102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2021 and 2022

SB2142

Introduced 2/26/2021, by Sen. Dan McConchie

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

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Amends the Revised Uniform Unclaimed Property Act. Provides that property due or owed by a business association resulting from a transaction occurring in the normal and ordinary course of business is exempt from the Act. Provides that an action or proceeding may not be maintained by the administrator more than 10 years after the holder filed a nonfraudulent report with the administrator (rather than after the holder specifically identified the property in a report filed with the administrator or gave express notice to the administrator of a dispute regarding the property). Deletes language regarding the tolling of the period of limitation. Provides instead that the parties may agree to extend the period of limitation. Provides that the administrator may not commence an action, proceeding, or examination with respect to a duty of a holder more than 10 years after the duty arose. Provides that if a person subject to examination does not retain the records, the administrator may use specific estimation techniques to determine the amount of unclaimed property and shall incorporate a net method of extrapolation (rather than determine the value of property due using a reasonable method of estimation based on all information available to the administrator). Deletes language providing that a payment made based on estimation is a penalty for failure to maintain the records and does not relieve a person from an obligation to report and deliver property to a State in which the holder is domiciled. Provides that a holder may request a hearing to contest the use or validity of the estimation technique. Provides that the examination is final upon the failure of the holder to request a hearing. Provides that if a hearing is held, the State Treasurer shall issue an order approving or disapproving the use or validity of the estimation techniques. Deletes language providing that if the administrator contracts with a person, the contract may provide for compensation of the person based on a contingent fee. Deletes language providing that an initial report filed for property that was not required to be reported before the Act took effect must include all items of property that would have been presumed abandoned during the 5-year period preceding the effective date as if the Act had been in effect during that period.

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A BILL FOR

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1 AN ACT concerning civil law.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The Revised Uniform Unclaimed Property Act is
amended by changing Sections 15-201, 15-610, 15-1006, 15-1009,
and 15-1503 as follows:

7 (765 ILCS 1026/15-201)

8 Sec. 15-201. When property presumed abandoned.

9 <u>(a)</u> Subject to Section 15-210, the following property is 10 presumed abandoned if it is unclaimed by the apparent owner 11 during the period specified below:

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a traveler's check, 15 years after issuance;

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(2) a money order, 7 years after issuance;

14 (3) any instrument on which a financial organization 15 or business association is directly liable, 3 years after 16 issuance;

(4) a state or municipal bond, bearer bond, or original-issue-discount bond, 3 years after the earliest of the date the bond matures or is called or the obligation to pay the principal of the bond arises;

(5) a debt of a business association, 3 years after
 the obligation to pay arises;

23

(6) a demand, savings, or time deposit, 3 years after

1 the later of maturity or the date of the last indication of 2 interest in the property by the apparent owner, except for 3 a deposit that is automatically renewable, 3 years after its initial date of maturity unless the apparent owner 4 5 consented in a record on file with the holder to renewal at or about the time of the renewal; 6

7 (7) money or a credit owed to a customer as a result of a retail business transaction, other than in-store credit 8 for returned merchandise, 3 years after the obligation 9 10 arose;

11 (8) an amount owed by an insurance company on a life or endowment insurance policy or an annuity contract that has 12 13 matured or terminated, 3 years after the obligation to pay 14 arose under the terms of the policy or contract or, if a policy or contract for which an amount is owed on proof of 15 16 death has not matured by proof of the death of the insured or annuitant, as follows: 17

18 (A) with respect to an amount owed on a life or 19 endowment insurance policy, the earlier of:

(i) 3 years after the death of the insured; or 21 (ii) 2 years after the insured has attained, 22 or would have attained if living, the limiting age 23 under the mortality table on which the reserve for 24 the policy is based; and

25 (B) with respect to an amount owed on an annuity 26 contract, 3 years after the death of the annuitant.

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(9) funds on deposit or held in trust pursuant to the Illinois Funeral or Burial Funds Act, the earliest of:

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(A) 2 years after the date of death of the beneficiary;

5 (B) one year after the date the beneficiary has 6 attained, or would have attained if living, the age of 7 105 where the holder does not know whether the 8 beneficiary is deceased;

9 (C) 40 years after the contract for prepayment was 10 executed, unless the apparent owner has indicated an 11 interest in the property more than 40 years after the 12 contract for prepayment was executed, in which case, 3 13 years after the last indication of interest in the 14 property by the apparent owner;

15 (10) property distributable by a business association 16 in the course of dissolution or distributions from the 17 termination of a retirement plan, one year after the 18 property becomes distributable;

(11) property held by a court, including property received as proceeds of a class action, 3 years after the property becomes distributable;

(12) property held by a government or governmental
subdivision, agency, or instrumentality, including
municipal bond interest and unredeemed principal under the
administration of a paying agent or indenture trustee, 3
years after the property becomes distributable;

1 (13) wages, commissions, bonuses, or reimbursements to 2 which an employee is entitled, or other compensation for 3 personal services, including amounts held on a payroll 4 card, one year after the amount becomes payable;

5 (14) a deposit or refund owed to a subscriber by a 6 utility, one year after the deposit or refund becomes 7 payable, except that any capital credits or patronage 8 capital retired, returned, refunded or tendered to a 9 member of an electric cooperative, as defined in Section 10 3.4 of the Electric Supplier Act, or a telephone or 11 telecommunications cooperative, as defined in Section 12 13-212 of the Public Utilities Act, that has remained unclaimed by the person appearing on the records of the 13 14 entitled cooperative for more than 2 years, shall not be 15 subject to, or governed by, any other provisions of this 16 Act, but rather shall be used by the cooperative for the 17 benefit of the general membership of the cooperative; and

(15) property not specified in this Section or
Sections 15-202 through 15-208, the earlier of 3 years
after the owner first has a right to demand the property or
the obligation to pay or distribute the property arises.

