

AN ACT

RELATING TO TAXATION; SEQUESTERING CERTAIN TAX PAYMENTS UNTIL RISK OF LITIGATION HAS ENDED; GRANTING AUTHORITY TO THE SECRETARY OF TAXATION AND REVENUE TO ADJUST DISTRIBUTIONS OF OIL AND GAS REVENUES; AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE TAX ADMINISTRATION ACT.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 7-1-6 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1978, Chapter 55, Section 1, as amended) is amended to read:

"7-1-6. RECEIPTS--DISBURSEMENTS--FUNDS CREATED.--

A. All money received by the department with respect to laws administered under the provisions of the Tax Administration Act shall be deposited with the state treasurer before the close of the next succeeding business day after receipt of the money, except that for 1989 and every subsequent year, money received with respect to the Income Tax Act during the period starting with the fifth day prior to the due date for payment of income tax for the year and ending on the tenth day following that due date shall be deposited before the close of the tenth business day after receipt of the money.

B. Money received or disbursed by the department shall be accounted for by the department as required by law or regulation of the secretary of finance and administration.

C. Disbursements for tax credits, tax rebates, refunds, the payment of interest, the payment of fees charged by attorneys or collection agencies for collection of accounts as agent for the department, attorney fees and costs awarded by a court or hearing officer, as the result of oil and gas litigation, the payment of credit card service charges on payments of taxes by use of credit cards, distributions and transfers shall be made by the department of finance and administration upon request and certification of their appropriateness by the secretary or the secretary's delegate. There are hereby created in the state treasury the "tax administration suspense fund", the "extraction taxes suspense fund" and the "workers' compensation collections suspense fund" for the purpose of making the disbursements authorized by the Tax Administration Act.

D. All revenues collected or received by the department pursuant to the provisions of the taxes and tax acts administered under Subsection A of Section 7-1-2 NMSA 1978 shall be credited to the tax administration suspense fund and are appropriated for the purpose of making the disbursements authorized under this section or otherwise authorized or required by law to be made from the tax administration suspense fund.

E. All revenues collected or received by the department pursuant to the taxes or tax acts administered

under Subsection B of Section 7-1-2 NMSA 1978 shall be credited to the extraction taxes suspense fund and are appropriated for the purpose of making the disbursements authorized under this section or otherwise authorized or required by law to be made from the extraction taxes suspense fund.

F. All revenues collected or received by the department pursuant to the taxes or tax acts administered under Subsection C of Section 7-1-2 NMSA 1978 may be credited to the tax administration suspense fund, unless otherwise directed by law to be credited to another fund or agency, and are appropriated for the purpose of making disbursements authorized under this section or otherwise authorized or required by law.

G. All revenues collected or received by the department pursuant to the provisions of Section 52-5-19 NMSA 1978 shall be credited to the workers' compensation collections suspense fund and are appropriated for the purpose of making the disbursements authorized under this section or otherwise authorized or required by law to be made from the workers' compensation collections suspense fund.

H. Disbursements to cover expenditures of the department shall be made only upon approval of the secretary or the secretary's delegate.

I. Miscellaneous receipts from charges made by

the department to defray expenses pursuant to the provisions of Section 9-11-6.2 NMSA 1978 and similar charges are appropriated to the department for its use.

J. From the tax administration suspense fund, there may be disbursed each month amounts approved by the secretary or the secretary's delegate necessary to maintain a fund hereby created and to be known as the "income tax suspense fund". The income tax suspense fund shall be used for the payment of income tax refunds."

Section 2. Section 7-1-6.20 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1985, Chapter 65, Section 6) is amended to read:

"7-1-6.20. IDENTIFICATION OF MONEY IN EXTRACTION TAXES SUSPENSE FUND--DISTRIBUTION.--

A. Except as provided in Subsection B of this section, after the necessary disbursements have been made from the extraction taxes suspense fund, the money remaining in the suspense fund as of the last day of the month shall be identified by tax source and distributed or transferred in accordance with the provisions of Sections 7-1-6.21 through 7-1-6.23 NMSA 1978. After the necessary distributions and transfers, any balance, except for remittances unidentified as to source or disposition, shall be transferred to the general fund.

B. Payments on assessments issued by the department pursuant to the Oil and Gas Conservation Tax Act,

the Oil and Gas Emergency School Tax Act, the Oil and Gas Ad Valorem Production Tax Act and the Oil and Gas Severance Tax Act shall be held in the extraction taxes suspense fund until the secretary determines that there is no substantial risk of protest or other litigation, whereupon after the necessary disbursements have been made from the extraction taxes suspense fund, the money remaining in the suspense fund as of the last day of the month attributed to these payments shall be identified by tax source and distributed or transferred in accordance with the provisions of Sections 7-1-6.21 through 7-1-6.23 NMSA 1978. After the necessary distributions and transfers, any balance, except for remittance unidentified as to source or disposition, shall be transferred to the general fund. "

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