SENATE BILL NO. 1211

94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR CALLAHAN.

Read 1st time February 27, 2008, and ordered printed.

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TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

AN ACT

To amend chapter 149, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to tobacco products that can be lawfully sold in Missouri.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 149, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new 2 section, to be known as section 149.225, to read as follows:

149.225. 1. Notwithstanding any law or rule to the contrary, any person licensed and required under chapter 149 to affix a tax stamp on cigarette packages or any retailer, who in good faith offers for sale or sells cigarettes that do not comply with state law, shall not be subject to any administrative, civil, or criminal seizures, forfeitures, suspensions, fines, or punishments for offering for sale or selling the noncompliant cigarette. The provisions of this section shall not relieve

- 8 a wholesaler or retailer from any penalty imposed by law for the sale 9 of cigarettes where a tax stamp has not been lawfully applied in
- 10 accordance with this chapter.
- 2. In the event a cigarette is declared to be not in compliance
- 12 with state law, cigarette wholesalers are prohibited from making
- 13 further purchases from manufacturers of the noncompliant cigarette,
- 4 but cigarette wholesalers may lawfully stamp and sell to retailers any
- 15 inventory of the noncompliant cigarettes for thirty days from the
- 16 declaration date, and retailers have sixty days from the declaration
- 17 date to purchase from wholesalers and sell lawfully any of the
- 18 noncompliant cigarette.
- 19 3. The declaration that a cigarette does not comply with state
- 20 law shall be published immediately and conspicuously posted on the
- 21 website of both the attorney general and the department of

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revenue. The director of the department of revenue shall also directly notify all wholesalers in writing, sent via United States mail, of the manufacturers and cigarette brands that are no longer lawful to sell in this state and, within five days of such notification, the wholesaler shall provide the director with a count of said manufacturer's cigarette brands that the wholesaler is holding in inventory for sale in this state.

4. The definition of the terms "cigarette", "manufacturer", "tax stamp", and "wholesaler" are contained in section 149.011.

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Bill

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