

**Revenue Information Bulletin  
No. 02-017  
October 30, 2002  
Excise Taxes**

**Credit for Cigarette Tax Stamps**

Act 19 (HB 157) of the 2002 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature increased the tax on cigarettes by twelve-twentieths of one cent (12 cents per pack of twenty cigarettes). The Act became effective on July 1, 2002, and the increase applied to products purchased by retail dealers and wholesale dealers on and after August 1, 2002. The increase did not apply to stamped products and unused tax stamps in the possession of wholesale dealers prior to August 1, 2002. Act 19 did not require a floor stock tax. No inventory was required other than the inventory indicated on Line 1 of the monthly tobacco tax return.

Due to the substantial advance purchases of stamps prior to the effective date of the tax increase, credit for tax on items returned to manufacturer will be allowed at the lower rate of \$.24 per package of twenty until December 1, 2002. Credit affidavits being submitted prior to this date requesting credit at the higher rate must be accompanied by substantiating documentation including serial numbers of stamps affixed to returned product.

Questions concerning this matter may be directed to the Taxpayer Services Division in Baton Rouge at 225-219-7656 or to any of the Department's regional offices.

Cynthia Bridges  
Secretary