

CHAPTER 1173
PENALTIES FOR CERTAIN TAXES
H.F. 2507

AN ACT relating to the penalties for certain taxes including cigarette and tobacco taxes, state motor vehicle fuel taxes, freight line and equipment car mileage taxes, income taxes, withholding taxes, franchise taxes, inheritance and estate taxes, sales and use taxes, and generation skipping transfer taxes.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Section 1. Section 98.28, Code 1983, is amended to read as follows:

98.28 ASSESSMENT OF TAX BY DEPARTMENT. If after any audit, examination of records, or other investigation the department finds that any person has sold cigarettes, without stamps affixed thereto as required by this division or that any person has failed to pay at least ninety percent of any tax imposed upon the person, the department shall fix and determine the amount of tax due, and shall assess the tax against the person, together with a penalty, which is imposed, equal to of five percent of the amount of the tax. The taxpayer shall pay interest on the tax or additional tax at the rate determined under section 421.7 counting each fraction of a month as an entire month, computed from the date the tax was due. If any person fails to furnish evidence satisfactory to the director showing purchases of sufficient stamps to stamp unstamped cigarettes purchased by the person, the presumption shall be that the cigarettes were sold without the proper stamps affixed thereto. Within two years after the return is filed or within two years after the return became due, whichever is later, the department shall examine it and determine the correct amount of tax.

Sec. 2. Section 98.46, subsections 5 and 6, Code 1983, are amended to read as follows:

5. All taxes shall be due and payable not later than the twentieth day of the month following the calendar month in which they were incurred, and thereafter shall bear interest at the rate of one percent per month in effect under section 421.7 counting each fraction of a month as an entire month, computed from the date the tax was due.

Where, under the provisions of subsections 2 and 3 of this section, the amount of tax due for a given period is assessed without allocating it to any particular month or months, the interest shall commence to run from the date of ~~such~~ the assessment.

The director ~~shall have power to may~~ reduce or abate interest when in ~~his~~ the director's opinion the facts warrant ~~such~~ the reduction or abatement. The exercise of this power shall be subject to the approval of the attorney general.

6. The director in issuing ~~his~~ the final assessment pursuant to subsection 3 shall add to the amount of tax found due and unpaid a penalty of ~~ten five percent thereof of the tax if less than ninety percent of the tax has been paid, except that, if he the director finds that the taxpayer has made a false and fraudulent return with intent to evade the tax imposed by this division, the penalty shall be twenty-five fifty percent of the entire tax as shown by the return as corrected.~~ The director in assessing a tax on the basis of a return made pursuant to subsection 4 shall add to the amount of tax found due and unpaid a penalty of ~~twenty-five~~ fifty percent

thereof of the tax. The penalty imposed under this subsection is not subject to waiver.

The director shall have power to abate penalties, when in his opinion their enforcement would be unjust and inequitable. The exercise of this power shall be subject to the approval of the attorney general.

Sec. 3. Section 324.65, Code 1983, is amended to read as follows:

324.65 PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO PROMPTLY REPORT OR PAY FUEL TAXES. If a licensee or other person fails to file a required report with the appropriate state agency on or before the due date, unless it is shown that the failure was due to reasonable cause there shall be added to the amount required to be shown as tax due on the return five percent of the amount of the tax if the failure is for not more than one month, with an additional five percent for each additional month or fraction of a month during which the failure continues, not exceeding twenty-five percent in the aggregate. If a licensee or other person fails to remit at least ninety percent of the tax due with the filing of the return on or before the due date or pays less than ninety percent of any tax required to be shown on the return, unless it is shown that the failure was due to reasonable cause, there shall be added to the tax a penalty of five percent of the amount of the tax due, if the failure is for not more than one month, with an additional five percent for each additional month or fraction of a month during which the failure continues, not exceeding twenty-five percent in the aggregate. The penalty imposed under this section is not subject to waiver. The taxpayer shall also pay interest on the tax or additional tax at the rate in effect under section 421.7 counting each fraction of a month as an entire month, computed from the date the return was required to be filed.

