SENATE BILL NO. 485–COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

(ON BEHALF OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE)

MARCH 24, 2003

Referred to Committee on Natural Resources

SUMMARY—Makes various changes to provisions governing weights and measures. (BDR 51-565)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: Yes. Effect on the State: Yes.

EXPLANATION - Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to measurement standards; making various changes to provisions governing weights and measures; authorizing the State Sealer of Weights and Measures to adopt measurement standards by regulation; creating a Division of Measurement Standards within the State Department of Agriculture and prescribing its duties; providing the State Sealer of Weights and Measures with certain police powers; providing for the licensure of public weighmasters; providing for the establishment of certain fees; authorizing the State Sealer of Weights and Measures to establish civil penalties for certain violations; prohibiting certain acts; providing a penalty; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 581 of NRS is hereby amended by adding 2 thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 27, inclusive, of this 3 act.

4 Sec. 2. "Bulk sale" means the sale of commodities when the 5 quantity is determined at the time of sale.



1 Sec. 3. "Commercial weighing and measuring equipment" 2 means weights and measures, and weighing and measuring 3 devices, used commercially in:

4 1. Establishing the size, quantity, extent, area or 5 measurement of quantities, things, produce or articles for 6 distribution or consumption, purchase, offer or submission for 7 sale, hire or award; or

8 2. Computing any basic charge or payment for services 9 rendered on the basis of weight or measure.

10 Sec. 4. "Director" means the Director of the State 11 Department of Agriculture.

12 Sec. 5. "Division" means the Division of Measurement 13 Standards of the State Department of Agriculture.

14 Sec. 6. "Net mass" or "net weight" means the mass or weight 15 of a commodity, excluding any materials, substances or items not 16 considered to be part of the commodity. The terms do not include materials, substances or any other items not considered to be a 17 part of the commodity, including, without limitation, containers, 18 19 conveyances, bags, wrappers, packaging materials, labels, 20 individual piece coverings, decorative accompaniments and coupons, except that, depending on the service to be rendered, 21 22 shipping and packaging material may be included in the weight of 23 the package.

24 Sec. 7. "Primary standards" means the physical standards of 25 the State of Nevada that serve as the legal reference from which 26 all other standards for weights and measures are derived.

27 Sec. 8. "Random weight package" means a package that is 28 one package of a lot, shipment or delivery of packages of the same 29 commodity with no fixed pattern of weights.

30 Sec. 9. "Secondary standards" means the physical standards 31 that are traceable to the primary standards through comparisons 32 or by using acceptable laboratory procedures, and that are used in 33 the enforcement of statutes and regulations relating to weights 34 and measures.

35 Sec. 10. "Standard package" means a package that is one of 36 a lot, shipment or delivery of packages of the same commodity 37 with declarations of identical net contents, including, without 38 limitation, 1-liter bottles or 12-fluid-ounce cans of carbonated 39 soda, 500-gram or 5-pound bags of sugar, or 100-meter or 40 300-foot packages of rope.

41 Sec. 11. "Weight" means:

42 1. Net weight; or

43 2. If the commodity is sold by drained weight, net drained 44 wet.



Sec. 12. "Weights and measures" means all weights and 1 2 measures of every kind, and includes, without limitation, instruments and devices for weighing and measuring, and 3 appliances and accessories associated with such instruments and 4 5 devices.

Sec. 13. *The Division shall:* 6

7 1. Ensure that weights and measures used in commercial services within this state are suitable for their intended use, are 8 properly installed and accurate, and are so maintained by their 9 10 owner or user.

2. Prevent unfair or deceptive dealing by weight or measure 11 in any commodity or service advertised, packaged, sold or 12 13 purchased within this state.

14 3. Make available to all users of physical standards, or of 15 weighing and measuring equipment, the precision calibration and related metrological certification capabilities of the facilities of the 16 17 Division.

4. Promote uniformity, to the extent practicable and 18 19 desirable, between the requirements relating to weights and 20 measures of this state and similar requirements of other states 21 and federal agencies.

22 5. Adopt regulations establishing such requirements relating 23 to weights and measures as are necessary to ensure equity between 24 buyers and sellers, and thereby encourage desirable economic 25 growth while protecting consumers. 26

Sec. 14. The State Sealer of Weights and Measures shall:

27 1. Adopt regulations establishing such primary standards and 28 secondary standards for weights and measures for use in this state 29 as he determines appropriate.

30 2. Maintain traceability of the state standards to the national 31 standards of the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

3. Enforce the provisions of this chapter.

4. Adopt other reasonable regulations for the enforcement of 33 34 this chapter.

5. Establish requirements for: 35

(a) Labeling; 36

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(b) The presentation of information relating to cost per unit; 37

38 (c) Standards of weight, measure or count, and reasonable standards of fill, for any packaged commodity; and 39

40 (d) Information relating to open dating of packaged food.

41 6. Grant such exemptions from the provisions of this chapter 42 or any regulations adopted pursuant thereto as he determines 43 appropriate to the maintenance of good commercial practices

44 within this state.



1 7. Conduct investigations to ensure compliance with this 2 chapter.

3 8. Delegate to appropriate personnel any of the 4 responsibilities of the Division as needed for the proper 5 administration of the Division.

6 9. Adopt regulations establishing a schedule of civil penalties 7 for any violation of section 23 of this act.

8 10. Inspect and test commercial weights and measures that 9 are kept, offered or exposed for sale.

10 11. Inspect and test, to ascertain if they are correct, weights 11 and measures that are commercially used to:

12 (a) Determine the weight, measure or count of commodities or 13 things that are sold, or offered or exposed for sale, on the basis of 14 weight, measure or count; or

15 (b) Compute the basic charge or payment for services rendered 16 on the basis of weight, measure or count.

17 *12. Test all weights and measures used in checking the* 18 receipt or disbursement of supplies by entities funded by legislative 19 appropriations.

20 13. Approve for use such commercial weights and measures 21 as he determines are correct and appropriate. The State Sealer of Weights and Measures may mark such commercial weights and 22 measures. The State Sealer of Weights and Measures shall reject 23 and order to be corrected, replaced or removed any commercial 24 weights and measures found to be incorrect. Weights and 25 measures that have been rejected may be seized if they are not 26 27 corrected within the time specified or if they are used or disposed 28 of in a manner not specifically authorized. The State Sealer of 29 Weights and Measures shall remove from service and may seize 30 weights and measures found to be incorrect that are not capable of 31 being made correct.

