

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 28, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 557

Introduced by Assembly Member Irwin

February 23, 2015

An act to ~~amend Sections 2117, 6210, and 8210 of, and to add Sections 5008.9, 6610.5, 8610.5, and 9680.5 to, to the Corporations Code, and to add Sections 19548.1 and Section 23156 to the Revenue and Taxation Code, relating to nonprofit corporations.~~

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 557, as amended, Irwin. Nonprofit corporations: abatement: dissolution: surrender.

The Nonprofit Corporation Law, among other things, generally regulates the organization and operation of nonprofit public benefit corporations, nonprofit mutual benefit corporations, and nonprofit religious corporations.

~~(1) Within a specified period of time after the filing of its original articles of incorporation and biennially thereafter, existing law requires nonprofit public benefit corporations, nonprofit mutual benefit corporations, and nonprofit religious corporations to file a statement, known as a Statement of Information, with the Secretary of State containing specified information including the street address of its principal office and its mailing address. Within a specified period of time after filing its original statement and designation and annually thereafter, existing law, the General Corporation Law, requires every foreign corporation, including foreign nonprofit corporations, as specified, to file a statement, known as a Statement of Information, with~~

~~the Secretary of State containing specified information, including the street address of its principal executive office and its mailing address.~~

~~This bill would authorize the Secretary of State to also obtain address information from the Franchise Tax Board to use in providing notices to a foreign corporation, including these foreign nonprofit corporations. This bill would specifically authorize the Franchise Tax Board to disclose this information.~~

(2)

(1) Existing law authorizes the corporate powers, rights, and privileges of a domestic taxpayer to be suspended, and the exercise of the corporate powers, rights, and privileges of a foreign taxpayer in this state to be forfeited, if certain tax liabilities are not paid or a taxpayer fails to file a tax return. Existing law also authorizes the corporate powers, rights, and privileges of a domestic corporation exempt from income tax to be suspended and the exercise of the corporate powers, rights, and privileges of a foreign corporation in this state exempt from income tax to be forfeited if the organization fails to file the annual information return or a specified statement for organizations not required to file the information return or pay a specified amount due. Existing law requires notice prior to the suspension or forfeiture of a taxpayer's corporate powers, rights, and privileges. Existing law requires the Franchise Tax Board to transmit to the Secretary of State the names of those taxpayers subject to these suspension or forfeiture provisions and thereby makes the suspension or forfeiture effective. Under existing law, the Secretary of State's certificate is prima facie evidence of the suspension or forfeiture.

~~Under existing law, a corporation that fails to file a Statement of Information with the Secretary of State within a specified time period and was certified for penalty is subject to suspension rather than penalty. Existing law requires the Secretary of State to provide a notice to the nonprofit corporation informing it that its corporate powers, rights, and privileges will be suspended within a specified time period if the Statement of Information is not filed. If the nonprofit corporation does not file the Statement of Information, existing law requires the Secretary of State to notify the Franchise Tax Board and the nonprofit corporation of the suspension and upon that notification the corporate powers, rights, and privileges of the nonprofit corporation are suspended.~~

This bill would make a nonprofit public benefit corporation, a nonprofit mutual benefit corporation, a nonprofit religious corporation, and a foreign nonprofit corporation, subject to administrative dissolution

or administrative surrender, as specified, if the nonprofit corporation's *or foreign corporation's* corporate powers are, and have been, suspended or forfeited by the Franchise Tax Board for a specified period of ~~time~~ *or if the nonprofit corporation has not filed a Statement of Information with the Secretary of State for a specified period of time*. Prior to the administrative dissolution or administrative surrender of the nonprofit *corporation or foreign corporation*, the bill would require ~~either the Franchise Tax Board or the Secretary of State~~ *the Franchise Tax Board* to provide notice to the ~~nonprofit~~ corporation of the pending administrative dissolution or administrative surrender. The bill would also require the Secretary of State to provide notice of the pending administrative dissolution or administrative surrender on its Internet Web site, as specified. The bill would authorize a nonprofit *corporation or foreign corporation* to provide the Franchise Tax Board ~~or the Secretary of State~~ with a written objection to the administrative dissolution or administrative surrender. If there is no written objection or the written objection fails, the bill would require the ~~nonprofit~~ corporation to be administratively dissolved or administratively surrendered and would provide that the certificate of the Secretary of State is prima facie evidence of the administrative dissolution or administrative surrender. Upon administrative dissolution or administrative surrender, the bill would abate the nonprofit corporation's liabilities for qualified taxes, interest, and penalties, as provided.

