1	State of Arkansas
2	95th General Assembly A Bill
3	Regular Session, 2025 SENATE BILL 45
4	
5	By: Senator J. Bryant
6	By: Representative Gonzales
7	
8	For An Act To Be Entitled
9	AN ACT TO ALLOW REGULATION OF HEMP PRODUCTS BY
10	ARKANSAS TOBACCO CONTROL; TO AMEND THE UNIFORM
11	CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT TO REMOVE CERTAIN
12	SUBSTANCES THAT ARE DEFINED AS HEMP PRODUCTS; AND FOR
13	OTHER PURPOSES.
14	
15	
16	Subtitle
17	TO ALLOW REGULATION OF HEMP PRODUCTS BY
18	ARKANSAS TOBACCO CONTROL; AND TO AMEND
19	THE UNIFORM CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT TO
20	REMOVE CERTAIN SUBSTANCES THAT ARE
21	DEFINED AS HEMP PRODUCTS.
22	
23	BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
24	
25	SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 5-64-101(16)(B)(vi), concerning the
26	exclusion from the definition of "marijuana" within the Uniform Controlled
27	Substances Act, is amended to read as follows:
28	(vi) Hemp-derived cannabidiol that: Hemp as defined
29	<u>in § 20-56-501 or</u>
30	(a) Contains not more than three-tenths of one
31	percent (0.3%) of delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) on a dry weight basis as
32	verified by a nationally accredited laboratory for quality, purity, and
33	accuracy standards; and
34	(b) Is not approved by the United States Food
35	and Drug Administration for marketing as a medication;

36

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1	SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 5-64-215(a)(2), concerning the substances
2	in Schedule VI of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, is amended to read
3	as follows:
4	(2) Tetrahydrocannabinols, unless the tetrahydrocannabinol is:
5	(A) Contained in hemp-derived cannabidiol hemp or a hemp
6	product under § 20-56-501; or
7	(B) Not more than three tenths of one percent (0.3%) of
8	delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol in the hemp-derived cannabidiol on a dry weight
9	basis as verified by a nationally accredited laboratory for quality, purity,
10	and accuracy standards; and
11	(C)(B) Not approved Approved by the United States Food and
12	Drug Administration for marketing as a medication;
13	
14	SECTION 3. Arkansas Code $\S 5-64-215(a)(5)(A)(i)$, concerning the
15	substances in Schedule VI of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, is
16	amended to read as follows:
17	(A)(i) Tetrahydrocannabinols, including without limitation
18	the following:
19	(a) Delta-l cis or trans tetrahydrocannabinol,
20	otherwise known as a delta-9 cis or trans tetrahydrocannabinol, and its
21	optical isomers;
22	(b) Delta-6 cis or trans tetrahydrocannabinol,
23	otherwise known as a delta-8 cis or trans tetrahydrocannabinol, and its
24	optical isomers; <u>and</u>
25	(c) Delta-3,4 cis or trans
26	tetrahydrocannabinol , otherwise known as a delta-6a,10a cis or trans
27	tetrahydrocannabinol, and its optical isomers;
28	(d) Delta-10 cis or trans
29	tetrahydrocannabinol, and its optical isomers;
30	(e) Delta-8 tetrahydrocannabinol acetate
31	ester;
32	(f) Delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol acetate
33	ester;
34	(g) Delta-6a,10a tetrahydrocannabinol acetate
35	ester;
36	(h) Delta-10 tetrahydrocannabinol acetate

1	ester;
2	(i) A product derived from industrial hemp
3	that was produced as a result of a synthetic chemical process that converted
4	the industrial hemp or a substance contained in the industrial hemp into
5	delta-8, delta-9, delta-6a,10a, or delta-10 tetrahydrocannabinol including
6	their respective acetate esters; and
7	(j) Any other psychoactive substance derived
8	therein.
9	
10	SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 19-6-831(b), effective until the
11	contingency in Acts 2023, No. 629, § 17, is met, is amended to read as
12	follows:
13	19-6-831. Arkansas Tobacco Control Revenue Fund.
14	(a) There is created on the books of the Treasurer of State, the
15	Auditor of the State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State a special
16	revenue fund to be known as the "Arkansas Tobacco Control Revenue Fund".
17	(b)(1) All permit and license fees received by Arkansas Tobacco
18	Control under the Arkansas Tobacco Products Tax Act of 1977, § 26-57-201 et
19	seq., and § 20-56-501 et seq. shall be deposited into the State Treasury as
20	special revenues to the credit of the fund.
21	(2) The fund also shall consist of any other revenues authorized
22	by law.
23	(c)(l) The fund shall be used for expenses incurred by Arkansas
24	Tobacco Control in the organization, maintenance, operation, and merchant
25	education and training with regard to enforcement of § 5-27-227, the Arkansas
26	Tobacco Products Tax Act of 1977, § 26-57-201 et seq., <u>§ 20-56-501 et seq.</u> ,
27	and the Unfair Cigarette Sales Act, § 4-75-701 et seq.
28	(2) Expenditures of moneys in the fund are subject to the
29	General Accounting and Budgetary Procedures Law, § 19-4-101 et seq., the
30	Arkansas Procurement Law, § 19-11-201 et seq., and other applicable fiscal
31	laws.
32	(3) The receipts and disbursements of Arkansas Tobacco Control
33	shall be audited annually by Arkansas Legislative Audit.
34	

Acts 2023, No. 629, § 17, is met, is repealed.

SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 19-6-831, effective if the contingency in

35

1	19-6-831. Arkansas Tobacco Control Revenue Fund.
2	(a) There is created on the books of the Treasurer of State, the
3	Auditor of the State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State a special
4	revenue fund to be known as the "Arkansas Tobacco Control Revenue Fund".
5	(b)(1) All permit and license fees received by Arkansas Tobacco
6	Control under the Arkansas Tobacco Products Tax Act of 1977, § 26-57-201 et
7	seq., and § 20-56-401 et seq., shall be deposited into the State Treasury as
8	special revenues to the credit of the fund.
9	(2) The fund also shall consist of any other revenues authorized
10	by law.
11	(c)(l) The fund shall be used for expenses incurred by Arkansas
12	Tobacco Control in the organization, maintenance, operation, and merchant
13	education and training with regard to enforcement of § 5-27-227, the Arkansas
14	Tobacco Products Tax Act of 1977, § 26-57-201 et seq., § 20-56-401 et seq.,
15	and the Unfair Cigarette Sales Act, § 4-75-701 et seq.
16	(2) Expenditures of moneys in the fund are subject to the
17	General Accounting and Budgetary Procedures Law, § 19-4-101 et seq., the
18	Arkansas Procurement Law, § 19-11-201 et seq., and other applicable fiscal
19	laws.
20	(3) The receipts and disbursements of Arkansas Tobacco Control
21	shall be audited annually by Arkansas Legislative Audit.
22	
23	SECTION 6. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 56, is amended to add an
24	additional subchapter to read as follows:
25	<u>Subchapter 5 — Hemp Products</u>
26	
27	20-56-501. Definitions.
28	As used in this subchapter:
29	(1) "Hemp" means the plant Cannabis sativa and any part of the
30	plant, including the seeds of the plant, that contains a delta-9
31	tetrahydrocannabinol concentration of three-tenths of one percent (0.3%) or
32	less on a dry-weight basis, and all derivatives, extracts, cannabinoids,
33	isomers, acids, salts, and salts of isomers, whether growing or not;
34	(2) "Hemp product" means any product derived from or containing
35	hemp, including without limitation oils, extracts, delta-8
36	tetrahydrocannabinol, delta-10 tetrahydrocannabinol, and other hemp-derived

1	cannabinoids; and
2	(3)(A) "Minor" means a person who is under twenty-one (21) years
3	of age.
4	(B) "Minor" does not include a person who is under twenty-
5	one (21) years of age if the person presents a military identification card
6	establishing that he or she is a member of the United States Armed Forces.
7	
8	20-56-502. Regulation and enforcement.
9	(a) Arkansas Tobacco Control shall regulate and enforce the provisions
10	of this subchapter concerning hemp and hemp products.
11	(b) Arkansas Tobacco Control shall:
12	(1) Issue permits to manufacture, distribute, or sell hemp
13	products;
14	(2) Identify and disclose foreign ownership interests in
15	permitted operations;
16	(3) Conduct inspections of hemp product retailers and
17	manufacturers;
18	(4) Enforce age restrictions on the purchase of hemp products;
19	<u>and</u>
20	(5) Impose fines and penalties for violations of this
21	subchapter.
22	
23	20-56-503. Permits.
24	(a) All manufacturers, wholesalers, and retailers of hemp products
25	shall obtain a permit from Arkansas Tobacco Control.
26	(b) The permit fees shall be as follows:
27	(1) Two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) annually for wholesalers
28	and retailers of hemp products; and
29 30	(2) Five hundred dollars (\$500) annually for manufacturers of
31	hemp products. (c) A permit holder shall comply with all rules adopted by Arkansas
32	Tobacco Control, including without limitation:
33	(1) Registering the company with Arkansas Tobacco Control;
34	(2) Disclosing ownership of the company; and
35	(3) Adhering to testing, packaging, and labeling requirements
36	under this subchapter.

1	
2	20-56-504. Testing and safety.
3	(a) Hemp products sold in this state shall be tested by a laboratory
4	that meets the quality management system and technical competence
5	requirements of the ISO/IEC 17025 standard or by a laboratory that is ISO
6	17025 certified, or an equivalent standard or certified by a similar
7	standard.
8	(b) Incoming raw material and products shall be subject to appropriate
9	test protocols, including without limitation testing for heavy metals,
10	mycotoxins, pesticides, and residual solvents to ensure the safety of the
11	finished product.
12	(c) Testing information and results shall be available on the
13	manufacturer's or brand's website or through a quick-response code or similar
14	method.
15	
16	20-56-505. Packaging and labeling.
17	(a) A hemp product shall be packaged in a child-resistant container.
18	(b) A label on a hemp product shall clearly state:
19	(1) The ingredient listing in descending order, including all
20	cannabinoids;
21	(2) The website or quick-response code to testing information
22	and results;
23	(3) An indication that the hemp product is not intended for a
24	person under twenty-one (21) years of age;
25	(4) Warnings that reference contraindications, major allergen
26	warnings, and directions for use;
27	(5) The lot number and batch number; and
28	(6) Contact information for the manufacturer.
29	
30	20-56-506. Advertising and marketing.
31	(a) Advertising for a hemp product shall not target minors.
32	(b) Packaging for a hemp product shall not use imagery associated with
33	candy or any products that are marketed exclusively to children.
34	
35	20-56-507. Manufacturing.
36	All hemp products sold in this state shall be manufactured in

