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7	SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON	
8	FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY	
9	DANA HENNE, an individual taxpayer and Washington resident; 1/2 PRICE	
10	SMOKES, INC., a Washington corporation, and RYO MACHINE,	NO. 12-2-50512-1
11	LLC, an Ohio limited liability company,	
12	Plaintiffs,	DEFENDANTS' OPPOSITION TO
13	v.	MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION
14	BRAD FLAHERTY, in his official	
15	capacity as Director of the Washington Department of Revenue; and PAT	
16	KOHLER, in her official capacity as Administrative Director of the	
17	Washington State Liquor Control Board; and the STATE OF	
18	WASHINGTON	
19	Defendants.	
20	I. INTRODUCTION	
21	No preliminary injunction should be granted because 3E2SHB 2565, enacted during the	
22	2012 legislative session, does not raise taxes. For decades, the Washington cigarette tax has	
23	been imposed on the possession, handling, and consumption of all cigarettes in Washington,	
24	including those made with cigarette machines. The 2012 legislation (hereinafter Cigarette	
25	Machine Legislation) improves enforcement of existing Washington law by requiring	
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cigarettes produced by cigarette rolling machines in retail establishments to be stamped with a
 Washington tax stamp, instead of relying on consumers to voluntarily pay the tax due after
 leaving the store.

Because the Cigarette Machine Legislation does not raise taxes, it was not required to
pass by a two-thirds vote, and thus it does not conflict with I-1053 (codified at RCW
43.135.034). A preliminary injunction would further delay the collection of taxes that
currently are due under the law but are being evaded.

There are several additional reasons why the Court should deny the preliminary 8 injunction. Plaintiffs are not likely to prevail on the merits. Their case is not ripe because no 9 10 tax assessment has been issued to any of the plaintiffs, and under Washington law, a tax assessment must be issued before a tax statute can be challenged in superior court, even where 11 the plaintiff raises constitutional arguments. RCW 82.32.150. In addition, Washington 12 13 Supreme Court has held both that the courts cannot invalidate a statute based on a perceived procedural error by the Legislature, and that an initiative cannot invalidate a statute enacted by 14 a later legislature. Plaintiffs also cannot prevail on the merits because they cannot otherwise 15 show the Cigarette Machine Legislation is, beyond a doubt, unconstitutional. Furthermore, 16 Plaintiffs cannot claim sufficient harm to warrant an injunction if their interest is rooted in 17 continued cigarette tax avoidance. Finally, the State would be irreparably harmed by 18 continued lost revenue in the case of an injunction, while tax refunds would be available in the 19 unlikely event plaintiffs were to ultimately prevail. For all of these reasons, the Court should 20 21 deny the motion for preliminary injunction.

II. FACTS

Washington has imposed an excise tax on the sale, use, consumption, handling, or
distribution of all cigarettes within its borders since 1935. RCW 82.24.020(1), .026; Laws of
1935, ch. 180, § 82. In 1972, the Legislature expanded the scope of the tax to include
"possession" of cigarettes. RCW 82.24.020(1), .026; Laws of 1972, ch. 157, §1. The tax is

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imposed on the first taxable person who first performs a taxable act in Washington. RCW
 82.24.080(1), (2).

For prepackaged cigarettes, the tax is currently collected through tax stamps purchased 3 by licensed cigarette wholesalers at the current rate of \$3.025 per pack. RCW 82.24.030. 4 5 Once stamped, prepackaged cigarettes can then be sold to licensed cigarette retailers for resale to the public. RCW 82.24.040(5). If, for whatever reason, someone other than a licensed 6 cigarette wholesaler sells, uses, possesses, handles, consumes, or distributes unstamped 7 cigarettes, he or she is personally liable for the cigarette tax. RCW 82.24.020(1), .026, .080, 8 .260. The Department makes available on its website a form through which someone owing 9 10 the Washington cigarette tax can self-report and pay the tax. Hankins Decl., Ex. G. It is a gross misdemeanor to possess unstamped cigarettes without paying the tax, and violators are 11 subject to a ten-dollar-per-pack civil penalty. RCW 82.24.110(p), .120. 12

13Recently, tobacco retail establishments like 1/2 Price Smokes began offering cigarettes14made with in-store, commercial, cigarette-making machines. See Alexander Decl. at 2, \P 5.15The retailer sells loose tobacco, cigarette tubes, and the use of a cigarette-making machine. Id.16at 2, \P 8.1 The tobacco retailers often use pipe tobacco, rather than loose cigarette tobacco, to17produce cigarettes in their stores, because doing so avoids a drastically higher federal tax on18loose cigarette tobacco.² See Hankins Decl., Ex. A (fiscal note) and Ex. B (selected portions of

¹⁹ ¹ Defendants do not concede that the facts are as stated in the declarations of Mr. Alexander and Mr. Accordino, nor do defendants concede that the consumer manufactures the cigarettes or that only the consumer 20 possesses or handles the cigarettes for purposes of RCW 82.24. Some other state courts and the federal Department of Treasury's Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau have concluded that the proprietors who 21 provide access to commercial-cigarette machines manufacture the cigarettes being made in their stores. New Hampshire v. N. of the Border Tobacco LLC, Cause No. 09-E-288, (Merrimack Superior Court 2009); New 22 Hampshire v. N. of the Border Tobacco, 32 A.3d 548, 558 (N.H. 2011); Hyong Kim, dba Smokes 4 Less v. Alaska, Cause No. 3AN-10-9817 CI (Alaska Third Judicial District 2010); Compton Point, Inc. v. Griffith, Civil Action 23 No. 11-C-75, (Circuit Court of Kanawha County West Virginia 2011); Department of Treasury, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) Ruling No. 2010-4, September 30, 2010 (currently stayed pending review 24 by the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals). But for purposes of plaintiffs' current motion, defendants are willing to

assume the process for making cigarettes in Mr. Alexander's store is as reflected in his declaration. ² The federal engine to is \$2.82 contener pound for loose give to be a while the federal

² The federal excise tax is \$2.82 cents per pound for loose pipe tobacco, while the federal tax on loose tobacco for roll-your-own cigarettes is \$24.78 cents per pound. 26 U.S.C. § 5701 (f), (g).

the United States Government Accountability Office Tobacco Taxes Report). Until the 2012
Cigarette Machine Legislation takes effect, there is no mechanism requiring that the
Washington cigarette tax be collected by the cigarette-machine retailer, so the \$3.025 per
pack/\$30.25 per carton Washington cigarette tax is not included in the price. A carton of
cigarettes from a cigarette-making machine currently averages \$34.50 per carton. In contrast, a
prepackaged carton of stamped cigarettes costs an average of \$70.00. DOR fiscal note at 4.