(3)

(2) Existing law, the Nonprofit Corporation Law, authorizes a nonprofit public benefit corporation, nonprofit mutual benefit corporation, and nonprofit religious corporation to elect voluntarily to wind up and dissolve by either approval of a majority of all members or approval of the board and approval of the members. Under existing law, the General Corporation Law, when a corporation has not issued shares, a majority of the directors, or, if no directors have been named in the articles or have been elected, the incorporator or a majority of the incorporators, are authorized to sign and verify a specified certificate of dissolution. Existing law requires the certificate to be filed with the Secretary of State and requires the Secretary of State to notify the Franchise Tax Board of the dissolution. Existing law provides that, upon the filing of the certificate, a corporation is dissolved and its powers, rights, and privileges cease.

This bill would enact provisions similar to those General Corporation Law provisions and make them applicable to nonprofit public benefit

corporations, nonprofit mutual benefit corporations, and nonprofit religious corporations. The bill would additionally provide that liability to creditors, if any, is not discharged, the liability of the directors of the dissolved nonprofit corporation is not discharged, and the dissolution of a nonprofit corporation does not diminish or adversely affect the ability of the Attorney General to enforce specified liabilities.

(4)

(3) Existing law requires every corporation doing business within the limits of this state and not expressly exempted from taxation to annually pay to the state, for the privilege of exercising its corporate franchises within this state, a tax according to or measured by its net income, as specified. Under existing law, every corporation, except as specified, is subject to the minimum franchise tax until the effective date of dissolution or withdrawal or, if later, the date the corporation ceases to do business within the limits of this state. Upon certification by the Secretary of State that a nonprofit public benefit corporation or a nonprofit mutual benefit corporation has failed to file the required Statement of Information, existing law requires the Franchise Tax Board to assess a specified penalty.

This bill would require the Franchise Tax Board to abate, upon written request by a qualified nonprofit corporation, as defined, unpaid qualified taxes, interest, and penalties, as defined, for the taxable years in which the nonprofit corporation certifies, under penalty of perjury, that it was not doing business, as defined. The bill would make this abatement conditioned on the dissolution of the qualified corporation within a specified period of time of filing the request for abatement. The bill would require the Franchise Tax Board to prescribe rules and regulations to carry out these abatement provisions and would exempt these rules and regulations from the Administrative Procedure Act.

(5)

(4) Existing state constitutional law prohibits the Legislature from making any gift, or authorizing the making of any gift, of any public money or thing of value to any individual, municipal, or other corporation.

This bill would make certain legislative findings and declarations that abatement of a nonprofit corporation's liabilities for specified taxes, penalties, and interest serves a statewide public purpose, as provided.

(6)

(5) By expanding the crime of perjury, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

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.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.

State-mandated local program: yes.

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

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
2 following:

3 (a) There are more than 150,000 nonprofit corporations in
4 California that provide a variety of programs and services in areas
5 as diverse as education, recreation, health care, legal, job training,
6 and housing to millions of Californians. These organizations,
7 depending on their formation status, are required to register with
8 the office of the Secretary of State, the Franchise Tax Board, and
9 the office of the Attorney General.

10 (b) Every year, hundreds of nonprofit corporations seek
11 administrative changes to expand their mission or alter their tax
12 status, and, in some cases, to even go out of existence. This
13 dissolution process, which involves the winding down of the
14 nonprofit corporation's affairs, is very cumbersome and protracted.

15 (c) In order to more effectively analyze and monitor the status,
16 finances, and activities of a nonprofit corporation, it is in the
17 public's interest to establish a streamlined process to efficiently
18 dissolve a nonprofit corporation. The act of dissolving the nonprofit
19 corporation and abating unpaid taxes, interest, and penalties serves
20 a statewide public purpose by ensuring that nonprofit corporations
21 that have been suspended or forfeited ~~tax-exempt~~ *tax-exempt* status
22 are no longer able to do business in the state, which will relieve
23 the citizens of California from unknowingly donating to a nonprofit
24 corporation that is not complying with the laws of the state, and
25 does not constitute a gift of public funds within the meaning of
26 Section 6 of Article XVI of the California Constitution.

27 ~~SEC. 2. Section 2117 of the Corporations Code is amended to~~
28 ~~read:~~

29 ~~2117. (a) Every foreign corporation (other than a foreign~~
30 ~~association) qualified to transact intrastate business shall file,~~

1 within 90 days after the filing of its original statement and
2 designation of foreign corporation and annually thereafter during
3 the applicable filing period, on a form prescribed by the Secretary
4 of State, a statement containing the following:

5 (1) The name of the corporation as registered in California and
6 the California Secretary of State's file number.

7 (2) The names and complete business or residence addresses of
8 its chief executive officer, secretary, and chief financial officer.

