

Sen. Mike Jacobs

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	09400SB2144sam003 LRB094 14899 RAS 55553 a
1	AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 2144
2	AMENDMENT NO Amend Senate Bill 2144 by replacing
3	everything after the enacting clause with the following:
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4	"Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5	Collateral Recovery Act.
6	Section 5. Findings; purpose. The General Assembly finds
7	that collateral recovery practices affect public health,
8	safety, and welfare and declares that the purpose of this Act
9	is to regulate individuals and entities engaged in the business
10	of collateral recovery for the protection of the public.

11 Section 10. Definitions. In this Act:

12 "Assignment" means a written authorization by a legal 13 owner, lien holder, or lessor to locate or repossess any collateral, including, but not limited to, collateral 14 15 registered under the Illinois Vehicle Code that is subject to a 16 security agreement that contains a repossession clause. "Assignment" also means a written authorization by an employer 17 to recover any collateral entrusted to an employee or former 18 employee if the possessor is wrongfully in the possession of 19 20 the collateral. A photocopy, facsimile copy, or electronic copy of an assignment shall have the same force and effect as an 21 22 original written assignment.

23 "Board" means the Illinois Repossession and Recovery

Board.

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and

"Certified recovery manager" means a person who possesses a 2 3 valid certificate in accordance with the provisions of this Act 4 and is in active control or management of a repossession 5 agency. "Collateral" means any vehicle, boat, recreational 6 7 vehicle, motor home, motorcycle, or other property that is 8 subject to a security agreement. "Contingency" means contingent upon recovering collateral 9 10 "Debtor" means any person obligated under a security 11 agreement. "Department" means the Department of Financial 12 13 Professional Regulation. 14 "Legal owner" means a person holding (i) a security

15 interest in any collateral that is subject to a security agreement, (ii) a lien against any collateral, or (iii) an 16 17 interest in any collateral that is subject to a lease 18 agreement.

"Licensee" means an individual, 19 partnership, limited 20 liability company, or corporation licensed under this Act.

21 "Personal effects" means any property contained within repossessed collateral that is not the property of the legal 22 23 owner.

24 "Repossession agency" means any person or entity that, for 25 any type of consideration, engages in the business of, accepts 26 employment to furnish, or agrees to provide property locating 27 services, property recovery, recovered property 28 transportation, recovered property storage, or all services 29 relevant to any of the following:

(1) The location, disposition, or recovery of property 30 31 as authorized by the self-help provisions of the Uniform 32 Commercial Code.

(2) Inventory of property contained in the collateral 33 34 or recovered property.

(3) The possession of collateral. 1 2 (4) The prevention or concealment of chattel, 3 vehicles, goods, or objects. "Repossession agency" does not include any of the following: 4 5 (1) An attorney at law who is performing his or her duties as an attorney at law. 6 (2) The legal owner of collateral that is subject to a 7 8 security agreement. (3) An officer or employee of the United States of 9 America or of this State or a political subdivision of this 10 State, while the officer or employee is engaged in the 11 performance of his or her official duties. 12 (4) A qualified certificate holder or a registrant when 13 performing services for, or on behalf of, a licensee. 14

15 "Repossession agency employee" means a person who is hired 16 by a licensed repossession agency to recover property and who 17 holds a permanent employee registration card in accordance with 18 the provisions of this Act.

19 "Secretary" means the Secretary of Financial and20 Professional Regulation.

21 "Security agreement" means an obligation, pledge, mortgage, chattel mortgage, lease agreement, deposit, or lien, 22 23 given by a debtor as security for payment or performance of his or her debt, by furnishing the creditor with a recourse to be 24 25 used in case of failure in the principal obligation. "Security 26 agreement" includes a bailment where an employer-employee relationship exists or existed between the bailor and the 27 28 bailee.

