

## PREVENT ALL CIGARETTE TRAFFICKING ACT

### Registration and Reporting Requirements

The federal “Prevent all Cigarette Trafficking Act” (PACT Act) is set forth in Title 15 *United States Code* (USC), sections 375 to 378. The purpose of the PACT Act is to reduce tax evasion by internet tobacco sellers and prevent the nation’s youth from accessing tobacco products through the mail. The PACT Act became effective June 30, 2010.

The PACT Act was amended on December 27, 2020, by the “Preventing Online Sales of E-Cigarettes to Children Act”. The purpose of the amendment was to address changes in the tobacco product market and the growing use of e-cigarettes by young people. The definition of “cigarette” was amended to include electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS). ENDS include any component, liquid, part, or accessory for the device, even if sold separately. The amended PACT Act becomes effective March 27, 2021.

### REGISTRATION STATEMENT

According to 15 USC section 376(a)(1), any person who:

Sells, transfers, or ships for profit cigarettes or smokeless tobacco in interstate commerce, where the cigarettes or smokeless tobacco are shipped into a State; or

Advertises or offers cigarettes or smokeless tobacco for such a sale, transfer, or shipment,

shall file a statement with the Attorney General of the United States and the State tobacco tax administrators. The tobacco tax administrator in Hawaii is the Department of Taxation.

The statement shall include:

- Person’s full name;
- Trade name, if any;
- The address of the person’s principal place of business, and any other place of business;
- Telephone numbers for each place of business;
- Principal electronic mail address;
- Website addresses, if any; and
- The name, address, and telephone number of an agent in the state authorized to accept service on behalf of the person.

The **statement provision noted above** applies to all tobacco and ENDS wholesalers, distributors, and manufacturers who ship cigarettes, roll-your-own (RYO) tobacco, smokeless tobacco, and ENDS in interstate commerce.

The term “interstate commerce” means commerce between a State and any place outside the State, commerce between a State and any Indian country in the State, or commerce between points in the same State but through any place outside the State or through any Indian country. *See* 15 USC section 375.

A statement form for use in registering with the Attorney General of the United States is available at: <http://www.atf.gov/resource-center/forms-library>. Please contact the Hawaii Department of Taxation at [tax.licensing.section@hawaii.gov](mailto:tax.licensing.section@hawaii.gov) for information on state registration requirements.

## **MONTHLY REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

Any person who sells, transfers, or ships for profit cigarettes, RYO tobacco, smokeless tobacco, or ENDS in interstate commerce, where such cigarettes, RYO tobacco, smokeless tobacco, or ENDS are shipped into a State, or who advertises or offers cigarettes, RYO tobacco, smokeless tobacco, or ENDS for such a sale, transfer, or shipment shall, **not later than the 10th day of each calendar month**, file with the tobacco tax administrator and the State Attorney General, a memorandum or a copy of invoices covering all shipments of cigarettes, RYO tobacco, smokeless tobacco, or ENDS into the State during the previous calendar month. See 15 USC sections 376(a)(2) and (3). The PACT Act form must be filed even for months when no cigarettes or smokeless tobacco are shipped into the State.

The monthly reporting form shall specify:

- The name and address of the person to whom the shipment was made;
- The brand and the quantity of cigarettes, RYO tobacco, smokeless tobacco, or ENDS; and
- The name, address, and telephone number of the person delivering the shipment to the recipient on behalf of the delivery seller, organized by city and zip code.

Online reporting for shipments of cigarettes, RYO tobacco, smokeless tobacco, and ENDS is available at <https://ag.hawaii.gov/cjd/tobacco-enforcement-unit/pact-act/>. Please click on the "Online PACT Act Reporting" link to begin your online submission. Your online submission will automatically be sent to the Hawaii Attorney General Tobacco Enforcement Unit and the Hawaii Department of Taxation. A copy of your response will be sent to the reported email address.

If you are unable to submit your reports through the online PACT Act reporting system, please contact the Tobacco Enforcement Unit at [atg.tobacco@hawaii.gov](mailto:atg.tobacco@hawaii.gov).

Pursuant to 15 USC section 376(c), any memorandum or invoices provided to the Hawaii Attorney General and Hawaii Department of Taxation as part of the PACT Act reporting requirements will be used solely for enforcement purposes and will not be further disseminated.

## **PENALTIES**

The Hawaii Attorney General is authorized to prevent and restrain violations of the PACT Act and may seek civil and criminal penalties when appropriate.

Should you have any questions, please contact the Tobacco Enforcement Unit at (808) 586-1203 or by email at [atg.tobacco@hawaii.gov](mailto:atg.tobacco@hawaii.gov).