9 (3) The street address of its principal executive office.

10 (4) The mailing address of the corporation, if different from the
11 street address of its principal executive office.

12 (5) The street address of its principal business office in this
13 state, if any.

14 (6) If the corporation chooses to receive renewal notices and
15 any other notifications from the Secretary of State by email instead
16 of by United States mail, the corporation shall include a valid email
17 address for the corporation or for the corporation's designee to
18 receive those notices.

19 (7) A statement of the general type of business that constitutes
20 the principal business activity of the corporation (for example,
21 manufacturer of aircraft; wholesale liquor distributor; or retail
22 department store).

23 (b) The statement required by subdivision (a) shall also
24 designate, as the agent of the corporation for the purpose of service
25 of process, a natural person residing in this state or a corporation
26 that has complied with Section 1505 and whose capacity to act as
27 the agent has not terminated. If a natural person is designated, the
28 statement shall set forth the person's complete business or
29 residence street address. If a corporate agent is designated, no
30 address for it shall be set forth.

31 (c) The statement required by subdivision (a) shall be available
32 and open to the public for inspection. The Secretary of State shall
33 provide access to all information contained in the statement by
34 means of an online database.

35 (d) In addition to any other fees required, a foreign corporation
36 shall pay a five-dollar (\$5) disclosure fee upon filing the statement
37 required by subdivision (a). One-half of the fee shall,
38 notwithstanding Section 12176 of the Government Code, be
39 deposited into the Business Programs Modernization Fund
40 established in subdivision (k) of Section 1502, and one-half shall

1 be deposited into the Victims of Corporate Fraud Compensation
2 Fund established in Section 2280.

3 ~~(e) Whenever any of the information required by subdivision~~
4 ~~(a) is changed, the corporation may file a current statement~~
5 ~~containing all the information required by subdivisions (a) and~~
6 ~~(b). In order to change its agent for service of process or the address~~
7 ~~of the agent, the corporation shall file a current statement~~
8 ~~containing all the information required by subdivisions (a) and~~
9 ~~(b). Whenever any statement is filed pursuant to this section, it~~
10 ~~supersedes any previously filed statement and the statement in the~~
11 ~~filing pursuant to Section 2105.~~

12 ~~(f) Subdivisions (c), (d), (f), and (g) of Section 1502 apply to~~
13 ~~statements filed pursuant to this section, except that “articles” shall~~
14 ~~mean the filing pursuant to Section 2105, and “corporation” shall~~
15 ~~mean a foreign corporation.~~

16 ~~(g) The Secretary of State may obtain address information from~~
17 ~~the Franchise Tax Board to use to provide notice to a foreign~~
18 ~~nonprofit corporation, pursuant to Section 19548.1 of the Revenue~~
19 ~~and Taxation Code.~~

20 ~~SEC. 3.~~

21 *SEC. 2.* Section 5008.9 is added to the Corporations Code, to
22 read:

23 5008.9. (a) A nonprofit corporation described in Section 5059,
24 5060, or 5061, or a foreign nonprofit corporation, as described in
25 Chapter 21 (commencing with Section 2100) of Division 1, *defined*
26 *in Section 5053*, that has qualified to transact intrastate business,
27 shall be subject to administrative dissolution or administrative
28 surrender in accordance with this section if, as of January 1, 2016,
29 or later, ~~at least one of the following applies: the nonprofit~~
30 ~~corporation’s or foreign corporation’s corporate powers are, and~~
31 ~~have been, suspended or forfeited by the Franchise Tax Board for~~
32 ~~a period of not less than 48 continuous months.~~

33 ~~(1) The nonprofit corporation’s corporate powers are, and have~~
34 ~~been, suspended or forfeited by the Franchise Tax Board for a~~
35 ~~period of not less than 48 continuous months.~~

36 ~~(2) The nonprofit corporation has not filed a Statement of~~
37 ~~Information with the Secretary of State, as provided by Section~~
38 ~~2117, 6210, 8210, or 9660, for a period of not less than 48~~
39 ~~continuous months.~~

(b) Prior to the administrative dissolution or administrative surrender of the nonprofit *corporation or foreign* corporation, the nonprofit corporation shall be notified of the pending administrative dissolution or administrative surrender as follows:

(1) The Franchise Tax Board shall mail written notice to the last known address of a nonprofit corporation *or foreign corporation* meeting the requirement described in ~~paragraph (1)~~ of subdivision (a).