The cigarette-making machines can produce a carton of cigarettes (200 cigarettes, or 7 ten packs containing 20 cigarettes per pack) in less than eight minutes. See 8 http://www.ryofillingstation.com/about.php (last visited June 20, 2012) and Hankins Decl., Ex. 9 10 C (RYO filling machine webpage); see also Accordino Decl. at 2, \P 10. Given the volume of sales of commercial cigarette-making machines into Washington, Accordino's Decl. at 2, it 11 became apparent that high volumes of unstamped cigarettes were being manufactured in 12 13 Washington, for which consumers were not voluntarily paying the cigarette tax. If Washington's 95 machines, for example, operated at capacity for ten hours in a day producing 14 a carton every ten minutes, they could produce up to 5,700 cartons of cigarettes, or 57,000 15 packs of cigarettes per day (six cartons per hour x ten packs per carton x ten hours x 95 16 machines). See Accordino Decl. at 2. The tax rate per pack of cigarettes is \$3.025. Even if the 17 machines operate at less than full capacity and only make 50,000 packs per day, the tax due 18 from consumers would be over \$150,000 per day. The Department lacks the resources and 19 manpower to attempt to enforce the cigarette tax due from individual consumers by assessing 20 21 all of the individual consumers using the commercial cigarette-making machines. Thronson 22 Decl. at 2. Indeed, the Department currently has no way to even identify the consumers purchasing cigarettes in this manner. Id. 23

As a result, the Washington Legislature enacted the Cigarette Machine Legislation, 3E2SHB 2565, and the Governor signed it into law. Laws of 2012, 2d sp. sess., ch. 4. The legislation created a stamping system through which the existing cigarette tax would be

collected. Laws of 2012, 2d sp. sess., ch. 4, §§ 2 (6), 4(3). Pursuant to the Cigarette Machine 1 2 Legislation, cigarette-making machine retailers must purchase stamps from the Department and affix them to packages that consumers must use to transport their cigarettes out of the 3 store. Id. As Mr. Alexander's declaration acknowledges, while the stamps will be purchased 4 by the retailers, the retailers will recoup the cost of the stamps because it will be added to the 5 price of the cigarettes ultimately purchased by the consumer. Alexander Decl. at 4. The 6 Legislature also included other elements in the legislation to aid enforcement, such as the 7 requirement that the machines contain accurate meters. Laws of 2012, 2d sp. sess., ch. 4, § 8 4(4). Significantly, the act also allows an offset to the cigarette tax stamp price in the amount 9 10 of \$.05 per cigarette to account for the amount of state tobacco products tax paid by distributors on the tobacco used to make the cigarettes (which is presumably passed down the 11 chain of commerce to the retail establishments and eventually to consumers). After the RYO 12 13 Cigarette Legislation takes effect on July 1, 2012, the estimated cost of a carton of stamped cigarettes made with a commercial cigarette machine will increase to an average of \$67.60 per 14 carton. DOR fiscal note at 3. 15

The Office of Financial Management (OFM), in conjunction with the state agencies 16 affected by the Cigarette Machine Legislation, created a fiscal note for the bill. OFM also 17 identified the bill as one requiring a ten-year cost projection as required by RCW 43.135.031 18 (Initiative 960). See Smith Decl. In response to a Point of Inquiry in the House of 19 Representatives, the Speaker of the House ruled that the bill simply established an enforcement 20 21 and regulatory system for cigarettes already subject to tax. Hankins Decl. Ex. J (House 22 Journal) at 33. Although the bill was substituted and amended several times, the House of Representatives passed it by a vote of 66 to 32. See Hankins Decl., Ex. D (final bill report). 23 24 When the Senate considered the bill, the President of the Senate determined, in a ruling on a point of order, that the proposed bill did not increase tax revenues, and therefore it did not 25 trigger RCW 43.135.034's two-thirds vote requirement. See Hankins Decl., Ex. E. The Senate 26

passed the bill by a vote of 27 to 19. *See* Hankins Decl., Ex. D. The Speaker of the House, the
 President of the Senate, and the Governor all signed Third Engrossed Second Substitute House
 Bill 2565, which takes effect July 1, 2012. *See* Hankins Decl. Ex. F.

The Department of Revenue has been taking steps to implement the Cigarette Machine 4 Legislation. Thronson Decl. at 2. The Department has contracted with vendors who have 5 created sheets of self adhesive stamps, which the Department has purchased and stands ready 6 to sell to retailers. *Id.* The Department has accommodated the concerns of retailers by creating 7 sheets of stamps that can be sold in small quantities. Id. The Department has developed a 8 secure system through which stamps will be purchased and delivered. *Id.* The Department has 9 10 notified various stakeholders, like the cigarette-machine owners, about the new law, and has informed them how it will be implemented. Id. 11

As a collateral matter, plaintiffs rely in part upon the Attorney General Office's briefing in *League of Educ. Voters v. State of Wash.*, King County Cause No. 11-2-25185-3. Plaintiffs correctly state that in that case the King County Superior Court held RCW 43.135.034 (Initiative 1053) is unconstitutional. The State is seeking direct review by the Washington Supreme Court and has filed a motion seeking a stay of the superior court ruling. The Supreme Court Commissioner denied the State's motion for a stay but referred the motion to the full Court which will consider the motion on July 11.

Just days before the Cigarette Machine Legislation is to take effect, the plaintiffs have
brought this action and motion seeking a preliminary injunction to prevent implementation.
Based upon the amended complaint, the plaintiffs have been identified as 1) Dana Henne, a
taxpayer who purchases cigarettes made with commercial cigarette-making machines, 2) 1/2
Price Smokes, Inc., a Washington corporation that operates a retail store that sells loose
tobacco and makes available a cigarette-making machine, and 3) RYO Machine, LLC, an Ohio
manufacturer of a cigarette-making machine sold in Washington. Amended Complaint at 2-3.