1	accordance with good manufacturing practices.
2	
3	20-56-508. Age restrictions.
4	(a) It is unlawful for any minor to purchase, possess, or use any hemp
5	product.
6	(b) A retailer shall verify the age of all purchasers of hemp products
7	through a government-issued identification.
8	
9	20-56-509. Penalties.
10	(a) A violation of this subchapter may result in Arkansas Tobacco
11	Control taking any of the following actions:
12	(1) Fining up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000) per violation;
13	(2) Suspending or revoking a permit issued under this
14	subchapter; or
15	(3) Pursuing criminal charges for repeat offenders or sales to
16	minors.
17	(b) All fees, fines, and penalties collected under this subchapter
18	shall be used to fund enforcement activities for this subchapter by Arkansas
19	Tobacco Control.
20	
21	20-56-510. Rules.
22	The Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control and Arkansas Tobacco Control
23	may promulgate rules for the proper enforcement of their powers and duties
24	under this subchapter, including without limitation the regulation of
25	processing, transportation, delivery, sale, and purchase of hemp products in
26	accordance with this subchapter and the power to levy penalties for
27	violations of this subchapter.
28	
29	20-56-511. Federal preemption.
30	Upon the certification of the Arkansas Tobacco Control that federal law
31	prohibits the sale or use of hemp products, this subchapter shall prohibit
32	the sale or use of hemp products in the same manner as the federal law.
33	
34	SECTION 7. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 56, Subchapter 4, effective
35	if the contingency in Acts 2023, No. 629, § 17, is met, is repealed.
36	Subchaptor / - Homp-Dorived Products

1	
2	20-56-401. Purpose.
3	It is the intent of this subchapter to provide regulation of certain
4	hemp-derived products to:
5	(1) Prevent the sale and use of illicit hemp-based products
6	within Arkansas; and
7	(2) Protect and promote the public health and welfare of the
8	residents of this state.
9	
10	20-56-402. Definitions.
11	As used in this subchapter:
12	(1) "Annual" or "annually" means the fiscal year from July 1
13	through the next June 30;
14	(2) "Approved laboratory" means a laboratory that is accredited
15	by the National Institute on Drug Abuse, the National Environmental
16	Laboratory Accreditation Conference, the International Organization for
17	Standardization, or a similar accrediting entity as determined by Arkansas
18	Tobacco Control and that has been approved by the Director of Arkansas
19	Tobacco Control specifically for the testing of hemp-derived product;
20	(3) "Consumer" means a member of the public at large;
21	(4) "Days" means calendar days unless otherwise specified;
22	(5) "Finished product" means a product intended for consumer use
23	to be sold at retail;
24	(6) "Hemp" means the plant Cannabis sativa and any part of the
25	plant, including the seeds of the plant, that contains a delta-9
26	tetrahydrocannabinol concentration of three tenths of one percent (0.3%) or
27	less on a dry-weight basis, and all derivatives, extracts, cannabinoids,
28	isomers, acids, salts, and salts of isomers, whether growing or not;
29	(7) "Hemp-derived e-liquid product" means a liquid hemp-derived
30	product that contains hemp that is inhaled when using a vapor product, and
31	that may or may not include without limitation propylene glycol, vegetable
32	glycerin, and flavorings;
33	(8)(A) "Hemp derived product" means a product intended for any
34	form of human consumption, including consumption by vapor inhalation, or a
35	component of a product, that is derived from hemp, including all derivatives,
36	extracts, cannabinoids, isomers, acids, salts, and salts of isomers, and any

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1
    product made from such derivatives, and that contains greater than three-
 2
    tenths of one percent (0.3%) tetrahydrocannabinol.
 3
                       (B) "Hemp-derived product" includes a hemp-derived e-
 4
    liquid product and a vapor product.
 5
                       (C) "Hemp-derived product" does not include:
 6
                             (i) A product intended for animal consumption or
7
    use:
8
                             (ii) A cosmetic as defined by § 20-56-202;
                             (iii) Any marijuana, medical marijuana, or other
9
10
    cannabis product containing delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol greater than three-
    tenths of one percent (0.3%) on a dry-weight basis as administered, licensed,
11
12
    and otherwise regulated by the Alcoholic Beverage Control Division, the
13
    Medical Marijuana Commission, and the Department of Health under the Arkansas
14
    Medical Marijuana Amendment of 2016, Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 98;
15
                             (iv) A raw hemp product, including any intact plant,
16
    flower, buds, leaves, or stems;
17
                             (v) A drug in the form for which an application
18
    filed in accordance with 21 U.S.C. § 355 is approved by the United States
    Food and Drug Administration;
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20
                             (vi) A dietary supplement as defined by the Federal
    Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. § 301 et seg.; or
21
22
                             (vii) A fabric, textile, cordage, fiber, fuel, paper,
23
    construction material, plastic, seed, seed meal, and seed oil;
                (9) (A) "Manufacturer" means a person that manufactures.
24
25
    fabricates, assembles, or processes a hemp-derived product, including without
26
    limitation federally licensed importers and federally licensed distributors
27
    that deal in hemp-derived products.
28
                       (B) "Manufacturer" includes:
                             (i) A sales entity affiliate of the manufacturer or
29
    any other entity representing the manufacturer with regard to the sale of
30
    hemp-derived products produced by the manufacturer to wholesalers or
31
32
    permitted retailers; and
                             (ii) A person that mixes, compounds, extracts,
33
    infuses, blends, processes, repackages, or resizes hemp-derived products
34
    including the extraction of cannabinoids from hemp biomass.
35
36
                       (C) "Manufacturer" does not include a person who engages
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1	in the agricultural production of nemp, such as growing, planting, and
2	harvesting of raw hemp biomass regulated by the State Plant Board;
3	(10) "Minor" means a person who is under twenty-one (21) years of
4	age;
5	(11) "Person" means an individual, retailer, wholesaler,
6	manufacturer, firm, association, company, partnership, limited liability
7	company, corporation, joint-stock company, club, agency, syndicate, the State
8	of Arkansas, county, municipal corporation or other political subdivision of
9	the state, receiver, trustee, fiduciary, or trade association;
10	(12) "Place of business" means the physical location:
11	(A) Where orders for hemp-derived products are taken or
12	received or where hemp-derived products are sold; and
13	(B) That is on file with Arkansas Tobacco Control;
14	(13) "Retailer" means a person that purchases hemp-derived
15	products from permitted wholesalers for the purpose of selling the hemp-
16	derived products in person and over the counter at retail to consumers;
17	(14)(A) "Sale" or "sell" means a transfer, exchange, or
18	barter in any manner or by any means for any consideration, including
19	distributing or shipping hemp-derived product in connection with a sale.
20	(B) A sale "in" or "into" a state refers to the state in
21	which the destination point of the hemp-derived product is located in the
22	sale without regard to where title was transferred.
23	(C) A sale "from" a state refers to the sale of a hemp-
24	derived product that is located in that state to the destination in question
25	without regard to where title was transferred;
26	(15) "Self-service display" means a display:
27	(A) That contains a hemp-derived product, or any component
28	of a hemp-derived product;
29	(B) That is located in an area where customers are
30	permitted; and
31	(C) In which the hemp derived product, or any component of
32	a hemp derived product, is readily accessible to a customer without the
33	assistance of a salesperson;
34	(16) "Tetrahydrocannabinol" means a compound that is the natural,
35	primary active cannabinoid substance or its equivalent contained in the plant
36	of the genus cannabis or in the resinous extracts of the plant, including

1	derivatives or isomers derived from such cannabinoids;
2	(17) "Vapor product" means hemp-derived product that is an
3	electronic oral device of any size or shape that contains a vapor of hemp or
4	hemp-derived e-liquid product that when used or inhaled simulates smoking,
5	regardless of whether a visible vapor is produced, including without
6	limitation a device that:
7	(A) Is composed of a heating element, battery, electronic
8	circuit, chemical process, mechanical device, or a combination of heating
9	element, battery, electronic circuit, chemical process, or mechanical device;
10	(B) Works in combination with a cartridge, other
11	container, or liquid delivery device containing hemp or hemp-derived e-liquid
12	product and manufactured for use with vapor products;
13	(C) Is manufactured, distributed, marketed, or sold as any
14	type or derivation of a vapor product, e-eigarette, e-eigar, e-pipe, or any
15	other produced name or descriptor; and
16	(D) Does not include a product regulated as a drug or
17	device by the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. § 301 et seq.,
18	as it existed on January 1, 2015;
19	(18) "Warehouse" means a place where hemp-derived products are
20	stored for another person and to or from which place the hemp-derived
21	products are shipped or delivered upon order by the owner of the hemp-derived
22	products, to the warehouse; and
23	(19) "Wholesaler" means a person other than a manufacturer or a
24	person owned or operated by a manufacturer that:
25	(A) Does business within the state;
26	(B) Purchases hemp-derived products from any source;
27	(C) Distributes or sells the hemp-derived products to
28	other wholesalers, or retailers; and
29	(D) Does not distribute or sell the hemp-derived products
30	at retail to consumers.
31	
32	20-56-403. Construction.
33	(a) A hemp-derived product shall not be delivered, sold, bought, or
34	used in this state except in conformity with all applicable laws and
35	regulations, including this subchapter and any rules promulgated under this
36	subchapter.

1	(b) A person shall not sell a hemp-derived product without being
2	permitted by Arkansas Tobacco Control.
3	(c) A product intended for human consumption or inhalation that is
4	derived from hemp and contains tetrahydrocannabinol shall not be permitted or
5	allowed under the laws of this state, other than hemp-derived products if
6	otherwise legal under state law.
7	(d)(1) A hemp-derived product shall not be combined with or contain
8	any of the following:
9	(A) Any liquid, hydrocolloid, animal-based substance,
10	thickener, sweetener, flavoring, synthetic product, propylene glycol,
11	vegetable glycerin, or other non-hemp-derived substance;
12	(B) Nicotine or tobacco; or
13	(C) Any amount of tetrahydrocannabinol as to create a
14	danger of misuse, overdose, accidental overconsumption, inaccurate dosage, or
15	other risk to the public.
16	(2) Medical devices, prescription drugs, or drugs otherwise
17	approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration shall not be
18	considered hemp-derived products.
19	(e) The business of handling, receiving, possessing, storing,
20	distributing, taking orders for, soliciting orders of, selling, offering for
21	sale, and dealing in, through sale, barter, or exchange, hemp-derived
22	products is declared to be a privilege under the Arkansas Constitution and
23	laws of the State of Arkansas.
24	
25	20-56-404. Permits.
26	(a)(1) Each person listed in this section, before commencing business,
27	or if already in business, before continuing business, shall pay an annual
28	privilege fee and secure a permit from the Director of Arkansas Tobacco
29	Control.
30	(2) A person purchasing an existing permitted retail location
31	may, with the permission of the seller and Arkansas Tobacco Control, operate
32	under the selling owner's permit for no more than thirty (30) days from the
33	date of the sale.
34	(b)(l) In addition to securing a permit under subsection (a) of this
35	section, a manufacturer whose products are sold in this state shall register
36	with the Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

