AN ACT

- Amending the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), entitled "An act relating to tax reform and State taxation by codifying 2 and enumerating certain subjects of taxation and imposing 3 taxes thereon; providing procedures for the payment, 4 collection, administration and enforcement thereof; providing 5 for tax credits in certain cases; conferring powers and 6 imposing duties upon the Department of Revenue, certain 7 employers, fiduciaries, individuals, persons, corporations 8 and other entities; prescribing crimes, offenses and 9 penalties, " in cigarette tax, further providing for 10 definitions and for stamp to evidence the tax; and adding 11 provisions relating to tax on smokeless tobacco. 12 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- 13
- 14 hereby enacts as follows:
- Section 1. The definitions of "cigarette," and "cigarette 15
- 16 stamping agency" in section 1201 of the act of March 4, 1971
- (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, amended 17
- August 4, 1991 (P.L.97, No.22) and October 9, 2009 (P.L.451, 18
- No.48), are amended and the section is amended by adding 19
- 20 definitions to read:
- 21 Section 1201. Definitions. -- As used in this article:
- * * * 22

- 1 "Cigarette." Any roll for smoking made wholly or in part of
- 2 tobacco, the wrapper or cover of which is made of any substance
- 3 or material other than tobacco regardless of the size or shape
- 4 of the roll and regardless of whether or not the tobacco is
- 5 flavored, adulterated or mixed with any other ingredient or a
- 6 little cigar. The term includes a roll-your-own cigarette.
- 7 "Cigarette paper." Any paper or any other material, except
- 8 tobacco, prepared for use as a cigarette wrapper.
- 9 "Cigarette stamping agency." Any person, as defined in this
- 10 article, who shall be licensed as such by the department for the
- 11 purpose of affixing cigarette tax stamps to packages of:
- 12 (1) cigarettes and transmitting the proper tax to the
- 13 Commonwealth, and who maintains separate warehousing facilities
- 14 for the purpose of receiving and distributing cigarettes and
- 15 conducting their business, who have received commitments from at
- 16 least two cigarette manufacturers whose aggregate market share
- 17 is at least forty per cent of the Commonwealth cigarette market
- 18 and purchases cigarettes directly from cigarette manufacturers;
- 19 or
- 20 (2) roll-your-own cigarettes.
- 21 * * *
- 22 "Cigarette tube." Cigarette paper made into a hollow
- 23 cylinder for use in making a cigarette.
- 24 * * *
- 25 <u>"Roll-your-own cigarette." A cigarette produced by a</u>
- 26 <u>commercial cigarette-making machine.</u>
- 27 * * *
- 28 "Smokeless tobacco." A product containing finely cut,
- 29 ground, powdered, blended or leaf tobacco made primarily for
- 30 individual consumption which is intended to be placed in the

- 1 oral or nasal cavity and not intended to be smoked. The term
- 2 includes chewing tobacco, dipping tobacco and snuff.
- 3 "Smokeless tobacco distributor or wholesaler." A person
- 4 engaged in the business of selling smokeless tobacco that sells,
- 5 exchanges or distributes smokeless tobacco to retailers,
- 6 consumers or other wholesalers or distributors in this
- 7 Commonwealth. The term includes a smokeless tobacco manufacturer
- 8 that has within this Commonwealth any office, sales house or
- 9 other place of business.
- 10 "Smokeless tobacco wholesale price." The price for which a
- 11 smokeless tobacco manufacturer sells smokeless tobacco to a
- 12 smokeless tobacco distributor or wholesaler, exclusive of any
- 13 discount, rebate or other reduction.
- 14 * * *
- 15 Section 2. Section 1215(q) of the act, amended October 9,
- 16 2009 (P.L.451, No.48), is amended to read:
- 17 Section 1215. Stamp to Evidence the Tax.--* * *
- 18 (g) [Stamps] The following provisions shall apply to the
- 19 manner in which stamps are affixed to individual packages:
- 20 (1) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (2), stamps
- 21 shall be affixed to all individual packages containing from
- 22 twenty to twenty-five cigarettes. Individual packages containing
- 23 less than twenty or more than twenty-five cigarettes shall have
- 24 stamps affixed unless the department determines the affixing of
- 25 stamps is physically impractical due to the size or nature of
- 26 the package or determines that the cost of affixing the stamps
- 27 is unreasonably disproportionate to the tax to be collected.
- 28 (2) In the case of a retailer that sells roll-your-own
- 29 cigarettes, the retailer shall affix a stamp or stamps to each
- 30 box or similar container for roll-your-own cigarettes provided

- 1 by the retailer to the consumer. The consumer shall use the box
- 2 or similar container to transport the roll-your-own cigarettes
- 3 from the retailer's place of business. For the sale of roll-
- 4 your-own cigarettes, the retailer shall provide to the consumer
- 5 cigarette tubes in denominations approved by the Secretary of
- 6 Revenue. Stamps shall be for an amount equaling the tax due
- 7 under this act. Each cigarette tube or cigarette paper provided
- 8 to the consumer shall be deemed a cigarette for purposes of
- 9 imposing and collecting the tax under this act.
- 10 * * *
- 11 Section 3. The act is amended by adding a section to read:
- 12 Section 1237. Imposition and rate of tax on smokeless tobacco.
- 13 (a) Except as set forth in subsection (d), a tax is imposed
- 14 on smokeless tobacco sold or held for sale in this Commonwealth
- 15 by a smokeless tobacco distributor or wholesaler to a retailer
- 16 or consumer. The tax is imposed on the smokeless tobacco
- 17 wholesale price, regardless of the actual price at which the
- 18 smokeless tobacco is sold and regardless of whether the
- 19 smokeless tobacco is sold.
- 20 (b) A smokeless tobacco distributor or wholesaler that
- 21 brings smokeless tobacco or causes smokeless tobacco to be
- 22 brought into this Commonwealth is liable for the tax imposed by
- 23 this section. The tax imposed is to be paid by the purchase of
- 24 stamps as provided in this section. The stamp shall be affixed
- 25 to or impressed upon each package of smokeless tobacco.
- 26 (c) The tax imposed under this section shall be at the rate
- 27 of 59.2% of the wholesale price of the smokeless tobacco.
- 28 (d) It shall be presumed that all smokeless tobacco within
- 29 this Commonwealth is subject to tax. The burden of proof of
- 30 <u>exemption under this subsection is on the taxpayer or remitter</u>

- 1 claiming exemption.
- 2 (e) The tax collected under this section shall be deposited
- 3 into the Property Tax Relief Fund.
- 4 Section 4. This act shall take effect in 60 days.