29 Section 15. Illinois Repossession and Recovery Board. 30 (a) There is established within the Department, the 31 Illinois Repossession and Recovery Board. The Board shall be 32 composed of 7 members appointed by the Governor who shall serve 33 in an advisory capacity to the Department. The Board shall 1 elect a chairperson and a vice chairperson.

2 (b) In appointing members of the Board, the Governor shall 3 give due consideration to recommendations by members of the 4 collateral recovery profession and by statewide organizations 5 solely representing the interests of repossession agencies and 6 collateral recovery managers.

7 (c) Board members shall be appointed for terms of 4 years, 8 except that any person appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve 9 only for the unexpired term and until a successor is appointed 10 and qualified. No member shall be reappointed to the Board for 11 a term that would result in the member serving for more than 8 12 consecutive years.

13 (d) The membership of the Board shall reasonably reflect14 representation from various geographic areas of the State.

(e) A majority of the Board members currently appointed shall constitute a quorum. A vacancy in the membership of the Board shall not impair the right of a quorum to exercise all the rights and perform all the duties of the Board, except in cases of willful or wanton misconduct.

(f) Members of the Board shall be immune from suit in any action based upon any disciplinary proceedings or other activities performed in good faith as members of the Board.

(g) The Governor may remove any member of the Board for any
cause that, in the opinion of the Secretary, reasonably
justifies termination.

(h) The Department shall, in conformity with the Personnel
Code, employ all staff, clerical and otherwise, as are
necessary to carry out the duties of the Board.

(i) Board members shall not be compensated, but shall be
 reimbursed for all legitimate, necessary, and authorized
 expenses from funds appropriated for that purpose.

32 Section 20. Rulemaking; enforcement. The Board may adopt 33 any rules and procedures necessary to administer the provisions 09400SB2144sam003

of this Act and shall work in conjunction with the Secretary of
 State Police in adopting any rules and procedures necessary to
 enforce the provisions of this Act.

4 Section 25. Licensure, certification, or registration 5 required.

6 (a) Six months after the effective date of this Act, it 7 shall be unlawful for any person or entity to practice, attempt 8 to practice, or to hold himself, herself, or itself out to be a 9 repossession agency unless licensed under this Act.

10 (b) It shall be unlawful for any person to practice, 11 attempt to practice, or to hold himself or herself out to be a 12 certified recovery manager unless certified under this Act.

(c) It shall be unlawful for any person to practice, attempt to practice, or hold himself or herself out to be a repossession agency employee unless he or she holds a valid permanent employee registration card issued by the Department under the the provisions of this Act.

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Section 30. Application for repossession agency licensure.

(a) Application for original licensure as a repossession agency shall be made to the Department in writing on forms prescribed by the Department and shall be accompanied by the appropriate documentation and the required fee, which fee is nonrefundable.

24 (b) Every application shall state, in addition to any other 25 requirements, (i) the name of the applicant, (ii) the name 26 under which the applicant will do business, (iii) the proposed 27 location of the agency by number and street and city, and (iv) 28 the usual business hours that the agency will maintain. The 29 residential address and telephone number and the driver's license number of each applicant, if requested, shall be 30 confidential and may not be released to the public. 31

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(c) No license may be issued in (i) any fictitious name

that may be confused with or is similar to any federal, State, county, or municipal government function or agency, (ii) any name that may tend to describe any business function or enterprise not actually engaged in by the applicant, (iii) any name that is the same as or similar to any existing licensee as would tend to deceive the public, or (iv) any name that would tend to be deceptive or misleading.

8 (d) If the applicant for repossession agency licensure is an individual, his or her application shall include (i) the 9 10 full residential address of the applicant and (ii) either the sworn statement of the applicant declaring that he or she is 11 the certified recovery manager who shall be personally and 12 actively in charge of the agency for which the license is 13 sought or the name and sworn statement of the certified 14 15 recovery manager who shall be actively in charge of the agency.

