payment of all fees, and the posting of 185 186 adequate bond. A temporary license shall automatically expire 90 187 days after its effective date or, prior to the expiration of 90 188 days or the period of any extension, upon issuance of a 189 permanent license or of a notice of intent to deny a permanent 190 license. A temporary license may be extended once for a period 191 not to exceed 60 days, upon written request of the applicant, subject to the restrictions imposed by this subsection. 192 193 (8)

194 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter 195 requiring a license tax and a bond or criminal background check, 196 the department may issue a temporary license as an importer or 197 exporter to a person who holds a valid Florida wholesaler 198 license or to a person who is an unlicensed dealer. A license 199 may be issued under this subsection only to a business that has a physical location in this state and holds a valid Florida 200 201 sales and use tax certificate of registration or that holds a

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202 valid fuel license issued by another state.

203 Section 3. Effective January 1, 2018, subsection (3) and 204 paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section 206.021, Florida 205 Statutes, are amended to read:

206.021 Application for license; carriers.-

207 (3) The application shall require a \$30 license tax. Each
 208 license must shall be renewed annually through application,
 209 including an annual \$30 license tax.

(5)

211 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter 212 requiring a license tax and a bond or criminal background check, 213 the department may issue a temporary license as a carrier to a person who holds a valid Florida wholesaler, importer, exporter, 214 215 or blender license or to a person who is an unlicensed dealer. A license may be issued under this subsection only to a business 216 217 that has a physical location in this state and holds a valid 218 Florida sales and use tax certificate of registration or that 219 holds a valid fuel license issued by another state.

220 Section 4. Effective January 1, 2018, subsection (2) of 221 section 206.022, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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206.022 Application for license; terminal operators.-

(2) The application shall require a \$30 license tax. Each
 license shall be renewed annually through application, including
 an annual \$30 license tax.

226 Section 5. Effective January 1, 2018, subsection (1) of 227 section 206.03, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

228 206.03 Licensing of terminal suppliers, importers, 229 exporters, and wholesalers.-

(1) The application in proper form having been accepted for

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231	filing, the filing fee paid, and the bond accepted and approved,
232	except as provided in s. 206.05(1), the department shall issue
233	to such person a license to transact business in the state,
234	subject to cancellation of such license as provided by law.
235	Section 6. Effective January 1, 2018, section 206.045,
236	Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
237	206.045 Licensing period; cost for license issuance
238	Beginning January 1, 1998, the licensing period under this
239	chapter shall be a calendar year, or any part thereof. The cost
240	of any such license issued pursuant to this chapter shall be
241	\$30.
242	Section 7. Effective January 1, 2018, ss. 206.405 and
243	206.406, Florida Statutes, are repealed.
244	Section 8. Effective January 1, 2018, paragraph (c) of
245	subsection (5) of section 206.41, Florida Statutes, is amended
246	to read:
247	206.41 State taxes imposed on motor fuel
248	(5)
249	(c)1. No refund may be authorized unless a sworn
250	application therefor containing such information as the
251	department may determine is filed with the department not later
252	than the last day of the month following the quarter for which
253	the refund is claimed. However, when a justified excuse for late
254	filing is presented to the department and the last preceding
255	claim was filed on time, the deadline for filing may be extended
256	an additional month. No refund will be authorized unless the
257	amount due is for \$5 or more for any refund period and unless
258	application is made upon forms prescribed by the department.
259	2. Claims made for refunds provided pursuant to subsection