2	Plaintiffs seek a preliminary injunction to enjoin implementation of the Cigarette	
3	Machine Legislation. To obtain a preliminary injunction in a tax case, each plaintiff must	
4	show:	
5 6	(1) that he has a clear legal or equitable right, (2) that he has a well-grounded fear of immediate invasion of that right, and (3) that the acts complained of are either resulting in or will result in actual and substantial injury to him.	
7	<i>Tyler Pipe Indus., Inc. v. Dep't of Revenue,</i> 96 Wn.2d 785, 792, 638 P.2d 1213 (1982) (cop	
8	attached). To obtain an injunction, all of the listed criteria must be satisfied. Id. In	
9	examining the first factor, a court must consider whether the party seeking the injunction is	
10	ultimately likely to prevail on the merits. Id. at 793. The Court in Tyler Pipe also explaine	
11	that because "injunctions are addressed to the equitable powers of the court, the listed criter	
12	must be examined in light of equity, including balancing the relative interests of the parties	
13	and, if appropriate, the interests of the public." <i>Id.</i> at 792. In tax cases, this involves	
14	weighing society's interest in the efficient collection of taxes against the harm potentially	
15	suffered by the taxpayer. Id. at 796.	
16	Plaintiffs cannot satisfy the first of the <i>Tyler Pipe</i> criteria for obtaining an injunction	
17	because they cannot show they are likely to prevail as a matter of law. In addition, they	
18	cannot show an immediate risk of actual and substantial harm, and when considering the	
19	balance of equities they are not entitled to a preliminary injunction.	
20	A. Plaintiffs Cannot Establish A Clear Legal Or Equitable Right Because T Cannot Show They Are Likely To Prevail On The Merits.	
21	As a matter of law, plaintiffs are not entitled to injunctive relief for several reasons.	
22	First, they ignore the stringent statutory restrictions imposed by the Legislature on obtaining	
23	injunctive relief in tax cases, restrictions that, at this point in time, they cannot overcome.	
24	Second, even if they were to navigate that first hurdle, plaintiffs are not likely to prevail	
25 26	because the Cigarette Machine Legislation does not raise taxes and does not implicate RCV	

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III. ARGUMENT

43.135.034. Third, even if this Court were to conclude that the legislation raises taxes, the
enrolled bill doctrine prevents a court from declaring a statute invalid based on an alleged
procedural infirmity that occurred in the Legislature. Fourth, the Washington Supreme Court
has recognized that an initiative cannot bind a future legislature. And finally, the Cigarette
Machine Legislation does not violate either of the identified Washington constitutional
provisions.

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As a threshold matter, plaintiffs' claims are barred by RCW 82.32.150.

The manner by which citizens may sue the State of Washington is circumscribed by the 8 Washington Constitution. Article II, section 26 provides: "The legislature shall direct by law, 9 10 in what manner, and in what courts, suits may be brought against the state." Washington courts have long explained that the right to sue the State or a state agency must be derived from 11 statute, and the Legislature can establish conditions that must be met before that right may be 12 exercised. Nelson v. Dunkin, 69 Wn.2d 726, 729, 419 P.2d 984 (1966). This principle applies 13 in actions challenging an excise tax: "Since a right has been granted to plaintiffs to recover 14 any overpayment of tax, the right must be exercised in the manner provided by the statute." 15 Guy F. Atkinson Co. v. State, 66 Wn.2d 570, 575, 403 P.2d 880 (1965). 16

Through RCW 82.32.150 and RCW 82.32.180, the Legislature has authorized direct
superior court review of excise taxes. In general, taxpayers must first pay the disputed tax
before asking a court for relief. RCW 82.32.180 provides in pertinent part:

Any person . . . *having paid any tax as required* and feeling aggrieved by the amount of the tax may appeal to the superior court of Thurston county, within the time limitation for a refund provided in chapter 82.32 RCW or, if an application for refund has been made to the department within that time limitation, then within thirty days after rejection of the application, whichever time limitation is later. In the appeal the taxpayer shall set forth the amount of the tax imposed upon the taxpayer which the taxpayer concedes to be the correct tax and the reason why the tax should be reduced or abated. . . .

At trial the burden shall rest upon the taxpayer to prove that the tax as paid by the taxpayer is incorrect, either in whole or in part, and to establish the correct amount of the tax. In such proceeding the taxpayer shall be deemed the plaintiff and the state, the defendant. . .

1 ... no court action or proceeding of any kind shall be maintained by the 2 taxpayer to recover any tax paid, or any part therefore, except as herein provided. 3 (Emphasis added). Through RCW 82.32.180, the "legislature created a cause of action for 4 taxpayers 'feeling aggrieved by the amount of the tax' paid." Lacey Nursing Ctr., Inc. v. Dep't 5 of Revenue, 128 Wn.2d 40, 50, 905 P.2d 338 (1995). RCW 82.32.150 provides: 6 All taxes, penalties, and interest shall be paid in full before any action may be instituted in any court to contest all or any part of such taxes, penalties, 7 or interest. No restraining order or injunction shall be granted or issued by any court or judge to restrain or enjoin the collection of any tax or penalty or any 8 part thereof, except upon the ground that the assessment thereof was in violation of the Constitution of the United States or that of the state. 9 (Emphasis added). Under these statutes, a taxpayer may seek an injunction preventing the 10 collection of a tax (1) only if the Department has issued an assessment against the taxpayer and 11 (2) the injunction may be granted only if the assessment somehow violates the state or federal 12 constitution. Otherwise, RCW 82.32.150 bars an action to enjoin the collection of a tax. 13 Division Three of the Court of Appeals recently applied these provisions to hold the 14 Department's instructions to a taxpayer to pay a certain tax in the future did not trigger the 15 taxpayer's ability to challenge those instructions in superior court. Booker Auction Co. v. 16 Dep't of Revenue, 158 Wn. App. 84, 241 P.3d 439 (2010). The court held: "According to the 17 plain language of this statute, the *sole time* when collection of a tax can be prospectively 18 enjoined is when a tax assessment violates the federal or state constitution." Id. at 88 19 (emphasis added). 20

The Department may issue a tax assessment when it has found an additional amount of tax to be due. RCW 82.32.050(1). In this case, it is undisputed that no tax assessment has been issued against any of the plaintiffs for the failure to pay cigarette tax. Plaintiffs' anticipatory action is precisely what RCW 82.32.150 and *Booker Auction* prohibit. Plaintiffs' claims, regardless of their merits, simply are not ripe until an assessment has been issued. Even where plaintiffs present vague constitutional arguments in their motion, the superior court lacks authority to issue the injunction at this time. *See id; accord AOL, Inc. v. Dep't of Revenue*, 149 Wn. App. 533, 547-49, 205 P.3d 159 (2009).

