By Senator Richter

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the regulation of business by the Department of Business and Professional Regulation; amending ss. 210.09 and 210.095, F.S.; requiring the Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco within the Department of Business and Professional Regulation to offer electronic reporting of required information and filing of tax returns; allowing the department to waive the electronic filing of tax returns under certain conditions; requiring the department to adopt rules; providing criteria for the rules; amending s. 210.55, F.S.; requiring taxpayers outside the state to file a report showing certain information for tobacco products shipped or transported to, or sold by, wholesalers; requiring the department to offer electronic reporting of required information and filing of tax returns; allowing the department to waive the electronic filing of tax returns under certain conditions; requiring the department to adopt rules, providing criteria; amending s. 509.032, F.S.; revising the inspection requirements for certain establishments by the Division of Hotels and Restaurants of the department; requiring the division to adopt rules; amending s. 551.107, F.S.; providing for the denial, declaration of ineligibility, revocation, or waiver of an occupational license by the Division of Pari-mutuel Wagering of the department if an applicant has been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor; amending ss. 561.50, 561.55, 562.20,

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562.25, and 565.02, F.S.; requiring the department to offer electronic reporting of required information and filing of tax returns under the Beverage Law; allowing the department to waive the electronic filing of tax returns under certain conditions; requiring the department to adopt rules, providing criteria for the rules; creating s. 817.1551, F.S.; prohibiting making, or offering to make, a false statement in writing and relating to certain credentials of an application for a license, certificate, or registration with the Department of Business and Professional Regulation; providing the levels of the offense of falsifying credentials for licensure; providing for fines and penalties; providing for aggregating the consideration paid to a person who commits the offense, for purposes of sentencing; authorizing the department to recover costs; providing for the forfeiture of certain moneys or objects of value to the department; specifying the use by the department of the forfeited moneys and objects of value; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 210.09, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

210.09 Records to be kept; reports to be made; examination.-

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(2) The division shall adopt is authorized to prescribe and promulgate by rules that prescribe the and regulations, which

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shall have the force and effect of the law, such records to be kept and reports to be made to the division by any manufacturer, importer, distributing agent, wholesale dealer, retail dealer, common carrier, or any other person handling, transporting, or possessing cigarettes for sale or distribution within the state as may be necessary to collect and properly distribute the taxes imposed by s. 210.02. Each report All reports shall be made on or before the 10th day of the month following the month for which the report is made, unless the division by rule requires or regulation shall prescribe that a report reports be made more often. Effective July 31, 2013, the reports required by this subsection shall be made through an electronic format. The department shall offer electronic reporting options that make reporting as simple as possible. The department may waive the requirement for a taxpayer to file a tax return by electronic means if the taxpayer is unable to file electronically despite good faith efforts or due to circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the taxpayer. The department shall prescribe by rule the format and instructions necessary for filing reports and tax returns to ensure that the required information is collected, the conditions by which the division may approve a waiver, and the means by which the tax return filed by the taxpayer is acknowledged.

Section 2. Subsection (6) of section 210.095, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 210.095 Mail order, Internet, and remote sales of tobacco products; age verification.—
- (6)(a) Before making sales or shipping tobacco products in connection with sales, a person shall file with the division a

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statement providing the person's name, trade name, and the address of the person's principal place of business, as well as any other place of business.

- (b) On or before No later than the 10th day of each month, each person who has made a sale, or mailed, shipped, or otherwise delivered tobacco products in connection with any sale during the previous calendar month, shall file with the division a report, along with memorandum or a copy of the invoice, which provides the following information providing for each sale:
- 1. The name and address of the individual who submitted the order for the sale.
- 2. The name and address of the individual who accepted delivery of the tobacco products.
- 3. The name and address of the person who accepted the order for the sale of the tobacco products.
- 4. The name and address of the delivery service and the name of the individual making the delivery.
- 5. The brand or brands of the tobacco products sold in the sale.
- 6. The quantity of each brand of tobacco products sold in the sale.
- (c) Effective July 31, 2013, the reports required by this subsection shall be made through an electronic format. The department shall offer electronic reporting options that make reporting as simple as possible. The department may waive the requirement for a taxpayer to file a tax return by electronic means if the taxpayer is unable to file electronically despite good faith efforts or due to circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the taxpayer. The department shall prescribe by rule

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the format and instructions necessary for filing reports and tax
returns to ensure that the required information is collected,
the conditions by which the division may approve a waiver, and
the means by which the tax return filed by the taxpayer is
acknowledged.