32 Weigh, measure or inspect packaged commodities that are *14*. 33 kept, offered or exposed for sale, sold or in the process of delivery to determine whether the packaged commodities contain the amounts represented and whether they are kept, offered or 34 35 36 exposed for sale in accordance with this chapter or the regulations 37 adopted pursuant thereto. In carrying out the provisions of this 38 subsection, the State Sealer of Weights and Measures shall employ 39 recognized sampling procedures, including, without limitation, 40 sampling procedures adopted by the National Conference on 41 Weights and Measures.

42 15. Adopt regulations prescribing the appropriate term or 43 unit of weight or measure to be used whenever the State Sealer of 44 Weights and Measures determines that an existing practice of 45 declaring the quantity of a commodity, or of setting charges for a



service by weight, measure, numerical count or time, or any
 combination thereof, does not facilitate value comparisons by
 consumers or may confuse consumers.

4 16. Allow reasonable variations from the stated quantity of 5 contents that entered intrastate commerce, which must include 6 those variations caused by loss or gain of moisture during the 7 course of good distribution practices or by unavoidable deviations 8 in good manufacturing practices.

9 17. Provide for the training of persons employed by any 10 governmental entity within this state, including, without limitation, state, county and municipal personnel, who enforce the provisions 11 of this chapter and chapter 582 of NRS, and any regulations 12 13 adopted pursuant thereto, relating to weights and measures. The 14 State Sealer of Weights and Measures may establish by regulation 15 minimum training and performance requirements which must be met by all such persons. 16

17 18. Verify advertised prices, price representations and point-18 of-sale systems, as necessary, to determine the accuracy of prices 19 and computations and the correct use of the equipment, and, if 20 such systems utilize scanning or coding means in lieu of manual 21 entry, the accuracy of prices printed or recalled from a database. 22 In carrying out the provisions of this subsection, the State Sealer 23 of Weights and Measures shall:

(a) Employ recognized procedures for making such
verifications and determinations of accuracy, including, without
limitation, any appropriate procedures designated by the National
Institute of Standards and Technology;

(b) Adopt regulations and issue orders regarding standards for
 the accuracy of advertised prices and automated systems for retail
 price charging, or point-of-sale systems, and for the enforcement

31 of those standards; and

32 (c) Conduct investigations to ensure compliance with those 33 standards.

34 Sec. 15. 1. The State Sealer of Weights and Measures may, 35 if necessary for the enforcement of this chapter and any 36 regulations adopted pursuant thereto:

(a) Enter any commercial premises during normal business
hours, except that if the premises are not open to the public, the
State Sealer of Weights and Measures must present his credentials
and obtain consent before entering the premises, unless a search
warrant has been issued authorizing the entry.

42 (b) Issue stop-use, hold and removal orders for any weights 43 and measures commercially used, and issue stop-sale, hold and 44 removal orders for any packaged commodities or bulk sale

45 commodities that are kept, offered or exposed for sale.



1 (c) Seize, for use as evidence, without formal warrant, any 2 incorrect or unapproved weight, measure, package or commodity 3 found to be used, retained, offered or exposed for sale, or sold in 4 violation of any provision of this chapter or any regulation 5 adopted pursuant thereto.

6 (d) Stop any commercial vehicle and, after presentation of his 7 credentials, inspect the contents of the vehicle, require the person 8 in charge of the vehicle to produce any documents in his 9 possession concerning the contents of the vehicle, and require that 10 person to proceed with the vehicle to some specified place for 11 inspection.

2. With respect to the enforcement of this chapter, the State Sealer of Weights and Measures is hereby vested with special police powers and is authorized to arrest, without formal warrant, any person who violates a provision of this chapter.

16 Sec. 16. A person shall not:

17 1. Sell or offer or expose for sale a quantity less than the 18 quantity represented;

19 2. Take more than the quantity represented when, as a buyer, 20 he furnishes the weight or measure by which the quantity is 21 determined; or

22 3. Represent the quantity in any manner calculated or 23 tending to mislead, or in any way to deceive, another person.

24 Sec. 17. A person shall not:

25 1. Misrepresent the price of any commodity or service sold, or 26 offered, exposed or advertised for sale, by weight, measure or 27 count; or

28 2. Misrepresent the price of such a commodity for service in 29 any manner calculated or tending to mislead or in any way to 30 deceive a person.

31 Sec. 18. 1. Except as otherwise provided by regulation or 32 order of the State Sealer of Weights and Measures or by 33 established trade custom and practice recognized by regulation or 34 order of the State Sealer of Weights and Measures:

(a) Commodities in liquid form must be sold by liquid measure
 or by weight; and

(b) Commodities not in liquid form must be sold by weight, by
measure or by count.

39 2. The method of sale of a commodity must provide such
40 accurate and adequate information concerning quantity as will
41 enable the buyer to make price and quantity comparisons.

42 Sec. 19. All bulk sales in which the buyer and seller are not 43 both present to witness the measurement, all bulk deliveries of 44 heating fuel and all other bulk sales specified by regulation of the

State Sealer of Weights and Measures must be accompanied by a
 delivery ticket containing:

1. The name and address of the buyer and seller;

2. The date delivered;

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5 3. The quantity delivered and the quantity upon which the 6 price is based, if the quantity upon which the price is based differs 7 from the quantity delivered;

8 4. The unit price, unless otherwise agreed upon by both the 9 buyer and seller;

10 5. The identity of the commodity, in the most descriptive 11 terms commercially practicable, including any representation 12 about the quality of the commodity made in connection with the 13 sale; and

6. Where commodities are bought from bulk but delivered in
packages, the count of individually wrapped packages if more than
one individually wrapped package is being sold.