Such restrictions on the ability to prospectively challenge taxes support society's strong 3 interest in their collection and prevents tax disputes from delaying payment of excise taxes into 4 the public treasury (perhaps for many years). Tyler Pipe, 96 Wn.2d at 793-94, 796; see also 5 California v. Grace Brethren Church, 457 U.S. 393, 410 n.23, 102 S. Ct. 2498, 73 L. Ed. 2d 93 6 (1982) (acknowledging the danger inherent in needless disruption of tax streams into state 7 treasuries); Booker Auction, 158 Wn. App. at 89 (referring to the catastrophic effects on state 8 government if this rule were not upheld). Allowing only assessed parties to challenge the 9 constitutionality of a tax assures that only truly interested parties are able to do so.³ It also 10 limits constitutional challenges to those based on a particular taxpayer's facts, which also 11 promotes the policy of protecting tax streams by not allowing extended litigation to delay 12 collection. 13

The same is also true for the requested declaratory relief. The phrase "restraining order 14 or injunction" in RCW 82.32.150, properly read, should be interpreted to include declaratory 15 relief. See Grace Brethren Church, 457 U.S. at 407-08 (construing the phrase "enjoin, suspend 16 or restrain" in the federal Tax Injunction Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1341, to include declaratory relief); 17 National Private Truck Council v. Oklahoma Tax Comm'n, 515 U.S. 582, 591, 115 S. Ct. 18 2351, 132 L. Ed. 2d 509 (1995) (quoting Grace Brethren Church for the proposition that "there 19 is little practical difference between injunctive and declaratory relief"). Allowing declaratory 20 21 judgment actions would completely undermine the policy underlying RCW 82.32.150 and 22 RCW 82.32.180, the public's interest in not disrupting tax streams into the state treasury.

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 ³ Significantly, as a manufacturer of cigarette-making machines, plaintiff RYO Machine, LLC will have no tax payment or collection obligation under the Cigarette Machine Legislation that could lead to an assessment, nor would it be assessed civil penalties for failing to comply with RCW 82.24. As a result, unless RYO Machine becomes a Washington retailer with a cigarette-making machine, it will never be able to fulfill the statutory requirements for bringing suit based on an assessment for cigarette taxes.

1 || Booker Auction, 158 Wn. App. at 89 (affirming dismissal of taxpayer's challenge to

2 Department's instructions on how to report taxes).

The Legislature has specifically prescribed the methods for adjudicating cigarette tax disputes in RCW 82.32.150 and .180. None of the plaintiffs has shown that they have a clear legal or equitable right to a preliminary injunction because they do not meet the clear statutory requirements for seeking injunctive or declaratory relief in a tax case. For this reason alone, the preliminary injunction should be denied.

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Plaintiffs are not likely to prevail on the merits because the Cigarette Machine Legislation does not raise taxes and, therefore, it does not violate RCW 43.135.034's two-thirds requirement.

10 The Cigarette Machine Legislation passed by a constitutional majority vote in both 11 houses of the Legislature. It does not implicate I-1053, codified at RCW 43.135.034, because

- 12 it does not "raise taxes" as that term is defined in RCW 43.135.034(6).
- 13 14

a. Roll-your-own cigarettes have always been subject to Washington's cigarette tax; the Cigarette Machine Legislation merely creates a collection and enforcement mechanism.

Plaintiffs cannot plausibly argue that the cigarettes created by the commercial cigarettemaking machines are not "cigarettes" for purposes of Washington's Cigarette Tax Statute,
RCW 82.24, because the cigarettes are "roll[s] for smoking made wholly or in part of tobacco.
.. [with] a wrapper or cover made of paper" Washington's cigarette tax is currently
imposed upon "the sale, use, *consumption, handling, possession*, or distribution of all
cigarettes." RCW 82.24.020 (emphasis added). The tax is "imposed at the time and place of

21 the first taxable event and upon the first taxable person within this state." RCW 82.24.080(2).

- 22 Thus, under current law, any person who purchases, handles, possesses, or consumes
- 23 unstamped cigarettes is personally liable for the cigarette tax. RCW 82.24.260(3). Plaintiffs
- 24 may debate whether the RYO machine retailer or the consumer is the first person to handle or
- 25 possess the cigarettes in the RYO retail establishments. But if, for the sake of argument, the
- 26 facts as stated in Mr. Alexander's declaration are accepted–that the cigarette-making machine

retailers do not manufacture or handle the cigarettes-then, at the very least, consumers like Ms.
 Henne are personally liable for the cigarette tax on the unstamped cigarettes they possess,
 handle, or consume in Washington. RCW 82.24.020, .260.

4 While the cigarette tax is due from consumers who purchase cigarettes from cigarettemaking establishments like 1/2 Price Smokes, collection currently depends on voluntary 5 reporting and payment of the tax. The Cigarette Machine Legislation applies a more reliable 6 cigarette tax enforcement mechanism, tax stamps, so that the preexisting tax can be properly 7 collected and ongoing evasion of the tax can be eliminated. Laws of 2012, ch. 4, § 2(6). 8 9 Retailers will have to purchase tax stamps and apply them to containers that their customers 10 must use to transport their cigarettes from their stores. Laws of 2012, ch. 4, § 2(6). Significantly, the Cigarette Machine Legislation did not amend RCW 82.24.020, the portion of 11 the cigarette tax statute that imposes the tax. As the Speaker of the House recognized, the 12 13 Cigarette Machine Legislation established an enforcement and regulatory system. Hankins Decl., Ex. J at 33. The Cigarette Machine Legislation simply did not increase anyone's tax 14 obligations and did not raise taxes under RCW 43.135.034(1).⁴ 15

Plaintiffs may argue, if we assume the facts as they present them, *see supra* note 1, the Cigarette Machine Legislation creates a new requirement for the cigarette machine retailers. They will have to purchase tax stamps and affix them to packages that consumers must then purchase for transporting the cigarettes from the store. Laws of 2012, ch. 4, § 2(6). However, imposing a collection obligation does not impose a tax. Even in situations where the retailer may itself be entirely exempt from the tax, such as tribal retailers on an Indian reservation, courts have approved a requirement that the retailer collect the tax from customers as a