1	(2) A wholesaler of hemp-derived products shall secure the
2	proper wholesale permit.
3	(3) Every retailer of hemp-derived products that operates a
4	place of business shall secure the proper retail permit.
5	(c)(l) Permits shall be issued as follows:
6	(Λ) A permit for a sole proprietorship is issued in the
7	owner's name and in the fictitious business name, if any;
8	(B)(i) A permit for a partnership or limited liability
9	company is issued in the name of:
10	(a) The managing partner or managing member;
11	and
12	(b) The partnership or limited liability
13	company.
14	(ii) If the managing partner or managing member of a
15	limited liability company is a partnership, limited liability company, or
16	corporation, then the permit shall be issued in the name of:
17	(a) The president or chief executive officer;
18	and
19	(b) The partnership or limited liability
20	company; and
21	(C) A permit for a publicly traded or nonpublicly traded
22	corporation is issued in the name of the president or chief executive officer
23	of the corporation and in the name of the corporation.
24	(2) It is a violation for a permitted entity not to provide
25	written notification to the director within thirty (30) days of a change in
26	the following:
27	(A) The managing partner, limited liability company
28	managing member, or president or chief executive officer of a corporation,
29	partnership, or limited liability company; or
30	(B) The stockholders effecting twenty-five percent (25%)
31	or more of the total voting shares of a nonpublicly traded corporation.
32	(d)(l) When an entity transfers a business permitted under this
33	subchapter, the entity to which the business is transferred:
34	(A) Shall apply for a new permit under this subchapter;
35	(B) May be issued a new permit under this subchapter; and
36	(C) May operate under the selling entity's permit for no

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    more than thirty (30) days from the date of the sale.
 2
                 (2) When a partnership or limited liability company permitted
 3
    under this subchapter changes, removes, or replaces the managing partner,
 4
    managing member, president, or chief executive officer:
 5
                       (A) The existing permit issued under this subchapter is
 6
    void; and
7
                       (B) The partnership or limited liability company:
8
                             (i) Shall apply for a new permit under this
9
    subchapter;
10
                             (ii) May be issued a new permit under this
11
    subchapter; and
12
                             (iii) May operate under the voided permit for no more
13
    than thirty (30) days from the date of the change, removal, or replacement of
14
    the permit.
15
                 (3) When a nonpublicly traded corporation permitted under this
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    subchapter changes, removes, or replaces the president or chief executive
17
    officer named on the permit or changes, removes, or replaces a stockholder
18
    who owns fifty percent (50%) or more of the total voting shares of the
19
    nonpublicly traded corporation's stock:
20
                       (A) The permit issued under this subchapter is void; and
21
                       (B) The nonpublicly traded corporation:
22
                             (i) Shall apply for a new permit under this
23
    subchapter;
                             (ii) May be issued a new permit under this
24
25
    subchapter; and
26
                             (iii) May operate under the voided permit for no more
27
    than thirty (30) days from the date of the change, removal, or replacement of
28
    the permit.
29
                 (4) When a publicly traded corporation permitted under this
30
    subchapter changes, removes, or replaces the president or chief executive
    officer named on the permit or changes, removes, or replaces a stockholder
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32
    who owns fifty percent (50%) or more of the total voting shares of the
    publicly traded corporation's stock:
33
34
                       (A) The permit issued under this subchapter is void; and
                       (B) The publicly traded corporation:
35
36
                             (i) Shall apply for a new permit under this
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1	subchapter;
2	(ii) May be issued a new permit under this
3	subchapter; and
4	(iii) May operate under the voided permit for no more
5	than thirty (30) days from the date of the change, removal, or replacement of
6	the permit.
7	(e) An entity may apply for and be issued a permit under this
8	subchapter in advance of the effective date of the permit to facilitate
9	continuity of business operations.
10	
11	20-56-405. Permits - Location - Background check required.
12	(a) A retail, wholesale, or manufacturer permit shall not be issued to
13	a residential address, a mobile structure or vehicle, or for an address not
14	zoned appropriately for the business seeking to secure the permit.
15	(b) A permit shall not be issued to:
16	(1) A person who has pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to or
17	been found guilty of a felony; or
18	(2) A business owned or operated, in whole or in part, by a
19	person who has pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to or been found guilty of a
20	felony.
21	(c) Arkansas Tobacco Control shall conduct a criminal background check
22	on each permit applicant and application, utilizing its Arkansas Crime
23	Information Center access as a law enforcement agency, in accordance with §§
24	$\frac{12-12-1008}{12} - \frac{12-12-1011}{12}$
25	
26	20-56-406. Permits - Annual privilege fees.
27	(a) The annual privilege fee for each permit authorized by this
28	subchapter is established as follows:
29	(1) Wholesale Hemp-derived Products Permit\$5,000
30	(2) Retail Hemp-derived Products Permit\$5,000
31	(3) Manufacturer Hemp-derived Products Permit\$5,000
32	(b)(1) All permits issued under this subchapter shall expire on June
33	30 following the effective date of issuance.
34	$(2)(\Lambda)$ Upon the failure to timely renew a permit issued under
35	this subchapter, a late fee of two (2) times the amount of the appropriate
36	permit fee shall be owed in addition to the annual privilege fee for the

1	permit.
2	(B) An expired permit that is not renewed before September
3	l following the expiration of the permit shall not be renewed, and the holder
4	of the expired permit shall submit an application for a new permit.
5	(3) A permit shall not be issued to the applicant until the late
6	fee and the permit fee have been paid.
7	(c) A permit issued under this subchapter shall not be renewed for a
8	permit holder who is delinquent more than ninety (90) days on a privilege
9	fee, tax relating to the sale or dispensing of hemp-derived products, or any
10	other state and local tax due to the Secretary of the Department of Finance
11	and Administration.
12	(d) A person who is delinquent more than ninety (90) days on a state
13	or local tax may not renew or obtain a permit issued under this subchapter
14	except upon certification that the permit holder has entered into a repayment
15	agreement with the Department of Finance and Administration and is current on
16	the payments.
17	(e) A permit holder who has unpaid fees, civil penalties, or an
18	unserved permit suspension may not transfer, sell, or give hemp-derived
19	product inventory of the business associated with the permit to a third party
20	until all fees and civil penalties are paid in full and all suspensions are
21	completed successfully, nor shall any third party be issued a new permit for
22	the business location.
23	(f) Each manufacturer, wholesaler, and retailer shall retain copies of
24	all invoices for the purchase or sale of any hemp-derived products for a
25	period of at least ten (10) years subject to examination by the Secretary of
26	the Department of Finance and Administration and the Director of Arkansas
27	Tobacco Control or their authorized agents upon demand at any time during
28	regular business hours.
29	(g) A retailer shall:
30	(1) Maintain copies of at least the last three hundred sixty-
31	five (365) days of hemp-derived product invoices, which the retailer shall
32	provide immediately upon demand;
33	(2)(A) Make the invoices that are older than three hundred
34	sixty-five (365) days available upon demand at any time during normal
35	business hours in the retail store.
36	(B) Except as provided in subdivision (g)(2)(C) of this

1	section, an agent of Arkansas lodacco Control may determine a reasonable time
2	frame for which invoices are to be provided under subdivision (g)(2)(A) of
3	this section.
4	(C) An invoice that is provided seventy two (72) hours or
5	more after the demand shall not be considered for purposes of determining a
6	violation of this subsection;
7	(3) Retain invoices for all hemp derived products in the retail
8	store even if the invoice for the hemp-derived products is older than three
9	(3) years;
10	(4) Maintain a copy of the signed server awareness forms for
11	each employee of the retailer who engages in the sale of hemp-derived
12	products, which the retailer shall provide immediately upon demand;
13	(5)(A) Maintain a copy of any complete transfer forms showing:
14	(i) The hemp-derived products that were transferred;
15	(ii) The permitted location from which the hemp-
16	derived products were transferred; and
17	(iii) When the transfer occurred.
18	(B) A transfer form shall be completed contemporaneously
19	with the transfer and shall be provided immediately by the retailer upon
20	demand; and
21	(6) If any inventory was submitted with a permit application,
22	maintain a copy of the submitted inventory form, which the retailer shall
23	provide immediately upon demand.
24	(h) A wholesaler and manufacturer shall:
25	(1) Maintain ten (10) years of hemp-derived product invoices
26	that are available upon demand during normal business hours in the permitted
27	location; and
28	(2) Permit Arkansas Tobacco Control and authorized personnel of
29	Arkansas Tobacco Control to enter into and inspect stock of hemp-derived
30	products, and any documents and records relating to receipts and
31	disbursements of hemp-derived products.
32	(i) An invoice from a wholesaler to a retailer shall contain the name
33	or other identifying information of the wholesaler and the retailer.
34	(j)(1) A nonresident wholesaler shall also keep a record of all hemp-
35	derived products purchased for distribution within this state.
36	(2) All books, records, and memoranda pertaining to the purchase

1	and sale of the hemp-derived products under subdivision (j)(1) of this
2	section shall be subject to inspection by Arkansas Tobacco Control.
3	(k) Authorized personnel of Arkansas Tobacco Control shall not release
4	to the Arkansas Tobacco Control Board or to the public any information
5	identifying customers of the manufacturer, wholesaler, or warehouse except
6	when necessary to notify the board of alleged violations of this subchapter.
7	
8	20-56-407. Permits - Not transferable - Duplicates.
9	(a) A permit under this subchapter is not:
10	(1) Transferable to a subsequent owner or operator; or
11	(2) Transferable to a different physical location unless the
12	permit holder obtains permission from the Director of Arkansas Tobacco
13	Control.
14	(b) A person purchasing an existing permitted retail location may
15	operate under the selling owner's permit for no more than thirty (30) days
16	from the date of the sale.
17	(c) When a permit is lost by a permit holder, a duplicate permit may
18	be issued upon application and for a fee of five dollars (\$5.00) when
19	sufficient proof has been given to the Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control.
20	
21	20-56-408. Permits - Suspension or revocation.
22	(a) All permits issued under this subchapter shall be suspended or
23	revoked by the Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control for any violation of this
24	subchapter or the rules pertaining to this subchapter, subject to a hearing
25	before the Arkansas Tobacco Control Board at the next regularly scheduled
26	board meeting.
27	(b) The director may revoke all permits to deal in hemp-derived
28	products associated with any person who is convicted of or pleads guilty or
29	nolo contendere to criminally violating this subchapter, subject to a hearing
30	before the board at the next regularly scheduled board meeting.
31	
32	20-56-409. Advertising prohibitions and packaging requirements.
33	(a) A hemp-derived product distributed or offered for sale in this
34	state shall include the following information on the product label or product
35	packaging:
36	(1) The name of the hemp-derived product manufacturer, whether