(e) If the applicant for repossession agency licensure is a 16 17 partnership, the application shall include (i) a statement of 18 the names and full residential addresses of all partners in the 19 business and (ii) the sworn statement signed by each partner 20 verifying the name of the partner who is a certified recovery 21 manager and shall be actively in charge of the business or the name of the certified recovery manager who is not a partner, 22 23 but shall be actively in charge of the agency. If a certified 24 recovery manager who is not a partner shall be actively in 25 charge of the agency, he or she must also sign the sworn 26 statement. The application shall also state whether any of the partners has ever used an alias. 27

(f) If the applicant for repossession agency licensure is a corporation, the application shall include (i) the names and full residential addresses of all corporation officers and (ii) a sworn statement signed by a duly authorized officer of the corporation verifying the name of the officer who is a certified recovery manager and shall be actively in charge of the agency or the name of the certified recovery manager who is not an officer, but shall be actively in charge of the agency.
If a certified recovery manager who is not an officer shall be
actively in charge of the agency, he or she must also sign the
sworn statement. The application shall also state whether any
of the officers has ever used an alias.

(g) If the applicant for repossession agency licensure is a 6 7 limited liability company, the application shall include (i) the names and full residential addresses of all company owners 8 and (ii) a sworn statement signed by each owner verifying the 9 10 name of the owner who is a certified recovery manager and shall 11 be actively in charge of the agency or the name of the certified recovery manager who is not an owner, but shall be 12 actively in charge of the agency. If a certified recovery 13 manager who is not an owner shall be actively in charge of the 14 15 agency, he or she must also sign the sworn statement. The application shall also state whether any of the owners has ever 16 used an alias. 17

18 (h) Each individual, partner of a partnership, officer of a 19 corporation, or owner of a limited liability company shall 20 submit with the application, one form of personal 21 identification upon which shall appear a photograph taken within one year immediately proceeding the date of the filing 22 23 of the application.

24 (i) No examination shall be required for licensure as a25 repossession agency by the Department.

(j) The Department may require any additional information that, in the judgment of the Department, shall enable the Department to pass on the qualifications of the applicant for licensure.

30 (k) Applicants have one year from the date of application 31 to complete the application process. If the application has not 32 been completed within one year, the application shall be 33 denied, the fee shall be forfeited, and the applicant must 34 reapply and meet the requirements in effect at the time of 09400SB2144sam003

1 reapplication.

2 (1) Nothing in this Section shall permit a domestic or 3 foreign liability company to be licensed as a repossession 4 agency.

5 Section 35. Qualifications for recovery manager;
6 identification card.

7 (a) An applicant is qualified for certification as a
8 recovery manager if that person meets all of the following
9 requirements:

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(1) Is 21 years of age or older.

(2) Has not been convicted in any jurisdiction of any
 felony or at least 10 years has passed from the time of
 discharge from any sentence imposed for a felony.

14 (3) Is of good moral character, which is a continuing 15 requirement of licensure. Conviction of a crime not 16 included under item (2) of this Section may be used in 17 determining moral character, but may not operate as an 18 absolute bar from licensure.

19 (4) Has not been declared by any court of competent 20 jurisdiction to be incompetent by reason of mental or 21 physical defect or disease, unless a declaration of 22 competency has since occurred.

23 (5) Is not suffering from habitual drunkenness or24 narcotic addiction or dependence.

(6) Has completed no less than 5,000 hours of actual compensated collateral recovery work as an employee of a repossession agency located in the State, a financial institution, or a vehicle dealer in the 3 years immediately preceding the filing of an application, acceptable proof of which must be submitted to the Department.

(7) Has submitted to the Department 2 recent
 photographs of himself or herself and 2 sets of
 fingerprints, which shall be checked against the

fingerprint records on file with the Department of State
 Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the
 manner set forth in Section 50 of this Act.

4 (8) Has successfully completed the Certified Asset
5 Recovery Specialist (C.A.R.S.) national certification
6 program.

7 (9) Has not been dishonorably discharged from the Armed
8 Services of the United States.