22 (b) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this 23 Section 15-201, and subject to Section 15-210, a deceased 24 owner cannot indicate interest in his or her property. If the 25 owner is deceased and the abandonment period for the owner's 26 property specified in this Section 15-201 is greater than 2

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1 years, then the property, other than an amount owed by an 2 insurance company on a life or endowment insurance policy or 3 an annuity contract that has matured or terminated, shall 4 instead be presumed abandoned 2 years from the date of the 5 owner's last indication of interest in the property.

6 <u>(c) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this</u> 7 <u>Section, a property due or owed by a business association</u> 8 <u>resulting from a transaction occurring in the normal and</u> 9 <u>ordinary course of business is exempt from this Act.</u>

10 (Source: P.A. 100-22, eff. 1-1-18; 100-566, eff. 1-1-18; 11 101-552, eff. 1-1-20.)

12 (765 ILCS 1026/15-610)

13 Sec. 15-610. Periods of limitation and repose.

(a) Expiration, before, on, or after the effective date of
this Act, of a period of limitation on an owner's right to
receive or recover property, whether specified by contract,
statute, or court order, does not prevent the property from
being presumed abandoned or affect the duty of a holder under
this Act to file a report or pay or deliver property to the
administrator.

(b) An action or proceeding may not be maintained by the administrator to enforce this Act in regard to the reporting, delivery, or payment of property more than 10 years after the holder <u>filed a nonfraudulent report with the administrator.</u> <u>The parties may agree to extend the period of limitation in</u>

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1 <u>this subsection</u> specifically identified the property in a
2 report filed with the administrator or gave express notice to
3 the administrator of a dispute regarding the property. In the
4 absence of such a report or other express notice, the period of
5 limitation is tolled. The period of limitation is also tolled
6 by the filing of a report that is fraudulent.

7 (c) The administrator may not commence an action,
8 proceeding, or examination with respect to a duty of a holder
9 under this Act more than 10 years after the duty arose.

10 (Source: P.A. 100-22, eff. 1-1-18.)

11 (765 ILCS 1026/15-1006)

Sec. 15-1006. Failure of person examined to retain records.

14 (a) If a person subject to examination under Section 15-1002 does not retain the records required by Section 15 16 15-404, the administrator may use estimation techniques that conform to either generally accepted auditing standards or 17 generally accepted accounting principles to determine the 18 amount of unclaimed property. In the conduct of an 19 20 examination, the State shall not request any records of a 21 holder that relate to property that is not subject to this Act. 22 The estimation techniques used shall incorporate a net method of extrapolation determine the value of property due using a 23 24 reasonable method of estimation based on all information available to the administrator, including extrapolation and 25

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1 use of statistical sampling when appropriate and necessary, consistent with examination procedures and standards adopted 2 3 under Section 15-1003. For purposes of this Section, "net method" means the numerator is only property located in this 4 5 State or State-sourced property and the denominator is a reasonable surrogate, such as sales or payroll. A payment made 6 7 based on estimation under this Section is a penalty for 8 failure to maintain the records required by Section 15 404 and 9 does not relieve a person from an obligation to report and 10 deliver property to a State in which the holder is domiciled. 11 (b) Within 60 business days of the receipt of a final 12 examination report, a holder may request a hearing to contest 13 the use or validity of the estimation techniques. The 14 examination is final upon the failure of the holder to request a hearing as provided in this Section. If a hearing is held, 15 16 the State Treasurer shall issue an order approving or

17 <u>disapproving the use or validity of the estimation techniques.</u>

18 The order is final under the Administrative Review Law.

19 (Source: P.A. 100-22, eff. 1-1-18.)

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(765 ILCS 1026/15-1009)

21 Sec. 15-1009. Administrator's contract with another to 22 conduct examination.

(a) The administrator may contract with a person to
 conduct an examination under this Article. The contract shall
 be awarded pursuant to a request for proposals issued in

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1 compliance with the procurement rules of the administrator.

2 (b) If the administrator contracts with a person under 3 subsection (a):

4 (1) the contract may provide for compensation of the
5 person based on a fixed fee, <u>or</u> hourly fee, <u>or contingent</u>
6 fee;

(2) (blank); and a contingent fee arrangement may not
 provide for a payment that exceeds 15% of the amount or
 value of property paid or delivered as a result of the
 examination; and

(3) as authorized in the State Officers and Employees Money Disposition Act, the administrator may permit the deduction of fees from property recovered during an examination under this Article prior to depositing funds received under this Act into the Unclaimed Property Trust Fund.

17 (c) A contract under subsection (a) is a public record18 under the Freedom of Information Act.

19 (Source: P.A. 100-22, eff. 1-1-18.)

20 (765 ILCS 1026/15-1503)

21 Sec. 15-1503. Transitional provision.

(a) (Blank). An initial report filed under this Act for
property that was not required to be reported before the
effective date of this Act, but that is required to be reported
under this Act, must include all items of property that would

have been presumed abandoned during the 5-year period
 preceding the effective date of this Act as if this Act had
 been in effect during that period.

(b) This Act does not relieve a holder of a duty that arose
before the effective date of this Act to report, pay, or
deliver property. <u>A</u> Subject to subsection (b) of Section
15 610, a holder that did not comply with the law governing
unclaimed property before the effective date of this Act is
subject to applicable provisions for enforcement and penalties
in effect before the effective date of this Act.

11 (Source: P.A. 100-22, eff. 1-1-18.)

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