1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA 2 1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019) 3 SENATE BILL NO. 511 By: Bice 4 5 6 AS INTRODUCED 7 An Act relating to tax administration; amending Sections 104, Chapter 366, O.S.L. 2016, as amended by Section 13, Chapter 205, O.S.L. 2017 and 116, Chapter 8 366, O.S.L. 2016 (37A O.S. Supp. 2018, Sections 5-101 9 and 5-113), which relate to the excise tax on alcoholic beverages; clarifying tax remittance responsibilities; modifying day of the month by which 10 certain records are due; amending 68 O.S. 2011, 11 Section 234, which relates to liens for unpaid taxes, interest and penalties; requiring notice of certain 12 actions to Oklahoma Tax Commission for determining liens on property; amending 68 O.S. 2011, Section 255, which relates to Oklahoma Tax Commission 13 contracts with debt collection agencies; modifying time limit for an outside collection agency to remit 14 funds to the Oklahoma Tax Commission; amending 68 O.S. 2011, Section 1365, which relates to sales tax; 15 modifying the schedule for remitting taxes for certain taxpayers; and providing an effective date. 16 17 18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA: 19 SECTION 1. Section 104, Chapter 366, O.S.L. 20 AMENDATORY 2016, as amended by Section 13, Chapter 205, O.S.L. 2017 (37A O.S. 21 Supp. 2018, Section 5-101), is amended to read as follows: 22 Section 5-101. A. Except as provided in this subsection, an 23 excise tax is hereby levied and imposed upon all alcoholic beverages 24

imported or manufactured, for sale, use or distribution, or used or possessed in this state at the following rates:

- 1. One Dollar and forty-seven cents (\$1.47) per liter, and a proportionate rate on fractions thereof, on each liter of spirits;
- 2. Nineteen cents (\$0.19) per liter, and a proportionate rate on fractions thereof, on each liter of wine;
- 3. Fifty-five cents (\$0.55) per liter, and a proportionate rate on fractions thereof, on each liter of sparkling wine; and
- 4. Twelve Dollars and fifty cents (\$12.50) per barrel (thirtyone (31) wine gallons) and a proportionate rate on portions thereof, on each barrel of beer; provided, beer manufactured in this state for export shall not be taxed.
- B. The excise tax levied on alcoholic beverages except beer under subsection A of this section shall be paid as follows:
- 1. Payment of the excise tax levied by this section with respect to all alcoholic beverages, other than beer, shall be made by the person shipping the same into Oklahoma, or in the case of direct imports from foreign countries by the importer, or in the case of alcoholic beverages manufactured in Oklahoma by the first seller thereof first possessing, selling, using or distributing alcoholic beverages into this state, or in the case of direct sales to the ultimate consumer, by the direct seller thereof; and
- 2. The due and payable excise tax levied by this section shall be remitted electronically simultaneously with tax returns

electronically filed with the Oklahoma Tax Commission using procedures prescribed by the Tax Commission. The tax returns shall be made under oath by the person liable for the tax on forms prescribed and provided by the Tax Commission and shall be accompanied by payment of the taxes due and any additional sums due as provided by this section. Invoices describing all alcoholic beverages as described in this section which are shipped into this state or which are first sold in this state shall be delivered to the Tax Commission immediately following shipment of liquors into the state or delivery to the first purchaser. Tax returns and payment of excise tax and other sums due shall be electronically filed with the Tax Commission no later than the twentieth day of the month immediately succeeding the month of shipment, importation or first sale of the alcoholic beverages as provided in paragraph 1 of this subsection.

- C. For the purpose of collecting and remitting the excise tax imposed under this section, the person liable for such tax is hereby declared to be the agent of the state for such purposes.
- D. Nothing herein shall be construed to impose an additional excise tax on alcoholic beverages held in inventory by wholesalers and retailers upon which the excise tax was paid prior to the effective date of any excise tax increase.
- E. The retail sale of alcoholic beverages shall be subject to the sales tax statutes enacted by the Legislature.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY Section 116, Chapter 366, O.S.L. 2016 (37A O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 5-113), is amended to read as

follows:

Section 5-113. A. The Oklahoma Tax Commission, as provided by the Uniform Tax Procedure Code, may issue a distributor permit or wholesaler permit to any person who sells alcoholic beverages to a wine and spirits wholesaler or beer distributor or to any person having a wholesaler license.