~~(2) The Secretary of State shall provide a notice to the last known address of a nonprofit corporation meeting the requirement described in paragraph (2) of subdivision (a).~~

~~(3)~~
(2) If the nonprofit *corporation or foreign* corporation does not have a valid address in the records of the Franchise Tax Board ~~or the Secretary of State, Board~~, the notice provided in subdivision (d) shall be deemed sufficient notice prior to administrative dissolution or administrative surrender.

(c) The Franchise Tax Board shall transmit to the Secretary of State the names of nonprofit *corporations and foreign* corporations subject to the administrative dissolution or administrative surrender provisions of this section.

(d) The Secretary of State shall provide 60 calendar days' notice of the pending administrative dissolution or administrative surrender on its Internet Web site by listing the ~~corporation name, the Secretary of State's file number, and California corporation number, as applicable, for the nonprofit corporation.~~ *corporation name and the Secretary of State's file number for the nonprofit corporation or foreign corporation. The Secretary of State shall also, in conjunction with the information above, provide instructions for a nonprofit corporation or foreign corporation to submit a written objection of the pending administrative dissolution or administrative surrender to the Franchise Tax Board.*

(e) (1) A nonprofit *corporation or foreign* corporation may provide the Franchise Tax Board ~~or the Secretary of State~~ with a written objection to the administrative dissolution or administrative surrender.

(2) The Franchise Tax Board ~~and the Secretary of State~~ shall notify ~~each other~~ *the Secretary of State* if a written objection has been received.

1 (f) If no written objection to the administrative dissolution or
2 administrative surrender is received by the ~~Secretary of State or~~
3 ~~the Franchise Tax Board~~ during the 60-day period described in
4 subdivision (d), the nonprofit *corporation or foreign* corporation
5 shall be administratively dissolved or administratively surrendered
6 in accordance with this section. The certificate of the Secretary of
7 State shall be prima facie evidence of the administrative dissolution
8 or administrative surrender.

9 (g) (1) If the written objection of a nonprofit *corporation or*
10 *foreign* corporation to the administrative dissolution or
11 administrative surrender has been received by the Franchise Tax
12 Board ~~or the Secretary of State~~ before the expiration of the 60-day
13 period described in subdivision (d), that nonprofit corporation *or*
14 *foreign corporation* shall have an additional 90 days from the date
15 the written objection is received by the Franchise Tax Board ~~or~~
16 ~~the Secretary of State~~ to pay or otherwise satisfy all accrued taxes,
17 penalties, and interest and to file a current Statement of Information
18 with the Secretary of State.

19 (2) (A) If the conditions in paragraph (1) are satisfied, the
20 administrative dissolution or administrative surrender shall be
21 canceled.

22 (B) If the conditions in paragraph (1) are not satisfied, the
23 nonprofit *corporation or foreign* corporation shall be
24 administratively dissolved or administratively surrendered in
25 accordance with this section as of the date that is 90 days after the
26 receipt of the written objection.

27 (3) The Franchise Tax Board ~~or the Secretary of State~~ may
28 extend the 90-day period in paragraph (1), but for no more than
29 one period of 90 days.

30 (h) Upon administrative dissolution or administrative surrender
31 in accordance with this section, the nonprofit *corporation's or the*
32 *foreign* corporation's liabilities for qualified taxes, interest, and
33 penalties as defined in Section 23156 of the Revenue and Taxation
34 Code, if any, shall be abated. Any actions taken by the Franchise
35 Tax Board to collect that abated liability shall be released,
36 withdrawn, or otherwise terminated by the Franchise Tax Board,
37 and no subsequent administrative or civil action shall be taken or
38 brought to collect all or part of that amount. Any amounts
39 erroneously received by the Franchise Tax Board in contravention
40 of this section may be credited and refunded in accordance with

1 Article 1 (commencing with Section 19301) of Chapter 6 of Part
2 10.2 of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.

3 (i) If the nonprofit *corporation or foreign* corporation is
4 administratively dissolved or administratively surrendered under
5 this section, the liability to creditors, if any, is not discharged. The
6 liability of the directors of, or other persons related to, the
7 administratively dissolved or administratively surrendered
8 nonprofit *corporation or foreign* corporation is not discharged.
9 The administrative dissolution or administrative surrender of a
10 nonprofit *corporation or foreign* corporation pursuant to this
11 section shall not diminish or adversely affect the ability of the
12 Attorney General to enforce liabilities as otherwise provided by
13 law.