The appropriate state agency shall not remit any part of a penalty for delinquent payment where the delinquency results from the fact that a check given in payment is not honored because of insufficient funds in the account upon which the check was drawn. However, if it appears as a result of an investigation or from a preponderance of the evidence adduced at a hearing that there has been a deliberate attempt on the part of a licensee or other person to evade payment of fuel taxes there shall be added to the assessment against the offending person and collected a penalty of fifty percent of the tax due. When penalties are applicable for failure to file a return and failure to pay the tax due or required on the return, the penalty provision for failure to file is in lieu of the penalty for failure to pay the tax due or required on the return, except in the case of a deliberate attempt on the part of the licensee or other person to evade payment of fuel taxes. Any report required of licensees or persons operating under divisions I, II and III, upon which no tax may be due, is subject to a penalty of ten dollars if the report is not timely filed with the appropriate state agency.

Sec. 4. Section 422.16, subsection 10, paragraph b, Code Supplement 1983, is amended to read as follows:

b. An employer or withholding agent required to withhold taxes on wages or other taxable Iowa income subject to this chapter who fails to file a semimonthly, monthly, or quarterly deposit form for the withholding of tax with the department on or before the due date, unless it is shown that the failure was due to reasonable cause, is subject to a penalty determined by adding to the amount required to be shown as tax due on the semimonthly, monthly, or quarterly deposit form five percent of the amount of the tax if the failure is for not more than one month, with an additional five percent for each additional month or fraction of a month during which the failure continues, not exceeding twenty-five percent in the aggregate.

If any person or withholding agent fails to remit at least ninety percent of the tax due with the filing of the semimonthly, monthly, or quarterly deposit form on or before the due date, or pays less than ninety percent of any tax required to be shown on the semimonthly, monthly, or quarterly deposit form, unless it is shown that the failure was due to reasonable cause, there shall be added to the tax a penalty of five ten percent of the amount of the tax due, if the failure is for not more than one month, with an additional five percent for each additional month or fraction of a month during which the failure continues, not exceeding twenty-five percent in the aggregate.

When penalties are applicable for failure to file a semimonthly, monthly, or quarterly deposit form and failure to pay the tax due or required on the semimonthly, monthly, or quarterly deposit form, the penalty provision for failure to file is in lieu of the penalty provision for failure to pay the tax due or required on the semimonthly, monthly, or quarterly deposit form. In the case of willful failure to file a semimonthly, monthly, or quarterly deposit form with intent to evade tax or willful filing of a false semimonthly, monthly, or quarterly deposit form with intent to evade tax, in lieu of the penalty otherwise provided in this paragraph, there is added to the amount required to be shown as tax on the semimonthly, monthly, or quarterly deposit form, fifty percent of the amount of the tax. The taxpayer shall also pay interest on the tax or additional tax at the rate in effect under section 421.7, for each month counting each fraction of a month as an entire month, computed from the date the semimonthly, monthly, or quarterly deposit form was required to be filed. The penalty and interest become a part of the tax due from the withholding agent. The penalty imposed under this subsection is not subject to waiver.

Sec. 5. Section 422.25, subsection 2, Code Supplement 1983, is amended to read as follows:

2. In addition to the tax or additional tax determined by the department under subsection 1, the taxpayer shall pay interest on the tax or additional tax at the rate in effect under section 421.7 for each month counting each fraction of a month as an entire month, computed from the date the return was required to be filed. In case of failure to file a return with the department on or before the due date determined with regard to any extension of time for filing, unless it is shown that the failure was due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect, there shall be added to the amount required to be shown as tax on the return five percent of the amount of the tax if the failure is for not more than one month, with an additional five percent for each additional month or fraction thereof during which the failure continues, not exceeding twenty-five percent in the aggregate. If any person fails to remit at least ninety percent of the tax due with the filing of the return on or before the due date, or pays less than ninety percent of any tax required to be shown on the return, unless it is shown that the failure was due to reasonable cause, there shall be added to the tax a penalty of five percent of the tax due, if the failure is for not more than one month, with an additional five percent for each additional month or fraction of a month during which the failure continues, not exceeding twenty-five percent in the aggregate. In case of willful failure to file a return with intent to evade tax, or in case of willfully filing a false return with intent to evade tax, in lieu of the penalty otherwise provided in this subsection, there shall be added to the amount required to be shown as tax on the return fifty percent of the amount of the tax. When penalties are applicable for failure to file a return and failure to pay the tax due or required on the return, the penalty provision for failure to file is in lieu of the penalty provision for failure to pay the tax due or required on the return except in the case of willful failure to file a return and willfully filing of a false return with intent to evade tax. The penalty imposed under this subsection is not subject to waiver.