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(10) Has paid the required application fee.

10 (b) Upon the issuance of a recovery manager certificate, 11 the Department shall issue the certificate holder a suitable 12 pocket identification card that shall include a photograph of 13 the certificate holder. The identification card must contain 14 the name of the certificate holder and that of the repossession 15 agency that employs the certificate holder, in addition to any 16 other information required by the Department.

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Section 40. Repossession agency employee requirements.

(a) All employees of a licensed repossession agency whose
duties include the actual repossession of collateral shall
apply for a permanent employee registration card. The holder of
a repossession agency license issued under this Act, known in
this Section as "employer", may employ in the conduct of the
licensee's business employees under the following provisions:

24 (1) No person may be issued a permanent employee
 25 registration card who meets any of the following criteria:

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(A) Is younger than 21 years of age.

(B) Has been determined by the Department to be
unfit by reason of conviction of an offense in this or
another state, other than a minor traffic offense. The
Department shall adopt rules for making those
determinations that shall afford the applicant due
process of law.

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(C) Has had a license or permanent employee

registration card denied, suspended, or revoked under
 this Act.

3 (D) Has been declared incompetent by any court of
4 competent jurisdiction by reason of mental disease or
5 defect and has not been restored.

6 (E) Has not successfully completed the Certified 7 Asset Recovery Specialist (C.A.R.S.) national 8 certification program.

9 (F) Has been dishonorably discharged from the 10 armed services of the United States.

11 (2) No person may be employed by a repossession agency 12 under this Section until he or she has executed and 13 furnished to the employer, on forms furnished by the 14 Department, a verified statement to be known as an 15 "Employee's Statement" setting forth all of the following:

16 (A) The person's full name, age, and residence17 address.

(B) The business or occupation engaged in for the 5
years immediately before the date of the execution of
the statement, the place where the business or
occupation was engaged in, and the names of employers,
if any.

(C) That the person has not had a license or
employee registration denied, revoked, or suspended
under this Act.

(D) Any conviction of a felony or misdemeanor
within the 10-year period immediately preceding his or
her application for employment.

(E) Any declaration of incompetence by a court of
 competent jurisdiction that has not been restored.

31 (F) Any dishonorable discharge from the armed32 services of the United States.

33 (G) Any other information as may be required by any
 34 rule of the Department to show the good character,

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competency, and integrity of the person executing the statement.

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himself or herself.

3 (b) Each applicant for a permanent employee registration 4 card shall have his or her fingerprints submitted to the 5 Department of State Police in an electronic format that complies with the form and manner for requesting and furnishing 6 7 criminal history record information as prescribed by the Department of State Police. These fingerprints shall be checked 8 against the Department of State Police and Federal Bureau of 9 10 Investigation criminal history record databases now and hereafter filed. The Department of State Police shall charge 11 12 applicants a fee for conducting the criminal history records check, which shall be deposited in the State Police Services 13 14 Fund and shall not exceed the actual cost of the records check. The Department of State Police shall furnish, pursuant to 15 positive identification, records of Illinois convictions to 16 17 the Department. The Department may require applicants to pay a 18 separate fingerprinting fee, either to the Department or 19 directly to a designated vendor. The Department, in its 20 discretion, may also use other procedures in performing or 21 obtaining criminal history records checks of applicants. Instead of submitting his or her fingerprints, an individual 22 may submit proof that is satisfactory to the Department that an 23

equivalent security clearance has been conducted. 25 (c) Each applicant for a permanent employee registration 26 card must submit to the Department 2 recent photographs of

28 The Department shall issue a permanent employee (d) 29 registration card, in a form the Department prescribes, to all 30 qualified applicants. The Department shall notify the 31 submitting licensee within 10 days after receipt of the 32 application of its intent to issue or deny the permanent 33 employee registration card. The holder of a permanent employee registration card shall carry the card at all times while 34

actually engaged in the performance of the duties of his or her 1 2 Expiration and requirements for renewal employment. of 3 permanent employee registration cards shall be established by 4 rule of the Department. Possession of a permanent employee registration card does not in any way imply that the holder of 5 the card is employed by an agency unless the permanent employee 6 7 registration card is accompanied by the employee 8 identification card required by subsection (f) of this Section.

