

HAS GIVEN INFORMATION TO THE DEPARTMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBTITLE, HAS CAUSED TO BE INSTITUTED OR IS ABOUT TO CAUSE TO BE INSTITUTED A PROCEEDING UNDER THIS SUBTITLE, OR HAS TESTIFIED OR IS ABOUT TO TESTIFY IN A PROCEEDING UNDER THIS SUBTITLE, SHALL BE DEEMED IN VIOLATION OF THIS SUBTITLE AND SHALL BE SUBJECT TO A CIVIL PENALTY OF AT LEAST \$2,000 BUT NOT MORE THAN \$10,000 FOR EACH VIOLATION.

(E) (1) AN EMPLOYEE MAY NOT:

(I) MAKE A GROUNDLESS OR MALICIOUS COMPLAINT UNDER THIS SUBTITLE TO THE SECRETARY OR AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY;

(II) IN BAD FAITH, BRING AN ACTION UNDER THIS SUBTITLE; OR

(III) IN BAD FAITH, TESTIFY IN AN ACTION UNDER THIS SUBTITLE OR A PROCEEDING THAT RELATES TO THE SUBJECT OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(2) THE SECRETARY MAY BRING AN ACTION FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND DAMAGES AGAINST A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THE PROVISIONS OF PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

(F) A PENALTY COLLECTED BY THE SECRETARY UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE PAID TO THE CIGARETTE RESTITUTION FUND ESTABLISHED UNDER § 7-317 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.

24-509.

(A) ~~THE SECRETARY, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE COMPTROLLER,~~ WITHIN 90 DAYS FROM THE RECEIPT OF AN APPLICATION FOR A WAIVER AND THE DATE THAT ALL CONDITIONS FOR THE APPLICATION FOR A WAIVER REQUIRED IN THE REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE SECRETARY HAVE BEEN SATISFIED, THE HEALTH OFFICER OF A COUNTY MAY GRANT A WAIVER FROM THE APPLICATION OF A SPECIFIC PROVISION OF THIS SUBTITLE, IF PRIOR TO THE GRANTING OF THE WAIVER, THE APPLICANT FOR A WAIVER ESTABLISHES IN WRITING:

(1) COMPLIANCE WITH A SPECIFIC PROVISION OF THIS SUBTITLE WOULD CAUSE UNDUE FINANCIAL HARDSHIP; OR