-	In state of out of state, and distributor, whether in state of out of state,
2	(2) Product labeling clearly showing that the product contains
3	material derived from hemp and not marijuana or medical marijuana; and
4	(3) Any other marking, words, statement, or symbol as required
5	by Arkansas Tobacco Control through rules.
6	(b) A person shall not advertise, market, or offer for sale in this
7	state any hemp-derived product by using, in the labeling or design of the
8	product, its packaging, or in its advertising or marketing materials, trade
9	dress, trademarks, branding, or other related imagery that:
10	(1) Imitates or replicates those of food brands or other related
11	products that are marketed to or are commonly associated with children or
12	minors, including without limitation breakfast cereal, cookies, juice drinks,
13	soft drinks, frozen drinks, ice creams, sorbets, sherbets, and frozen pops;
14	(2) Depicts or signifies characters or symbols that are known to
15	a reasonable person to appeal primarily to or are commonly associated with
16	children or minors, including without limitation superheroes, cartoons or
17	cartoon characters, including anime characters, comic book characters, video
18	game characters, television show characters, movie characters, mythical
19	creatures, unicorns, or that otherwise incorporates related imagery or
20	scenery; or
21	(3) Uses the terms "candy", "candies", "cake", "cakes", "pies",
22	or "cupcakes" or any variant of these terms, or any other term referencing a
23	type or brand of candy, cakes, pastries, or pies, including types or brands
24	of candy, cakes, pastries, or pies that do not include the words "candy",
25	"candies", "cake", "cakes", "pies", or "cupcakes" in their names, labels, or
26	slogans.
27	
28	20-56-410. Testing.
29	(a) All hemp-derived products sold in this state shall be tested by an
30	approved laboratory.
31	(b) An approved laboratory shall be an independent third-party
32	laboratory.
33	(c) A hemp-derived product sold in this state shall be tested for the
34	following and marked as to the hemp-derived product chemical makeup before
35	being sold to consumers:
36	(1) Cannabinoid profile;

1	(2) Solvents;
2	(3) Pesticides;
3	(4) Microbials;
4	(5) Heavy metals; and
5	(6) Any non-hemp-based substance.
6	(d) A hemp-derived product shall not be distributed or sold in this
7	state without a certificate of analysis from an approved laboratory that
8	confirms:
9	(1) The hemp-derived product was tested by an approved
10	laboratory;
11	(2) A tested representative sample of the hemp-derived product
12	contained a total delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol concentration that did not
13	exceed three-tenths of one percent (0.3%) under this subchapter; and
14	(3) A detailed analysis and list of chemical makeup of the
15	tested hemp-derived product under subsection (e) of this section.
16	(e) Arkansas Tobacco Control may periodically sample, analyze, and
17	test any hemp-derived product located in this state.
18	(f) The Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control shall:
19	(1) Investigate and issue subpoenas to any permittee or approved
20	laboratory used by a permittee that the director has reasonable suspicion of
21	intentionally producing falsified test results on hemp-derived products; and
22	(2) Promulgate rules for the enforcement of this section and set
23	penalties for any violation of the rules.
24	
25	20-56-411. Providing minors with hemp-derived products - Purchase,
26	use, or possession prohibited.
27	(a)(1) It is unlawful for any person to give, barter, or sell to a
28	minor a hemp-derived product.
29	(2) Except as provided in subdivision (a)(3) of this section, a
30	person who pleads guilty or nolo contendere to or is found guilty of
31	violating subdivision (a)(1) of this section is guilty of a Class Λ
32	misdemeanor.
33	(3) An employee or owner of a retail location permitted under
34	this subchapter who violates subdivision (a)(1) of this section while inside
35	the retail location upon conviction is subject to a fine not to exceed one
36	hundred dollars (\$100) per violation.

I	(b)(l) It is unlawful for a minor to:
2	(A) Use or possess or to purchase or attempt to purchase a
3	hemp-derived product; or
4	(B) For the purpose of obtaining or attempting to obtain a
5	hemp-derived product, falsely represent himself or herself not to be a minor
6	by displaying proof of age that is false, fraudulent, or not actually proof
7	of the minor's age.
8	(2) Any hemp-derived product found in the possession of a minor
9	may be confiscated and destroyed by a law enforcement officer.
10	(c)(1) It is not an offense under subsection (b) of this section if:
11	(A) The minor was acting at the direction of an authorized
12	agent of Arkansas Tobacco Control to enforce or ensure compliance with laws
13	relating to the prohibition of the sale of hemp-derived product to minors;
14	(B) The minor was acting at the direction of an authorized
15	agent of the Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Health Services of the
16	Department of Human Services to compile statistical data relating to the sale
17	of hemp-derived products to minors;
18	(C) The minor was acting at the request of a permit holder
19	to assist the permit holder by performing a check on the permit holder's own
20	retail business to see if the permit holder's employees would sell hemp-
21	derived products to the minor; or
22	(D) The minor was acting as an agent of a retail permit
23	holder within the scope of employment.
24	(2) A minor performing activities under subdivision (c)(1) of
25	this section shall:
26	(A) Display the appearance of a minor;
27	(B) Have the written consent of the minor's parent or
28	guardian to perform the activity on file with the agency utilizing the minor;
29	and
30	(C)(i) Present a true and correct identification if asked.
31	(ii) Any failure on the part of a minor to provide
32	true and correct identification upon request is a defense to any action under
33	this section or a civil action under § 26-57-256.
34	(d) Any person who sells hemp-derived products has the right to deny
35	the sale of any hemp-derived product to any person.
36	(e) It is unlawful for any person who has been issued a permit or a

1	itense under this subchapter to fair to display in a conspicuous place a
2	sign indicating that the sale of hemp-derived products to or purchase or
3	possession of hemp-derived products by a minor is prohibited by law.
4	(f) It is unlawful for any manufacturer whose hemp-derived product is
5	distributed in this state and any person who has been issued a permit or
6	license under this subchapter to distribute a free sample of any hemp-derived
7	product, or any component of a hemp-derived product or coupon that entitles
8	the holder of the coupon to any free sample of any hemp-derived product, or
9	any component of a hemp-derived product:
10	(1) In or on any public street or sidewalk within five hundred
11	feet (500') of any playground, public school, or other facility when the
12	playground, public school, or other facility is being used primarily by
13	minors for recreational, educational, or other purposes; or
14	(2) To any minor.
15	(g) It is unlawful for any person that has been issued a permit or
16	license under this subchapter to:
17	(1) Sell or distribute a hemp-derived product through a self-
18	service display, a vending machine, or an order executed solely over the
19	internet or similar means; or
20	(2) Advertise or promote hemp-derived products in a manner that
21	is intended to appeal to children.
22	(h) Any retail permit holder or license holder who violates any
23	provision in this section is deemed guilty of a violation and subject to
24	penalties under § 26-57-256.
25	(i)(l) A notice of an alleged violation of this section shall be given
26	to the holder of a retail permit or license or an agent of the holder within
27	ten (10) days of the alleged violation.
28	(2)(A) The notice under subdivision (i)(1) of this section shall
29	contain the date and time of the alleged violation.
30	(B)(i) The notice under subdivision (i)(l) of this section
31	shall also include either the name of the person making the alleged sale or
32	information reasonably necessary to determine the location in the store that
33	allegedly made the sale.
34	(ii) When appropriate, information under subdivision
35	(i)(2)(B)(i) of this section should include, but not be limited to, the:
36	(a) Cash register number of the sale in the

1	store;
2	(b) Physical location of the sale in the
3	store; and
4	(c) If possible, the lane or aisle number of
5	the sale in the store.
6	(j) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (h) of this section,
7	the court shall consider the following factors when reviewing a possible
8	violation:
9	(1) The business has adopted and enforced a written policy
10	against selling hemp-derived products to minors;
11	(2) The business has informed its employees of the applicable
12	laws regarding the sale of hemp-derived products to minors;
13	(3) The business has required employees to verify the age of a
14	customer attempting to purchase a hemp-derived product by way of photographic
15	identification;
16	(4) The business has established and imposed disciplinary
17	sanctions for noncompliance; and
18	(5) That the appearance of the purchaser of the hemp-derived
19	product was such that an ordinary prudent person would believe him or her to
20	be of legal age to make the purchase.
21	(k) A person convicted of violating any provision of this section
22	whose permit or license to distribute or sell a hemp-derived product is
23	suspended or revoked upon conviction shall surrender to the court any permit
24	or license to distribute or sell a hemp-derived product, and the court shall
25	transmit the permit or license to distribute or sell a hemp-derived product
26	to the Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control:
27	(1) To suspend or revoke the person's permit or license to
28	distribute or sell a hemp-derived product and to not renew the permit or
29	license; and
30	(2) Not to issue any new permit or license to that person for
31	the period of time determined by the court in accordance with this section.
32	
33	20-56-412. Enforcement - Penalties.
34	(a) It is the duty of all state, county, and city officers to assist
35	Arkansas Tobacco Control in enforcing this subchapter.
36	(b) A person within the jurisdiction of this state who is not

- permitted to sell hemp-derived products to retailers or consumers and who sells, takes orders from, delivers, or causes to be delivered immediately or in the future any hemp-derived products to retailers or consumers in the State of Arkansas is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.
 - (c) A person engaged in buying or selling hemp-derived products in this state without first obtaining the proper permit upon conviction is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.
 - (d) This subchapter does not prohibit in any form the continuous transportation through Arkansas of the plant Cannabis sativa L., and any part of that plant, including the seeds thereof and all derivatives, extracts, cannabinoids, isomers, acids, salts, and salts of isomers, whether growing or not, with a total delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol concentration of not more than three-tenths of one percent (0.3%) on a dry-weight basis, from one licensed hemp producer in another state to a licensed hemp handler in another state.

16 20-56-413. Rules.

The Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control and Arkansas Tobacco Control may promulgate rules for the proper enforcement of their powers and duties under this subchapter, including without limitation the regulation of processing, transportation, delivery, sale, and purchase of hemp-derived products in accordance with this subchapter and the power to levy penalties for violations of this subchapter.

SECTION 8. Arkansas Code § 26-57-247(b), effective until the contingency in Acts 2023, No. 629, § 17, is met, concerning those unstamped and untaxed items that may be seized by the Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control, is amended to add an additional subdivision read as follows:

(5) Hemp products are possessed, sold, or offered for sale in violation of § 20-56-501 et seq.

- SECTION 9. Arkansas Code § 26-57-247, effective if the contingency in Acts 2023, No. 629, § 17, is met, is repealed.
- 33 26-57-247. Seizure, forfeiture, and disposition of tobacco products
 34 and other property.
 - (a) Cigarettes to which stamps have not been affixed as provided by law are subject to seizure and shall be held as evidence for prosecution.