17 Sec. 20. 1. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, 18 any random weight package or standard package kept, offered or 19 exposed for sale, must bear on the outside of the package a 20 definite, plain and conspicuous declaration of:

21 (a) The identity of the commodity in the package, unless the 22 commodity is a food, other than meat or poultry, that was 23 repackaged in a retail establishment and displayed to the 24 purchaser where:

25 (1) The interstate labeling for the repackaged food is 26 clearly in view or the food has a counter card, sign or other 27 appropriate device bearing prominently and conspicuously the 28 common or usual name of the food; or

29 (2) The common or usual name of the food is clearly 30 revealed by its appearance;

(b) The quantity of contents of the package, in terms of weight,
 measure or count; and

(c) If the package is kept, offered or exposed for sale, or sold,
in any place other than on the premises where packed, the name
and place of business of the manufacturer, packer or distributor.

36 2. The State Sealer of Weights and Measures may exempt any
37 type of random weight package or standard package, or
38 commodity from the provisions of this section by regulation.

39 Sec. 21. In addition to the declarations required by section 40 20 of this act, each random weight package of the same 41 commodity must, at the time such packages are offered or exposed 42 for sale at retail, bear on the outside of the package a plain and 43 conspicuous declaration of the price per kilogram or pound and 44 the total selling price of the package.



1 Sec. 22. If a packaged commodity is advertised in any 2 manner with the retail price stated, a declaration of quantity as 3 required by this chapter or any regulation adopted pursuant 4 thereto must appear on the package in such a manner as to be 5 closely and conspicuously associated with the retail price of the 6 packaged commodity.

Sec. 23. 1. A person shall not:

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8 (a) Use in commerce, or have in his possession for use in 9 commerce, any incorrect weight or measure;

10 (b) Sell or offer for sale for use in commerce any incorrect 11 weight or measure;

(c) Remove any tag, seal or mark from any weight or measure
 without specific written authorization from the proper authority;

14 (d) Hinder or obstruct any inspector of the Division in the 15 performance of his duties; or

16 (e) Violate any provisions of this chapter or any regulation 17 adopted pursuant thereto.

2. A person who violates any provision of this section is, in
addition to any criminal penalty that may be imposed, subject to a
civil penalty in accordance with the schedule of civil penalties
established by the State Sealer of Weights and Measures pursuant
to subsection 9 of section 14 of this act.

23 Sec. 24. 1. A person subject to a civil penalty may request 24 an administrative hearing within 10 days after receipt of the notice 25 of the civil penalty. The Director or his designee shall conduct the 26 hearing after giving appropriate notice to the respondent. The 27 decision of the Director or his designee is subject to appropriate 28 judicial review.

29 2. If the respondent has exhausted his administrative appeals 30 and the civil penalty has been upheld, he shall pay the civil 31 penalty:

(a) If no petition for judicial review is filed pursuant to NRS
233B.130, within 40 days after the final decision of the Director;
or

(b) If a petition for judicial review is filed pursuant to NRS
233B.130 and the civil penalty is upheld, within 10 days after the
effective date of the final decision of the court.

38 3. If the respondent fails to pay the penalty, a civil action may 39 be brought by the Director in any court of competent jurisdiction 40 to recover the civil penalty. All civil penalties collected pursuant to 41 this chapter must be deposited with the State Treasurer for credit 42 to the State General Fund.

43 Sec. 25. 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, a 44 person who violates any provision of section 23 of this act is guilty 45 of a gross misdemeanor and shall be punished:



(a) For the first offense, by imprisonment in the county jail for
 not more than 6 months, or by a fine of not less than \$500 or more
 than \$2,000, or by both fine and imprisonment.

4 (b) For a second or subsequent offense, by imprisonment in 5 the county jail for not more than 1 year, or by a fine of not less 6 than \$2,000 or more than \$5,000, or by both fine and 7 imprisonment.

2. A person who:

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9 (a) Intentionally violates any provision of this chapter or any 10 regulation adopted pursuant thereto;

11 (b) Is convicted pursuant to subsection 1 more than three times 12 in a 2-year period; or

13 (c) Uses or has in his possession any device which has been 14 altered to facilitate fraud,

15 is guilty of a category E felony and shall be punished as provided 16 in NRS 193.130.

17 Sec. 26. The Director may apply to any court of competent 18 jurisdiction for a restraining order, or a temporary or permanent 19 injunction, restraining a person from violating any provision of 20 this chapter or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto.

21 Sec. 27. The presence of a weight or measure, or weighing or 22 measuring device in or about any place in which or from which 23 buying or selling is commonly carried on, creates a rebuttable 24 presumption that the weight or measure, or weighing or 25 measuring device is regularly used for the business purposes of 26 that place.

Sec. 28. NRS 581.001 is hereby amended to read as follows:

28 581.001 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise 29 requires, the words and terms defined in NRS 581.003 [to] and 30 581.010, and sections 2 to 12, inclusive, of this act have the 31 meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

Sec. 29. NRS 581.003 is hereby amended to read as follows:

581.003 "Correct" means [any weight, measure, or weighing or
measuring device that is accurate within applicable tolerances as
determined by tests made with suitable standards and meets all
applicable specifications and regulations adopted by the State Sealer
of Weights and Measures.] in conformance with all applicable
requirements of this chapter and the regulations adopted pursuant
thereto.

40 Sec. 30. NRS 581.010 is hereby amended to read as follows:

41 581.010 *I*. "Package" [and "container" include any closed 42 carton, box, barrel, bag, keg, drum, bundle, jar, crock, demijohn,

42 carton, box, barrel, bag, keg, drum, bundle, jar, crock, demijohn,
 43 bottle, crate, basket, hamper, pail, can, parcel, package or paper

43 bottle, crate, basket, hamper, pail, can, parcel, package or paper
 44 wrapper.] means any commodity, whether in a standard package

45 or random weight package:



(a) Enclosed in a container or wrapped in any manner in 1 2 advance of wholesale or retail sale; or (b) Whose weight or measure has been determined in advance 3 4 of wholesale or retail sale. 2. The term includes an individual item or lot of any 5 commodity on which there is marked a selling price based on an 6 7 established price per unit of weight or measure. Sec. 31. NRS 581.030 is hereby amended to read as follows: 8 9 581.030 The Director of the State Department of Agriculture 10 [is hereby designated and constituted], as ex officio State Sealer of Weights and Measures, [and is charged with the proper enforcement 11 of shall enforce the provisions of this chapter. 12 Sec. 32. NRS 581.050 is hereby amended to read as follows: 581.050 1. The State Sealer of Weights and Measures may: 13 14 (a) Adopt regulations [for the efficient enforcement of] 15 16 necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter. (b) Ensure that those regulations comply, insofar as practicable, 17 with the specifications, tolerances and regulations recommended by 18 the National [Bureau of Standards.] Institute of Standards and 19 20 Technologies. 21 (c) Adopt regulations for the submission for approval of types 22 and designs of weights and measures and weighing, measuring and counting devices intended for commercial use.] commercial 23 weighing and measuring equipment. 24 2. The State Sealer of Weights and Measures shall adopt 25 26 regulations which prescribe the: 27 (a) Standards for weighing and measuring devices; (b) Requirements for the issuance of a certificate of registration 28 pursuant to NRS 581.103; and 29 (c) Standards for the equipment used to repair or adjust 30 31 weighing or measuring devices. 32 **Sec. 33.** NRS 581.075 is hereby amended to read as follows: The State Sealer of Weights and Measures may 33 581.075 34 establish: 1. A schedule of fees for any tests of weighing and measuring 35 devices determined by him to be necessary. 36 2. An annual fee for the issuance of a certificate of registration 37 38 pursuant to NRS 581.103. 3. An annual license fee for all commercial weighing and 39 40 measuring equipment. 41 **Sec. 34.** NRS 581.103 is hereby amended to read as follows: 42 581.103 1. Any person who wishes to make any repair or 43 adjustment, for hire, to a weighing or measuring device must submit 44 to the State Sealer of Weights and Measures:



1 (a) An application for a certificate of registration on a form 2 provided by the State Sealer of Weights and Measures; (b) The statement required pursuant to NRS 581.1032; 3 4 (c) The annual fee prescribed by regulation pursuant to 5 subsection 2 of NRS 581.075; and (d) [The equipment the person will use to repair or adjust 6 weighing or measuring devices. The State Sealer of Weights and 7 Measures shall inspect the equipment to ensure that the equipment 8 complies with the standards set forth in the regulations adopted 9 pursuant to NRS 581.050.] Such other information required by the 10 State Sealer of Weights and Measures. 11 2. An application for a certificate of registration must include 12 13 the social security number of the applicant. 14 [3. The State Sealer of Weights and Measures shall issue to any 15 person who complies with the requirements of subsection 1 a 16 certificate of registration. The certificate must include a unique 17 registration number. -4. A certificate of registration is effective for the calendar year 18 19 in which it is issued, and may be renewed upon application on or before January 15 of the succeeding year. Any person who, for hire, 20 makes a repair or adjustment to a weighing or measuring device 21 22 without being registered pursuant to this section shall be punished as provided in NRS 581.450. 23 5. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 581.104, any person 24 25 who sells or installs or makes any repair or adjustment to a commercially used weighing or measuring device shall within 24 26 27 hours notify the State Sealer of Weights and Measures, on a form 28 provided by the State Sealer of Weights and Measures, of that repair, adjustment, sale or installation. If a person who has been 29 30 issued a certificate of registration pursuant to subsection 3 fails to notify the State Sealer of Weights and Measures as required by this 31 subsection, the State Sealer of Weights and Measures may suspend 32 33 the certificate of registration of that person for not more than 10 days and may, after a hearing, revoke his certificate of registration. 34 35 -6. The form required pursuant to subsection 5 must include: 36 (a) The registration number and signature of the person who 37 sold, installed, repaired or adjusted the device; and 38 (b) A statement requesting that the State Sealer of Weights and Measures inspect the weighing or measuring device and seal or 39 40 mark it if it complies with the standards set forth in the regulations 41 adopted pursuant to NRS 581.050. 42 Any person required to register pursuant to subsection 1 who 43 employs any other person to make any repair or adjustment to a weighing or measuring device is responsible for the registration of 44 45 that employee in the manner required by subsection 1.



1 8. The provisions of this section do not apply to a public utility 2 subject to the jurisdiction of the Public Utilities Commission of 3 Nevada.1 Sec. 35. Chapter 582 of NRS is hereby amended by adding 4 thereto the provisions set forth as sections 36 to 57, inclusive, of this 5 6 act. 7 **Sec. 36.** As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise 8 requires, the words and terms defined in sections 37 to 40, 9 inclusive, of this act have the meanings ascribed to them in those 10 sections. Sec. 37. "Division" means the Division of Measurement 11 Standards of the State Department of Agriculture. 12 Sec. 38. "Public weighing" means the weighing, measuring or counting, upon request, of vehicles, property, produce, 13 14 commodities or articles other than those that the weigher or his 15 employer, if any, is either buying or selling. Sec. 39. "Public weighmaster" means any person who 16 17 performs public weighing. 18 Sec. 40. "Vehicle" means any device other than a railroad 19 freight car in, upon or by which any property, produce, commodity 20 or article is or may be transported or drawn. 21 22 Sec. 41. The State Sealer of Weights and Measures shall: 1. Enforce the provisions of this chapter; 23 24 2. Adopt regulations establishing a schedule of civil penalties 25 for any violation of this chapter: 3. Adopt reasonable regulations for the enforcement of this 26 27 chapter; and 28 4. Adopt regulations relating to public weighing that include, 29 without limitation: 30 (a) The qualifications of an applicant for a license as a public 31 weighmaster; 32 (b) Requirements for the renewal of a license as a public 33 weighmaster; 34 (c) The period of validity of a license as a public weighmaster; (d) Measurement practices that must be followed, including 35 the measurement or recording of tare weight; 36 (e) The required information to be submitted with or as part of 37 38 a certificate of weights and measures; and 39 (f) The period for which records must be kept. 40 Sec. 42. Except as otherwise provided in section 52 of this 41 act, to act as a public weighmaster, a person must receive a license 42 from the State Sealer of Weights and Measures. To qualify for a 43 license, a person must:

44 1. Be able to weigh and measure accurately;



2. Be able to generate correct certificates of weights and 1 2 measures: and 3. Possess such other qualifications as required by the 3

regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter. 4

5 Sec. 43. An applicant for a license as a public weighmaster must furnish evidence on a form provided by the State Sealer of 6 7 Weights and Measures that he has the qualifications required by 8 section 42 of this act.