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9 (e) Each employer shall maintain a record of each employee 10 that is accessible to the duly authorized representatives of 11 the Department. The record shall contain all of the following 12 information:

13 (1) A photograph taken within 10 days after the date 14 that the employee begins employment with the employer. The 15 photograph shall be replaced with a current photograph 16 every 3 calendar years.

17 (2) The Employee's Statement specified in paragraph18 (2) of subsection (a) of this Section.

19 (3) All correspondence or documents relating to the 20 character and integrity of the employee received by the 21 employer from any official source or law enforcement 22 agency.

(4) In the case of former employees, the employee
identification card of that person issued under subsection
(f) of this Section.

26 (f) Every employer shall furnish an employee identification card to each of his or her employees. This 27 28 employee identification card shall contain a recent photograph 29 of the employee, the employee's name, the name and agency 30 license number of the employer, the employee's personal 31 description, the signature of the employer, the signature of 32 that employee, the date of issuance, and an employee identification card number. 33

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(g) No employer may issue an employee identification card

to any person who is not employed by the employer in accordance 1 2 with this Section or falsely state or represent that a person 3 is or has been in his or her employ. It is unlawful for an 4 applicant for registered employment to file with the Department 5 the fingerprints of a person other than himself or herself or to fail to exercise due diligence in resubmitting replacement 6 7 fingerprints for those employees who have had original 8 fingerprint submissions returned as unclassifiable.

9 (h) Every employer shall obtain the identification card of 10 every employee who terminates employment with the employer.

(i) No agency may employ any person to perform a licensed activity under this Act unless the person possesses a valid permanent employee registration card or the person has a valid license under this Act.

(j) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (i) of this Section, an agency may employ a person in a temporary capacity if all of the following conditions are met:

(1) The agency completes in its entirety and submits to
 the Department an application for a permanent employee
 registration card, including the required fingerprint
 receipt and fees.

(2) The agency has verification from the Department 22 that the applicant has no record of any criminal conviction 23 pursuant to the criminal history records check conducted by 24 25 the Department of State Police. The agency shall maintain 26 the verification of the results of the Department of State 27 Police criminal history records check as part of the 28 employee record as required under subsection (e) of this 29 Section.

30 (3) The agency exercises due diligence to ensure that
31 the person is qualified under the requirements of the Act
32 to be issued a permanent employee registration card.

33 (4) The agency maintains a separate roster of the names34 of all employees whose applications are currently pending

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with the Department and submits the roster to the Department on a monthly basis. Rosters are to be maintained by the agency for a period of at least 24 months.

An agency may employ only a permanent employee applicant for which it either submitted a permanent employee application and all required forms and fees or it confirms with the Department that a permanent employee application and all required forms and fees have been submitted by another agency and all other requirements of this Section are met.

10 The Department shall have the authority to revoke, without a hearing, the temporary authority of an individual to work 11 upon receipt of Federal Bureau of Investigation fingerprint 12 data or a report of another official authority indicating a 13 14 criminal conviction. If the Department has not received a 15 temporary employee's Federal Bureau of Investigation fingerprint data within 120 days after the date the Department 16 17 received the Department of State Police fingerprint data, the 18 Department may, at its discretion, revoke the employee's 19 temporary authority to work with 15 days written notice to the 20 individual and the employing agency.