- B. Each wholesaler shall furnish a copy of the wholesaler permit to manufacturers, importers, brokers and others who sell alcoholic beverages prior to purchasing alcoholic beverages from a holder of a distributor permit. Each manufacturer, importer, broker and other who sells alcoholic beverages shall furnish a copy of the distributor permit to the wine and spirits wholesaler or beer distributor prior to selling alcoholic beverages to a wholesaler.
- C. Holders of distributor permits or wholesaler permits shall maintain an itemized and verified record for the preceding calendar month of all sales or purchases of alcoholic beverages and shall transmit the verified record to the Tax Commission on or before the tenth twentieth day of each month, upon a form prescribed and furnished by the Tax Commission. Permit holders shall maintain records of sales and purchases of alcoholic beverages for three (3) years.

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SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 68 O.S. 2011, Section 234, is amended to read as follows:

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Section 234. A. All taxes, interest and penalties imposed by the provisions of Section 201 et seq. of this title, or any state tax law, are hereby declared to constitute a lien in favor of the state upon all franchises, property, and rights to property, whether real or personal, then belonging to or thereafter acquired by the person owing the tax, whether such property is employed by such person in the prosecution of business, or is in the hands of an assignee, trustee or receiver for the benefit of creditors, from the date the taxes are due and payable under the provisions of the state tax laws levying such taxes. The lien shall be in addition to any lien accrued by the filing of a tax warrant or tax certificate as provided by Sections 230 and 231 of this title. The lien shall be prior, superior and paramount to all other liens, claims, or encumbrances on the property of whatsoever kind or character, except those of any bona fide mortgagee, pledgee, judgment creditor, or purchaser, whose right shall have attached prior to the date of the filing and indexing in the office of the county clerk in the county in which the property is located, of the notice of the lien of the state under a tax certificate as provided by Section 230 of this title, or under a tax warrant as provided by Section 231 of this title, and who have filed or recorded the mortgages and conveyances in the office of the county clerk of the county in which the

property is located. Such taxes, penalties and interest shall at all times, constitute a prior, superior and paramount claim as against the claims of unsecured creditors. The lien of the state shall continue until the amount of the tax and penalty due and owing, and interest subsequently accruing thereon, is paid, or, except as otherwise provided herein, upon the expiration of ten (10) years after the date of the filing and indexing in the office of the county clerk in the county in which the property is located, of the notice of the lien of the state under a tax certificate as provided by Section 230 of this title, or under a tax warrant as provided by Section 231 of this title; provided, the Oklahoma Tax Commission may, prior to the expiration of the ten-year period provided for herein, refile the notice of the lien with the county clerk. A notice so refiled shall continue the lien until payment of the tax, penalty, interest and costs, or upon the expiration of ten (10) years after the date upon which the notice was refiled. All active liens evidenced by a notice of lien filed with a county clerk's office prior to November 1, 1989, shall be released and extinguished if the notice of lien is not refiled prior to November 1, 2001.

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B. In any action affecting the title to real estate or the ownership or right to possession of personal property, the State of Oklahoma may be made a party defendant, for the purpose of determining its lien upon the property involved therein only in cases where notice of the lien of the state has been filed and

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indexed as provided in Sections 230 and 231 of this title. In any such action, service of summons upon the Oklahoma Tax Commission, by serving any member thereof, shall be sufficient service and binding upon the State of Oklahoma. In all such actions or suits, the complaint or pleading shall include the name and address of the taxpayer whose liability created the lien and the identifying number evidencing the lien.

C. In any action affecting the ownership or right of possession of intangible personal property, such as a settlement or court judgement, the Tax Commission shall be given notice of such action for the purpose of determining its lien upon the property involved therein in cases where notice of the lien of the state has been filed and indexed as provided in Sections 230 and 231 of this title.

SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 68 O.S. 2011, Section 255, is amended to read as follows:

Section 255. A. In order to facilitate and expedite the collection of taxes more than ninety (90) days overdue from any taxpayer, the Oklahoma Tax Commission may enter into a contract with a debt collection agency doing business in the State of Oklahoma or in any other state for the collection of such delinquent taxes in addition to all other taxes accrued or accruing, including penalties and interest thereon, from the taxpayer. The contract shall only authorize the debt collection agency to collect tax liabilities which are already established and the Tax Commission shall not refer

accounts to the debt collection agency unless the Tax Commission has notified the taxpayer, by first class mail, of the liability and has made additional efforts to collect the debt. Provided, if a sales tax permit holder fails to file two or more sales tax returns, as required under Section 1365 of this title, or a taxpayer required to remit withholding taxes fails to file two or more withholding tax returns, as required under Section 2385.3 of this title, the Tax Commission may refer the accounts to the debt collection agency prior to the establishment of the tax liability, but only after the Commission has notified the taxpayer as required under this subsection.