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260 (4) shall be paid quarterly. The department shall deduct a fee 261 of \$2 for each claim, which fee shall be deposited in the 262 General Revenue Fund. 263 Section 9. Effective January 1, 2018, subsection (3) of section 206.9943, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 264 265 206.9943 Pollutant tax license.-266 (3) The license must be renewed annually, and the fee for 267 original application or renewal is \$30. 268 Section 10. Effective January 1, 2018, subsection (9) of 269 section 206.9952, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 270 206.9952 Application for license as a natural gas fuel 271 retailer.-272 (9) The license application requires a license fee of \$5. 273 Each license shall be renewed annually by submitting a 274 reapplication and the license fee to the department. The license 275 fee shall be paid to the department for deposit into the General 276 Revenue Fund. Section 11. Effective January 1, 2018, subsection (3) of 277 278 section 206.9865, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 206.9865 Commercial air carriers; registration; reporting.-279 280 (3) The application must be renewed annually and the fee for application or renewal is \$30. 281 282 Section 12. Effective January 1, 2018, subsections (3) and 283 (4) and present subsection (7) of section 212.0515, Florida 284 Statutes, are amended to read: 285 212.0515 Sales from vending machines; sales to vending 286 machine operators; special provisions; registration; penalties.-287 (3) (a) An operator of a vending machine may not operate or 288 cause to be operated in this state any vending machine until the



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289 operator has registered with the department and \overline{r} has obtained a 290 separate registration certificate for each county in which such 291 machines are located, and has affixed a notice to each vending 292 machine selling food or beverages. The notice must be 293 conspicuously displayed on the vending machine when it is being 294 operated in this state and shall contain the following language 295 in conspicuous type: NOTICE TO CUSTOMER: FLORIDA LAW REQUIRES 296 THIS NOTICE TO BE POSTED ON ALL FOOD AND BEVERACE VENDING 297 MACHINES. REPORT ANY MACHINE WITHOUT A NOTICE TO (TOLL-FREE 298 NUMBER). YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR A CASH REWARD. DO NOT USE THIS 299 NUMBER TO REPORT PROBLEMS WITH THE VENDING MACHINE SUCH AS LOST MONEY OR OUT-OF-DATE PRODUCTS. 300

301 (b) The department shall establish a toll-free number to 302 report any violations of this section. Upon a determination that 303 a violation has occurred, the department shall pay the informant 304 a reward of up to 10 percent of previously unpaid taxes 305 recovered as a result of the information provided. A person who 306 receives information concerning a violation of this section from 307 an employee as specified in s. 213.30 is not eligible for a cash 308 reward.

309 (4) A penalty of \$250 per machine is imposed on an operator 310 who fails to properly obtain and display the required notice on 311 any machine. Penalties accrue interest as provided for 312 delinquent taxes under this chapter and apply in addition to all 313 other applicable taxes, interest, and penalties.

314 <u>(6) (7)</u> The department may adopt rules necessary to 315 administer the provisions of this section and may establish a 316 schedule for phasing in the requirement that existing notices be 317 replaced with revised notices displayed on vending machines.

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318Section 13. Effective January 1, 2018, subsection (7) of319section 212.0596, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

212.0596 Taxation of mail order sales.-

321 (7) The department may establish by rule procedures for 322 collecting the use tax from unregistered persons who but for 323 their mail order purchases would not be required to remit sales 324 or use tax directly to the department. The procedures may 325 provide for waiver of registration and registration fees, 326 provisions for irregular remittance of tax, elimination of the 327 collection allowance, and nonapplication of local option 328 surtaxes.

329 Section 14. Effective January 1, 2018, paragraphs (a) and 330 (c) of subsection (3) of section 212.18, Florida Statutes, are 331 amended to read:

332 212.18 Administration of law; registration of dealers; 333 rules.-

334 (3) (a) A person desiring to engage in or conduct business in this state as a dealer, or to lease, rent, or let or grant 335 336 licenses in living quarters or sleeping or housekeeping 337 accommodations in hotels, apartment houses, roominghouses, or 338 tourist or trailer camps that are subject to tax under s. 212.03, or to lease, rent, or let or grant licenses in real 339 property, and a person who sells or receives anything of value 340 341 by way of admissions, must file with the department an 342 application for a certificate of registration for each place of 343 business. The application must include the names of the persons 344 who have interests in such business and their residences, the address of the business, and other data reasonably required by 345 346 the department. However, owners and operators of vending

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347 machines or newspaper rack machines are required to obtain only one certificate of registration for each county in which such 348 349 machines are located. The department, by rule, may authorize a 350 dealer that uses independent sellers to sell its merchandise to 351 remit tax on the retail sales price charged to the ultimate 352 consumer in lieu of having the independent seller register as a 353 dealer and remit the tax. The department may appoint the county 354 tax collector as the department's agent to accept applications 355 for registrations. The application must be submitted to the 356 department before the person, firm, copartnership, or 357 corporation may engage in such business, and it must be 358 accompanied by a registration fee of \$5. However, a registration 359 fee is not required to accompany an application to engage in or 360 conduct business to make mail order sales. The department may 361 waive the registration fee for applications submitted through 362 the department's Internet registration process.