1	(b) The Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control may seize and hold for
2	disposition of the courts or the Arkansas Tobacco Control Board all tobacco
3	products, vapor products, alternative nicotine products, e-liquid products,
4	or hemp derived products found in the possession of a person dealing in, or a
5	consumer of, tobacco products, vapor products, alternative nicotine products,
6	e-liquid products, or hemp-derived products if:
7	(1) Prima facie evidence exists that the full amount of excise
8	tax due on the tobacco products has not been paid to the Secretary of the
9	Department of Finance and Administration;
10	(2) Tobacco products, vapor products, alternative nicotine
11	products, or e-liquid products are in the possession of a wholesaler who does
12	not possess a current Arkansas wholesale permit;
13	(3) A retail establishment does not possess a current Arkansas
14	retail permit;
15	(4) The tobacco products, vapor products, alternative nicotine
16	products, or e-liquid products have been offered for sale to the public at
17	another location without a current Arkansas retail permit; or
18	(5) Hemp-derived products are possessed, sold, or offered for
19	sale in violation of § 20-56-401 et seq.
20	(c) Property, including money, used to facilitate a violation of this
21	subchapter or the Unfair Cigarette Sales Act, § 4-75-701 et seq., may be
22	seized and forfeited to the state.
23	(d)(l) A prosecuting attorney may institute a civil action against a
24	person who is convicted of a criminal violation under this subchapter or the
25	Unfair Cigarette Sales Act, § 4-75-701 et seq., to obtain a judgment for:
26	(A) Damages in an amount equal to the value of the
27	property, funds, or a monetary instrument involved in the violation;
28	(B) The proceeds acquired by a person involved in the
29	enterprise or by reason of conduct in furtherance of the violation; and
30	(C) Costs incurred by Arkansas Tobacco Control in the
31	investigation, prosecution, and adjudication of criminal, civil, and
32	administrative proceedings.
33	(2) The standard of proof in an action brought under subdivision
34	(d)(1) of this section is preponderance of the evidence.
35	(e) The following are subject to forfeiture under this section upon
36	order by a circuit court:

1 (1) Tobacco products, vapor products, alternative nicotine 2 products, or e-liquid products distributed, dispensed, or acquired in 3 violation of this subchapter; 4 (2) Raw materials, products, or equipment used or intended for 5 use in manufacturing, compounding, processing, delivering, importing, or 6 exporting a tobacco product, vapor product, alternative nicotine product, or e-liquid product in violation of this subchapter; 7 8 (3) Property that is used or intended for use as a container for 9 property described in subdivision (e)(1) or subdivision (e)(2) of this 10 section: 11 (4)(A) Except as provided in subdivision (e)(4)(B) of this 12 section, a conveyance, including an aircraft, vehicle, or vessel, that is 13 used or intended to be used to transport or in any manner to facilitate the 14 transportation for the purpose of sale or receipt of property described in 15 subdivision (e)(1) or subdivision (e)(2) of this section. 16 (B)(i) A conveyance used by a person as a common carrier 17 in the transaction of business as a common carrier is not subject to 18 forfeiture under this section unless it appears that the owner or other 19 person in charge of the conveyance is a consenting party or privy to a 20 violation of this subchapter. 21 (ii) A conveyance is not subject to forfeiture under 22 this section by reason of an act or omission established by the owner of the conveyance to have been committed or omitted without his or her knowledge or 23 24 consent. 25 (C) Upon a showing described in subdivision (e)(4)(B)(i) 26 of this section by the owner or interest holder of a conveyance, the 27 conveyance may nevertheless be forfeited if the prosecuting attorney 28 establishes that the owner or interest holder either knew or should reasonably have known that the conveyance would be used to transport or in 29 30 any manner to facilitate the transportation for the purpose of sale or receipt of property described in subdivision (e)(1) or subdivision (e)(2) of 31 32 this section. 33 (D) A conveyance encumbered by a bona fide security 34 interest is subject to the interest of the secured party if the secured party neither had knowledge of nor consented to an act or omission in violation of 35 36 this subchapter:

1	(5) A book, record, or research product or material, including a
2	formula, microfilm, tape, or data that is used or intended for use in
3	violation of this subchapter;
4	(6)(A) Except as provided in subdivision (e)(6)(B) of this
5	section, a thing of value, including:
6	(i) Firearms purchased from the proceeds of the sale
7	of untaxed tobacco products, vapor products, alternative nicotine products,
8	or e-liquid products in violation of this subchapter or used in furtherance
9	of a criminal offense as described in § 26-57-245;
10	(ii) Proceeds or profits traceable to an exchange
11	described in subdivision (e)(6)(A)(i) of this section; and
12	(iii) Money, negotiable instruments, or security used
13	or intended to be used to facilitate a violation of this subchapter.
14	(B) Property shall not be forfeited under subdivision
15	(e)(6)(A) of this section to the extent of the interest of an owner by reason
16	of an act or omission established by him or her by a preponderance of the
17	evidence to have been committed or omitted without his or her knowledge or
18	consent;
19	(7)(A) Money, coins, or currency found in close proximity to a
20	forfeitable tobacco product, vapor product, alternative nicotine product, or
21	e-liquid product or a forfeitable record of an importation of a tobacco
22	product, vapor product, alternative nicotine product, or e-liquid product is
23	presumed to be forfeitable under this section.
24	(B) The burden of proof is upon a claimant of the money,
25	coins, or currency to rebut the presumption in subdivision (e)(7)(Λ) of this
26	section by a preponderance of the evidence; and
27	$(8)(\Lambda)$ Except as provided in subdivision $(e)(8)(B)$ of this
28	section, real property if it substantially assisted in, facilitated in any
29	manner, or was used or intended for use in the commission of any act
30	prohibited by this subchapter.
31	(B)(i) Real property is not subject to forfeiture under
32	this section by reason of an act or omission established by the owner of the
33	real property by a preponderance of the evidence to have been committed or
34	omitted without his or her knowledge or consent.
35	(ii) A forfeiture of real property encumbered by a
36	mortgage or other lien is subject to the interest of the secured party if the

1	secured party neither had knowledge of nor consented to an act or omission in
2	violation of this subchapter.
3	(iii) If the circuit court finds by a preponderance
4	of the evidence that grounds for a forfeiture exist under this section, the
5	court shall enter an order requiring the forfeiture of the real property.
6	(C) Upon an order of forfeiture of real property, the
7	order shall be filed on the day issued and shall have prospective effect.
8	(D) A forfeiture of real property does not affect the
9	title of a bona fide purchaser who purchased the real property before the
10	issuance of the order, and the order has no force or effect on the title of
11	the bona fide purchaser.
12	(E) A lis pendens filed in connection with an action
13	pending under this section that may result in the forfeiture of real property
14	is effective only from the time filed and has no retroactive effect.
15	(f) A tobacco product, vapor product, alternative nicotine product, or
16	e-liquid product that is possessed, transferred, sold, or offered for sale in
17	violation of this subchapter may be seized and immediately forfeited to the
18	state.
19	(g)(1) Property subject to forfeiture under this subchapter may be
20	seized by a law enforcement agent upon process issued by a circuit court
21	having jurisdiction over the property on petition filed by the prosecuting
22	attorney of the judicial circuit.
23	(2) Seizure without process may be made if:
24	(A) The seizure is incident to an arrest or a search under
25	a search warrant or an inspection under the regulatory authority of Arkansas
26	Tobacco Control;
27	(B) The property subject to seizure has been the subject
28	of a prior judgment in favor of the state in a criminal injunction or
29	forfeiture proceeding based upon this subchapter;
30	(C) The seizing law enforcement agency has probable cause
31	to believe that the property is directly or indirectly dangerous to health or
32	safety; or
33	(D) The seizing law enforcement agency has probable cause
34	to believe that the property was used or is intended to be used in violation
35	of this subchapter.
36	(h)(l) A state or local law enforcement agency shall not transfer

T	property series by the state of local agency under this section to a leaeral
2	entity for forfeiture under federal law unless the circuit court having
3	jurisdiction over the property enters an order, upon petition by the
4	prosecuting attorney, authorizing the property to be transferred to the
5	federal entity.
6	(2) The transfer shall not be approved unless it reasonably
7	appears that the activity giving rise to the investigation or seizure
8	involves more than one (1) state or the nature of the investigation or
9	seizure would be better pursued under federal law.
10	(i)(l) Property seized for forfeiture under this section is not
11	subject to replevin but is deemed to be in the custody of the seizing law
12	enforcement agency subject only to an order or decree of the circuit court
13	having jurisdiction over the property seized.
14	(2) Subject to a need to retain the property as evidence, when
15	property is seized under this subchapter, the seizing law enforcement agency
16	may:
17	(A) Remove the property to a place designated by the
18	circuit court;
19	(B) Place the property under constructive seizure, posting
20	notice of pending forfeiture on it by:
21	(i) Giving notice of pending forfeiture to its
22	owners and interest holders; or
23	(ii) Filing notice of pending forfeiture in an
24	appropriate public record relating to the property;
25	(G) Remove the property to a storage area for safekeeping
26	or, if the property is a negotiable instrument or money or is not needed for
27	evidentiary purposes, deposit it into an interest-bearing account; or
28	(D) Provide for another agency or custodian, including an
29	owner, secured party, mortgagee, or lienholder, to take custody of the
30	property and service, maintain, and operate it as reasonably necessary to
31	maintain its value in an appropriate location within the jurisdiction of the
32	court.
33	(3)(A) In case of transfer of property, a transfer receipt shall
34	be prepared by the transferring agency.
35	(B) The transfer receipt shall:
36	(i) List a detailed and complete description of the

1	property being transferred;
2	(ii) State to whom the property is being transferred
3	and the source or authorization for the transfer; and
4	(iii) Be signed by both the transferor and the
5	transferee.
6	(C) Both transferor and transferee shall maintain a copy
7	of the transfer receipt.
8	(4) A person who acts as custodian of property under this
9	section is not liable to any person on account of an act done in a reasonable
10	manner in compliance with an order under this subchapter.
11	(j)(l) Property seized by a state or local law enforcement officer
12	under this section who is detached to, deputized or commissioned by, or
13	working in conjunction with a federal agency remains subject to this section.
14	(2)(A) If property is seized for forfeiture by a law enforcement
15	agency under this section, the seizing law enforcement officer shall prepare
16	and sign a confiscation report.
17	(B)(i) The party from whom the property is seized shall
18	also sign the confiscation report if present and shall immediately receive a
19	eopy of the confiscation report.
20	(ii) If the party refuses to sign the confiscation
21	report, the confiscation report shall be signed by one (1) additional law
22	enforcement officer, stating that the party refused to sign the confiscation
23	report.
24	(C) The original confiscation report shall be:
25	(i) Filed with the seizing law enforcement agency
26	within forty-eight (48) hours after the seizure; and
27	(ii) Maintained in a separate file.
28	(D) One (1) copy of the confiscation report shall be
29	retained by the seizing law enforcement officer.
30	(3) The confiscation report shall contain the following
31	information:
32	(A) A detailed description of the property seized
33	including serial or model numbers and odometer or hour reading of vehicles or
34	equipment;
35	(B) The date of seizure;
36	(C) The name and address of the party from whom the