B. If an account has been referred to a debt collection agency, the Tax Commission shall review all payments posted by the collection agency prior to commencing any further collection activity against the taxpayer. Further, the collection agency shall review all payments posted by the Tax Commission prior to commencing any collection activity. The Tax Commission or the collection agency shall, within ten (10) business days, provide the taxpayer with a written confirmation of all payments received and any balance due. In addition, the contract shall not authorize the debt collection agency to conduct audits or examine the books and records of a taxpayer in any manner. The Tax Commission may also enter into a contract with a person doing business in the State of Oklahoma or in any other state for the purpose of identifying and locating the

assets of such delinquent taxpayer. Such contracts authorized by
this section shall be subject to the provisions of The Oklahoma
Central Purchasing Act.

- C. In addition to the authority provided in subsection A of this section, the Tax Commission may enter into a contract for the purpose of identifying nonresident businesses and individuals who are required by law to file and pay Oklahoma state taxes and who are presently unknown to the Tax Commission.
- D. Prior to entering into such a contract with a debt collection agency, the Tax Commission shall require that the debt collection agency file a bond in the amount of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00). The bond shall be a bond from a surety company chartered or authorized to do business in this state, cash bond, certificates of deposits, certificates of savings or U.S. Treasury bonds, as the Tax Commission may deem necessary to guarantee compliance with the terms of the contract.
- E. Each contract entered into by the Tax Commission with a debt collection agency, pursuant to the provisions of this section, shall specify that fees for services rendered, reimbursements or other remuneration shall be based on the total amount of delinquent taxes, including accrued penalties and interest, which is actually collected. No costs shall be reimbursed unless authorized in the contract. Each contract entered into between the Tax Commission and a debt collection agency shall provide for the payment of fees for

such services, reimbursements or other remuneration not in excess of thirty-five percent (35%) of the total amount of delinquent taxes, penalty and interest actually collected. The debt collection agency contract fee shall be added to the amount of the delinquent taxes, accrued penalties and interest collected from the taxpayer. The total amount of the delinquent tax, accrued penalties and interest, and the debt collection agency contract fee shall be owed and collected from the taxpayer.

- F. Each contract entered into by the Tax Commission with a person for the purpose of identifying and locating assets of delinquent taxpayers shall specify the amount of money to be paid for the performance of such services. No costs shall be reimbursed unless authorized in the contract.
- G. All such funds collected by a debt collection agency, including the fees for collection services as provided for in such contract, shall be remitted to the Tax Commission within five (5) days a reasonable period of time from the date of collection from a taxpayer as provided for in the contract. The Tax Commission shall pay from such remitted fees the amount of fees to which such debt collecting agency is entitled for services performed pursuant to the provisions of such contract. All assets of such delinquent taxpayers which are identified and located shall be reported to the Tax Commission within five (5) days from the date of identification

and location. Forms to be used for such remittances and reports shall be prescribed by the Tax Commission.

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- 3 A debt collection agency entering into a contract with the Η. Tax Commission or a person entering into a contract with the Tax 5 Commission for asset location purposes pursuant to this section shall agree that it is receiving income from sources within this 6 7 state or doing business in this state for purposes of the Oklahoma tax laws. Debt collection agency employees and/or their agents 9 shall not disclose confidential tax information except as authorized 10 by Section 205 of this title, subject to the penalties contained therein. 11
- 12 SECTION 5. AMENDATORY 68 O.S. 2011, Section 1365, is
 13 amended to read as follows:
- 14 Section 1365. When Tax Due Reports Records.
 - A. The tax levied hereunder shall be due and payable on the first day of each month, except as herein provided, by any person liable to remit or pay any tax due under Section 1350 et seq. of this title. For the purpose of ascertaining the amount of the tax payable, it shall be the duty of all tax remitters, on or before the twentieth day of each month, to deliver to the Oklahoma Tax Commission, upon forms prescribed and furnished by it, sales tax reports signed under oath, showing the gross receipts or gross proceeds arising from all sales taxable or nontaxable under Section 1350 et seq. of this title during the preceding calendar month.

