

## Senate Bill No. 1015

### CHAPTER 37

An act to amend Section 706.070 of the Code of Civil Procedure, and to amend Section 19266 of, and to repeal Part 18 (commencing with Section 38001) of Division 2 of, the Revenue and Taxation Code, relating to taxation, and making an appropriation therefor, to take effect immediately, bill related to the budget.

[Approved by Governor June 27, 2012. Filed with  
Secretary of State June 27, 2012.]

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1015, Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review. Taxation: administration.

(1) Existing law authorizes the state to issue a withholding order for taxes to collect a state tax liability, including any penalties, accrued interest, and costs, in accordance with certain procedures. Existing law defines "state tax liability" to mean an amount for which the state has a state tax lien created pursuant to specified provisions.

This bill would expand the definition of "state tax liability" to also include any liability under the Personal Income Tax Law, the Corporation Tax Law, or specified franchise and income tax provisions that is due and payable and that is unpaid, as specified.

(2) Existing laws require the Franchise Tax Board to administer specified taxes and collect those taxes from delinquent tax debtors and requires the Franchise Tax Board, in coordination with financial institutions doing business in this state, to operate a Financial Institution Record Match System utilizing automated data exchanges to the maximum extent feasible in order to allow the Franchise Tax Board to match its list of delinquent tax debtors, as defined, with the lists provided by the financial institutions. Existing law authorizes the Franchise Tax Board to disclose specified taxpayer information for purposes of data matching, and provides that the specified use of certain data is a misdemeanor.

This bill would expand the definition of delinquent tax debtor to include a person liable for specified taxes, fees, surcharges, debts, penalties, interest, or other amounts required to be paid to the State Board of Equalization or paid or referred to the Employment Development Department, as provided. This bill would authorize the State Board of Equalization and the Employment Development Department to provide the Franchise Tax Board with information relating to delinquent tax debtors, would allow that information to be used in the collection of delinquent amounts under the Financial Institution Record Match System (FIRM), and would require the State Board of Equalization and the Employment Development Department

to reimburse the Franchise Tax Board for its costs in the implementation and administration of FIRM.

By expanding the definition of an existing crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

(3) Existing law has enacted the Multistate Tax Compact, which contains provisions regarding state tax laws, forms the Multistate Tax Commission, and requires the budget of the Multistate Tax Commission to be funded by party states. Existing law provides that, notwithstanding the provisions of the Multistate Tax Compact, including a provision that would allow a taxpayer to apportion its business income in accordance with a specified 3-factor formula, business income derived from or attributable to sources both within and without this state shall be apportioned between this state and other states and foreign countries in accordance with a specified 4-factor formula based on the property, payroll, and sales within and without this state, except that in the case of an apportioning trade or business that derives more than 50% of its gross business receipts from conducting one or more qualified business activities, as defined, business income is apportioned in accordance with a specified 3-factor formula. That law, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2011, allows a taxpayer to apportion its income in accordance with a single sales factor formula, except as provided, pursuant to an irrevocable annual election, as specified.

This bill would repeal all provisions related to the Multistate Tax Compact. This bill would find and declare that the doctrine of election provides that an election affecting the computation of tax must be made on an original timely filed return for the taxable period for which the election is to apply and once made is binding, and that the doctrine of election applies to any election that affects the computation of tax, as specified, which does not constitute a change in, but is declaratory of, existing law. This bill would also provide that the repeal of the Multistate Tax Compact in this bill shall not be construed to create any inference that a change in interpretation with respect to the compact or any reference to the compact prior to its repeal is implied by this bill.

(4) This bill would appropriate \$1,000 from the General Fund to the Franchise Tax Board for administrative costs.

(5) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

(6) This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as a bill providing for appropriations related to the Budget Bill.

Appropriation: yes.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. Section 706.070 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:

706.070. As used in this article:

(a) “State” means the State of California and includes any officer, department, board, or agency thereof.

(b) “State tax liability” means an amount for which the state has a state tax lien as defined in Section 7162 of the Government Code excluding a state tax lien created pursuant to the Fish and Game Code.

(c) For purposes of an earnings withholding order for taxes issued by the Franchise Tax Board, “state tax liability” also includes any liability under Part 10 (commencing with Section 17001), Part 10.2 (commencing with Section 18401), or Part 11 (commencing with Section 23001) of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code that is due and payable within the meaning of subdivision (b) of Section 19221 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, and unpaid. The amendments to this section by the act adding this subdivision shall apply to any amount that is unpaid on or after the effective date of that act, or any amount that first becomes due and payable, and unpaid, after the effective date of that act.

SEC. 2. Section 19266 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:

19266. (a) (1) The Franchise Tax Board, in coordination with financial institutions doing business in this state, shall operate a Financial Institution Record Match System utilizing automated data exchanges to the maximum extent feasible.