Sec. 6. Section 422.58, subsection 1, Code Supplement 1983, is amended to read as follows:

1. If a person fails to file a permit holder's semimonthly or monthly tax deposit form or a return with the department on or before the due date, unless it is shown that the failure was due to reasonable cause, there shall be added to the amount required to be shown as tax on the semimonthly or monthly tax deposit form or return five percent of the amount of the tax if the failure is for not more than one month, with an additional five percent for each additional month or fraction of a month during which the failure continues, not exceeding twenty-five percent in the aggregate. If a person or permit holder fails to remit at least ninety percent of the tax due with the filing of the semimonthly or monthly tax deposit form or return on or before the due date, or pays less than ninety percent of any tax required to be shown on the return, excepting the period between the completion of an examination of the books and records of a taxpayer and the giving of notice to the taxpayer that a tax or additional tax is due, there shall be added to the tax a penalty of five ten percent of the amount of the tax due, if the failure is for not more than one month, with an additional five percent for each additional month or fraction of a month the failure continues, not exceeding twenty-five percent in the aggregate, unless it is shown that the failure was due to reasonable cause. In case of willful failure to file a semimonthly or monthly tax deposit form or return, willful filing of a false semimonthly or monthly tax deposit form or return or willful filing of a false or fraudulent semimonthly or monthly tax deposit form or return with intent to evade tax, in lieu of the penalty otherwise provided in this subsection, there shall be added to the amount required to be shown as tax on the semimonthly or monthly tax deposit form or return fifty percent of the amount of the tax. When penalties are applicable for failure to file a semimonthly or monthly tax deposit form or return and failure to pay at least ninety percent of the tax due or required on the semimonthly or monthly tax deposit form or return, the penalty for failure to file is in lieu of the penalty for failure to pay at least ninety percent of the tax due or required on the semimonthly or monthly tax deposit form or return. The taxpayer shall also pay interest on the tax or additional tax at the rate in effect under section 421.7 for each month counting each fraction of a month as an entire month, computed from the date the semimonthly or monthly tax deposit form or return was required to be filed. The penalty and interest shall be paid to the department and disposed of in the same manner as other receipts under this division. Unpaid penalties and interest may be enforced in the same manner as the tax imposed by this division. The penalty imposed under this subsection is not subject to waiver.

Sec. 7. Section 423.18, subsection 1, Code Supplement 1983, is amended to read as follows:

1. If a person fails to file a monthly deposit form or a return with the department on or before the due date, unless it is shown that the failure was due to reasonable cause, there shall be added to the amount required to be shown as tax on the monthly deposit form or return five percent of the amount of the tax if the failure is for not more than one month, with an additional five percent for each additional month or fraction of a month during which the failure continues, not exceeding twenty-five percent in the aggregate. If a person or permit holder fails to remit at least ninety percent of the tax due with the filing of the monthly deposit form or return on or before the due date, or pays less than ninety percent of any tax required to be shown on the monthly deposit form or return, excepting the period between the completion of an examination of the books and records of a taxpayer and the giving of notice to the taxpayer that a tax or additional tax is due, there shall be added to the tax a penalty of five percent of the tax due, if the failure is for not more than one month, with an additional five percent for each additional month or fraction of a month during which the failure continues, not exceeding twenty-five percent in the aggregate, unless it is shown that the failure was due to reasonable

cause. For tax due under section 423.9, the penalty shall be ten percent. In case of willful failure to file a monthly deposit form or return, willfully filing a false monthly deposit form or return, or willfully filing a false or fraudulent monthly deposit form or return with intent to evade tax, in lieu of the penalty otherwise provided in this subsection, there shall be added to the amount required to be shown as tax on the monthly deposit form or return fifty percent of the amount of the tax. When penalties are applicable for failure to file a monthly deposit form or return and failure to pay at least ninety percent of the tax due or required on the monthly deposit form or return, the penalty for failure to file is in lieu of the penalty for failure to pay at least ninety percent of the tax due or required on the monthly deposit form or return. The taxpayer shall also pay interest on the tax or additional tax at the rate in effect under section 421.7, for each month counting each fraction of a month as an entire month, computed from the date the monthly deposit form or return was required to be filed. The penalty and interest shall be paid to the department and disposed of in the same manner as other receipts under this chapter. Unpaid penalties and interest may be collected in the same manner as the tax imposed by this chapter. The penalty imposed under this subsection is not subject to waiver.