363 (c)1. A person who engages in acts requiring a certificate 364 of registration under this subsection and who fails or refuses 365 to register commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, 366 punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. Such acts 367 are subject to injunctive proceedings as provided by law. A 368 person who engages in acts requiring a certificate of 369 registration and who fails or refuses to register is also 370 subject to a \$100 initial registration fee in lieu of the \$5 371 registration fee required by paragraph (a). However, the department may waive the increase in the registration fee if it 372 373 finds that the failure to register was due to reasonable cause 374 and not to willful negligence, willful neglect, or fraud. 2.a. A person who willfully fails to register after the 375

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376 department provides notice of the duty to register as a dealer 377 commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in 378 s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

b. The department shall provide written notice of the duty
to register to the person by personal service or by sending
notice by registered mail to the person's last known address.
The department may provide written notice by both methods
described in this sub-subparagraph.

384 Section 15. Subsection (5) of section 336.021, Florida 385 Statutes, is amended to read:

386 336.021 County transportation system; levy of ninth-cent 387 fuel tax on motor fuel and diesel fuel.-

388 (5) All impositions of the tax shall be levied before 389 October 1 of each year to be effective January 1 of the 390 following year. However, levies of the tax which were in effect 391 on July 1, 2002, and which expire on August 31 of any year may be reimposed at the current authorized rate if the imposition of 392 393 the tax is levied before July 1 and is to be effective September 394 1 of the year of expiration. All impositions shall be required 395 to end on December 31 of a year. A decision to rescind the tax 396 shall not take effect on any date other than December 31 and shall require a minimum of 60 days' notice to the department of 397 398 such decision.

399 Section 16. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (1) and 400 paragraph (a) of subsection (5) of section 336.025, Florida 401 Statutes, are amended to read:

402 336.025 County transportation system; levy of local option 403 fuel tax on motor fuel and diesel fuel.-

404

(1) (a) In addition to other taxes allowed by law, there may

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405 be levied as provided in ss. 206.41(1)(e) and 206.87(1)(c) a 1-406 cent, 2-cent, 3-cent, 4-cent, 5-cent, or 6-cent local option 407 fuel tax upon every gallon of motor fuel and diesel fuel sold in 408 a county and taxed under the provisions of part I or part II of 409 chapter 206.

410 1. All impositions and rate changes of the tax shall be 411 levied before October 1 to be effective January 1 of the 412 following year for a period not to exceed 30 years, and the 413 applicable method of distribution shall be established pursuant 414 to subsection (3) or subsection (4). However, levies of the tax 415 which were in effect on July 1, 2002, and which expire on August 416 31 of any year may be reimposed at the current authorized rate if the imposition of the tax is levied before July 1 and is 417 418 effective September 1 of the year of expiration. Upon 419 expiration, the tax may be relevied provided that a 420 redetermination of the method of distribution is made as 421 provided in this section.

422 2. County and municipal governments shall utilize moneys
423 received pursuant to this paragraph only for transportation
424 expenditures.

3. Any tax levied pursuant to this paragraph may be extended on a majority vote of the governing body of the county. A redetermination of the method of distribution shall be established pursuant to subsection (3) or subsection (4), if, after July 1, 1986, the tax is extended or the tax rate changed, for the period of extension or for the additional tax.