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⁴ When ruling on whether 3ESHB 2565 required a two-thirds vote, the President of the Senate engaged in a slightly different, but equally valid analysis. The President ruled that the Legislature was merely clarifying that an existing tax already applied to a recently developed technology. Hankins Decl., Ex. E (ruling). Such clarifications involve no change in substantive rights or obligations, they merely make clear an existing right or duty. *E.g., Loeffelholz v. Univ. of Wash.*, 162 Wn. App. 360, 368-69, 253 P.3d 483 (2011).

minimal burden to prevent such purchasers from avoiding payment of a concededly lawful tax. *Moe v. Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes of Flathead Reservation*, 425 U.S. 463, 483
(1976); see also Confederated Tribes & Bands of the Yakama Nation v. Gregoire, 658 F.3d
1078, 1088-89 (2011) (recognizing that a cigarette tax *collection* obligation on retailers who
are not liable for the tax themselves imposes only a minimal and permissible burden on those
retailers). A collection obligation does not impose a new tax on the cigarette-machine retailers.

Plaintiffs may also assert that the tobacco products tax imposed under RCW 82.26 is 7 paid on the tobacco used to make the cigarettes in an RYO machine retail store, and somehow 8 the cigarette tax cannot also be due on the final product. But RCW 82.26.030 explicitly states 9 10 that payment of the tobacco products tax does not relieve the taxpayer from paying any other excise tax due. And nothing prevents taxation of both the tobacco used to make the cigarettes 11 and the cigarettes themselves—the tax falls on two different events—the purchase of the loose 12 tobacco and the possession of the unstamped cigarette. See Mayflower Park Hotel, Inc. v. 13 Dep't of Revenue, 123 Wn. App. 628, 98 P.3d 534 (2004) (no double taxation occurs when 14 there are different events or transactions). Moreover, the Cigarette Machine Legislation allows 15 a credit of \$.05 per cigarette to account for the tobacco products tax already paid. 16

In sum, the Cigarette Machine Legislation does not create a new tax obligation.
Instead, it puts in place an enforcement mechanism to deter ongoing evasion of taxes already
due, regardless of the enactment of the legislation.

3. Considering RCW 43.135.034 in its entirety, the term "raising taxes" does not extend to an enforcement mechanism that prevents ongoing revenue losses by preventing evasion of a tax already due.

Plaintiffs may argue that even if the Cigarette Machine Legislation does not impose a
new tax, it still qualifies as "raising taxes" under RCW 43.135.034(6) because the stamping
mechanism will likely result in increased revenues. Subsection (6) defines "raising taxes" as
"any action or combination of actions by the legislature that increase state tax revenue
deposited in any fund, budget, or account, regardless of whether the revenues are deposited

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into the general fund." Plaintiffs will likely argue that under this definition, any legislative
 action that has the effect of increasing *amounts collected* requires a two-thirds vote, even if it
 does not involve an increase in the *amount of taxes imposed or due*.

If the facts in Mr. Accordino's declaration are correct, the number of unstamped 4 cigarettes that consumers possess in Washington has significantly increased in recent years. 5 Accodino Decl. at 2. As many as 57,000 unstamped packs of cigarettes *per day* (six cartons 6 per hour x ten hours x 95 machines x ten packs per carton) are being handled, possessed, and 7 consumed. See id. The tax due from consumers on just 50,000 packs is more than \$150,000 8 per day. If most consumers are like Ms. Henne and do not self-report the cigarette tax, see 9 10 Henne Decl. at 2, there is significant and ongoing evasion of cigarette taxes that are due under existing law. Requiring tax stamps as an enforcement mechanism to deter ongoing evasion of 11 the cigarette tax cannot be reasonably understood as an "increase in state tax revenue." RCW 12 13 13.135.034. Instead, stamping serves merely to realize revenue already due to the State. And the phrase "deposited in any fund, budget, or account, regardless of whether the revenues are 14 deposited into the general fund," simply makes it clear that the substantive requirements of the 15 statute were intended to apply, regardless of where the revenue is directed. 16

To read subsection (6) to make RCW 43.135.034's two-thirds vote requirement apply 17 whenever proposed legislation would result in increased amounts collected, regardless of 18 whether it also increases the amount of tax due, would obviously create absurd results. E.g., 19 Estate of Bunch v. McGraw Residential Center, __ Wn.2d __, 275 P.3d 1119, 1123 (2012) 20 21 (duty to avoid absurd results). Legislative acts completely unrelated to tax increases, like the 22 allocation of funding in the budget to the Department for additional auditors or for targeted taxpayer education, would likely increase tax amounts collected and would, under this theory, 23 24 require a two-thirds vote. Legislatively approved tax amnesty programs would also trigger the two-thirds vote requirement. Even legislation intended to stimulate the state's economy 25 through tax cuts could ultimately increase business and occupation taxes collected because of 26

an increase in business activity. Would tax *cut* legislation then be subject to the two-thirds
vote requirement because it ultimately results in more taxes collected? Nothing in the Voters'
Pamphlet for Initiative 1053 suggests that the voters would have understood they were
imposing the two-thirds vote requirement on anything other than an increase in taxes *due*. The
information provided to voters never indicates a mere increase in the amount collected would
trigger the two-thirds requirement. Hankins Decl., Ex. H (Voter's Pamphlet) at 1 (referring
consistently to "tax increases," without mentioning an increase in collections).

Furthermore, the ballot title of I-1053 is "Initiative Measure No. 1053 concerns tax and 8 fee increases imposed by state government." Pursuant to Article II, section 19 of the 9 Washington Constitution, the subject of an initiative expressed in the title fixes a limit on the 10 scope of the act. "Words in a title must be taken in their common and ordinary meanings, and 11 the legislature cannot in the body of an act impose another or unusual meaning upon a term 12 used in the title without disclosing such special meaning [in the title]." Amalgamated Transit 13 Union Local 587 v. State, 142 Wn.2d 183, 226, 11 P.3d 762 (2000) (quoting De Cano v. State, 14 7 Wash.2d 613, 626, 110 P.2d 627 (1941)). An increase in collections without an increase in 15 taxes due is not a "tax increase" as the term would be commonly understood. Courts must, 16 wherever possible, interpret statutes to avoid constitutional questions or infirmities. E.g. State 17 v. Speaks, 119 Wn.2d 204, 207, 829 P.2d 1096 (1992). Therefore, RCW 43.135.034(6) should 18 be interpreted to apply only to increases in taxes due. 19