- (d) (e) A person may comply with the requirements of this subsection by complying with the requirements of 15 U.S.C. s. 376.
- (e)(d) This section does not apply to sales of tobacco products by a licensed distributor or to sales of tobacco products by a retailer purchased from a licensed distributor.
- Section 3. Section 210.55, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 210.55 Distributors; monthly reports returns.-
- taxpayer with a place of business in this state shall file a report return with the division showing the taxable price of each tobacco product brought or caused to be brought into this state for sale, or made, manufactured, or fabricated in this state for sale in this state, during the preceding month. Each Every taxpayer outside this state shall file a report return showing the quantity and taxable price of each tobacco product shipped or transported to wholesalers and retailers in this state, to be sold by those wholesalers and retailers, during the preceding month. Returns shall be made upon forms furnished and prescribed by the division and shall contain any other information that the division requires. Each return shall be accompanied by a remittance for the full tax liability shown. Effective July 31, 2013, the reports required by this subsection

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shall be made through an electronic format. The department shall offer electronic reporting options that make reporting as simple as possible. The department may waive the requirement for a taxpayer to file a tax return by electronic means if the taxpayer is unable to file electronically despite good faith efforts or due to circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the taxpayer. The department shall prescribe by rule the format and instructions necessary for filing reports and tax returns to ensure that the required information is collected, the conditions by which the division may approve a waiver, and the means by which the tax return filed by the taxpayer is acknowledged.

- (2) As soon as practicable after <u>a</u> any return is filed, the division shall examine each return and correct it, if necessary, according to its best judgment and information. If the division finds that any amount of tax is due from the taxpayer and unpaid, it shall notify the taxpayer of the deficiency, stating that it proposes to assess the amount due together with interest and penalties. If a deficiency disclosed by the division's examination cannot be allocated to one or more particular months, the division shall notify the taxpayer of the deficiency, stating its intention to assess the amount due for a given period without allocating it to any particular months.
- (3) If, within 60 days after the mailing of notice of the proposed assessment, the taxpayer files a protest to the proposed assessment and requests a hearing on it, the division shall give notice to the taxpayer of the time and place fixed for the hearing, shall hold a hearing on the protest, and shall issue a final assessment to the taxpayer for the amount found to

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be due as a result of the hearing. If a protest is not filed within 60 days, the division shall issue a final assessment to the taxpayer. In any action or proceeding in respect to the proposed assessment, the taxpayer shall have the burden of establishing the incorrectness or invalidity of any final assessment made by the division.

- (4) If a any taxpayer that is required to file a any return fails to do so within the time prescribed, the taxpayer shall, on the written demand of the division, file the return within 20 days after mailing of the demand and at the same time pay the tax due on its basis. If the taxpayer fails within that time to file the return, the division shall prepare the return from its own knowledge and from the information that it obtains and on that basis shall assess a tax, which shall be paid within 10 days after the division has mailed to the taxpayer a written notice of the amount and a demand for its payment. In any action or proceeding in respect to the assessment, the taxpayer has shall have the burden of establishing the incorrectness or invalidity of any return or assessment made by the division because of the failure of the taxpayer to make a return.
- (5) All taxes are due not later than the 10th day of the month following the calendar month in which they were incurred, and thereafter shall bear interest at the annual rate of 12 percent. If the amount of tax due for a given period is assessed without allocating it to any particular month, the interest shall begin with the date of the assessment.
- (6) In issuing its final assessment, the division shall add to the amount of tax found due and unpaid a penalty of 10 percent, but if it finds that the taxpayer has made a false

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return with intent to evade the tax, the penalty shall be 50 percent of the entire tax as shown by the corrected return. In assessing a tax on the basis of a return made under subsection (4), the division shall add to the amount of tax found due and unpaid a penalty of 25 percent.