21 An agency may not employ a person in a temporary capacity if it knows or reasonably should have known that the person has 22 23 been convicted of a crime under the laws of this State, has 24 been convicted in another state of any crime that is a crime 25 under the laws of this State, has been convicted of any crime 26 in a federal court, or has been posted as an unapproved applicant by the Department. Notice by the Department to the 27 28 agency, via certified mail, personal delivery, electronic 29 mail, or posting on an internet site accessible to the agency that the person has been convicted of a crime shall be deemed 30 31 constructive knowledge of the conviction on the part of the agency. The Department may adopt rules to implement this 32 33 subsection (j).

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(k) No person may be employed under this Section in any

1 capacity if the person while so employed is being paid by the 2 United States or any political subdivision for the time so 3 employed in addition to any payments he or she may receive from 4 the employer.

5 (1) If information is discovered affecting the 6 registration of a person whose fingerprints were submitted 7 under this Section, the Department shall so notify the agency 8 that submitted the fingerprints on behalf of that person.

9 (m) A person employed under this Section shall have 15 10 business days within which to notify the Department of any 11 change in employers. Upon notification and payment of the 12 required fee, the Department shall issue that person a new 13 permanent employee registration card, provided that the 14 person's current employer is a licensed repossession agency.

(n) This Section applies only to those employees of licensed repossession agencies whose duties include actual repossession of collateral.

Section 45. SSN or FEIN on application. In addition to any 18 19 other information required by the Department to be contained in 20 the application, every application for an original, renewal, or restored license shall include the applicant's Social Security 21 22 (SSN) if individual or Federal Number an Employer 23 (FEIN) if not an Identification Number individual. The 24 Department shall not disclose an individual's SSN and must keep 25 that SSN confidential unless disclosure is required by law.

Section 50. Criminal background check. The Board shall require that each individual, partner of a partnership, officer of a corporation, or owner of a limited liability company, as part of the application process, authorize a criminal history records check to determine if such applicant has ever been charged with a crime and if so, the disposition of those charges. Upon this authorization, each individual, partner of a 09400SB2144sam003 -16- LRB094 14899 RAS 55553 a

partnership, officer of a corporation, or owner of a limited 1 2 liability company shall submit his or her fingerprints to the 3 Department of State Police in the form and manner prescribed by the Department of State Police. These fingerprints shall be 4 5 checked against the fingerprint records now and hereafter filed in the Department of State Police and Federal Bureau of 6 7 Investigation criminal history records databases. The Department of State Police shall charge a fee for conducting 8 the criminal history records check, which shall be deposited in 9 10 the State Police Services Fund and shall not exceed the actual cost of the records check. The Department of State Police shall 11 provide information concerning any criminal charges, and their 12 13 disposition, now or hereafter filed, against an applicant upon 14 request of the Board when the request is made in the form and 15 manner required by the Department of State Police.

Section 55. Certified recovery manager in charge of repossession agency.

(a) As a condition of licensure, a certified recovery
manager must, at all times, be actively in charge of a
repossession agency.

(b) A certified recovery manager may only be actively in 21 22 charge of one repossession agency at one time. Upon written 23 request by a representative of an agency within 10 days after 24 the loss of the certified recovery manager actively in charge 25 due to the death of the certificate holder or because of an unanticipated termination of his or her employment, 26 the 27 Department shall issue a temporary permit allowing the 28 continuing operation of a previously licensed agency. The temporary permit shall be valid for no more than 90 days. Upon 29 30 written request by the representative of the agency, an 31 extension of an additional 90 days may be granted by the Department for good cause shown. No more than 2 extensions may 32 33 be granted to any repossession agency. A temporary permit may not be issued for loss of the certified recovery manager actively in charge if that loss is due to disciplinary action taken by the Department.

(c) Whenever a certified recovery manager actively in 4 5 charge of a repossession agency ceases to be in charge, the licensed agency shall file within notice with the Department 6 7 within 30 days after the cessation. If the licensee fails to give written notice at the end of the 30-day period, 8 the agency's license shall automatically be suspended. If the 9 10 notice is filed, the license shall remain in force for a period of 90 days after the filing of the notice. At the end of the 11 90-day period or an additional period, not to exceed one year, 12 as specified by the Department, if written notice is not given 13 14 that a certified recovery manager is then actively in charge of 15 the agency, the agency's license shall automatically be suspended. A license suspended under this Section may be 16 17 reinstated upon payment of the reinstatement fee and submission 18 of a reinstatement application.