Sec. 8. Section 435.5, Code 1983, is amended to read as follows:

435.5 PENALTY. In case of failure to file a return with the department on or before the due date, unless it is shown that the failure was due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect, there shall be added to the amount required to be shown as tax on the return five percent of the amount of tax if the failure is for not more than one month, with an additional five percent for each additional month or fraction thereof during which the failure continues, not exceeding twenty-five percent in the aggregate. If any person fails to remit at least ninety percent of the tax due with the filing of the return on or before the due date, or pays less than ninety percent of the total amount of the tax due as shown on the return, unless it is shown that the failure was due to reasonable cause, there shall be added to the tax a penalty of five percent of the tax due, if the failure is for not more than one month, with an additional five percent for each additional month or fraction of a month during which the failure continues, not exceeding twenty-five percent in the aggregate. In case of willful failure to file a return with intent to evade tax, or in case of willfully filing a false return with intent to evade tax, in lieu of the penalty above provided, there shall be added to the amount required to be shown as tax on the return fifty percent of the amount of the tax. When penalties are applicable for failure to file a return and failure to pay the tax due or required on the return, the penalty provision for failure to file is in lieu of the penalty provision for failure to pay the tax due or required on the return except in the case of willful failure to file a return and willfully filing of a false return with intent to evade tax. The penalty imposed under this section is not subject to waiver.

Sec. 9. Section 450.63, subsection 2, Code 1983, is amended to read as follows:

2. If a person liable for the payment of tax as stated in section 450.5 fails to file a return with the department of revenue on or before the due date, unless it is shown that the failure was due to reasonable cause, there shall be added to the amount of tax required to be shown as tax due on the return five percent of the amount of the tax, if the failure is for not more than one month, with an additional five percent for each additional month or fraction of a month during which the failure continues, not exceeding twenty-five percent in the aggregate. If a person fails to remit at least ninety percent of the tax due with the filing of the return on or before the due date or pays less than ninety percent of any tax required to be shown on the return, unless it is shown that the failure was due to reasonable cause, there shall be added to the tax a penalty of five percent of the amount of the tax due, if the failure is for not more than one month, with an additional five percent for each additional month or fraction of a month

during which the failure continues, not exceeding twenty five percent in the aggregate. When penalties are applicable for failure to file a return and failure to pay the tax due or required to be shown on the return, the penalty provision for failure to file is in lieu of the penalty provision for failure to pay the tax due or required to be shown on the return. The penalty imposed under this subsection is not subject to waiver.

Sec. 10. This Act takes effect January 1 following enactment for taxes due and payable on or after that date.

Approved May 2, 1984

CHAPTER 1174

MOTOR FUEL TAX COLLECTIONS AND TRANSPORTER REGISTRATION

H.F. 508

AN ACT to eliminate annual registration plates for motor fuel transporters and providing that persons without motor fuel tax permits have certain duties and responsibilities.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Section 1. Section 324.12, subsection 1, Code 1983, is amended to read as follows:

1. There shall be carried on every vehicle, while in use in transportation service ~~requiring that it be registered under the preceding section~~, a serially numbered manifest in form satisfactory to the department of revenue on which shall be entered the following information as to the cargo of motor fuel being moved in the vehicle: The date and place of loading, the place to be unloaded, the person for whom it is to be delivered, the nature and kind of product, ~~and the amount thereof of product~~, and ~~such~~ other information as is called for in the forms prescribed or approved by the department of revenue. The manifest covering each load transported, upon consummation of the delivery, shall be completed showing the date and place of actual delivery and the person to whom actually delivered and shall be kept as a permanent record for a period of three years, ~~provided, however, that~~. However, the record of the manifest of past cargoes need not be carried on the conveyance but must be preserved by the carrier for the inspection of the department of revenue. A carrier subject to this subsection may with the approval of the department of revenue when distributing for a licensee substitute the loading and delivery evidence required in subsection 2 ~~of this section~~.

Sec. 2. Section 324.53, unnumbered paragraphs 2 and 3, Code 1983, are amended to read as follows:

Persons choosing not to make advance arrangements with the state department of transportation by procuring a permit are not relieved of their responsibility to purchase motor fuel and special fuel commensurate with their use of the state's highway system. When there is reasonable cause to believe that there is evasion of the fuel tax on commercial motor vehicles, the state department of transportation may audit persons not holding a permit. Audits shall be conducted pursuant to section 324.55. The state department of transportation shall collect all taxes due and refund any overpayment.