9 Sec. 44. The State Sealer of Weights and Measures shall 10 determine the qualifications of an applicant for a license as a public weighmaster based on: 11

1. The information provided on the application and any 12 supplementary information determined appropriate by the State 13 14 Sealer of Weights and Measures; and

2. The results of an examination of the knowledge of the 15 16 applicant.

Sec. 45. The State Sealer of Weights and Measures shall:

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1. Grant licenses as public weighmasters to qualified 18 applicants; and 19

20 2. Keep a record of all applications submitted and all licenses 21 issued.

22 Sec. 46. 1. A certificate of weights and measures, when properly filled out and signed, is prima facie evidence of the 23 24 accuracy of the measurements shown.

2. The design of and the information to be furnished on a 25 26 certificate of weights and measures must be prescribed by the State 27 Sealer of Weights and Measures by regulation, and include, 28 without limitation:

(a) The name and license number of the public weighmaster;

(b) The kind of commodity weighed, measured or counted;

30 (c) The name of the owner, agent or consignee of the 31 32 commodity:

(d) The name of the recipient of the commodity, if applicable; 33

34 (e) The date on which the certificate is issued;

(f) The consecutive number of the certificate; 35

(g) The identification, including any identification number, of 36 the carrier transporting the commodity, and the identification 37 number or license number of the vehicle; 38

(h) Any relevant information needed to distinguish or identify 39 40 the commodity from a like kind;

41 (i) The number of units of the commodity, if applicable;

42 (j) The measure of the commodity, if applicable;

43 (k) The weight or mass of the commodity and the vehicle or 44 container, if applicable, as follows:



(1) The gross weight of the commodity and the associated 1 2 vehicle or container; (2) The tare weight of the unladened vehicle or container; 3 4 or 5 (3) Both the gross and tare weight and the resultant net weight of the commodity; and 6 7 (1) The signature of the public weighmaster who determined 8 the weight, measure or count. 9 Sec. 47. 1. When filling out a certificate of weights and measures, a public weighmaster: 10 (a) Shall enter the measurement values so that the certificate 11 clearly shows that the measurements were actually determined; 12 13 (b) Shall enter only the measurement values personally 14 determined: and 15 (c) Shall not enter any measurement values determined by 16 other persons. 2. If the certificate of weights and measures provides for 17 entries of gross, tare or net weight or measure, the public 18 19 weighmaster shall: 20 (a) Strike out or otherwise cancel the printed entries for the values not determined; or 21 (b) If the values were not determined on the same scale or on 22 23 the same date shown on the certificate, enter on the certificate the 24 scale and date on which the values were determined. Sec. 48. A public weighmaster shall only use measurement 25 practices and equipment: 26 27 1. In accordance with the provisions of this chapter and any 28 regulations adopted pursuant thereto; and 29 2. That have been examined, tested and approved for use by 30 an authorized employee of the Division. 31 Sec. 49. 1. A public weighmaster shall not weigh a vehicle or combination of vehicles when part of the vehicle or connected 32 33 combination is not resting fully, completely and as one entire unit 34 on the scale. 2. When weighing a combination of vehicles that will not rest 35 fully, completely and as one complete unit on the scale platform: 36 (a) The combination of vehicles must be disconnected and 37 weighed in single drafts; and 38 39 (b) The weights of the single drafts may be combined in order 40 to issue a single certificate of weights and measures for the 41 combination, provided that the certificate indicates that the total 42 represents a combination of single draft weighings. Sec. 50. A public weighmaster shall keep and preserve a 43 44 legible copy of each certificate of weights and measures which he issues for the period specified by the State Sealer of Weights and 45

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2 inspection by an authorized employee of the Division during
3 normal office hours.
4 Sec. 51. The Director may recognize and accept certificates
5 of weights and measures issued by licensed public weighmasters of
6 any other state if that other state recognizes and accepts
7 certificates of weights and measures issued by licensed public
8 weighmasters of this state.
9 Sec. 52. L. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the

9 Sec. 52. 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the 10 following persons may, but are not required to, obtain licenses as 11 public weighmasters to engage in public weighing:

(a) A law enforcement or weights and measures officer or
other qualified employee of the State, a city or a county agency or
institution when acting within the scope of his official duties.

15 (b) A person weighing property, produce, commodities or 16 articles:

(1) That he or his employer is buying or selling; or

18 (2) In conformity with the requirements of federal statutes 19 or the statutes of this state relating to warehousemen or 20 processors.

21 2. A person described in subsection 1 shall not issue a 22 certificate of weights and measures unless he holds a license as a 23 public weighmaster.

Sec. 53. 1. A person shall not:

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(a) Except as otherwise provided in section 52 of this act, act
 as a public weighmaster without a valid license, including, without
 limitation:

(1) Assuming the title of public weighmaster or any similar
title;

30 (2) Performing the duties or acts to be performed by a 31 public weighmaster;

(3) Holding himself out as a public weighmaster;

(4) Issuing any certificate of weights and measures, ticket,
 memorandum or statement for which a fee is charged; or

35 (5) Engaging in a full-time or part-time business of 36 measuring for hire;

37 (b) Use or operate any device for purposes of certification that does not meet, or is not operated in accordance with, the 38 39 provisions of chapter 581 of NRS and any regulations adopted 40 pursuant thereto relating to the specifications, tolerances and 41 other technical requirements for weighing and measuring devices; 42 (c) Falsify a certificate of weights and measures or falsely 43 certify any gross, tare or net weight or measure required by this 44 chapter to be on the certificate;



Measures by regulation. The certificates must be available for

2 any certificate anything required to be therein; 3 (e) Hinder or obstruct in any way the Director or his 4 5 Director under this chapter; 6 7 8 adopted pursuant thereto: 9 10 weighmaster; 11 12 13 14 incorrectly; 15 measures issued pursuant to this chapter; or 16 17 measuring which has been altered to facilitate fraud. 18 19 2. A person who violates any provision of this section is, in 20 addition to any criminal penalty that may be imposed, subject to a 21 civil penalty in accordance with the schedule of civil penalties 22 established by the State Sealer of Weights and Measures pursuant to section 41 of this act. 23 Sec. 54. The Director may suspend or revoke the license of a 24 25 public weighmaster: 1. When, following a hearing held after 10 days' notice to the 26 27 licensee, the Director is satisfied that the licensee has violated a

28 provision of this chapter or any regulation adopted pursuant 29 thereto;

2. When the licensee has been convicted in a court of 30 31 competent jurisdiction of violating a provision of this chapter or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto; or 32

3. When the licensee is convicted of a felony. 33

34 Sec. 55. 1. A person subject to a civil penalty may request 35 an administrative hearing within 10 days after receipt of the notice of the civil penalty. The Director or his designee shall conduct the 36 37 hearing after giving appropriate notice to the respondent. The decision of the Director or his designee is subject to appropriate 38 39 judicial review.