(d) Except as otherwise provided in this Act, no person may serve as the certified recovery manager actively in charge of a licensed repossession agency if that person has ever had a repossession agency license revoked or suspended or if the person was a partner, managing employee, owner, or officer of a repossession agency the license of which has been revoked for cause.

(e) The certified recovery manager actively in charge must
 spend over 51% of the usual business hours conducting business
 related to collateral recovery at the licensed location.

(f) The certificate of the recovery manager actively in charge of a licensed repossession agency, together with the agency's license, shall be conspicuously displayed at the agency location of which the recovery manager is actively in charge.

(g) A license extended under this Section is subject to all

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1 other provisions of this Act.

2 Section 60. License extension in cases of death or 3 disassociation.

4 (a) In the case of the death of a person who is licensed individually as a repossession agency, a member of the deceased 5 licensee's immediate family shall be entitled to continue 6 7 operating the agency under the same license for up to 120 days following the licensee's date of death, provided that written 8 9 notice is given to the Department within 30 days following the licensee's date of death. At the end of the 120-day period, the 10 license shall automatically be revoked. 11

(b) In the case of the death or disassociation of a partner 12 13 of a partnership licensed as a repossession agency, the 14 licensee shall notify the Department, in writing, within 30 days from the death or disassociation of the partner. If the 15 licensee fails to notify the Department within the 30-day 16 17 period, the license shall automatically be revoked at the end 18 of that period. If proper notice is given, the license shall 19 remain in force for 90 days following the date of death or 20 disassociation of the partner. At the end of the 90-day period, the licensee shall automatically be revoked. 21

(c) A license extended under this Section is subject to allother provisions of this Act.

24 Section 65. Licenses, certificates, and registration 25 cards; renewals; restoration; person in military service.

(a) An original repossession agency license, recovery
 manager certificate, and permanent employee registration card
 shall expire one year after the date of issuance.

29 (b) A renewal repossession agency license or recovery 30 manager certificate shall expire 2 years after the date of 31 renewal.

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(c) A renewal permanent employee registration card shall

1 expire one year after the date of renewal.

2 (d) At least 90 days prior to the expiration of a license, 3 certificate, or registration card, the Department shall mail to 4 the licensee, certificate holder, or registration card holder a 5 renewal form in the form and manner prescribed by the Department. The licensee, certificate holder, or registration 6 7 card holder must complete and mail the renewal form to the Department, pay any fines assessed, and pay any renewal fee 8 required by the Department. 9

10 (e) Any person or entity that has permitted a license, 11 certificate, or registration card to expire may have that 12 license, certificate, or registration card restored by making 13 application to the Department within one year after the 14 expiration of a repossession agency license or a qualified 15 manager certificate or within 30 days after the expiration of a permanent employee registration card, filing proof acceptable 16 17 to the Department of fitness to have the license, certificate, 18 registration card restored, and paying the or required restoration However, whose 19 fee. any person license, 20 certificate, or registration card expired while (i) in federal 21 service on active duty with the Armed Forces of the United States or called into service or training with the State 22 23 militia or (ii) in training or education under the supervision 24 of the United States preliminary to induction into military 25 service may have his or her license, certificate, or 26 registration card renewed or restored without paying any lapsed renewal fees if, within 2 years after honorable termination of 27 28 the service, training, or education, except under condition 29 other than honorable, he or she furnishes the Department with satisfactory evidence to the effect that he or she has been so 30 31 engaged and that the service, training, or education has been 32 so terminated.