(b) In addition to other taxes allowed by law, there may be
levied as provided in s. 206.41(1)(e) a 1-cent, 2-cent, 3-cent,
433 4-cent, or 5-cent local option fuel tax upon every gallon of

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434 motor fuel sold in a county and taxed under the provisions of 435 part I of chapter 206. The tax shall be levied by an ordinance 436 adopted by a majority plus one vote of the membership of the 437 governing body of the county or by referendum.

1. All impositions and rate changes of the tax shall be levied before October 1, to be effective January 1 of the following year. However, levies of the tax which were in effect on July 1, 2002, and which expire on August 31 of any year may be reimposed at the current authorized rate <u>if the imposition of</u> the tax is levied before July 1 and is effective September 1 of the year of expiration.

445 2. The county may, prior to levy of the tax, establish by 446 interlocal agreement with one or more municipalities located 447 therein, representing a majority of the population of the 448 incorporated area within the county, a distribution formula for 449 dividing the entire proceeds of the tax among county government 450 and all eligible municipalities within the county. If no 451 interlocal agreement is adopted before the effective date of the 452 tax, tax revenues shall be distributed pursuant to the 453 provisions of subsection (4). If no interlocal agreement exists, 454 a new interlocal agreement may be established prior to June 1 of 455 any year pursuant to this subparagraph. However, any interlocal 456 agreement agreed to under this subparagraph after the initial 457 levy of the tax or change in the tax rate authorized in this 458 section shall under no circumstances materially or adversely 459 affect the rights of holders of outstanding bonds which are 460 backed by taxes authorized by this paragraph, and the amounts distributed to the county government and each municipality shall 461 462 not be reduced below the amount necessary for the payment of

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463 principal and interest and reserves for principal and interest 464 as required under the covenants of any bond resolution 465 outstanding on the date of establishment of the new interlocal 466 agreement.

467 3. County and municipal governments shall use moneys 468 received pursuant to this paragraph for transportation 469 expenditures needed to meet the requirements of the capital 470 improvements element of an adopted comprehensive plan or for 471 expenditures needed to meet immediate local transportation 472 problems and for other transportation-related expenditures that 473 are critical for building comprehensive roadway networks by 474 local governments. For purposes of this paragraph, expenditures 475 for the construction of new roads, the reconstruction or 476 resurfacing of existing paved roads, or the paving of existing 477 graded roads shall be deemed to increase capacity and such 478 projects shall be included in the capital improvements element 479 of an adopted comprehensive plan. Expenditures for purposes of 480 this paragraph shall not include routine maintenance of roads.

481 (5) (a) By October 1 of each year, the county shall notify 482 the Department of Revenue of the rate of the taxes levied 483 pursuant to paragraphs (1)(a) and (b), and of its decision to 484 rescind or change the rate of a tax, if applicable, and shall 485 provide the department with a certified copy of the interlocal 486 agreement established under subparagraph (1) (b)2. or 487 subparagraph (3)(a)1. with distribution proportions established 488 by such agreement or pursuant to subsection (4), if applicable. 489 A decision to rescind a tax may not take effect on any date 490 other than December 31, regardless of when the tax was 491 originally imposed, and requires a minimum of 60 days' notice to

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492 the Department of Revenue of such decision.

493Section 17. Effective January 1, 2018, subsection (2) of494section 376.70, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

376.70 Tax on gross receipts of drycleaning facilities.-

496 (2) Each drycleaning facility or dry drop-off facility 497 imposing a charge for the drycleaning or laundering of clothing or other fabrics is required to register with the Department of 498 499 Revenue and become licensed for the purposes of this section. 500 The owner or operator of the facility shall register the 501 facility with the Department of Revenue. Drycleaning facilities or dry drop-off facilities operating at more than one location 502 503 are only required to have a single registration. The fee for registration is \$30. The owner or operator of the facility shall 504 505 pay the registration fee to the Department of Revenue. The 506 department may waive the registration fee for applications 507 submitted through the department's Internet registration 508 process.