14 ~~SEC. 4. Section 6210 of the Corporations Code is amended to~~
15 ~~read:~~

16 ~~6210. (a) Every corporation shall, within 90 days after the~~
17 ~~filing of its original articles and biennially thereafter during the~~
18 ~~applicable filing period, file, on a form prescribed by the Secretary~~
19 ~~of State, a statement containing: (1) the name of the corporation~~
20 ~~and the Secretary of State's file number; (2) the names and~~
21 ~~complete business or residence addresses of its chief executive~~
22 ~~officer, secretary, and chief financial officer; (3) the street address~~
23 ~~of its principal office in this state, if any; (4) the mailing address~~
24 ~~of the corporation, if different from the street address of its~~
25 ~~principal executive office or if the corporation has no principal~~
26 ~~office address in this state; and (5) if the corporation chooses to~~
27 ~~receive renewal notices and any other notifications from the~~
28 ~~Secretary of State by email instead of by United States mail, a~~
29 ~~valid email address for the corporation or for the corporation's~~
30 ~~designee to receive those notices.~~

31 ~~(b) The statement required by subdivision (a) shall also~~
32 ~~designate, as the agent of the corporation for the purpose of service~~
33 ~~of process, a natural person residing in this state or any domestic~~
34 ~~or foreign or foreign business corporation that has complied with~~
35 ~~Section 1505 and whose capacity to act as an agent has not~~
36 ~~terminated. If a natural person is designated, the statement shall~~
37 ~~set forth the person's complete business or residence street address.~~
38 ~~If a corporate agent is designated, no address for it shall be set~~
39 ~~forth.~~

1 ~~(e) For the purposes of this section, the applicable filing period~~
2 ~~for a corporation shall be the calendar month during which its~~
3 ~~original articles were filed and the immediately preceding five~~
4 ~~calendar months. The Secretary of State shall provide a notice to~~
5 ~~each corporation to comply with this section approximately three~~
6 ~~months prior to the close of the applicable filing period. The notice~~
7 ~~shall state the due date for compliance and shall be sent to the last~~
8 ~~address of the corporation according to the records of the Secretary~~
9 ~~of State or to the last email address according to the records of the~~
10 ~~Secretary of State if the corporation has elected to receive notices~~
11 ~~from the Secretary of State by email. Neither the failure of the~~
12 ~~Secretary of State to send the notice nor the failure of the~~
13 ~~corporation to receive it is an excuse for failure to comply with~~
14 ~~this section.~~

15 ~~(d) Whenever any of the information required by subdivision~~
16 ~~(a) is changed, the corporation may file a current statement~~
17 ~~containing all the information required by subdivisions (a) and~~
18 ~~(b). In order to change its agent for service of process or the address~~
19 ~~of the agent, the corporation must file a current statement~~
20 ~~containing all the information required by subdivisions (a) and~~
21 ~~(b). Whenever any statement is filed pursuant to this section, it~~
22 ~~supersedes any previously filed statement and the statement in the~~
23 ~~articles as to the agent for service of process and the address of~~
24 ~~the agent.~~

25 ~~(e) The Secretary of State may obtain address information from~~
26 ~~the Franchise Tax Board to use to provide notice to a corporation,~~
27 ~~pursuant to Section 19548.1 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.~~

28 ~~(f) The Secretary of State may destroy or otherwise dispose of~~
29 ~~any statement filed pursuant to this section after it has been~~
30 ~~superseded by the filing of a new statement.~~

31 ~~(g) This section shall not be construed to place any person~~
32 ~~dealing with the corporation on notice of, or under any duty to~~
33 ~~inquire about, the existence or content of a statement filed pursuant~~
34 ~~to this section.~~

35 ~~SEC. 5.~~

36 *SEC. 3.* Section 6610.5 is added to the Corporations Code, to
37 read:

38 6610.5. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this
39 division, when a corporation has not issued any memberships, a
40 majority of the directors, or, if no directors have been named in

1 the articles or have been elected, the incorporator or a majority of
2 the incorporators, may sign and verify a certificate of dissolution
3 stating all of the following:

4 (1) That the certificate of dissolution is being filed within 24
5 months from the date the articles of incorporation were filed.

6 (2) That the corporation does not have any debts or other
7 liabilities, except as provided in paragraph (3) and subdivision (d).

8 (3) That the tax liability will be satisfied on a taxes-paid basis
9 or that a person or corporation or other business entity assumes
10 the tax liability, if any, of the dissolving corporation and is
11 responsible for additional corporate taxes, if any, that are assessed
12 and that become due after the date of the assumption of the tax
13 liability.

14 (4) That a final franchise tax return, as described by Section
15 23332 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, has been or will be filed
16 with the Franchise Tax Board as required under Part 10.2
17 (commencing with Section 18401) of Division 2 of the Revenue
18 and Taxation Code.

19 (5) That the corporation was created in error.

20 (6) That the known assets of the corporation remaining after
21 payment of, or adequately providing for, known debts and liabilities
22 have been distributed as required by law or that the corporation
23 acquired no known assets, as the case may be.