40 2. If the respondent has exhausted his administrative appeals 41 and the civil penalty has been upheld, he shall pay the civil 42 penalty:

43 (a) If no petition for judicial review is filed pursuant to NRS 44 233B.130, within 40 days after the final decision of the Director; 45 or



(d) Refuse without cause to weigh or measure any article or thing which is his duty to weigh or measure, or refuse to state in

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authorized agent in the performance of the official duties of the

(f) Violate any provision of this chapter or any regulation

(g) Delegate his authority to a person not licensed as a public

(h) Request a false certificate of weights and measures, or request a public weighmaster to weigh, measure or count property or produce, or a vehicle, commodity or any other article falsely or

(i) Issue a certificate simulating the certificate of weights of

(j) Use or have in his possession a device for weighing and

1 (b) If a petition for judicial review is filed pursuant to NRS 2 233B.130 and the civil penalty is upheld within 10 days after the effective date of the final decision of the court. 3

3. If the respondent fails to pay the civil penalty, a civil action 4 5 may be brought by the Director in any court of competent jurisdiction to recover the civil penalty. All civil penalties collected 6 7 pursuant to this chapter must be remitted to the county treasurer of the county in which the violation occurred for credit to the 8 9 county school district fund.

10 Sec. 56. 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, a person who by himself, by his servant or agent, or as the servant 11 or agent of another person violates any provision of this chapter is 12 13 guilty of a gross misdemeanor and shall be punished by 14 imprisonment in the county jail for not less than 6 months or more 15 than 1 year, or by a fine of not less than \$1,000 or more than \$5,000, or by both fine and imprisonment. 16

17 2. A person who by himself, by his servant or agent, or as the 18 servant or agent of another person:

(a) Intentionally violates any provision of this chapter or any 19 20 regulation adopted pursuant thereto; or

21 (b) Is convicted pursuant to subsection 1 more than three times 22 in a 2-year period,

is guilty of a category E felony and shall be punished as provided 23 in NRS 193.130. 24

Sec. 57. The Director may to apply to a court of competent 25 jurisdiction for a restraining order, or a temporary or permanent 26 27 injunction, restraining a person from violating any provision of 28 this chapter or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto. 29

Sec. 58. NRS 582.025 is hereby amended to read as follows:

30 582.025 The State Sealer of Weights and Measures may adopt 31 such regulations as are reasonably necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter. Any such regulations shall comply, 32 33 insofar as practicable, with specifications, tolerances and regulations recommended by the National [Bureau of Standards.] Institute of 34 Standards and Technologies. 35

Sec. 59. NRS 582.030 is hereby amended to read as follows: 36

37 582.030 1. Any person may apply to the State Sealer of 38 Weights and Measures for [appointment] licensure as a public weighmaster with authority to issue state certificates of weights and 39 40 measures upon which the purchase or sale of commodities or charge 41 for services or equipment will be based.

42 2. Before issuing a [certificate of appointment] license as a 43 public weighmaster, the State Sealer of Weights and Measures or his 44 deputy [shall:] *must*:

(a) Test all weighing apparatus to be used. 45



(b) Inspect the premises intended for such use.

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2 (c) Satisfy himself that the applicant is in every way equipped, 3 qualified, competent and of such character that he should be 4 [appointed] issued a license as a public weighmaster. 5

Sec. 60. NRS 582.032 is hereby amended to read as follows:

582.032 1. An applicant for the issuance or renewal of a 6 7 **<u>fcertificate of appointment</u>** *license* as a public weighmaster shall 8 submit to the State Sealer of Weights and Measures the statement prescribed by the Welfare Division of the Department of Human 9 10 Resources pursuant to NRS 425.520. The statement must be completed and signed by the applicant. 11

2. The State Sealer of Weights and Measures shall include the 12 13 statement required pursuant to subsection 1 in:

14 (a) The application or any other forms that must be submitted 15 for the issuance or renewal of [the certificate of appointment;] a 16 *license as a public weighmaster;* or

(b) A separate form prescribed by the State Sealer of Weights 17 18 and Measures.

3. A [certificate of appointment] license as a public 19 20 *weighmaster* may not be issued or renewed by the State Sealer of 21 Weights and Measures pursuant to NRS 581.103 if the applicant:

22 (a) Fails to submit the statement required pursuant to subsection 23 1: or

(b) Indicates on the statement submitted pursuant to subsection 24 25 1 that he is subject to a court order for the support of a child and is not in compliance with the order or a plan approved by the district 26 27 attorney or other public agency enforcing the order for the 28 repayment of the amount owed pursuant to the order.

29 4. If an applicant indicates on the statement submitted pursuant 30 to subsection 1 that he is subject to a court order for the support of a 31 child and is not in compliance with the order or a plan approved by the district attorney or other public agency enforcing the order for 32 33 the repayment of the amount owed pursuant to the order, the State Sealer of Weights and Measures shall advise the applicant to contact 34 35 the district attorney or other public agency enforcing the order to determine the actions that the applicant may take to satisfy the 36 37 arrearage.

38 **Sec. 61.** NRS 582.034 is hereby amended to read as follows:

39 582.034 An application for a [certificate of appointment] 40 *license* as a public weighmaster must include the social security 41 number of the applicant.