509 Section 18. Subsection (2) of section 376.75, Florida 510 Statutes, is amended to read:

511 376.75 Tax on production or importation of 512 perchloroethylene.-

(2) Any person producing in, importing into, or causing to 513 be imported into, or selling in, this state perchloroethylene 514 515 must register with the Department of Revenue and become licensed 516 for the purposes of remitting the tax pursuant to, or providing 517 information required by, this section. Such person must register 518 as a seller of perchloroethylene, a user of perchloroethylene in drycleaning facilities, or a user of perchloroethylene for 519 520 purposes other than drycleaning. Persons operating at more than

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521 one location are only required to have a single registration. 522 The fee for registration is \$30. Failure to timely register is a 523 misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 524 775.082 or s. 775.083.

525 Section 19. Subsection (1) of section 443.131, Florida 526 Statutes, is amended to read:

527

443.131 Contributions.-

528 (1) PAYMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS.-Contributions accrue and are 529 payable by each employer for each calendar quarter he or she is 530 subject to this chapter for wages paid during each calendar 531 quarter for employment. Contributions are due and payable by 532 each employer to the tax collection service provider, in 533 accordance with the rules adopted by the Department of Economic 534 Opportunity or the state agency providing tax collection 535 services. This subsection does not prohibit the tax collection 536 service provider from allowing, at the request of the employer, 537 employers of employees performing domestic services, as defined in s. 443.1216(6), to pay contributions or report wages at 538 539 intervals other than quarterly when the nonquarterly payment or reporting assists the service provider and when nonquarterly 540 541 payment and reporting is authorized under federal law. Employers 542 of employees performing domestic services may report wages and 543 pay contributions annually, with a due date of no later than 544 January 31, unless that day is a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, 545 in which event the due date is the next day that is not a 546 Saturday, Sunday, or holiday. For purposes of this subsection, 547 the term "holiday" means a day designated under s. 110.117(1) and (2) and any other day when the offices of the United States 548 549 Postal Service are closed January 1 and a delinquency date of

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550 February 1. To qualify for this election, the employer must 551 employ only employees performing domestic services, be eligible 552 for a variation from the standard rate computed under subsection 553 (3), apply to this program no later than December 1 of the 554 preceding calendar year, and agree to provide the department or 555 its tax collection service provider with any special reports 556 that are requested, including copies of all federal employment 557 tax forms. An employer who fails to timely furnish any wage 558 information required by the department or its tax collection 559 service provider loses the privilege to participate in this 560 program, effective the calendar quarter immediately after the 561 calendar quarter the failure occurred. The employer may reapply for annual reporting when a complete calendar year elapses after 562 563 the employer's disqualification if the employer timely furnished 564 any requested wage information during the period in which annual 565 reporting was denied. An employer may not deduct contributions, 566 interests, penalties, fines, or fees required under this chapter 567 from any part of the wages of his or her employees. A fractional 568 part of a cent less than one-half cent shall be disregarded from 569 the payment of contributions, but a fractional part of at least 570 one-half cent shall be increased to 1 cent.

571 Section 20. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section 572 443.141, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

573

443.141 Collection of contributions and reimbursements.-

574 (1) PAST DUE CONTRIBUTIONS AND REIMBURSEMENTS; DELINQUENT,
 575 ERRONEOUS, INCOMPLETE, OR INSUFFICIENT REPORTS.—

(d) Payments for contributions.—For an annual
administrative fee not to exceed \$5, a contributing employer may
pay its quarterly contributions due for wages paid in the first

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579 three quarters of each year in equal installments if those 580 contributions are paid as follows:

1. For contributions due for wages paid in the first quarter of each year, one-fourth of the contributions due must be paid on or before April 30, one-fourth must be paid on or before July 31, one-fourth must be paid on or before October 31, and one-fourth must be paid on or before December 31.

2. In addition to the payments specified in subparagraph 1., for contributions due for wages paid in the second quarter of each year, one-third of the contributions due must be paid on or before July 31, one-third must be paid on or before October 31, and one-third must be paid on or before December 31.

3. In addition to the payments specified in subparagraphs 1. and 2., for contributions due for wages paid in the third quarter of each year, one-half of the contributions due must be paid on or before October 31, and one-half must be paid on or before December 31.