(2) The Franchise Tax Board shall prescribe any rules and regulations that may be necessary or appropriate to implement this section. These rules and regulations shall include all of the following:

(A) A structure by which financial institutions, or their designated data-processing agents, shall receive from the Franchise Tax Board the file or files of delinquent debtors that the institution shall match with its own list of accountholders to identify delinquent tax debtor accountholders at the institution.

(B) An option by which financial institutions without the technical ability to process the data exchange, or without the ability to employ a third-party data processor to process the data exchange, may forward to the Franchise Tax Board a list of all accountholders and their social security numbers or other taxpayer identification numbers, so that the Franchise Tax Board shall match that list with the file or files of delinquent tax debtors.

(C) Authority for the Franchise Tax Board to exempt a financial institution from the requirements of this section if the Franchise Tax Board determines that the financial institution participation would not generate sufficient revenue to be cost effective for the Franchise Tax Board.

(D) Authority for the Franchise Tax Board to temporarily suspend the requirements of this section for a financial institution if the financial institution provides the Franchise Tax Board with a written notice from its

supervisory banking authority that it is determined to be undercapitalized, significantly undercapitalized, or critically undercapitalized as defined by FDIC Regulation 325.103(b)(3), (4), and (5) or NCUA Regulation 702.102. The notice provided pursuant to this subparagraph shall be subject to the protections of Section 19542.

(b) The Financial Institution Record Match System shall not be subject to any limitation set forth in Chapter 20 (commencing with Section 7460) of Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code. However, any use of the information provided pursuant to this section for any purpose other than the collection of amounts identified in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) shall be a violation of Section 19542.

(1) Delinquent amounts due the board, as imposed under Part 1 (commencing with Section 6001), Part 1.5 (commencing with Section 7200), Part 1.6 (commencing with Section 7251), Part 1.7 (commencing with Section 7280), Part 3 (commencing with Section 8601), Part 3.5 (commencing with Section 9401), Part 6 (commencing with Section 11201), Part 13 (commencing with Section 30001), Part 14 (commencing with Section 32001), Part 18.5 (commencing with Section 38101), Part 19 (commencing with Section 40001), Part 20 (commencing with Section 41001), Part 22 (commencing with Section 43001), Part 22.5 (commencing with Section 44000), Part 23 (commencing with Section 45001), Part 24 (commencing with Section 46001), Part 26 (commencing with Section 50101), Part 30 (commencing with Section 55001), or Part 31 (commencing with Section 60001).

(2) Delinquent amounts due the Employment Development Department, as imposed under the Unemployment Insurance Code, or other debts or penalty assessments referred to the Employment Development Department for collection.

(3) Delinquent franchise or income tax or other debts referred to the Franchise Tax Board for collection, as imposed under Part 5 (commencing with Section 10701), Part 10 (commencing with Section 17001), Part 10.2 (commencing with Section 18401), or Part 11 (commencing with Section 23001).

(c) (1) To effectuate the Financial Institution Record Match System, financial institutions subject to this section shall provide to the Franchise Tax Board on a quarterly basis the name, record address, and other addresses, social security number or other taxpayer identification number, and other identifying information for each delinquent tax debtor, as identified by the Franchise Tax Board by name and social security number or other taxpayer identification number, who maintains an account at the institution.

(2) The first data file created by the Franchise Tax Board for purposes of matching tax debtor records to financial institution accountholder records shall be limited to 600,000 tax debtor records. The number of tax debtor records included in a subsequent data file created by the Franchise Tax Board may be increased by no more than 600,000 tax debtor records greater than the number of tax debtor records included in the immediately preceding

data file until all eligible tax debtor records are included in the data match file.

(d) Unless otherwise required by law, a financial institution furnishing a report or providing information to the Franchise Tax Board pursuant to this section shall not disclose to a depositor or an accountholder, or a codepositor or coaccountholder, that the name, address, social security number or other taxpayer identification number, or other identifying information of that delinquent tax debtor has been received from or furnished to the Franchise Tax Board.

(e) A financial institution shall incur no obligation or liability to any person arising from any of the following:

(1) Furnishing information to the Franchise Tax Board as required by this section.

(2) Failing to disclose to a depositor or accountholder that the name, address, social security number or other taxpayer identification number, or other identifying information of that delinquent tax debtor was included in the data exchange with the Franchise Tax Board required by this section.

(3) Any other action taken in good faith to comply with the requirements of this section.

(f) The Franchise Tax Board may institute civil proceedings to enforce this section.

(g) Any financial institution that willfully fails to comply with the rules and regulations promulgated by the Franchise Tax Board for the administration of delinquent tax collections, unless it is shown to the satisfaction of the Franchise Tax Board that the failure is due to reasonable cause, shall be assessed a penalty upon notice and demand of the Franchise Tax Board and collected in the same manner as tax. The penalty imposed under this section shall be in an amount equal to fifty dollars (\$50) for each record not provided, but the total imposed on that financial institution for all such failures during any calendar year shall not exceed one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000).

