1	SENATE BILL 322
2	47th LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2006
3	INTRODUCED BY
4	John Arthur Smith
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8	FOR THE REVENUE STABILIZATION AND TAX POLICY COMMITTEE
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10	AN ACT
11	RELATING TO TAXATION; PERMITTING THE TAXATION AND REVENUE
12	DEPARTMENT TO INFORM A LICENSING BODY OF LICENSEE FAILURE TO
13	FILE OR PAY TAXES AND OTHER RELEVANT TAXPAYER INFORMATION FOR
14	USE IN DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS; PROVIDING GROUNDS FOR ATTORNEY
15	DISBARMENT AND FOR SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF PROFESSIONAL OR
16	OCCUPATIONAL LICENSES.
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18	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:
19	Section l. A new section of the Tax Administration Act is
20	enacted to read:
21	"[<u>NEW MATERIAL</u>] DEPARTMENT POWER TO INFORM LICENSING BODY
22	OF FAILURE TO FILE RETURN OR PAY TAX
23	A. When a licensee does not file the licensee's
24	income tax return or the return of any other state or local tax
25	administered pursuant to the Tax Administration Act for which
	.160263.1

<u>underscored material = new</u> [bracketed material] = delete the licensee is responsible or to pay any settled tax
liability, the department may notify the licensing body of the
identity of the taxpayer, the taxes involved, the failure to
file or to pay and request the body to initiate disciplinary
proceedings. If the licensing body initiates disciplinary
proceedings, the department may reveal to the body additional
relevant information for use in the proceedings.

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B. For the purposes of this section:

(1) "licensee" means a person licensed as an attorney pursuant to Chapter 36, Article 2 NMSA 1978 or licensed pursuant to Chapter 61 NMSA 1978 to engage in a profession or occupation; and

(2) "settled tax liability" means a tax liability of the licensee of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more established pursuant to any tax or tax act administered pursuant to the Tax Administration Act that has not been protested within the time limits prescribed by Section 7-1-24 NMSA 1978 or, if protested, has been decided against the licensee in a decision that may not be appealed or for which the time to appeal has expired."

Section 2. Section 36-2-18 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1909, Chapter 53, Section 34, as amended) is amended to read:

"36-2-18. <u>GROUNDS FOR</u> DISBARMENT AND SUSPENSION <u>BY THE</u> <u>SUPREME COURT</u>.--[SEC. 35.]

A. An attorney may be disbarred or suspended by the .160263.1

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1 supreme court for any of the following causes arising after 2 [his] the attorney's admission to practice: 3 [his] the attorney's conviction of a (1)4 felony or misdemeanor involving moral turpitude, in which case 5 the record of conviction is conclusive; 6 (2) [Wilful] willful disobedience or violation 7 of an order of the court requiring [him] the attorney to do or 8 forbear an act connected with or in the course of [his] the 9 attorney's profession and any violation of the oath taken by 10 [him] the attorney or of [his] the attorney's duty as such 11 attorney as [before] provided in [this] Chapter 36 NMSA 1978; 12 (3) corruptly or [wilfully] willfully and 13 without authority appearing as attorney for a party to an 14 action or proceeding; 15 lending [his] the attorney's name to be (4) 16 used as an attorney by another party who is not an attorney; 17 (5) failing or refusing to account for money 18 of [his] the attorney's client coming into [his] the attorney's 19 hands as such attorney; 20 (6) failing to file a state income tax return 21 or any other state or local tax return for which the attorney 22 is responsible or failing to pay a settled tax liability owed 23 by the attorney; or 24 [(6)] (7) for any other act to which such a 25 consequence is by law attached. .160263.1

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1	B. For the purposes of this section, "settled tax
2	<u>liability" means:</u>
3	(1) for taxes and tax acts administered
4	pursuant to the Tax Administration Act, a tax liability of the
5	licensee of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more established
6	under any tax or tax act administered under the Tax
7	Administration Act that has not been protested within the time
8	limits prescribed by Section 7-1-24 NMSA 1978 or, if protested,
9	has been decided against the licensee in a decision that may
10	not be appealed or for which the time to appeal has expired; or
11	(2) for taxes and tax acts not administered
12	pursuant to the Tax Administration Act, a tax liability of at
13	least five hundred dollars (\$500) that the licensee has not
14	contested by an available administrative or judicial procedure
15	within prescribed time limits or, if contested, has been
16	decided against the licensee in a decision that may not be
17	appealed or for which the time to appeal has expired."
18	Section 3. A new section of the Uniform Licensing Act is
19	enacted to read:
20	"[<u>NEW MATERIAL</u>] GROUNDS FOR SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF
21	LICENSE
22	A. In addition to grounds specified in any other
23	article of Chapter 61 NMSA 1978 or grounds specified by action
24	of a board, the failure or refusal of a licensee to file the
25	licensee's income tax return or other state or local tax return
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for which the licensee is responsible or to pay a settled tax 2 liability owed by the licensee is grounds for the revocation or 3 suspension of the licensee's license. Discovery of the failure or refusal shall be deemed to occur on the date the board is notified of the failure or refusal by the agency responsible for administering the tax.

For the purposes of this section, "settled tax Β. liability" means:

9 (1)for taxes and tax acts administered 10 pursuant to the Tax Administration Act, a tax liability of the 11 licensee of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more established 12 under any tax or tax act administered under the Tax 13 Administration Act that has not been protested within the time 14 limits prescribed by Section 7-1-24 NMSA 1978 or, if protested, 15 has been decided against the licensee in a decision that may 16 not be appealed or for which the time to appeal has expired; or

for taxes and tax acts not administered (2) pursuant to the Tax Administration Act, a tax liability of at least five hundred dollars (\$500) that the licensee has not contested by an available administrative or judicial procedure within prescribed time limits or, if contested, has been decided against the licensee in a decision that may not be appealed or for which the time to appeal has expired."

Section 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the provisions of this act is July 1, 2006.

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