596 <u>4. If any of the due dates in this paragraph falls on a</u>
597 <u>Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, the due date is the next day that</u>
598 <u>is not a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday. For purposes of this</u>
599 <u>paragraph, the term "holiday" means a day designated under s.</u>
600 <u>110.117(1) and (2) and any other day when the offices of the</u>
601 <u>United States Postal Service are closed.</u>

602 <u>5.4</u>. The annual administrative fee assessed for electing to 603 pay under the installment method shall be collected at the time 604 the employer makes the first installment payment each year. The 605 fee shall be segregated from the payment and deposited into the 606 Operating Trust Fund of the Department of Revenue.

607

6.5. Interest does not accrue on any contribution that



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608 becomes due for wages paid in the first three quarters of each 609 year if the employer pays the contribution in accordance with 610 subparagraphs 1.-5. subparagraphs 1.-4. Interest and fees 611 continue to accrue on prior delinquent contributions and 612 commence accruing on all contributions due for wages paid in the first three quarters of each year which are not paid in 613 614 accordance with subparagraphs 1.-4. subparagraphs 1.-3. Penalties may be assessed in accordance with this chapter. The 615 616 contributions due for wages paid in the fourth quarter are not 617 affected by this paragraph and are due and payable in accordance 618 with this chapter.

619 Section 21. Section 443.163, Florida Statutes, is amended 620 to read:

443.163 Electronic reporting and remitting of contributionsand reimbursements.-

623 (1) An employer may file any report and remit any 624 contributions or reimbursements required under this chapter by electronic means. The Department of Economic Opportunity or the 625 626 state agency providing reemployment assistance tax collection 627 services shall adopt rules prescribing the format and 628 instructions necessary for electronically filing reports and 629 remitting contributions and reimbursements to ensure a full 630 collection of contributions and reimbursements due. The 631 acceptable method of transfer, the method, form, and content of 632 the electronic means, and the method, if any, by which the 633 employer will be provided with an acknowledgment shall be 634 prescribed by the department or its tax collection service provider. However, any employer who employed 10 or more 635 636 employees in any quarter during the preceding state fiscal year

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637 must file the Employers Quarterly Reports (UCT-6) for the 638 current calendar year and remit the contributions and 639 reimbursements due by electronic means approved by the tax 640 collection service provider. A person who prepared and reported 641 for 100 or more employers in any quarter during the preceding state fiscal year must file the Employers Quarterly Reports 642 643 (UCT-6) for each calendar quarter in the current calendar year, beginning with reports due for the second calendar quarter of 644 645 2003, by electronic means approved by the tax collection service 646 provider.

647 (2) (a) An employer who is required by law to file an 648 Employers Quarterly Report (UCT-6) by approved electronic means, but who files the report by a means other than approved 649 650 electronic means, is liable for a penalty of \$50 for that report and \$1 for each employee. This penalty is in addition to any 651 652 other penalty provided by this chapter. However, the penalty 653 does not apply if the tax collection service provider waives the electronic filing requirement in advance. An employer who fails 654 655 to remit contributions or reimbursements by approved electronic 656 means as required by law is liable for a penalty of \$50 for each 657 remittance submitted by a means other than approved electronic 658 means. This penalty is in addition to any other penalty provided 659 by this chapter.

(b) A person who prepared and reported for 100 or more
employers in any quarter during the preceding state fiscal year,
but who fails to file an Employers Quarterly Report (UCT-6) for
each calendar quarter in the current calendar year by approved
electronic means, is liable for a penalty of \$50 for that report
and \$1 for each employee. This penalty is in addition to any

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666 other penalty provided by this chapter. However, the penalty 667 does not apply if the tax collection service provider waives the 668 electronic filing requirement in advance.

(3) The tax collection service provider may waive the requirement to file an Employers Quarterly Report (UCT-6) by electronic means for employers that are unable to comply despite good faith efforts or due to circumstances beyond the employer's reasonable control.