42 **Sec. 62.** NRS 582.040 is hereby amended to read as follows:

43 582.040 If satisfied with the qualifications of the applicant, the 44 State Sealer of Weights and Measures shall issue a *[certificate of* appointment] *license* as a public weighmaster, for which 45



1 **<u>certificate</u>** *license* he shall charge a fee established by regulation of 2

the State Board of Agriculture. [The certificate of appointment:

1. Is valid for the calendar year in which it is issued. 3

2. May be renewed each year upon application to the State 4

Sealer of Weights and Measures on or before the last day of 5

January. The application must be accompanied by a fee established 6

7 by regulation of the State Board of Agriculture.] 8

Sec. 63. NRS 582.045 is hereby amended to read as follows:

9 582.045 1. If the State Sealer of Weights and Measures 10 receives a copy of a court order issued pursuant to NRS 425.540 that provides for the suspension of all professional, occupational and 11 recreational licenses, certificates and permits issued to a person who 12 13 is [the holder of a certificate of appointment] licensed as a public 14 weighmaster, the State Sealer of Weights and Measures shall deem 15 the [certificate] license to be suspended at the end of the 30th day after the date on which the court order was issued unless he receives 16 a letter issued to the [holder of the certificate] licensee by the 17 district attorney or other public agency pursuant to NRS 425.550 18 19 stating that the **[holder of the certificate]** *licensee* has complied with 20 the subpoena or warrant or has satisfied the arrearage pursuant to 21 NRS 425.560.

22 2. The State Sealer of Weights and Measures shall reinstate a [certificate of appointment] license as a public weighmaster 23 24 suspended by a district court pursuant to NRS 425.540 if the State 25 Sealer of Weights and Measures receives a letter issued by the district attorney or other public agency pursuant to NRS 425.550 to 26 27 the person whose [certificate] license was suspended stating that the 28 person whose [certificate] license was suspended has complied with 29 the subpoena or warrant or has satisfied the arrearage pursuant to 30 NRS 425.560.

Sec. 64. NRS 590.063 is hereby amended to read as follows:

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32 590.063 1. The use of pumps or other devices which are 33 capable of withdrawing gasoline from each of two tanks containing different qualities of the same petroleum product and dispensing 34 35 them as a single combined product must be authorized if the **Division of Measurement Standards of the State Department of** 36 Agriculture determines that all of the following conditions exist: 37

38 (a) The device mechanism accurately measures the quantities of 39 the gasoline being simultaneously withdrawn from each of the two 40 tanks and the quantity dispensed.

41 (b) The device mechanism accurately and visibly records and 42 displays the resulting combined quality, the total quantity, the price 43 per gallon for the particular quality combination being dispensed, 44 and the total price of the quantity of gasoline dispensed at the 45 particular sale.



1 (c) The device has a locking selector mechanism which prevents 2 the changing of the proportion of the two qualities being combined during the dispensing of the desired quantity. 3

2. The provisions of this section authorize the operation of a 4 5 blending type of pump connected to two tanks containing two different grades of the same product, which, if blended together in 6 7 different proportions, will produce gasoline of different octane 8 rating, each blend of which meets the specifications for gasoline as 9 required by this chapter. 10

Sec. 65. NRS 590.065 is hereby amended to read as follows:

590.065 1. The use of pumps or other devices which are 11 capable of withdrawing gasoline from one tank containing gasoline 12 13 and another tank containing motor oil and dispensing them as a 14 single combined product and of withdrawing gasoline alone from 15 the tank containing gasoline must be authorized if the *Division of* Measurement Standards of the State Department of Agriculture 16 17 determines that all of the following conditions exist:

(a) The device mechanism accurately measures the quantities 18 19 being simultaneously withdrawn for dispensing as a combined 20 product from each of the two tanks when the combined product is 21 dispensed, and the quantity being dispensed from the gasoline tank 22 alone when gasoline alone is dispensed.

(b) The device mechanism accurately and visibly records and 23 displays the ratio of gasoline to motor oil, the quantity of each 24 25 ingredient being dispensed, the price per gallon for gasoline being dispensed and the price per quart for motor oil being dispensed, or a 26 27 device the mechanism of which accurately and visibly records and 28 displays the ratio of gasoline to motor oil, the total volume of the oil 29 and gasoline mixture delivered, and computes the total cost based 30 upon the price set for the finished blend.

(c) The device mechanism prevents the changing of the ratio of 31 32 gasoline to motor oil during dispensing.

33 (d) There is firmly attached to or painted upon the device mechanism panel a sign or label plainly visible consisting of the 34 words "outboard motor fuel" in letters not less than one-half inch in 35 height, together with the brand, trademark or trade name of the 36 37 product, which must be in letters of not less than one-half inch in ĥeight. 38

39 2. The provisions of this section authorize the operation of a 40 blending type of pump connected to two tanks, one containing 41 motor oil and the other gasoline, but only if the motor oil in its 42 separate state meets the specifications for lubricating oil as required 43 by NRS 590.080, and the gasoline in its separate state meets the 44 specifications for gasoline as required by NRS 590.070.



Sec. 66. NRS 590.090 is hereby amended to read as follows:

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2 590.090 1. It is unlawful for any person, or any officer, agent 3 or employee thereof, to sell, offer for sale, or assist in the sale of or 4 permit to be sold or offered for sale any petroleum or petroleum 5 product to be used for heating purposes, unless the petroleum or 6 petroleum product conforms to the most recent standards adopted by 7 [the American Society for Testing and Materials.] ASTM 8 International.

9 2. All bulk storage tanks, dispensers and petroleum tank truck 10 compartment outlets containing or dispensing heating fuel must be 11 labeled with the brand name and the grade designation of the 12 heating fuel.

13 3. A person shall not use the numerical grade designation for 14 heating fuels adopted by [the American Society for Testing and 15 Materials] ASTM International unless the designation conforms to that designation. Persons using a designation other than the 16 numerical grade designation adopted by [the American Society for 17 Testing and Materials] ASTM International must file with the 18 19 **Division of Measurement Standards of the State Department of** Agriculture the designation to be used together with its 20 21 corresponding grade designation of [the American Society for Testing and Materials.] ASTM International. 22

23 **Sec. 67.** Chapter 561 of NRS is hereby amended by adding 24 thereto a new section to read as follows:

The Division of Measurement Standards is hereby created
 within the State Department of Agriculture. The Director of the
 State Department of Agriculture shall appoint an Administrator of
 the Division who shall administer all activities and services of the
 Division.

2. The Division of Measurement Standards shall administer
and enforce the provisions of chapters 581 and 582 of NRS and
NRS 590.010 to 590.330, inclusive.