1	property was seized;
2	(D) The reason for the seizure;
3	(E) The location where the property will be held;
4	(F) The seizing law enforcement officer's name; and
5	(C) A signed statement by the seizing law enforcement
6	officer stating that the confiscation report is true and complete.
7	(4) Within three (3) business days after receiving the
8	confiscation report, the seizing law enforcement agency shall forward a copy
9	of the confiscation report to the prosecuting attorney for the district where
10	the property was seized and to the director.
11	(5)(A) Arkansas Legislative Audit shall notify the director and
12	a circuit court in the county of a law enforcement agency, prosecuting
13	attorney, or other public entity that the law enforcement agency, prosecuting
14	attorney, or public entity is ineligible to receive forfeited funds,
15	forfeited property, or grants from the council, if Arkansas Legislative Audit
16	determines by its own investigation or upon written notice from the director
17	that:
18	(i) The law enforcement agency failed to complete
19	and file the confiscation reports as required by this section;
20	(ii) The law enforcement agency, prosecuting
21	attorney, or public entity has not properly accounted for the seized
22	property; or
23	(iii) The prosecuting attorney has failed to comply
24	with the notification requirement set forth in subdivision (m)(2) of this
25	section.
26	(B) After the notice, the circuit court shall not issue an
27	order distributing seized property to that law enforcement agency,
28	prosecuting attorney, or public entity, nor shall a grant be awarded by the
29	council to that law enforcement agency, prosecuting attorney, or public
30	entity until:
31	(i) The appropriate officials of the law enforcement
32	agency, prosecuting attorney, or public entity have appeared before the
33	Legislative Joint Auditing Committee; and
34	(ii) The Legislative Joint Auditing Committee has
35	adopted a motion authorizing subsequent transfers of forfeited property to
36	the law enforcement agency, prosecuting attorney, or public entity.

1	(C)(i) If a law enforcement agency, prosecuting attorney,
2	or other public entity is incligible to receive forfeited property, the
3	circuit court shall order money that would have been distributed to that law
4	enforcement agency, prosecuting attorney, or public entity to be transmitted
5	to the Treasurer of State for deposit into the Special State Assets
6	Forfeiture Fund.
7	(ii) If the property is not cash, the circuit court
8	shall order the property converted to cash under this section and the
9	proceeds transmitted to the Treasurer of State for deposit into the Special
10	State Assets Forfeiture Fund.
11	(D) Moneys deposited into the Special State Assets
12	Forfeiture Fund are not subject to recovery or retrieval by an incligible law
13	enforcement agency, prosecuting attorney, or other public entity.
14	(6) The director shall establish by rule a standardized
15	confiscation report form to be used by all law enforcement agencies, with
16	specific instructions and guidelines concerning the nature and dollar value
17	of all property, including firearms, to be included in the confiscation
18	report and forwarded to the office of the local prosecuting attorney and the
19	director under this subsection.
20	(k)(1)(A) The prosecuting attorney shall initiate forfeiture
21	proceedings by filing a complaint with the circuit clerk of the county where
22	the property was seized and by serving the complaint on all known owners and
23	interest holders of the seized property in accordance with the Arkansas Rules
24	of Civil Procedure.
25	(B) The complaint may be based on in rem or in personam
26	jurisdiction but shall not be filed to avoid the distribution requirements
27	set forth in subdivision (1)(1) of this section.
28	(C) The prosecuting attorney shall mail a copy of the
29	complaint to the director within five (5) calendar days after filing the
30	complaint.
31	(2)(A) The complaint shall include a copy of the confiscation
32	report and shall be filed within sixty (60) days after receiving a copy of
33	the confiscation report from the seizing law enforcement agency.
34	(B) In a case involving real property, the complaint shall
35	be filed within sixty (60) days of the defendant's conviction on the charge
36	giving rise to the forfeiture.

1	(3)(A) The prosecuting attorney may file the complaint after the
2	expiration of the time only if the complaint is accompanied by a statement of
3	good cause for the late filing.
4	(B) However, the complaint shall not be filed more than
5	one hundred twenty (120) days after either the date of the seizure or, in a
6	case involving real property, the date of the defendant's conviction.
7	(C)(i) If the circuit court determines that good cause has
8	not been established, the circuit court shall order that the seized property
9	be returned to the owner or interest holder.
10	(ii) In addition, items seized but not subject to
11	forfeiture under this section or subject to disposition under law or the
12	Arkansas Rules of Criminal Procedure may be ordered returned to the owner or
13	interest holder.
14	(iii) If the owner or interest holder cannot be
15	determined, the court may order disposition of the property.
16	(4) Within the time set forth in the Arkansas Rules of Civil
17	Procedure, the owner or interest holder of the seized property shall file
18	with the circuit clerk a verified answer to the complaint that shall include:
19	(A) A statement describing the seized property and the
20	owner's interest or interest holder's interest in the seized property with
21	supporting documents to establish the owner's interest or interest holder's
22	interest;
23	(B) A certification by the owner or interest holder
24	stating that he or she has read the document and that it has not been filed
25	for an improper purpose;
26	(C) A statement setting forth any defense to forfeiture;
27	and and
28	(D) The address at which the owner or interest holder will
29	accept mail.
30	(5)(A) If the owner or interest holder fails to file an answer,
31	the prosecuting attorney may move for default judgment under the Arkansas
32	Rules of Civil Procedure.
33	(B)(i) If a timely answer has been filed, the prosecuting
34	attorney has the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that
35	the seized property should be forfeited.
36	(ii) After the prosecuting attorney has presented

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1
    proof, an owner or interest holder of the property seized is allowed to
 2
    present evidence showing why the seized property should not be forfeited.
3
                             (iii) If the circuit court determines that grounds
 4
    for forfeiting the seized property exist and that a defense to forfeiture has
 5
    not been established by the owner or interest holder, the circuit court shall
 6
    enter an order under this section. However, if the circuit court determines
 7
    either that the prosecuting attorney has failed to establish that grounds for
8
    forfeiting the seized property exist or that the owner or interest holder has
9
    established a defense to forfeiture, the court shall order that the seized
    property be immediately returned to the owner or interest holder.
10
11
          (1)(1) If the circuit court having jurisdiction over the seized
12
    property finds upon a hearing by a preponderance of the evidence that grounds
13
    for a forfeiture exist under this subchapter, the circuit court shall enter
14
    an order:
15
                       (A) To permit the law enforcement agency or prosecuting
16
    attorney to retain the seized property for law enforcement or prosecutorial
17
    purposes, subject to the following provisions:
18
                             (i)(a) Seized property may not be retained for
19
    official use for more than three (3) years, unless the circuit court finds
20
    that the seized property has been used for law enforcement or prosecutorial
21
    purposes and authorizes continued use for those purposes on an annual basis.
22
                                   (b) At the end of the retention period, the
23
    seized property shall be sold and eighty percent (80%) of the proceeds shall
24
    be deposited into the tobacco control fund of the retaining law enforcement
    agency or prosecuting attorney, and twenty percent (20%) of the proceeds
25
26
    shall be deposited into the State Treasury as special revenues to be credited
27
    to the Special State Assets Forfeiture Fund.
28
                                   (c) The retaining law enforcement agency or
    prosecuting attorney may sell the retained seized property during the time
29
30
    allowed for retention. However, the proceeds of the sale shall be distributed
    as set forth in subdivision (1)(1)(A)(i)(b) of this section;
31
32
                             (ii) If the circuit court determines that retained
33
    seized property has been used for personal use or by non-law enforcement
34
    personnel for non-law enforcement purposes, the circuit court shall order the
    seized property to be sold under § 5-5-101(e) and (f), and the proceeds shall
35
36
    be deposited into the State Treasury as special revenues to be credited to
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1
    the Special State Assets Forfeiture Fund;
 2
                                   (iii)(a) A law enforcement agency may use
 3
    forfeited property or money if the circuit court's order specifies that the
 4
    forfeited property or money is forfeited to the prosecuting attorney,
 5
    sheriff, chief of police, Division of Arkansas State Police, director, or
 6
    Arkansas Highway Police Division of the Arkansas Department of
7
    Transportation.
8
                                   (b) After the order, the prosecuting attorney,
9
    sheriff, chief of police, Division of Arkansas State Police, director, or
10
    Arkansas Highway Police Division of the Arkansas Department of Transportation
    shall maintain an inventory of the forfeited property or money, be
11
    accountable for the forfeited property or money, and be subject to
12
13
    subdivision (j)(5) of this section with respect to the forfeited property or
14
    money;
                                   (iv)(a) An aircraft is forfeited to the office
15
    of the director and may be used only for tobacco, vapor product, alternative
16
17
    nicotine product, or e-liquid product smuggling interdiction efforts within
18
    the discretion of the director.
19
                                   (b) However, if the director determines that
20
    the aircraft should be sold, the proceeds of the sale shall be distributed as
21
    set forth in subdivision (1)(1)(A)(i)(b) of this section;
22
                             (v) A firearm not retained for official use shall be
23
    disposed of in accordance with state and federal law; and
                             (vi) A tobacco product, vapor product, alternative
24
25
    nicotine product, or e-liquid product shall be destroyed pursuant to a court
26
    order:
27
                       (B)(i) To sell seized property that is not required by law
    to be destroyed and that is not harmful to the public.
28
29
                             (ii) Seized property described in subdivision
30
    (1)(1)(B)(i) of this section shall be sold at a public sale by the retaining
    law enforcement agency or prosecuting attorney under § 5-5-101(e) and (f); or
31
32
                       (C) To transfer a motor vehicle to a school district for
33
    use in a driver education course.
                 (2) Disposition of forfeited property under this subsection is
34
    subject to the need to retain the forfeited property as evidence in any
35
36
    related proceeding.
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1	(3) Within three (3) business days after the entry of the order,
2	the circuit clerk shall forward to the director copies of the confiscation
3	report, the circuit court's order, and other documentation detailing the
4	disposition of the seized property.
5	(m)(1)(A) Subject to subdivision (j)(5) of this section, the proceeds
6	of sales conducted under this section and moneys forfeited or obtained by
7	judgment or settlement under this subchapter shall be deposited and
8	distributed in the manner provided in this subsection.
9	(B) Moneys received from a federal forfeiture for a
10	violation of this subchapter shall be deposited and distributed under this
11	section.
12	(2)(A) The proceeds of a sale and moneys forfeited or obtained
13	by judgment or settlement under this subchapter shall be deposited into the
14	asset forfeiture fund of the prosecuting attorney and is subject to the
15	following provisions:
16	(i) If, during a calendar year, the aggregate amount
17	of moneys deposited into the asset forfeiture fund exceeds twenty thousand
18	dollars (\$20,000) per county, the prosecuting attorney, within fourteen (14)
19	days after that time, shall notify the circuit judges in the judicial
20	district and the director;
21	(ii) Subsequent to the notification set forth in this
22	section, twenty percent (20%) of the proceeds of an additional sale and
23	additional moneys forfeited or obtained by judgment or settlement under this
24	subchapter in the same calendar year shall be deposited into the State
25	Treasury as special revenues to be credited to the Special State Assets
26	Forfeiture Fund, and the remainder shall be deposited into the asset
27	forfeiture fund of the prosecuting attorney;
28	(iii) Failure by the prosecuting attorney to comply
29	with the notification requirement set forth in this section renders the
30	prosecuting attorney and an entity eligible to receive forfeited moneys or
31	property from the prosecuting attorney ineligible to receive forfeited moneys
32	or property, except as provided in this section; and
33	(iv) Twenty percent (20%) of moneys in excess of
34	twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) that have been retained but not reported as
35	required by this section are subject to recovery for deposit into the Special
36	State Assets Forfeiture Fund.