Plaintiffs also rely heavily on statements made in the fiscal note, arguing that OFM and
the Department have already determined that the Cigarette Machine Legislation is a tax
increase under RCW 43.135.034. *See* Plaintiffs' Corr. Motion at 4, 11. First, OFM issued the
ten-year fiscal analysis required by RCW 43.135.031 (I-960), but OFM's determinations
whether to perform such an analysis occur very quickly as OFM must evaluate every iteration
of every bill in a legislative session (more than 2000 analyses were done in the 2012 session).
Smith Decl. 2. OFM's decision to issue an analysis is not binding on the Legislature or the

courts, nor is it intended to be a final legal determination of the question whether the
 legislation includes a tax or fee increase. *Id.* Finally, because RCW 43.135.031 is a notice
 statute, OFM's practice is to err on the side of performing and disclosing the analysis to fulfill
 the underlying purpose of I-960. *Id.*

Second, when the Department's fiscal note is read in its entirety, it becomes abundantly 5 clear that the Department did not believe the Cigarette Machine Legislation imposed a new tax. 6 The Department described the bill as a "way to effectively collect the state cigarette tax on 7 RYO cigarettes." DOR fiscal note at 3. Notably, the fiscal note also explains that the general 8 fund would realize \$12 million in 2013 "that would not otherwise be collected if the bill were 9 10 not enacted. However, these are revenues that would likely be lost without this bill." DOR fiscal note at 3 (emphasis added). The bill does not raise taxes; it prevents losses occurring 11 because of the evasion of existing taxes. 12

Because the Cigarette Machine Legislation does not "raise taxes," it did not trigger RCW 43.135.034's two-thirds vote requirement. It validly passed with a simple majority. If the Court agrees that the legislation did not "raise taxes," it should conclude that plaintiffs are not likely to prevail and deny their motion for preliminary injunction without further analysis.

17 18 4.

Plaintiffs are not likely to prevail because the enrolled bill doctrine prevents invalidation of the Cigarette Machine Legislation based on perceived procedural error by the Legislature.

The core of plaintiffs' complaint is that the President of the Senate allowed the 19 Cigarette Machine Legislation to proceed to the Governor for signature with simply majority 20 approval in the Senate. Amended Complaint, ¶ 36. Based on separation of powers principles, 21 22 the Washington Supreme Court has declined to rule on the validity of internal legislative functions surrounding the passage of a bill, including a ruling of the President of the Senate on 23 24 a point of order involving a two-thirds majority requirement. Brown v. Owen, 165 Wn.2d 706, 720, 206 P.3d 310 (2009). This is true even when the constitutionality of the Legislature's 25 procedures is challenged. Id. at 722. 26

Known as the enrolled bill doctrine, this rule is based on the principle that the separate 1 2 branches of state government are coequal, and no branch is entitled to look beyond the properly certified record of another to determine whether it has complied with procedural 3 4 restrictions, even constitutional ones. Citizens Coun. Against Crime v. Bjork, 84 Wn.2d 891, 897 n.1, 529 P.2d 1072 (1975). This is because each branch must answer to the people who 5 elect them. *Id.* Therefore, where an enrolled bill is on file with the Secretary of State and has 6 been duly signed by the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House, and the Governor, 7 and the statute is otherwise facially valid, the courts will take this as conclusive evidence that 8 the bill's enactment was proper and in accordance with constitutional principles. *Id.* The 9 10 Washington Supreme Court has applied this rule, for example, when asked to determine whether a bill was properly re-passed after a gubernatorial veto. *Id.* (listing cases). 11

12 The Washington Supreme Court has already applied the enrolled bill doctrine to decline 13 to review a ruling from the President of the Senate on the necessity of a two-thirds vote, and 14 this Court should do the same. *Brown*, 165 Wn.2d at 720. The Cigarette Machine Legislation 15 is not facially invalid; plaintiffs claim instead a defect in the Legislature's procedure. Whether 16 a two-thirds vote was required in either house is a question of legislative process that is left to 17 the Legislature whose President and members are independently accountable to the people.

18 19 5.

Plaintiffs are not likely to prevail on the merits because the Washington Supreme Court has already held that an initiative cannot itself restrict future legislatures.

Even if this Court were to conclude that the Cigarette Machine Legislation raises taxes
for purposes of RCW 43.135.034, the statutory two-thirds vote requirement cannot, by itself,
invalidate the Cigarette Machine Legislation. The Washington Supreme Court has explained
that one enactment, even an enactment by initiative, cannot bind future legislatures. *Wash. State Farm Bureau Fed'n v. Gregoire*, 162 Wn.2d 284, 174 P.3d 1142 (2007). In *Farm Bureau*, the plaintiffs argued that a bill enacted by the 2005 Legislature exceeded the fiscal
year expenditure limit established under the terms of Initiative 601 and therefore was invalid

until it complied with a voter approval requirement adopted in the initiative. *Id.* The Court 1 2 upheld the legislation, reasoning that it is a fundamental principle of our system of government that each duly elected legislature is fully vested with the plenary power to enact laws, except as 3 limited by our state and federal constitutions. Farm Bureau, 162 Wn.2d at 290. "No 4 legislature can enact a statute that prevents a future legislature from exercising its law-making 5 power. ... To reason otherwise would elevate enactments of prior legislatures to 6 constitutional status and reduce the current Legislature to a second-class representative of the 7 people." Id. These principles are likewise true for initiatives because when the people pass an 8 9 initiative, they are exercising a legislative power that is coextensive with the Legislature's. *Id.* 10 "A law passed by initiative is no less a law than one enacted by the Legislature. Nor is it more. A previously passed initiative can no more bind a current legislature than a previously enacted 11 statute." Id. at 290-91 (footnotes omitted). 12

The Court's holding in *Farm Bureau* was explicit: a prior statute (whether enacted by
the Legislature or by initiative) cannot prospectively invalidate a later statute. Therefore,
RCW 43.135.034 cannot itself prospectively invalidate the Cigarette Machine Legislation.

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Plaintiffs are not likely to prevail because the Cigarette Machine Legislation does not violate the Washington Constitution.