Sec. 68. NRS 581.004, 581.005, 581.055, 581.060, 581.070, 33 581.080, 581.090, 581.104, 581.105, 581.110, 581.120, 581.140, 34 581.150, 581.160, 581.170, 581.180, 581.190, 581.200, 581.210, 35 581.220, 581.230, 581.240, 581.250, 581.260, 581.270, 581.280, 581.290, 581.300, 581.303, 581.307, 581.310, 581.320, 581.330, 581.340, 581.350, 581.360, 581.370, 581.380, 581.390, 581.400, 36 37 38 581.405, 581.410, 581.420, 581.430, 581.440, 581.450, 581.460, 39 40 582.010, 582.050, 582.060, 582.080, 582.090, 582.100, 582.105, 41 582.110, 582.120, 582.130, 582.140, 582.150, 582.160, 582.170 and 42 582.180 are hereby repealed. 43 **Sec. 69.** Any regulations adopted by an officer or agency 44 whose responsibilities have been transferred pursuant to the

45 provisions of this act to another officer or agency remain in force



until amended by the officer or agency to which the responsibility
 for the adoption of the regulations is transferred.

3 Sec. 70. 1. This act becomes effective upon passage and 4 approval for the purpose of adopting regulations necessary to carry 5 out the provisions of this act and on January 1, 2004, for all other 6 purposes.

2. Sections 34, 60, 61 and 63 of this act expire by limitation on
the date on which the provisions of 42 U.S.C. § 666 requiring each
state to establish procedures under which the state has authority to
withhold or suspend, or to restrict the use of, professional,
occupational and recreational licenses of persons who:

(a) Have failed to comply with a subpoena or warrant relating to
 a procedure to determine the paternity of a child or to establish or
 enforce an obligation for the support of a child; or

15 (b) Are in arrears in the payment for the support of one or more 16 children,

17 are repealed by the Congress of the United States.

LEADLINES OF REPEALED SECTIONS

581.004 "Council" defined.

581.005 "Incorrect" defined.

581.055 Enforcement of chapter by State Sealer of Weights and Measures: Regulations; administrative fines; order requiring correction of violation of chapter; investigation or filing of criminal complaint by district attorney.

581.060 Records.

581.070 Powers and duties of State Sealer of Weights and Measures.

581.080 Sealing or marking of weights, measures and weighing or measuring devices.

581.090 Seizure and condemnation of incorrect weights; destruction; repair; unlawful acts.

581.104 Authorization of certain persons to test and repair or adjust devices used only to weigh or measure propane; notice to State Sealer of Weights and Measures of sealing or marking of device and compliance of device with regulations.

581.105 Notice of purchase, installation or use of weight, measure or device for commercial purposes; penalty.

581.110 State Standards: Approval by National Bureau of Standards; custody; safekeeping.



581.120 Office and Field Standards: State to supply equipment necessary to carry out provisions of chapter; verification.

581.140 Standard units of weights and measures.

581.150 Avoirdupois and troy weights are basis for other standards of weight.

581.160 Divisions and multiples of avoirdupois pound.

581.170 Divisions of troy pound.

581.180 Divisions of apothecary's pound.

581.190 Sale of commodity sold by ton or fraction thereof: Duty of seller to give full weight; rate of pounds to ton.

581.200 Standard gallon is unit of capacity for liquids; divisions of standard gallon.

581.210 Barrel; hogshead.

581.220 Standard half bushel is unit of capacity for substances other than liquids; divisions of standard half bushel.

581.230 Standard weights of grain per bushel.

581.240 Standard yard is basic measure of extension.

581.250 Divisions of yard.

581.260 Rod; pole; perch; mile; chain; link.

581.270 Acre of land to be measured horizontally; divisions of acre and square mile.

581.280 Standard cord of firewood.

581.290 Standard units or metric system of weights and measures must be used to designate weight, length and liquid measure.

581.300 Packaging of commodity or article of merchandise without designation of correct weight, measure or numerical count unlawful; exception.

581.303 Declaration of price per single unit of weight, measure or count required on certain packages of commodities.

581.307 Declaration of basic quantity or net quantity of contents required when price advertised; contents of declaration.

581.310 Box or carton used for shipping not required to bear weight or measure of contents.

581.320 Fluid dairy products: Packages for retail sale; marking of containers.

581.330 Net weights of containers for flour, cornmeal and hominy.

581.340 Deceptive construction prohibited.

581.350 Exemption upon compliance with federal law or regulation.



581.360 Unavoidable discrepancy between actual weight and weight marked on container does not constitute violation of chapter.

581.370 Standard loaf of bread; standard weights of loaves. 581.380 Butter and oleomargarine: Sales by weight;

standard sizes.

581.390 Sale of fish, meat or dressed poultry in manner other than by weight unlawful; exception.

581.400 Sale of berries or small fruits in manner other than by weight or container unlawful.

581.405 Use of volume correction factor tables or temperature compensating meters by vendors; regulations; penalties.

581.410 Making or giving false or short weight or measure.

581.420 Misrepresentation of merchandise.

581.430 Hindering or obstructing State Sealer of Weights and Measures, deputies or inspectors.

581.440 Omission or failure of officer, agent or employee of corporation or association deemed omission or failure of corporation or association.

581.450 Criminal penalties; recovery of costs of criminal proceedings.

581.460 Prosecution of violations by district attorney.

582.010 "Net weight" defined.

582.050 Suspension or revocation of certificate of appointment: Grounds; return of seal and certificates.

582.060 Bond of public weighmaster; automatic suspension of certificate of appointment when bond cancelled.

582.080 Certificate of weights and measures.

582.090 Fees of public weighmasters and Department of Motor Vehicles.

582.100 Books of certificates of weight: Compilation; issuance; cost.

582.105 Forms for certificates of weight remain state property while in custody of weighmaster; return of unused forms upon termination of appointment.

582.110 Deputy public weighmaster: Designation; employment; responsibility of public weighmaster; condition upon issuance of certificate of weight by weighmaster or deputy based on information recorded by another.

582.120 Records of public weighmaster: Contents; inspection; preservation.

582.130 Weight of commodity sold subject to weighmaster's weight must be true net weight.



582.140 Disputes concerning correctness of weight: Procedure for reweighing; payment of costs. 582.150 Liability of corporation or association for act of

officer, agent or employee.

582.160 Unlawful issuance or possession of certificate of weight.

582.170 Encouraging false weighing or issuance of false certificate of weight and giving false information unlawful. 582.180 Penalty.