1	(B) The prosecuting attorney shall administer expenditures
2	from the asset forfeiture fund, which is subject to audit by Arkansas
3	Legislative Audit. Moneys distributed from the asset forfeiture fund shall be
4	used only for law enforcement and prosecutorial purposes. Moneys in the asset
5	forfeiture fund shall be distributed in the following order:
6	(i) For the satisfaction of a bona fide security
7	interest or lien;
8	(ii) For payment of a proper expense of the
9	proceeding for forfeiture and sale, including expenses of seizure,
10	maintenance of custody, advertising, and court costs;
11	(iii) Any balance under three hundred fifty thousand
12	dollars (\$350,000) shall be distributed proportionally so as to reflect
13	generally the contribution of the appropriate local or state law enforcement
14	or prosecutorial agency's participation in any activity that led to the
15	seizure or forfeiture of the property or deposit of moneys under this
16	subchapter; and
17	(iv) Any balance over three hundred fifty thousand
18	dollars (\$350,000) shall be forwarded to the director to be transferred to
19	the State Treasury for deposit into the Special State Assets Forfeiture Fund
20	for distribution under this section.
21	(C)(i) For a forfeiture in an amount greater than three
22	hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$350,000) from which expenses are paid for a
23	proceeding for forfeiture and sale under this section, an itemized accounting
24	of the expenses shall be delivered to the director within ten (10) calendar
25	days after the distribution of the funds.
26	(ii) The itemized accounting shall include the
27	expenses paid, to whom paid, and for what purposes the expenses were paid.
28	(3)(A) Moneys received by a prosecuting attorney or law
29	enforcement agency from a federal forfeiture for a violation of this
30	subchapter shall be deposited and maintained in a separate account.
31	(B) However, a balance over three hundred fifty thousand
32	dollars (\$350,000) shall be distributed as required under this section.
33	(4) Other moneys shall not be maintained in the account except
34	for interest income generated by the account.
35	(5) Moneys in the account shall only be used for law enforcement
36	and prosecutorial purposes consistent with governing federal law.

1	(6) The account is subject to audit by Arkansas Legislative
2	Audit.
3	(7) A balance over three hundred fifty thousand dollars
4	(\$350,000) shall be transferred to the State Treasury for deposit into the
5	Special State Assets Forfeiture Fund in which it shall be maintained
6	separately and distributed consistently with governing federal law and upon
7	the advice of the director.
8	(n) In personam jurisdiction may be based on a person's presence in
9	the state or on his or her conduct in the state, as set out in § 16-4-101(C),
10	and is subject to the following additional provisions:
11	(1) A temporary restraining order under this section may be
12	entered ex parte on application of the state upon a showing that:
13	(A) There is probable cause to believe that the property
14	with respect to which the order is sought is subject to forfeiture under this
15	section; and
16	(B) Notice of the action would jeopardize the availability
17	of the property for forfeiture;
18	(2)(A) Notice of the entry of a temporary restraining order and
19	an opportunity for hearing shall be afforded to a person known to have an
20	interest in the property.
21	(B) The hearing shall be held at the earliest possible
22	date consistent with Rule 65 of the Arkansas Rules of Civil Procedure and is
23	limited to the issues of whether:
24	(i) There is a probability that the state will
25	prevail on the issue of forfeiture and that failure to enter the temporary
26	restraining order will result in the property's being destroyed, conveyed,
27	alienated, encumbered, disposed of, received, removed from the jurisdiction
28	of the circuit court, concealed, or otherwise made unavailable for
29	forfeiture; and
30	(ii) The need to preserve the availability of
31	property through the entry of the requested temporary restraining order
32	outweighs the hardship on an owner or interest holder against whom the
33	temporary restraining order is to be entered;
34	(3) The state has the burden of proof by a preponderance of the
35	evidence to show that the defendant's property is subject to forfeiture;
36	(4)(A) On a determination of liability of a person for conduct

1	giving rise to forfeiture under this section, the circuit court shall enter a
2	judgment of forfeiture of the property subject to forfeiture as alleged in
3	the complaint and may authorize the prosecuting attorney or a law enforcement
4	officer to seize property subject to forfeiture under this section not
5	previously seized or not then under seizure.
6	(B) The order of forfeiture shall be consistent with
7	subsection (1) of this section.
8	(C) In connection with the judgment, on application of the
9	state, the circuit court may enter an appropriate order to protect the
10	interest of the state in property ordered forfeited; and
11	(5) Subsequent to the finding of liability and order of
12	forfeiture, the following procedures apply:
13	(A) The attorney for the state shall give notice of
14	pending forfeiture in the manner provided in Rule 4 of the Arkansas Rules of
15	Civil Procedure to an owner or interest holder who has not previously been
16	given notice;
17	(B) An owner of or interest holder in property that has
18	been ordered forfeited and whose claim is not precluded may file a claim
19	within thirty (30) days after initial notice of pending forfeiture or after
20	notice under Rule 4 of the Arkansas Rules of Civil Procedure, whichever is
21	earlier; and
22	(C) The circuit court may amend the in personam order of
23	forfeiture if the circuit court determines that a claimant has established
24	that he or she has an interest in the property and that the interest is
25	exempt under this section.
26	(o) The circuit court shall order the forfeiture of other property of
27	a claimant or defendant up to the value of the claimant's or defendant's
28	property found by the circuit court to be subject to forfeiture under this
29	section if any of the forfeitable property had remained under the control or
30	custody of the claimant or defendant and:
31	(1) Cannot be located;
32	(2) Was transferred or conveyed to, sold to, or deposited with a
33	third party;
34	(3) Is beyond the jurisdiction of the circuit court;
35	(4) Was substantially diminished in value while not in the
36	actual physical custody of the seizing law enforcement agency;

T	(3) was committeed with other property that cannot be divided
2	without difficulty; or
3	(6) Is subject to interest exempted from forfeiture under this
4	subchapter.
5	(p)(1) There is created on the books of law enforcement agencies and
6	prosecuting attorneys a tobacco control fund.
7	(2) The fund shall consist of moneys obtained under this section
8	and other revenue as may be provided by law or ordinance.
9	(3) Moneys in the tobacco control fund shall be appropriated on
10	a continuing basis and are not subject to the Revenue Stabilization Law, §
11	19-5-101 et seq.
12	(4)(A) The fund shall be used for law enforcement and
13	prosecutorial purposes.
14	(B) Each prosecuting attorney shall submit to the Director
15	of Arkansas Tobacco Control on or before June 30 of each year a report
16	detailing moneys received and expenditures made from the tobacco control fund
17	during the preceding twelve-month period.
18	(5) The law enforcement agencies and prosecuting attorneys shall
19	submit to the director on or before June 30 of each year a report detailing
20	any moneys received and expenditures made from the tobacco control fund
21	during the preceding twelve-month period.
22	(6) Moneys from the tobacco control fund may not supplant other
23	local, state, or federal funds.
24	(7) The tobacco control fund is subject to audit by Arkansas
25	Legislative Audit.
26	
27	SECTION 10. Arkansas Code § 26-57-255(g)(3), effective until the
28	contingency in Acts 2023, No. 629, § 17, is met, concerning the powers and
29	duties of the Arkansas Tobacco Control Board, is amended to read as follows:
30	(3)(A) Conduct public hearings when appropriate regarding a
31	permit authorized under this subchapter or in violation of this subchapter,
32	the Unfair Cigarette Sales Act, § 4-75-701 et seq., § 5-27-227, <u>§ 20-56-501</u>
33	et seq., or any other federal, state, or local statute, ordinance, rule, or
34	regulation concerning the sale of tobacco products, vapor products,
35	alternative nicotine products, or e-liquid products to minors, or the rules
36	promulgated by Arkansas Tobacco Control.

1	(B) After notice and hearing held in accordance with the
2	Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq., if the board
3	finds a violation of this subchapter, the Unfair Cigarette Sales Act, § 4-75-
4	701 et seq., § 20-56-501 et seq., or the rules promulgated by Arkansas
5	Tobacco Control, the board may suspend or revoke any or all permits issued by
6	the director to any person.
7	(C) The board may levy a civil penalty in an amount not to
8	exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each
9	violation against a person found to be in violation of this subchapter, the
10	Unfair Cigarette Sales Act, § 4-75-701 et seq., § 20-56-501 et seq., or the
11	rules promulgated by Arkansas Tobacco Control.
12	(D) Each day of a violation is a separate violation.
13	$\frac{(E)}{(E)}$ A civil penalty under subdivision (g)(3)(C) of this
14	section is in addition to any penalties levied by the board under $\S 26-57-$
15	248.
16	(F) In conducting a hearing under this subdivision (g)(3),
17	the board may examine or cause to be examined under oath any witness and the
18	books and records of a permitted person or other person;
19	
20	SECTION 11. Arkansas Code § 26-57-255, effective if the contingency in
21	Acts 2023, No. 629, § 17, is met, is repealed.
22	26-57-255. Arkansas Tobacco Control Board - Greation - Definition.
23	(a) There is created the Arkansas Tobacco Control Board to consist of
24	the following eight (8) members appointed by the Governor:
25	(1) Two (2) members of the board shall be wholesalers of tobacco
26	products, vapor products, alternative nicotine products, or e-liquid
27	products;
28	(2) Two (2) members of the board shall be retailers of tobacco
29	products, vapor products, alternative nicotine products, or e-liquid
30	products; and
31	(3) Four (4) members of the board shall be members of the public
32	at large who are not public employees or officials, at least one (1) of whom
33	shall be an African-American, and two (2) of whom shall be appointed by the
34	Governor after consulting the Arkansas Medical Society, Inc. and subject to
35	confirmation by the Senate.