- (7) For the purpose of compensating the distributor for the keeping of prescribed records and the proper accounting and remitting of taxes imposed under this part, the distributor shall be allowed 1 percent of the amount of the tax due and accounted for and remitted to the division in the form of a deduction in submitting his or her report and paying the amount due; and the division shall allow a such deduction of 1 percent of the amount of the tax to the person paying the same for remitting the tax in the manner herein provided, for paying the amount due to be paid by him or her, and as further compensation to the distributor for the keeping of prescribed records and for collection of taxes and remitting the same.
- (a) The collection allowance may not be granted, and a $\frac{1}{1}$ may any deduction $\frac{1}{1}$ is not $\frac{1}{1}$ be permitted, if the tax is delinquent at the time of payment.
- (b) The division may reduce the collection allowance by 10 percent or \$50, whichever is less, if a taxpayer files an incomplete return.
- 1. An "incomplete return" is, for purposes of this part, a return which is lacking such uniformity, completeness, and arrangement that the physical handling, verification, or review of the return may not be readily accomplished.
- 2. The division shall adopt rules requiring such information as it may deem necessary to ensure that the tax

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levied <u>pursuant to this section</u> hereunder is properly collected, reviewed, compiled, and enforced, including, but not limited to: the amount of taxable sales; the amount of tax collected or due; the amount claimed as the collection allowance; the amount of penalty and interest; the amount due with the return; and such other information as the division may specify.

Section 4. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 509.032, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

509.032 Duties.-

- (2) INSPECTION OF PREMISES.—
- (a) The division has jurisdiction and is responsible has responsibility and jurisdiction for all inspections required by this chapter. The division is responsible has responsibility for quality assurance. The division shall inspect each licensed public lodging establishment shall be inspected at least biannually, except for transient and nontransient apartments, which shall be inspected at least annually, and vacation rentals, which shall be made available to the division upon request shall be inspected at such other times as the division determines is necessary to ensure the public's health, safety, and welfare. The division shall adopt by rule a risk-based establish a system to determine inspection frequency for the licensure of public food service establishments. The division shall inspect each other establishment licensed by the division at such times as the division determines is necessary to ensure the public's health, safety, and welfare. Public lodging units classified as vacation rentals are not subject to this requirement but shall be made available to the division upon request. If, during the inspection of a public lodging

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establishment classified for renting to transient or nontransient tenants, an inspector identifies vulnerable adults who appear to be victims of neglect, as defined in s. 415.102, or, in the case of a building that is not equipped with automatic sprinkler systems, tenants or clients who may be unable to self-preserve in an emergency, the division shall convene meetings with the following agencies as appropriate to the individual situation: the Department of Health, the Department of Elderly Affairs, the area agency on aging, the local fire marshal, the landlord and affected tenants and clients, and other relevant organizations, to develop a plan which improves the prospects for safety of affected residents and, if necessary, identifies alternative living arrangements such as facilities licensed under part II of chapter 400 or under chapter 429.

Section 5. Present paragraph (c) of subsection (6) of section 551.107, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph (d), and a new paragraph (c) is added to that subsection to read:

551.107 Slot machine occupational license; findings; application; fee.—

(6)

(c) The division may deny, declare ineligible, or revoke an occupational license if the applicant for such license has been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor in this state, in any other state, or under the laws of the United States, if the felony or misdemeanor is related to gambling or bookmaking, as contemplated in s. 849.25. If the applicant establishes that she or he is of good moral character, that she or he has been

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rehabilitated, and that the crime she or he was convicted of was not in any way related to gaming and was not a capital offense, the restrictions excluding offenders may be waived by the director of the division if the crime occurred more than 10 years ago.