(h) For purposes of this section:

(1) “Account” means a demand deposit account, share or share draft account, checking or negotiable withdrawal order account, savings account, time deposit account, or money market mutual fund account, regardless of whether the account bears interest.

(2) “Financial institution” means:

(A) A depository institution, as defined in Section 1813(c) of Title 12 of the United States Code.

(B) An institution-affiliated party, as defined in Section 1813(u) of Title 12 of the United States Code.

(C) A federal credit union or state credit union, as defined in Section 1752 of Title 12 of the United States Code, including an institution-affiliated party of a credit union, as defined in Section 1786(r) of Title 12 of the United States Code.

(D) A benefit association, insurance company, safe deposit company, money-market fund, or similar entity authorized to do business in this state.

(3) “Delinquent tax debtor” means any of the following:

(A) Any person liable for any tax, fee, or surcharge amounts, and any penalty, interest, or other amounts required to be paid to the board, where the liability remains unpaid after 30 days from demand for payment by the board, and the person is not making current timely installment payments on the liability under an installment payment agreement as provided by law.

(B) Any person liable for any amounts required to be paid to the Employment Development Department or for any debts or penalty assessments referred to the Employment Development Department for collection and the person is not making current timely installment payments on the liability under an approved installment payment agreement as provided by law.

(C) Any person liable for any income or franchise tax or other debt referred to the Franchise Tax Board for collection as imposed under Part 5 (commencing with Section 10701), Part 10 (commencing with Section 17001), Part 10.2 (commencing with Section 18401), or Part 11 (commencing with Section 23001), including tax, penalties, interest, and fees, where the tax or debt, including the amount, if any, referred to the Franchise Tax Board for collection remains unpaid after 30 days from demand for payment by the Franchise Tax Board, and the person is not making current timely installment payments on the liability under an agreement pursuant to Section 19008.

(i) A financial institution shall be reimbursed by the Franchise Tax Board for actual costs incurred to implement the provisions of this section. Upon receipt of an invoice from the financial institution, cost reimbursement by the Franchise Tax Board shall be limited to the following:

(1) For one-time startup costs of a financial institution, no more than two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500).

(2) For data matching costs of a financial institution, other than one-time startup costs, no more than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) per calendar quarter.

(j) The first data exchange for purposes of matching tax debtor records to financial institution accountholder records shall occur no earlier than April 1, 2012.

(k) This section shall be operative 120 days after the effective date of the act adding this section and shall apply with respect to persons that are delinquent tax debtors on and after that date.

(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, on or after January 1, 2013, and on a quarterly basis thereafter, the board and the Employment Development Department shall, in the format and manner specified by the Franchise Tax Board, provide their respective delinquent tax debtor information to the Franchise Tax Board for inclusion in the Financial Institutions Records Match System.

(2) The Franchise Tax Board shall include the delinquent tax debtor information provided by the board and the Employment Development Department in its data file used to match delinquent tax debtor records to financial institution accountholder records.

(3) The Franchise Tax Board shall provide the board or the Employment Development Department, as applicable, with any matched financial institution accountholder record information resulting from the delinquent tax debtor information provided by the board or the Employment Development Department.

(4) The board and the Employment Development Department shall reimburse the Franchise Tax Board for any costs incurred by the Franchise Tax Board related to the implementation and administration of this section with respect to delinquent tax debtors described in subparagraph (A) or (B), respectively, of paragraph (3) of subdivision (h).

SEC. 3. Part 18 (commencing with Section 38001) of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is repealed.

SEC. 4. The Legislature finds and declares the following:

(a) The doctrine of election (see generally *Pacific Nat. Co. v. Welch* (1938) 304 U.S. 191), provides that an election affecting the computation of tax must be made on an original timely filed return for the taxable period for which the election is to apply and once made is binding.

(b) The doctrine of election described in subdivision (a) applies to any election that affects the computation of tax under Part 10 (commencing with Section 17001), Part 10.2 (commencing with Section 18401), and Part 11 (commencing with Section 23001) of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, unless otherwise provided.

(c) Subdivision (b) does not constitute a change in, but is declaratory of, existing law.

SEC. 5. The repeal of Part 18 (commencing with Section 38001) of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code in Section 3 of this act shall not be construed to create any inference that a change in interpretation with respect to that part, or any reference to that part, prior to its repeal is implied by this act.

SEC. 6. There is hereby appropriated one thousand dollars (\$1,000) from the General Fund to the Franchise Tax Board for administrative costs.

SEC. 7. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.

SEC. 8. This act is a bill providing for appropriations related to the Budget Bill within the meaning of subdivision (e) of Section 12 of Article IV of the California Constitution, has been identified as related to the budget in the Budget Bill, and shall take effect immediately.