Ordinance amending the Business and Tax Regulations Code to remove the $100 minimum penalty from one of the penalties for failing to register with the Tax Collector, and to remove the fee and administrative requirements for obtaining a duplicate registration certificate.

NOTE: Unchanged Code text and uncodified text are in plain Arial font. Additions to Codes are in single-underline italics Times New Roman font. Deletions to Codes are in strikethrough italics Times New Roman font. Board amendment additions are in double-underline Arial font. Board amendment deletions are in strikethrough Arial font. Asterisks (*** *) indicate the omission of unchanged Code subsections or parts of tables.

Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

Section 1. The Business and Tax Regulations Code is hereby amended by revising Section 6.17-3, to read as follows:

SEC. 6.17-3. NEGLIGENCE PENALTIES FOR FAILURE TO REGISTER, MISSTATEMENTS IN REGISTRATION, FAILURE TO TIMELY UPDATE REGISTRATION, FAILURE TO ALLOW INSPECTION OF RECORDS UPON REQUEST, AND FAILURE TO FILE A RETURN; SANCTION FOR FAILURE TO PRODUCE REQUESTED RECORDS.

(a) For registration years commencing on or after July 1, 2017, any person who fails to register in a timely manner shall pay, in addition to any other liability that may be imposed under the provisions of this Article 6, a penalty assessed pursuant to Section 6.17-1. For registration years commencing prior to July 1, 2017, any person who fails to register in a timely manner shall
pay, in addition to any other liability that may be imposed under the provisions of this Article 6,
a penalty in an amount equal to either $100 or the penalty assessed pursuant to Section 6.17-1, whichever is greater.

(b) Any person who fails to amend a registration within seven days of a material change, or who makes a material misrepresentation in a registration, or who fails to comply with a rule or regulation promulgated by the Tax Collector in a timely manner, shall pay, in addition to any other liability that may be imposed under the provisions of this Article 6, a penalty in an amount equal to either $100 or the penalty assessed pursuant to Section 6.17-1, whichever is greater.

(bc) The Tax Collector may impose a penalty upon any person who fails to file a return or returns required under this Article 6 on or before the date prescribed for filing up to $500 for each such failure. The penalty under this provision shall be in addition to any other liability that may be imposed under the provisions of this Article. Filing a return that the Tax Collector determines to be incomplete in any material aspect may be deemed failure to file a return in violation of this Section 6.17-3. Any return required to be filed on a combined basis, and which is not filed on that basis, is an incomplete return. In addition, any return required to report worldwide gross receipts and payroll of a person or combined group under Section 956.2, which does not report gross receipts and payroll on a worldwide basis, is an incomplete return.

(ed) Any person who fails to allow a full inspection of records pursuant to a request made by the Tax Collector within the time prescribed by the Tax Collector shall pay, in
addition to any other liability that may be imposed under the provisions of this Article 6, a penalty in the amount of $500 for each such failure.

(d) Unless the failure to allow inspection was due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect, any person who fails to provide records pursuant to a written request made by the Tax Collector may not contest the Tax Collector’s decision regarding the amount of such person’s liability for any taxes, administrative collection costs, interest, penalties, or other costs and charges imposed under the Business and Tax Regulations Code, or oppose the collection of such amount, in any subsequent administrative or judicial proceeding, on the basis of any record the Tax Collector previously requested in writing that such person failed to make available to the Tax Collector on or before the earliest to occur of the following:

1. The conclusion of the hearing on a petition for redetermination held pursuant to Sections 6.12-5 or 6.13-2;
2. The date the jeopardy determination became final under Section 6.12-5 if such person did not request hearing thereon;
3. The date the deficiency determination became final under Section 6.13-4 if such person did not request a hearing thereon.

Section 2. The Business and Tax Regulations Code is hereby amended by deleting Section 856.1, to read as follows:

SEC. 856.1—APPLICATION FOR DUPLICATE REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE

(a) A holder of a registration certificate as defined in Section 852.2 shall apply to the Tax Collector for a duplicate certificate if the original certificate has been lost or destroyed. The registration certificate holder shall give an affidavit to the Tax Collector stating that the affiant is the person to whom the Tax Collector has issued the registration certificate and that the registration
certificate was lost or destroyed. The registration certificate holder shall pay a fee for the issuance of the duplicate registration certificate in the amount of Twenty-Five Dollars ($25.00).

(b) If the Tax Collector determines that the affiant has satisfied all of the requirements of this Article, including the payment of all outstanding liabilities owed to the City as enumerated in Section 856 of this Article, the Tax Collector shall issue a duplicate registration certificate. The duplicate registration certificate shall be plainly marked or stamped as a duplicate. The Tax Collector shall enter the fact of the duplicate in the Tax Collector's files. The Tax Collector shall maintain a record of the alleged loss or destruction, whether or not the duplicate certificate is issued.

Section 3. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective 30 days after enactment. Enactment occurs when the Mayor signs the ordinance, the Mayor returns the ordinance unsigned or does not sign the ordinance within ten days of receiving it, or the Board of Supervisors overrides the Mayor's veto of the ordinance.

Section 4. Severability. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this ordinance, or any application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions or applications of the ordinance. The Board of Supervisors hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance and each and every section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, and word not declared invalid or unconstitutional without regard to whether any other portion of this ordinance or application thereof would be subsequently declared invalid or unconstitutional.

Section 5. Scope of Ordinance. In enacting this ordinance, the Board of Supervisors intends to amend only those words, phrases, paragraphs, subsections, sections, articles,
numbers, punctuation marks, charts, diagrams, or any other constituent parts of the Municipal Code that are explicitly shown in this ordinance as additions, deletions, Board amendment additions, and Board amendment deletions in accordance with the "Note" that appears under the official title of the ordinance.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

By:

Scott M. Reiber
Deputy City Attorney
Ordinance amending the Business and Tax Regulations Code to remove the $100 minimum penalty from one of the penalties for failing to register with the Tax Collector, and to remove the fee and administrative requirements for obtaining a duplicate registration certificate.

January 11, 2017 Budget and Finance Committee - CONTINUED

January 25, 2017 Budget and Finance Committee - AMENDED

January 25, 2017 Budget and Finance Committee - RECOMMENDED AS AMENDED

January 31, 2017 Board of Supervisors - PASSED, ON FIRST READING
Ayes: 11 - Breed, Cohen, Farrell, Fewer, Kim, Peskin, Ronen, Safai, Sheehy, Tang and Yee

February 07, 2017 Board of Supervisors - FINALLY PASSED
Ayes: 11 - Breed, Cohen, Farrell, Fewer, Kim, Peskin, Ronen, Safai, Sheehy, Tang and Yee

I hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was FINALLY PASSED on 2/7/2017 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Date Approved 2/7/2017