Because earlier-enacted legislation cannot bind a later legislature, plaintiffs can prevail in this case only if they can overcome all of the legal hurdles discussed above, and they can show that the Cigarette Machine Legislation violates the state or federal constitution. *See Farm Bureau*, 162 Wn.2d at 290 (recognizing that only the constitution can invalidate a statute). When evaluating the constitutionality of a statute, courts must presume the statute is constitutional, and a challenger must prove a statute is unconstitutional beyond a reasonable doubt. *E.g., Bostain v. Food Exp.*, 159 Wn.2d 700, 717, 153 P.3d 846 (2007).

DEFENDANTS' OPPOSITION TO CORRECTED MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION

Plaintiffs point first to the first sentence in article VII, section 5 of the Washington 1 Constitution, which provides, in part: "No tax shall be levied except in pursuance of law."⁵ 2 Presumably, plaintiffs intend to argue that a tax enacted in violation of an existing statute 3 would also violate this constitutional provision. But cases that actually apply this sentence 4 suggest a more common sense reading of article VII, section 5. For example, under this 5 provision, Washington courts have invalidated *local* taxing provisions because they fall outside 6 of the confines of the Legislature's delegation of taxing authority to the local government. 7 E.g., Lane v. City of Seattle, 164 Wn.2d 875, 886-87, 194 P.3d 977 (2008); Sheehan v. Central 8 Puget Sound Regional Transit Auth., 155 Wn.2d 790, 797-800, 123 P.3d 88 (2005). It makes 9 10 sense to read the provision to require all taxes to be enacted only by those with proper legal authority, either granted by the constitution or properly delegated by the Legislature. 11

12Interpreting article VII, section 5 more broadly as plaintiffs suggest would invade the13fundamental plenary power of each legislature to enact its own laws because it would elevate a14statute to constitutional status without actually amending the constitution. See supra Farm15Bureau, 162 Wn.2d at 290. In other words, article VII, section 5 cannot be used to convert a16statutory procedural requirement (like a requirement for a two-thirds vote) into a constitutional17one.

Plaintiffs also point to article II, section 1(c), which provides in part that no initiative
approved by the people "shall be amended or repealed by the legislature within a period of two
years following its enactment." Under the plain language of this provision, the Cigarette
Machine Legislation cannot violate article II, section 1(c) *unless* it "amends or repeals" RCW

⁵ In numerous decisions construing article VII, including some specifically addressing section 5, the
Washington Supreme Court repeatedly held that article VII applied only to property taxes. *E.g., Standard Oil v. Graves*, 94 Wash. 291, 304, 162 P. 558 (1917)(holding that it was well-settled that article VII applied only to
property taxes and not to other taxes, including excise taxes); *State v. Clark*, 30 Wash. 439, 71 P. 20 (1902); *State v. Sheppard*, 79 Wash. 328, 329-31, 140 P. 332 (1914) (article VII, section 5 inapplicable to license fees on peddlers
because it relates only to a tax upon property). While the Court has since applied article VII, section 5 in cases
involving excise taxes, the Court did so without discussion and without explicitly overruling the long line of cases
applying article VII only to property taxes. *See Okeson v. City of Seattle*, 150 Wn.2d 540, 78 P.3d 1279 (2003).

43.135.034. Nothing in the Cigarette Machine Legislation explicitly amends or even addresses
RCW 43.135.034. And, in fact, when defining what an amendment is, the Supreme Court has
explained that an act is amendatory in character, rather than complete, only "if it changes the
scope or effect of a prior statute." Nothing on the face of or in the substance of the Cigarette
Machine Legislation, which merely imposes a tax enforcement mechanism for cigarettes made
in commercial cigarette-making machines, in any way alters the future scope or effect of RCW
43.135.034.

Plaintiffs may argue that the passage of the Cigarette Legislation without a two-thirds 8 majority in the Senate ignored RCW 43.135.034, and thus legislation somehow impliedly 9 10 amended or repealed RCW 43.135.034. But Washington's appellate courts discourage lower courts from finding amendment or repeal by implication, and statutes must be harmonized 11 wherever possible. E.g., Misterek v. Wash. Mineral Products, Inc., 85 Wn.2d 166, 168, 531 12 P.2d 805 (1975); State v. Putnam, 60 Wash. 386, 387-88, 111 P. 239 (1910). As explained 13 above, RCW 43.135.034 and the Cigarette Machine Legislation may be harmonized because 14 the Court can easily conclude that the legislation did not "raise taxes." Alternatively, this 15 Court could easily recognize that there is no direct conflict between the substance of the 16 Cigarette Machine Legislation and RCW 43.135.034. 17

What plaintiffs really take issue with are the circumstances of the Cigarette Machine
Legislation's enactment, in particular the President of the Senate's determination that a twothirds vote was not required. But as explained above, the enrolled bill doctrine prevents this
Court from invalidating a statute based on a perceived procedural error by the Legislature.
And nothing about the substance of the Cigarette Machine Legislation amends or repeals RCW
43.135.034. Plaintiffs simply cannot show unconstitutionality beyond a reasonable doubt.

In sum, plaintiffs are not likely to prevail for all of the following reasons as a matter of law: (1) RCW 82.32.150 requires an assessment before plaintiffs can challenge a tax statute in superior court even if they make constitutional arguments, (2) the cigarette tax is already due from consumers possessing, handling, or consuming any unstamped cigarettes in Washington,
 and therefore the Cigarette Machine Legislation does not raise taxes, (3) the enrolled bill
 doctrine prevents this Court from invalidating a statute based on perceived procedural error, (4)
 RCW 43.135.034 cannot itself invalidate the Cigarette Machine Legislation, and (5) the
 legislation does not violate the Washington Constitution. If the Court finds plaintiffs are not
 likely to prevail for any one of these reasons, it must decline grant the preliminary injunction.

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B.

Plaintiffs Will Not Suffer Actual Or Substantial Injury Or Harm, And On Balance, The State Would Be More Seriously Harmed By A Preliminary Injunction Than Plaintiffs Would Be Harmed By the Lack Of One.

Even if the Court believes that plaintiffs are likely to prevail on the merits, plaintiffs
cannot obtain an injunction unless they prove they will suffer an actual or substantial injury or
harm. "Payment of the tax in and of itself does not constitute the actual and substantial injury
required for issuance of an injunction," because the taxpayer may always obtain a refund of
taxes paid in the unlikely event the legislation were to be declared invalid. *Tyler Pipe*, 96
Wn.2d at 794-95.