Section 6. Subsection (1) of section 561.50, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

561.50 One state tax payment; reports.-

(1) There shall be only one state tax paid as to each gallon or fraction thereof of beverage sold under the Beverage Law, and no other excise taxes may not tax shall be levied directly or indirectly. Such tax shall be computed from the reports, books, and records of manufacturers and distributors; and the amount so computed shall be remitted with the report required by s. 561.55 to the division at intervals of 1 month, on or before the 10th of each month, for all beverages sold during the previous calendar month, and the such payment of tax shall accompany the report required by s. 561.55. Effective July 31, 2013, the reports required by this subsection shall be made through an electronic format. The department shall offer electronic reporting options that make reporting as simple as possible. The department may waive the requirement for a taxpayer to file a tax return by electronic means if the taxpayer is unable to file electronically despite good faith efforts or due to circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the taxpayer. The department shall prescribe by rule the format and instructions necessary for filing reports and tax returns to ensure that the required information is collected, the conditions by which the division may approve a waiver, and the

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means by which the tax return filed by the taxpayer is acknowledged. If the monthly tax liability of a manufacturer or distributor exceeds the amount of the bond furnished for payment of taxes, the division, upon a finding based upon substantial and competent evidence that the security of the tax revenue involved is in jeopardy, may require a bond equal to the anticipated tax liability of the manufacturer or distributor. Additionally, the division may increase the frequency of the remittance of the tax if when the security of the tax involved is in immediate jeopardy or the financial condition of the manufacturer or distributor is unstable and the potential tax liability exceeds the bond furnished under the Beverage Law. In finding arriving at a conclusion that the security of the tax revenue involved is in jeopardy, the division shall consider and be guided by the prior history, if any, of the compliance or noncompliance by the manufacturer or distributor with beverage tax obligations; the transient or nontransient nature of the manufacturer or distributorship; the type of inventory, the equity of the manufacturer or distributor has in the business therein, and the mobility of such inventory; the financial status of the manufacturer or distributor; and the anticipated tax obligation of the manufacturer or distributor.

Section 7. Subsection (2) of section 561.55, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 561.55 Manufacturers', distributors', brokers', sales agents', importers', vendors', and exporters' records and reports.—
- (2) Each manufacturer, distributor, broker, sales agent, and importer shall make a full and complete report on or before

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by the 10th day of each month for the previous calendar month. The report shall be made out in triplicate; two copies shall be sent to the division, and a the third copy shall be retained for the manufacturer's, distributor's, broker's, sales agent's, or importer's record. Effective July 31, 2013, the reports required by this subsection shall be made through an electronic format. The department shall offer electronic reporting options that make reporting as simple as possible. The department may waive the requirement for a taxpayer to file a tax return by electronic means if the taxpayer is unable to file electronically despite good faith efforts or due to circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the taxpayer. The department shall prescribe by rule the format and instructions necessary for filing reports and tax returns to ensure that the required information is collected, the conditions by which the division may approve a waiver, and the means by which the tax return filed by the taxpayer is acknowledged. Reports shall be made on forms prepared and furnished by the division.

Section 8. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 562.20, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

562.20 Monthly reports by common and other carriers of beverages required.—

(1) A All common carrier carriers of freight operating in the state shall file monthly reports with the division on forms to be prepared by the division which shall show in detail all shipments of alcoholic beverages transported by the carrier them to or from any point within the state. Effective July 31, 2013, the reports required by this subsection shall be made through an electronic format. The department shall offer electronic

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reporting options that make reporting as simple as possible. The department may waive the requirement for a taxpayer to file a tax return by electronic means if the taxpayer is unable to file electronically despite good faith efforts or due to circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the taxpayer. The department shall prescribe by rule the format and instructions necessary for filing reports and tax returns to ensure that the required information is collected, the conditions by which the division may approve a waiver, and the means by which the tax return filed by the taxpayer is acknowledged.

(2) Each Every other person, except manufacturers and distributors licensed in this state who are required to make reports under s. 561.55, who brings into the state from any point without the state any alcoholic beverages, in amounts exceeding 1 gallon in the aggregate, shall likewise file monthly reports with the division on the forms to be prepared by the division, which shall show in detail the all such amounts of alcoholic beverages transported by them to each any point within the state from each any point without the state. Each Every licensee under this law who ships any alcoholic beverage to points beyond the state shall file monthly reports with the division on forms to be prepared by the division, which shall show in detail each shipment all shipments of alcoholic beverages transported by them from each any point within the state to each any point without the state. Effective July 31, 2013, the reports required by this subsection shall be made through an electronic format. The department shall offer electronic reporting options that make reporting as simple as possible. The department may waive the requirement for a

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taxpayer to file a tax return by electronic means if the taxpayer is unable to file electronically despite good faith efforts or due to circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the taxpayer. The department shall prescribe by rule the format and instructions necessary for filing reports and tax returns to ensure that the required information is collected, the conditions by which the division may approve a waiver, and the means by which the tax return filed by the taxpayer is acknowledged.