1 Such reports shall show such further information as the Tax 2 Commission may require to enable it to compute correctly and collect the tax herein levied. In addition to the information required on 3 reports, the Tax Commission may request and the taxpayer must 5 furnish any information deemed necessary for a correct computation of the tax levied herein. Such tax remitter shall compute and remit 6 to the Tax Commission the required tax due for the preceding 7 calendar month, the remittance or remittances of the tax to 9 accompany the reports herein required. If not filed on or before 10 the twentieth day of such month, the tax shall be delinquent from 11 such date. Reports timely mailed shall be considered timely filed. If a report is not timely filed, interest shall be charged from the 12 date the report should have been filed until the report is actually 13 filed. 14

B. Effective July 1, 2001, every person owing an average of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) or more per month in total sales taxes in the previous fiscal year shall remit the tax due and shall participate in the Tax Commission's electronic funds transfer and electronic data interchange program, according to the following schedule:

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1. For sales from the first day through the fifteenth day of each month, the tax shall be due and payable on the twentieth day of such month and remitted to the Tax Commission by electronic funds transfer. A taxpayer will be considered to have complied with the

reporting requirements of this paragraph if, on or before the twentieth day of such month, the taxpayer paid at least ninety percent (90%) of the liability for that fifteen-day period or at least fifty percent (50%) of the taxpayer's liability in the immediate preceding calendar year for the same month as the month in which the fifteen-day period occurs; and

2. For sales from the sixteenth day through the end of each month, the tax shall be due and payable on the twentieth day of the following month and remitted to the Tax Commission by electronic funds transfer.

Every person required to remit the tax due pursuant to this subsection shall file its monthly sales tax report in accordance with the Tax Commission's electronic data interchange program on the twentieth day of the month following the month the sales occurred.

Taxes not paid on or before the due dates specified in this subsection shall be delinquent from such dates.

- C. Effective March 1, 2002, every person owing an average of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) or more per month in total sales taxes in the previous fiscal year shall remit the tax due and shall participate in the Tax Commission's electronic funds transfer and electronic data interchange program, according to the following schedule:
- 1. For sales from the first day through the fifteenth day of each month, the tax shall be due and payable on the twentieth day of

such month and remitted to the Tax Commission by electronic funds transfer. A taxpayer will be considered to have complied with the reporting requirements of this paragraph if, on or before the twentieth day of such month, the taxpayer paid at least ninety percent (90%) of the liability for that fifteen-day period or at least fifty percent (50%) of the taxpayer's liability in the immediate preceding calendar year for the same month as the month in which the fifteen-day period occurs; and

2. For sales from the sixteenth day through the end of each month, the tax shall be due and payable on the twentieth day of the following month and remitted to the Tax Commission by electronic funds transfer.

Every person required to remit the tax due pursuant to this subsection shall file its monthly sales tax report in accordance with the Tax Commission's electronic data interchange program on the twentieth day of the month following the month the sales occurred. Provided, persons primarily engaged in selling lumber and other building materials, including cement and concrete, except for home centers classified under Industry No. 444110 of the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) Manual, shall remit and report as required in subsection A of this section, with the exception of taxes due on sales made during the periods of June 1 through June 15, 2002, which shall be remitted and reported on June

20, 2002, and June 1 through June 15, 2003, which shall be remitted and reported on June 20, 2003.

Taxes not paid on or before the due dates specified in this subsection shall be delinquent from such dates.

- D. Effective October 1, 2003, every person owing an average of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) or more per month in total sales taxes in the previous fiscal year immediately preceding twelve-month period shall remit the tax due and shall participate in the Tax Commission's electronic funds transfer and electronic data interchange program, according to the following schedule:
- 1. For sales from the first day through the fifteenth day of each month, the tax shall be due and payable on the twentieth day of such month and remitted to the Tax Commission by electronic funds transfer. A taxpayer will be considered to have complied with the reporting requirements of this paragraph if, on or before the twentieth day of such month, the taxpayer paid at least ninety percent (90%) of the liability for that fifteen-day period or at least fifty percent (50%) of the taxpayer's liability in the immediate preceding calendar year for the same month as the month in which the fifteen-day period occurs; and
- 2. For sales from the sixteenth day through the end of each month, the tax shall be due and payable on the twentieth day of the following month and remitted to the Tax Commission by electronic funds transfer.

