



Change in Cigarette Stamping Requirements

Informational Bulletin

July 1999

Director Glen L. Bower

For information or forms...

- ◆ Call us at:
217 785-2622
- ◆ Write us at:
Illinois Department of Revenue
P.O. Box 19477
Springfield, IL 62794-9477
- ◆ Visit our Web site at:
www.revenue.state.il.us
- ◆ Call
"Illinois Tax Fax," our
fax-on-demand service, at:
217 785-3400
- ◆ Call
our 24-hour
Forms Order Line at:
1 800 356-6302

To: Cigarette Distributors

Beginning **July 22, 1999**, all cigarette distributors licensed in Illinois must follow new Illinois cigarette stamping requirements.

What are the new cigarette stamping requirements?

You must **not** affix a cigarette stamp to a package of cigarettes that

- does not meet all requirements of the federal Cigarette Labeling and Advertising Act regarding the placement of labels, warnings, or other information on any cigarette package sold in the United States.
- has been marked for export outside the United States with a label or notice as required by federal regulations. This means you may not remove, cover, obliterate, or alter the label to avoid this requirement.

What if I have existing inventory that does not meet the new requirements?

If any cigarette package in your inventory does not comply with the new stamping requirements but was stamped prior to July 22, 1999, you may sell or have in your inventory these packages until **August 14, 1999**.

What if my customers have any existing inventory of my products that does not meet the new requirements?

You should ensure that retailers do not sell or have in their inventory after **August 31, 1999**, any of your cigarette packages that do not comply with the new stamping requirements.

What if I do not comply?

If you do not comply with the new cigarette stamping requirements, we will revoke your distributor license for a minimum of six months. We also have the authority to seize any cigarette package that does not comply with the new requirements.

Where can I get more information about the related federal laws and regulations?

To find information about the federal Cigarette Labeling and Advertising Act, refer to 15 U.S.C. 1331 *et. seq.*

To find information about the federal regulations, refer to Section 290.185 of Title 27 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