24 (7) That a majority of the directors, or, if no directors have been
25 named in the articles or have been elected, the incorporator or a
26 majority of the incorporators authorized the dissolution and elected
27 to dissolve the corporation.

28 (8) That the corporation has not issued any memberships, and
29 if the corporation has received payments for memberships, those
30 payments have been returned to those making the payments.

31 (9) That the corporation is dissolved.

32 (b) A certificate of dissolution signed and verified pursuant to
33 subdivision (a) shall be filed with the Secretary of State. The
34 Secretary of State shall notify the Franchise Tax Board of the
35 dissolution.

36 (c) Upon filing a certificate of dissolution pursuant to
37 subdivision (b), a corporation shall be dissolved and its powers,
38 rights, and privileges shall cease.

39 (d) Notwithstanding the dissolution of a corporation pursuant
40 to this section, its liability to creditors, if any, is not discharged.

1 The liability of the directors of, or other persons related to, the
2 dissolved corporation is not discharged. The dissolution of a
3 corporation pursuant to this section shall not diminish or adversely
4 affect the ability of the Attorney General to enforce liabilities as
5 otherwise provided by law.

6 ~~SEC. 6.— Section 8210 of the Corporations Code is amended to~~
7 ~~read:~~

8 ~~8210. (a) Every corporation shall, within 90 days after the~~
9 ~~filing of its original articles and biennially thereafter during the~~
10 ~~applicable filing period, file, on a form prescribed by the Secretary~~
11 ~~of State, a statement containing: (1) the name of the corporation~~
12 ~~and the Secretary of State's file number; (2) the names and~~
13 ~~complete business or residence addresses of its chief executive~~
14 ~~officer, secretary, and chief financial officer; (3) the street address~~
15 ~~of its principal office in this state, if any; (4) the mailing address~~
16 ~~of the corporation, if different from the street address of its~~
17 ~~principal executive office or if the corporation has no principal~~
18 ~~office address in this state; and (5) if the corporation chooses to~~
19 ~~receive renewal notices and any other notifications from the~~
20 ~~Secretary of State by email instead of by United States mail, a~~
21 ~~valid email address for the corporation or for the corporation's~~
22 ~~designee to receive those notices.~~

23 ~~(b) The statement required by subdivision (a) shall also~~
24 ~~designate, as the agent of the corporation for the purpose of service~~
25 ~~of process, a natural person residing in this state or any domestic~~
26 ~~or foreign or foreign business corporation that has complied with~~
27 ~~Section 1505 and whose capacity to act as an agent has not~~
28 ~~terminated. If a natural person is designated, the statement shall~~
29 ~~set forth the person's complete business or residence street address.~~
30 ~~If a corporate agent is designated, no address for it shall be set~~
31 ~~forth.~~

32 ~~(c) For the purposes of this section, the applicable filing period~~
33 ~~for a corporation shall be the calendar month during which its~~
34 ~~original articles were filed and the immediately preceding five~~
35 ~~calendar months. The Secretary of State shall provide a notice to~~
36 ~~each corporation to comply with this section approximately three~~
37 ~~months prior to the close of the applicable filing period. The notice~~
38 ~~shall state the due date for compliance and shall be sent to the last~~
39 ~~address of the corporation according to the records of the Secretary~~
40 ~~of State or to the last email address according to the records of the~~

1 Secretary of State if the corporation has elected to receive notices
2 from the Secretary of State by email. Neither the failure of the
3 Secretary of State to send the notice nor the failure of the
4 corporation to receive it is an excuse for failure to comply with
5 this section.

6 ~~(d) Whenever any of the information required by subdivision~~
7 ~~(a) is changed, the corporation may file a current statement~~
8 ~~containing all the information required by subdivisions (a) and~~
9 ~~(b). In order to change its agent for service of process or the address~~
10 ~~of the agent, the corporation must file a current statement~~
11 ~~containing all the information required by subdivisions (a) and~~
12 ~~(b). Whenever any statement is filed pursuant to this section, it~~
13 ~~supersedes any previously filed statement and the statement in the~~
14 ~~articles as to the agent for service of process and the address of~~
15 ~~the agent.~~

16 ~~(e) The Secretary of State may obtain address information from~~
17 ~~the Franchise Tax Board to use to provide notice to a corporation,~~
18 ~~pursuant to Section 19548.1 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.~~

19 ~~(f) The Secretary of State may destroy or otherwise dispose of~~
20 ~~any statement filed pursuant to this section after it has been~~
21 ~~superseded by the filing of a new statement.~~

22 ~~(g) This section shall not be construed to place any person~~
23 ~~dealing with the corporation on notice of, or under any duty to~~
24 ~~inquire about, the existence or content of a statement filed pursuant~~
25 ~~to this section.~~

26 ~~SEC. 7:~~

27 *SEC. 4.* Section 8610.5 is added to the Corporations Code, to
28 read:

29 8610.5. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this
30 division, when a corporation has not issued any memberships, a
31 majority of the directors, or, if no directors have been named in
32 the articles or have been elected, the incorporator or a majority of
33 the incorporators, may sign and verify a certificate of dissolution
34 stating the following:

35 (1) That the certificate of dissolution is being filed within 24
36 months from the date the articles of incorporation were filed.