Section 9. Subsection (2) of section 562.25, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

562.25 State bonded warehouses.-

(2) On or before the 10th day of each month the operator of a any state bonded warehouse shall report, on forms furnished by the division, the amount of alcoholic such beverages on deposit in the such warehouse on the last day of the previous calendar month and the amount of the such beverages deposited in and withdrawn from the such warehouse during the previous calendar month, except that a no report is not shall be required as to the such beverages on which all taxes have been paid which have been deposited in storage by a vendor licensed under the Beverage Law. Effective July 31, 2013, the reports required by this subsection shall be made through an electronic format. The department shall offer electronic reporting options that make reporting as simple as possible. The department may waive the requirement for a taxpayer to file a tax return by electronic means if the taxpayer is unable to file electronically despite good faith efforts or due to circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the taxpayer. The department shall prescribe by rule

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penalties; forfeiture.-

2012966 436 the format and instructions necessary for filing reports and tax 437 returns to ensure that the required information is collected, 438 the conditions by which the division may approve a waiver, and 439 the means by which the tax return filed by the taxpayer is 440 acknowledged. Section 10. Subsection (13) is added to section 565.02, 441 442 Florida Statutes, to read: 443 565.02 License fees; vendors; clubs; caterers; and others.-(13) Effective July 31, 2013, the reports required by this 444 445 section shall be made through an electronic format. The 446 department shall offer electronic reporting options that make 447 reporting as simple as possible. The department may waive the 448 requirement for a taxpayer to file a tax return by electronic 449 means if the taxpayer is unable to file electronically despite 450 good faith efforts or due to circumstances beyond the reasonable 451 control of the taxpayer. The department shall prescribe by rule 452 the format and instructions necessary for filing reports and tax 453 returns to ensure that the required information is collected, 454 the conditions by which the division may approve a waiver, and 455 the means by which the tax return filed by the taxpayer is 456 acknowledged. 457 Section 11. Section 817.1551, Florida Statutes, is created to read: 458

(1) A person who makes or causes to be made, or who offers

817.1551 Matters within jurisdiction of Department of

Business and Professional Regulation; false, fictitious, or

to make, a false statement in writing and relating to the

fraudulent acts, statements, and representations prohibited;

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education, training, or other credentials of an applicant for
licensure, certification, or registration with the Department of
Business and Professional Regulation, with the intent of
obtaining licensure, certification, or registration with that
agency, commits the offense of falsifying credentials for
licensure.

- (2) A person who falsifies his or her credentials with the intent of obtaining a license, certificate, or registration with the department commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- (3) A person who falsifies the credentials of another person in exchange for \$300 or less, with the intent of obtaining a license, certificate, or registration with the agency, commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- (4) A person who falsifies the credentials of one or more other persons in exchange for more than \$300, but less than \$20,000, with the intent of obtaining a license, certificate, or registration with the agency commits of a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
- (5) A person who falsifies the credentials of one or more other persons in exchange for \$20,000 or more, but less than \$50,000, with the intent of obtaining a license, certificate, or registration with the agency commits a felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
- (6) A person who falsifies the credentials of one or more persons in exchange for \$50,000 or more, with the intent of

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obtaining a license, certificate, or registration with the agency commits a felony of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

- (7) The consideration paid to a person who commits multiple offenses of falsifying credentials for the licensure of other persons shall be aggregated for purposes of sentencing and restitution. The department may recover the costs it incurs to remedy the issuance of such falsely obtained license, certificate, or registration.
- (8) If convicted, the moneys or objects of value which the person obtained as compensation for the commission of any offense listed in subsection (3), subsection (4), or subsection (5) shall be forfeited to the Department of Business and Professional Regulation for its use to investigate and prosecute offenders and to regulate the affected professions or businesses.
 - Section 12. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.