(b) The Governor shall designate which member of the board shall act

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1
    as chair and that person shall serve as chair for two (2) years unless his or
 2
    her membership on the board ceases prior to the end of the two year period.
           (c)(1) All members of the board shall be residents of the State of
3
 4
     Arkansas and confirmed by the Senate.
 5
                 (2) The term of office shall be five (5) years.
 6
           (d)(1) A minimum of five (5) members is required for a quorum.
 7
                 (2)(A) All action by the board shall be by a majority vote of
8
    the board members present at the regular or special meeting, and the board
    may take no official action in connection with a matter except at a regular
9
10
    or special meeting.
11
                       (B) In the event of a tie vote of the members of the
12
    board, the Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control may east the deciding vote.
13
          (e) A person who is not a citizen of the United States and who has not
14
    resided in the State of Arkansas for at least two (2) consecutive years
    immediately preceding the date of appointment shall not be appointed to the
15
16
    board.
17
          (f) Each member of the board and the director shall take and subscribe
18
    to an oath that he or she will support and enforce this subchapter, the
19
    tobacco control laws of this state, the Arkansas Constitution, and the United
20
    States Constitution.
21
          (g) The board shall:
22
                 (1) Act as the adjudicatory body for Arkansas Tobacco Control;
23
                 (2) Have responsibility for approving the issuance, suspension,
    and revocation of the permits enumerated in § 26-57-219;
24
25
                 (3)(A) Conduct public hearings when appropriate regarding a
26
    permit authorized under this subchapter or in violation of this subchapter.
27
    the Unfair Cigarette Sales Act, § 4-75-701 et seg., § 5-27-227, § 20-56-401
    et seg., or any other federal, state, or local statute, ordinance, rule, or
28
    regulation concerning the sale of tobacco products, vapor products,
29
30
    alternative nicotine products, e-liquid products, or hemp derived products to
    minors or the rules promulgated by Arkansas Tobacco Control.
31
32
                       (B) After notice and hearing held in accordance with the
33
    Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq., if the board
    finds a violation of this subchapter, the Unfair Cigarette Sales Act, § 4-75-
34
    701 et seq., § 20-56-401 et seq., or the rules promulgated by Arkansas
35
36
    Tobacco Control, the board may suspend or revoke any or all permits issued by
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1
    the director to any person.
2
                       (C) The board may levy a civil penalty in an amount not to
 3
    exceed five thousand dollars ($5,000) for each violation against a person
    found to be in violation of this subchapter, the Unfair Cigarette Sales Act,
 4
 5
    § 4-75-701 et seg., § 20-56-401 et seg., or the rules promulgated by Arkansas
6
    Tobacco Control.
7
                       (D) Each day of a violation is a separate violation.
8
                       (E) A civil penalty under subdivision (g)(3)(C) of this
9
    section is in addition to any penalties levied by the board under § 26-57-
    248.
10
                       (F) In conducting a hearing under this subdivision (g)(3),
11
12
    the board may examine or cause to be examined under oath any witness and the
13
    books and records of a permitted person or other person;
14
                 (4) When requested by the written petition of at least three (3)
    interested parties, conduct public hearings to receive testimony regarding
15
    the facts relevant to the issuance of a permit under this subchapter; and
16
17
                (5) (A) Not have authority in criminal prosecutions or the
18
    assessment or collection of any taxes.
19
                       (B) However, the board shall refuse to approve the
20
    issuance or renewal of a permit issued by the director for the failure to pay
21
    taxes or fees imposed on tobacco products or any permit fees imposed under
22
    this subchapter or any other state or local taxes.
23
           (h)(1) The board may assess penalties for a violation of § 5-27-227
    according to the following schedule:
24
25
                       (A) For a first violation within a forty-eight-month
    period, a civil penalty not to exceed two hundred fifty dollars ($250);
26
27
                       (B) For a second violation within a forty-eight-month
    period, a civil penalty not to exceed five hundred dollars ($500) and
28
    suspension of the permit enumerated in § 26-57-219 for a period not to exceed
29
    two (2) days;
30
                       (C) For a third violation within a forty-eight-month
31
32
    period, a civil penalty not to exceed one thousand dollars ($1,000) and
    suspension of the permit enumerated in § 26-57-219 for a period not to exceed
33
34
    seven (7) days;
                       (D) For a fourth or subsequent violation within a forty-
35
36
    eight month period, a civil penalty not to exceed two thousand dollars
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1 (\$2,000) and suspension of the permit enumerated in § 26-57-219 for a period 2 not to exceed fourteen (14) days; and 3 (E) For a fifth or subsequent violation within a forty-4 eight month period, in addition to the other penalties provided under this 5 subsection, the permit enumerated in § 26-57-219 may be revoked. 6 (2)(A) A penalty under this subsection shall not be imposed on a 7 retailer or an agent or employee of a retailer who can establish an 8 affirmative defense that before the date of the violation the retailer or 9 agent or employee of the retailer furnishing the tobacco products, vapor 10 products, alternative nicotine products, e-liquid products, or cigarette papers reasonably relied on proof of age that identified the person receiving 11 12 the tobacco products, vapor products, alternative nicotine products, e-liquid 13 products, or cigarette papers as not being a minor. 14 (B) As used in this subsection, "proof of age" means valid 15 documentation issued by a governmental agency containing the person's photograph, date of birth, and an expiration date. 16 17 (3)(A) For a corporation or business with more than one (1) 18 retail location, to determine the number of accumulated violations for 19 purposes of the penalty schedule stated in this subsection, violations of § 20 5-27-227 by one (1) retail location shall not be accumulated against other 21 retail locations of that same corporation or business. 22 (B) For a retail location, for purposes of the penalty 23 schedule stated in this subsection, violations accumulated and assessed against a prior owner of the retail location shall not be accumulated against 24 25 a new owner of the same retail location unless approved by the board. 26 27 SECTION 12. Arkansas Code § 26-57-256(a)(2) and (3), effective until 28 the contingency in Acts 2023, No. 629, § 17, is met, concerning the powers of 29 Arkansas Tobacco Control, are amended to read as follows: 30 (2)(A) Receive applications for and issue, refuse, suspend, and 31 revoke permits listed in 26-57-219 and 20-56-501 et seq. 32 (B) Arkansas Tobacco Control shall refuse to issue or 33 renew any permits issued by the Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control for the 34 failure to pay: 35 (i) Any applicable taxes or fees imposed on tobacco 36 products;

1	(ii) Permit permit fees imposed under this
2	subchapter and § 20-56-501 et seq.;, or
3	(iii) Any any other state or local taxes;
4	(3) Prescribe forms of applications for permits under this
5	subchapter and § 20-56-501 et seq;
6	
7	SECTION 13. Arkansas Code § 26-57-256, effective if the contingency in
8	Acts 2023, No. 629, § 17, is met, is repealed.
9	26-57-256. Arkansas Tobacco Control - Powers.
10	(a) Arkansas Tobacco Control shall:
11	(1) Promulgate rules for the proper enforcement and
12	implementation of this subchapter and the Unfair Cigarette Sales Act, § 4-75-
13	701 et seq.;
14	(2)(A) Receive applications for and issue, refuse, suspend, and
15	revoke permits listed in § 26-57-219 and § 20-56-401 et seq.
16	(B) Arkansas Tobacco Control shall refuse to issue or
17	renew any permits issued by the Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control for the
18	failure to pay:
19	(i) Any applicable taxes or fees imposed on tobacco
20	products;
21	(ii) Permit fees imposed under this subchapter or on
22	hemp-derived products under § 20-56-401 et seq.; or
23	(iii) Other state or local taxes;
24	(3) Prescribe forms of applications for permits under this
25	subchapter and § 20-56-401 et seq.;
26	(4)(A) Cooperate with the Revenue Division of the Department of
27	Finance and Administration in the enforcement of the tax laws affecting the
28	sale of tobacco products in this state and in the enforcement of all other
29	state and local tax laws.
30	(B) To facilitate efforts to cooperate with the division
31	concerning the enforcement of all other state and local tax laws, Arkansas
32	Tobacco Control shall immediately require that the following additional
33	information be provided by all applicants for permit issuance or renewal:
34	(i) Federal tax identification numbers issued by the
35	Internal Revenue Service;
36	(ii) Social Security numbers, and

1	(iii) State sales tax account numbers assigned by the
2	Department of Finance and Administration, if applicable.
3	(C)(i) Each year Arkansas Tobacco Control shall provide a
4	list of all applicants for the issuance or renewal of all tobacco products,
5	vapor product, alternative nicotine product, or e-liquid product permits to
6	the Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.
7	(ii) This list shall contain the identifying
8	information required by subdivision (a)(4)(B) of this section as well as the
9	name of the permittee and the permittee's current business address;
10	(5)(A) Collect civil penalties assessed by the Arkansas Tobacco
11	Control Board under § 26-57-255.
12	(B) Unless the civil penalty is paid within fifteen (15)
13	days following the date for an appeal from the order, the director shall have
14	the power to institute a civil action in the Pulaski County Circuit Court to
15	recover the civil penalties assessed; and
16	(6)(A) Provide notice to the retail location of an alleged
17	violation of § 5-27-227 within ten (10) days of the alleged violation.
18	(B) The notice required under subdivision $(a)(6)(A)$ of
19	this section shall contain the date and time of the alleged violation.
20	(b) Any tobacco products, vapor products, alternative nicotine
21	products, e-liquid products, hemp-derived products as defined in § 20-56-402,
22	or cigarette papers found in the possession of a minor may be confiscated and
23	destroyed.
24	(c) Except as otherwise provided by law, the penalties collected under
25	this section shall be deposited into the State Treasury.
26	
27	SECTION 14. Arkansas Code § 26-57-256(b), effective until the
28	contingency in Acts 2023, No. 629, § 17, is met, concerning the powers of
29	Arkansas Tobacco Control, is amended to read as follows:
30	(b) Any tobacco products, vapor products, alternative nicotine
31	products, e-liquid products, hemp products as defined in § 20-56-501, or
32	cigarette papers found in the possession of a minor may be confiscated and
33	destroyed.
34	
35	SECTION 15. Uncodified Section 17 of Acts 2023, No. 629, which

reflects changes to the references to "Sections 6-13", "Sections 6-14", and

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     "Sections 2-5" in Acts 2023, No. 629, §§ 16 and 17 made by the Arkansas Code
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     Revision Commission, is repealed.
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           SECTION 17. Contingent effective date.
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           Sections 6-14 [8-16] of this act shall become effective only upon the
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     certification of the Arkansas Attorney General that the State of Arkansas is
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     currently enjoined from enforcing Sections 2-5 [2-7] of this act relating to
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     delta-8 tetrahydrocannabinol and delta-10 tetrahyrdocannabinol, but no
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     earlier than August 1, 2023.
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