37 (2) That the corporation does not have any debts or other
38 liabilities, except as provided in paragraph (3) and subdivision (d).

39 (3) That the tax liability will be satisfied on a taxes-paid basis,
40 or that a person or corporation or other business entity assumes

1 the tax liability, if any, of the dissolving corporation and is
2 responsible for additional corporate taxes, if any, that are assessed
3 and that become due after the date of the assumption of the tax
4 liability.

5 (4) That a final franchise tax return, as described by Section
6 23332 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, has been or will be filed
7 with the Franchise Tax Board as required under Part 10.2
8 (commencing with Section 18401) of Division 2 of the Revenue
9 and Taxation Code.

10 (5) That the corporation was created in error.

11 (6) That the known assets of the corporation remaining after
12 payment of, or adequately providing for, known debts and liabilities
13 have been distributed as required by law or that the corporation
14 acquired no known assets, as the case may be.

15 (7) That a majority of the directors, or, if no directors have been
16 named in the articles or have been elected, the incorporator or a
17 majority of the incorporators authorized the dissolution and elected
18 to dissolve the corporation.

19 (8) That the corporation has not issued any memberships, and
20 if the corporation has received payments for memberships, those
21 payments have been returned to those making the payments.

22 (9) That the corporation is dissolved.

23 (b) A certificate of dissolution signed and verified pursuant to
24 subdivision (a) shall be filed with the Secretary of State. The
25 Secretary of State shall notify the Franchise Tax Board of the
26 dissolution.

27 (c) Upon filing a certificate of dissolution pursuant to
28 subdivision (b), a corporation shall be dissolved and its powers,
29 rights, and privileges shall cease.

30 (d) Notwithstanding the administrative dissolution of a
31 corporation pursuant to this section, its liability to creditors, if any,
32 is not discharged. The liability of the directors of, or other persons
33 related to, the administratively dissolved corporation is not
34 discharged. The dissolution of a corporation pursuant to this section
35 shall not diminish or adversely affect the ability of the Attorney
36 General to enforce liabilities as otherwise provided by law.

37 ~~SEC. 8.~~

38 *SEC. 5.* Section 9680.5 is added to the Corporations Code, to
39 read:

1 9680.5. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this
2 division, when a corporation has not issued any memberships, a
3 majority of the directors, or, if no directors have been named in
4 the articles or been elected, the incorporator or a majority of the
5 incorporators, may sign and verify a certificate of dissolution
6 stating the following:

7 (1) That the certificate of dissolution is being filed within 24
8 months from the date the articles of incorporation were filed.

9 (2) That the corporation does not have any debts or other
10 liabilities, except as provided in paragraph (3) and subdivision (d).

11 (3) That the tax liability will be satisfied on a taxes-paid basis
12 or that a person or corporation or other business entity assumes
13 the tax liability, if any, of the dissolving corporation and is
14 responsible for additional corporate taxes, if any, that are assessed
15 and that become due after the date of the assumption of the tax
16 liability.

17 (4) That a final franchise tax return, as described by Section
18 23332 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, has been or will be filed
19 with the Franchise Tax Board as required under Part 10.2
20 (commencing with Section 18401) of Division 2 of the Revenue
21 and Taxation Code.

22 (5) That the corporation was created in error.

23 (6) That the known assets of the corporation remaining after
24 payment of, or adequately providing for, known debts and liabilities
25 have been distributed as required by law or that the corporation
26 acquired no known assets, as the case may be.

27 (7) That a majority of the directors, or, if no directors have been
28 named in the articles or been elected, the incorporator or a majority
29 of the incorporators authorized the dissolution and elected to
30 dissolve the corporation.

31 (8) That the corporation has not issued any memberships, and
32 if the corporation has received payments for memberships, those
33 payments have been returned to those making the payments.

34 (9) That the corporation is dissolved.

35 (b) A certificate of dissolution signed and verified pursuant to
36 subdivision (a) shall be filed with the Secretary of State. The
37 Secretary of State shall notify the Franchise Tax Board of the
38 dissolution.