Every person required to remit the tax due pursuant to this subsection shall file its monthly sales tax report in accordance with the Tax Commission's electronic data interchange program on the twentieth day of the month following the month the sales occurred. Provided, persons primarily engaged in selling lumber and other building materials, including cement and concrete, except for home centers classified under Industry No. 444110 of the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) Manual, shall remit and report as required in subsection A of this section.

Taxes not paid on or before the due dates specified in this subsection shall be delinquent from such dates.

- E. In lieu of monthly reports, tax remitters or taxpayers who are classified as Group Three vendors in Section 1350 et seq. of this title or tax remitters or taxpayers whose total amount of tax liability for any one month does not exceed Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) may file semiannual reports and remit taxes due thereunder to the Tax Commission on or before the twentieth day of January and July of each year for the preceding six-month period. If not paid on or before the twentieth day of such month, the tax shall be delinquent.
- F. It shall be the duty of every tax remitter required to make a sales tax report and pay any tax under Section 1350 et seq. of this title to keep and preserve suitable records of the gross daily sales together with invoices of purchases and sales, bills of lading, bills of sale and other pertinent records and documents

which may be necessary to determine the amount of tax due hereunder and such other records of goods, wares and merchandise, and other subjects of taxation under Section 1350 et seq. of this title as will substantiate and prove the accuracy of such returns. also be the duty of every person who makes sales for resale to keep records of such sales which shall be subject to examination by the Tax Commission or any authorized employee thereof while engaged in checking or auditing the records of any person required to make a report under the terms of Section 1350 et seq. of this title. such records shall remain in Oklahoma and be preserved for a period of three (3) years, unless the Tax Commission, in writing, has authorized their destruction or disposal at an earlier date, and shall be open to examination at any time by the Tax Commission or by any of its duly authorized agents. The burden of proving that a sale was not a taxable sale shall be upon the person who made the sale.

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G. The purchaser must provide the vendor with the purchaser's sales tax permit number, the direct payment permit number or a copy of the direct payment permit if the sale is made within Oklahoma. In addition to furnishing the sales tax permit number to the vendor, the purchaser must certify in writing to the vendor that the purchaser is engaged in the business of reselling the articles purchased. Failure to so certify, or to falsely certify with the knowledge that the items purchased are not for resale, shall be

sufficient grounds upon which the Tax Commission may cause the
purchaser's sales tax permit to be canceled. Certification may be
made on the bill, invoice or sales slip retained by the vendor or by
furnishing a certification letter to the seller which contains the
following:

1. The name and address of the purchaser;

- 7 2. The sales tax permit number of the permit issued to the 8 purchaser;
 - 3. A statement that the purchaser is engaged in the business of reselling the articles purchased, if applicable;
 - 4. A statement that the articles purchased are purchased for resale, if applicable; and
 - 5. The signature of the purchaser or a person authorized to legally bind the purchaser.
 - H. If a sales tax permit holder purchases goods, wares and merchandise from a vendor on a regular basis, then the permit holder may furnish the certification letter described in subsection G of this section to the vendor and the vendor may subsequently make sales of tangible personal property to the permit holder without requiring a certification letter or certification statement for each subsequent sale. The permit holder must notify the seller of all purchases which are not for resale and remit the applicable amount of tax thereon. If the permit holder fails to notify the vendor of purchases not intended for resale, then sufficient grounds shall

exist for the Tax Commission to cancel the sales tax permit of the permit holder who so failed to notify the vendor.

- I. In lieu of filing reports as required in subsection A of this section, tax remitters or taxpayers who agree to participate in the Tax Commission's electronic funds transfer and electronic data interchange programs may file according to the following schedule:
- 1. For sales from the first day through the fifteenth day of each month, the tax shall be due and payable on the twentieth day of such month and remitted to the Tax Commission by electronic funds transfer. A taxpayer will be considered to have complied with the reporting requirements of this paragraph if, on or before the twentieth day of such month, the taxpayer paid at least ninety percent (90%) of the liability for that fifteen-day period or at least fifty percent (50%) of the taxpayer's liability in the immediate preceding calendar year for the same month as the month in which the fifteen-day period occurs; and
- 2. For sales from the sixteenth day through the end of each month, the tax shall be due and payable on the twentieth day of the following month and remitted to the Tax Commission by electronic funds transfer.

Every person required to remit the tax due pursuant to this subsection shall file its monthly sales tax report in accordance with the Tax Commission's electronic data interchange program on the twentieth day of the month following the month the sales occurred.

1	Taxes not paid on or before the due dates specified in this
2	subsection shall be delinquent from such dates.
3	SECTION 6. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.
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