(a) As prescribed by the Department of Economic Opportunity
or its tax collection service provider, grounds for approving
the waiver include, but are not limited to, circumstances in
which the employer does not:

678 1. Currently file information or data electronically with679 any business or government agency; or

680 2. Have a compatible computer that meets or exceeds the
681 standards prescribed by the department or its tax collection
682 service provider.

(b) The tax collection service provider shall accept other reasons for requesting a waiver from the requirement to submit the Employers Quarterly Report (UCT-6) by electronic means, including, but not limited to:

687 1. That the employer needs additional time to program his688 or her computer;

689 2. That complying with this requirement causes the employer690 financial hardship; or

691 3. That complying with this requirement conflicts with the692 employer's business procedures.

(c) The department or the state agency providingreemployment assistance tax collection services may establish by

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695 rule the length of time a waiver is valid and may determine 696 whether subsequent waivers will be authorized, based on this 697 subsection.

(4) As used in this section, the term "electronic means"
includes, but is not limited to, electronic data interchange;
electronic funds transfer; and use of the Internet, telephone,
or other technology specified by the Department of Economic
Opportunity or its tax collection service provider.

703 (5) The tax collection service provider may waive the 704 penalty imposed by this section if a written request for a 705 waiver is filed which establishes that imposition would be 706 inequitable. Examples of inequity include, but are not limited 707 to, situations where the failure to electronically file was 708 caused by one of the following factors:

709 (a) Death or serious illness of the person responsible for
 710 the preparation and filing of the report.

711 (b) Destruction of the business records by fire or other 712 casualty.

713 (c) Unscheduled and unavoidable computer downtime. 714 Section 22. Paragraph (e) of subsection (3) of section 715 733.2121, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 716 733.2121 Notice to creditors; filing of claims.-717 (3) 718 (e) The personal representative may serve a notice to 719 creditors on the Department of Revenue only when the Department 720 of Revenue is determined to be a creditor under paragraph (a) If 721 the Department of Revenue has not previously been served with a 722 copy of the notice to creditors, then service of the inventory on the Department of Revenue shall be the equivalent of service 723

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724 of a copy of the notice to creditors.

Section 23. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 733.2121, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, section 733.701, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

729 733.701 Notifying creditors.—Unless creditors' claims are 730 otherwise barred by s. 733.710, every personal representative 731 shall cause notice to creditors to be published and served under 732 s. 733.2121.

733 Section 24. Effective January 1, 2018, section 206.998,734 Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

735 206.998 Applicability of specified sections of parts I and 736 II.-The provisions of ss. 206.01, 206.02, 206.025, 206.026, 737 206.027, 206.028, 206.03, 206.05, 206.055, 206.06, 206.07, 738 206.075, 206.09, 206.10, 206.11, 206.12, 206.13, 206.14, 206.15, 739 206.16, 206.17, 206.175, 206.18, 206.199, 206.20, 206.204, 206.205, 206.21, 206.215, 206.22, 206.23, 206.24, 206.25, 740 741 206.27, 206.28, 206.405, 206.406, 206.41, 206.413, 206.43, 742 206.44, 206.48, 206.485, 206.49, 206.56, 206.59, 206.606, 206.608, and 206.61 of part I of this chapter and ss. 206.86, 743 744 206.872, 206.874, 206.8745, 206.88, 206.90, and 206.93 of part 745 II of this chapter shall, as far as lawful or practicable, be 746 applicable to the tax levied and imposed and to the collection 747 thereof as if fully set out in this part. However, any provision 748 of any such section does not apply if it conflicts with any 749 provision of this part.

Section 25. Section 1 of chapter 2007-339, section 13 of
chapter 2008-173, section 6 of chapter 2009-131, subsection (2)
of section 8 and section 24 of chapter 2010-138, section 6 of

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- 753 chapter 2010-149, section 7 of chapter 2010-166, section 35 of
- 754 chapter 2011-76, section 4 of chapter 2011-93, section 3 of
- 755 chapter 2011-229, section 25 of chapter 2012-32, and section 3
- 756 of chapter 2013-46, Laws of Florida, are repealed.
- 757 Section 26. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this 758 act, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law.