1 (c) Upon filing a certificate of dissolution pursuant to
2 subdivision (b), a corporation shall be dissolved and its powers,
3 rights, and privileges shall cease.

4 (d) Notwithstanding the dissolution of a nonprofit corporation
5 pursuant to this section, its liability to creditors, if any, is not
6 discharged. The liability of the directors of, or other persons related
7 to, the dissolved corporation is not discharged. The dissolution of
8 a nonprofit corporation pursuant to this section shall not diminish
9 or adversely affect the ability of the Attorney General to enforce
10 liabilities as otherwise provided by law.

11 ~~SEC. 9. Section 19548.1 is added to the Revenue and Taxation~~
12 ~~Code, to read:~~

13 ~~19548.1. (a) The Franchise Tax Board, upon request by the~~
14 ~~Secretary of State, pursuant to subdivision (g) of Section 2117,~~
15 ~~and subdivision (e) of Sections 6210 and 8210, may disclose~~
16 ~~information about addresses and email addresses to the Secretary~~
17 ~~of State to use to provide notice to a nonprofit public benefit~~
18 ~~corporation, nonprofit mutual benefit corporation, nonprofit~~
19 ~~religious corporation, or foreign nonprofit corporation.~~

20 ~~(b) Information disclosed to the Secretary of State pursuant to~~
21 ~~subdivision (a) shall be disseminated by the Secretary of State only~~
22 ~~as provided for by, and only for the purposes specified in, Division~~
23 ~~2 (commencing with Section 5000) of Title 1 of the Corporations~~
24 ~~Code and Chapter 21 (commencing with Section 2100) of Division~~
25 ~~1 of Title 1 of the Corporations Code.~~

26 ~~SEC. 10:~~

27 ~~SEC. 6. Section 23156 is added to the Revenue and Taxation~~
28 ~~Code, to read:~~

29 23156. (a) The Franchise Tax Board shall abate, upon written
30 request by a qualified nonprofit corporation, unpaid qualified taxes,
31 interest, and penalties for the taxable years in which the qualified
32 nonprofit corporation certifies, under penalty of perjury, that it
33 was not doing business, within the meaning of subdivision (a) of
34 Section 23101.

35 (b) For purposes of this section:

36 (1) "Qualified nonprofit corporation" means a nonprofit
37 corporation identified in Section 5059, 5060, or 5061 of the
38 Corporations Code or a foreign nonprofit corporation, as described
39 in Chapter 21 (commencing with Section 2100) of Division 1
40 defined in Section 5053 of the Corporations Code that has qualified

1 to transact intrastate business in this state and that satisfies any of
2 the following conditions:

3 (A) Was operating and previously obtained tax-exempt status
4 with the Franchise Tax Board, but had its tax-exempt status
5 revoked under *subdivision (c) of Section 23777*.

6 (B) Was operating and previously obtained tax-exempt status
7 with the Internal Revenue Service, but had its tax-exempt status
8 revoked under Section 6033(j) of the Internal Revenue Code.

9 (C) Was never doing business, within the meaning of subdivision
10 (a) of Section 23101, in this state at any time after the time of its
11 incorporation in this state.

12 (2) “Qualified taxes, interest, and penalties” means tax imposed
13 under Section 23153 and associated interest and penalties, and any
14 penalties imposed under Section 19141. “Qualified taxes, interest,
15 and penalties” does not include tax imposed under Section 23501
16 or 23731, or associated interest or penalties.

17 (c) The qualified corporation must establish that it has ceased
18 all business operations at the time of filing the request for
19 abatement under this section.

20 (d) (1) The abatement of unpaid qualified tax, interest, and
21 penalties is conditioned on the dissolution of the qualified
22 corporation within 12 months from the date of filing the request
23 for abatement under this section.

24 (2) If the qualified corporation is not dissolved within 12 months
25 from the date of filing the request for abatement or restarts business
26 operations at any time after requesting abatement under this section,
27 the abatement of qualified tax, interest, and penalties under this
28 section shall be canceled and the qualified taxes, interest, and
29 penalties subject to that abatement shall be treated as if the
30 abatement never occurred.

31 (e) The Franchise Tax Board shall prescribe any rules and
32 regulations that may be necessary or appropriate to implement this
33 section. Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1
34 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code shall not apply
35 to any standard, criterion, procedure, determination, rule, notice,
36 or guideline established or issued by the Franchise Tax Board
37 pursuant to this section.

38 ~~SEC. 11.~~

39 *SEC. 7.* No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to
40 Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because

1 the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school
2 district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or
3 infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty
4 for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of
5 the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within
6 the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California
7 Constitution.

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