Ms. Henne complains that on July 1, 2012, the cost of cigarettes will increase because it
will include the cost of the state tax stamp. Henne Decl. at 2. But she should be paying the
cigarette tax under current law. RCW 82.24.020, .260. She cannot validly claim harm where
implementation of the law will simply stop her from continuing to evade the tax.

RYO Machines and 1/2 Price Smokes complain that the stamping requirement will 19 impact their businesses, but any impact on RYO Machines will be only indirect, and it has 20 21 offered no more than mere speculation that but for the Cigarette Machine Legislation, 22 additional machines would soon be purchased in Washington. Accordino Decl. at 3. 1/2 Price Smokes will be required to purchase tax stamps, but it will recoup that money from its 23 customers. Henne Decl. at 2; Alexander Decl. at 4. That 1/2 Price Smokes' business model 24 relies on its and its customers' continued ability to evade existing state and federal taxes does 25 not support a finding of harm. 26

Plaintiffs also claim "actual and substantial injury" to support a preliminary injunction 1 2 based on possible exposure to criminal prosecution if the Cigarette Machine Legislation is enforced while a challenge to its validity is ongoing. Plaintiffs' Corr. Motion at 12-13 (citing 3 Shields v. Utah I. C. R. Co., 305 U.S. 177, 183 (1938)). This argument lacks merit because it 4 is entirely speculative and based on the unrealistic assumption that the moment the legislation 5 goes into effect on July 1, criminal prosecutions will follow. A claim for declaratory relief is 6 not ripe for adjudication if it rests upon "contingent future events that may not occur as 7 anticipated, or indeed may not occur at all." Texas v. United States, 523 U.S. 296, 300-301 8 (1998). Similarly, an injunction is an extraordinary equitable remedy, and its purpose is not to 9 protect a plaintiff "from mere inconvenience or speculative and insubstantial injury." Tyler 10 Pipe, 96 Wn.2d at 796; Kucera v. Dep't of Transportation, 140 Wn.2d 200, 221, 995 P.2d 63 11 (2000).12

In *Kucera*, the trial court entered a preliminary injunction limiting the speed of a 13 passenger-only ferry along a passage between Seattle and Bremerton where property owners 14 alleged that the vessel's wake was damaging the shoreline and shoreline structures. Id. at 207. 15 On direct review, the Supreme Court reversed the preliminary injunction because the trial court 16 had failed to find that the vessel operations more likely than not caused the alleged 17 environmental harm or to find "in a factually specific way" that the criteria for injunctive relief 18 had been met. Id. at 219-221. Under Kucera and Tyler Pipe, the mere fact that options for 19 enforcing a statute include criminal penalties does not support the issuance of a preliminary 20 21 injunction merely because a plaintiff contends the statute is invalid. Plaintiffs do not allege or 22 offer evidence that they have been targeted for criminal enforcement actions. Until that status changes, the Court should not consider this hypothetical alleged harm. 23

Moreover, the *Tyler Pipe* Court explained that in addition to evaluating harm, the Court must also balance relative interests of the parties and the interests of the public. *Tyler Pipe*, 96 Wn.2d at 792. In tax cases, this includes weighing society's interest in the efficient collection of taxes against the harm potentially suffered by the taxpayer. *Id.* at 796. "Society's strong
 interest in the collection of taxes has led to a long-standing public policy which disfavors the
 issuance of injunctions." *Id.* Business practices that rely on tax evasion should not be given
 weight in balancing these equities.

5 Finally, remedies ameliorating any harm to taxpayers exist if injunctive relief is not granted. Such taxpayers may seek administrative or court refunds in the unlikely event the 6 Cigarette Machine Legislation is held invalid. RCW 82.32.170 and .180. In contrast, if 7 implementation of the Cigarette Machine Legislation were delayed, the current tax evasion 8 scheme would continue, and the State would continue to lose up to \$150,000 per day in 9 10 cigarette tax revenue properly due. Until tax stamps are implemented, these taxes likely will never be collected. As such, society's interest in efficient and fair tax collection would be 11 thwarted by a preliminary injunction. Id. at 796. The amendments to the cigarette tax statute 12 13 do precisely that, they promote efficient tax collection. A preliminary injunction should not issue in this case. 14

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C. Even If This Court Grants A Preliminary Injunction, It Can Apply Only To These Plaintiffs, And Plaintiffs Must Post Security.

Plaintiffs' proposed order asks the Court to enjoin the State from enforcing the Cigarette Machine Legislation against anyone. But absent a certified class action, such an order would be inappropriate. If the Court is convinced by plaintiffs' arguments, only these plaintiffs are entitled only to an injunction preventing enforcement against them because only their purported harm will have been evaluated under the *Tyler Pipe* standard.

In addition, before an injunction may be issued, the applicant must provide security as required under CR 65(c). The Rule provides, subject to certain exceptions not pertinent here:

[N]o restraining order or preliminary injunction shall issue except upon the giving of security by the applicant, in such sum as the court deems proper, for the payment of such costs and damages as may be incurred or suffered by any party who is found to have been wrongfully enjoined or restrained.

The purpose of CR 65(c) is to provide indemnification for parties who are wrongfully
 restrained or enjoined. *Cedar-Al Products, Inc. v. Chamberlain,* 49 Wn. App. 763, 765, 748
 P.2d 235 (1987).

Defendants assume this case will take approximately one year to resolve. Thus, before 4 an injunction can be entered, the Court should order plaintiffs to provide security in the amount 5 of the cigarette tax due on the total amount of cigarettes produced by 1/2 Price Smokes' 6 machine(s) in a calendar year. This amount may be estimated by determining total cigarettes 7 produced by the machines in the 2011 calendar year. If the Court is inclined to grant an 8 injunction preventing *all* enforcement, then plaintiffs should be required to provide security in 9 10 the amount of the total cigarette tax that will be avoided for a year by all cigarette-machine retailers in the state, estimated by using the information provided in plaintiffs' declarations (95 11 machines statewide, six cartons per hour). 12

In sum, if the Court were inclined to grant a preliminary injunction, it should apply
only to these plaintiffs, and security must be provided under CR 65.

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IV. CONCLUSION

For all of the foregoing reasons, Defendants respectfully request that the Court denyplaintiffs' motion for a preliminary injunction.

DATED this _____ day of June, 2012.

ROBERT M. MCKENNA Attorney General

DAVID M. HANKINS, WSBA No. 19194 Senior Counsel REBECCA R. GLASGOW, WSBA No. 32886 Assistant Attorney General Attorneys for Respondent