33 (f) A suspended repossession agency license, recovery 34 manager certificate, or permanent employee registration card is subject to expiration as set forth in this Section; however, renewal of the license, certificate, or registration card does not entitle the licensee, certificate holder, or registration card holder, while the license, certificate, or registration card remains suspended and until it is reinstated, to engage in the licensed, certified, or registered activity.

7 A revoked repossession agency license, recovery (q) 8 manager certificate, or permanent employee registration card is subject to expiration as set forth in this Section; however, 9 it may not be renewed. If a revoked license, certificate, or 10 registration card is reinstated after its expiration, the 11 licensee, certificate holder, or registration card holder, as a 12 13 condition of reinstatement, shall pay a reinstatement fee in an 14 amount equal to the renewal fee in effect on the last regular 15 renewal date prior to the date on which the license, 16 certificate, or registration card is reinstated and any additional delinquency fee required by the Department. 17

18 (h) Any person or entity that notifies the Department, in 19 writing on forms prescribed by the Department, may place a 20 license, certificate, or registration card on inactive status 21 and shall be excused from the payment of renewal fees until the person or entity notifies the Department in writing of the 22 23 intention to resume active practice. Any person or entity 24 requesting that a license, certificate, or registration card be 25 changed from inactive to active status shall be required to pay 26 the current renewal fee.

(i) Any repossession agency licensee, recovery manager 27 28 certificate holder, or permanent employee registration card 29 holder whose license, certificate, or registration card is nonrenewed or on inactive status shall not engage in the 30 31 practice of recovery in the State or use the title or advertise 32 that he, she, or it performs the services of a "licensed agency", "certified recovery manager", 33 repossession or 34 "repossession agency employee".

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1 (j) Any person violating subsection (i) of this Section 2 shall be considered to be operating a repossession agency 3 without a license, acting as a recovery manager without a 4 certificate, or acting as a repossession agency employee 5 without a permanent employee registration card and is subject 6 to the disciplinary provisions of this Act.

(k) A repossession agency license, recovery manager 7 8 certificate, or permanent employee registration card that is not renewed within 3 years after its expiration may not be 9 10 renewed, restored, reinstated, or reissued thereafter. The holder of the license, certificate, or registration card may 11 obtain a new license, certificate, or registration card only 12 13 upon compliance with all of the provisions of this Act concerning the issuance of an original license, certificate, or 14 15 registration card.

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Section 70. Refusal, revocation, or suspension.

(a) The Department may refuse to issue or renew or may revoke a license, certificate, or registration card or may suspend, place on probation, fine, or take any disciplinary action as the Department may deem proper, including fines not to exceed \$2,500 for each violation, with regard to any licensee, certificate holder, or registration card holder for any one or combination of the following causes:

(1) Knowingly making any misrepresentation for the
 purpose of obtaining a license, certificate, or
 registration card.

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(2) Violations of this Act or its rules.

(3) Conviction of any crime under the laws of the
United States or any state or territory thereof that is (i)
a felony, (ii) a misdemeanor, an essential element of which
is dishonesty, or (iii) a crime that is related to the
practice of the profession.

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(4) Aiding or assisting another person in violating any

1 provision of this Act or its rules.

2 (5) Engaging in dishonorable, unethical, or 3 unprofessional conduct of a character likely to deceive, 4 defraud, or harm the public as defined by the rules of the 5 Department, or violating the rules adopted by the Board.

6 (6) Habitual or excessive use or addiction to alcohol, 7 narcotics, stimulants, or any other chemical agent or drug 8 that results in the inability to engage in the practice of 9 recovery with reasonable judgment, skill, or safety.

10 (7) Violation of any court order from any State or 11 public agency engaged in the enforcement of repayment of 12 child support or arrearages or for noncompliance with 13 certain processes relating to paternity or support 14 proceedings.

15 (8) Solicitation of professional services by using16 false or misleading advertising.

17 (9) A finding that licensure, certification, or
 18 registration has been applied for or obtained by fraudulent
 19 means.

(10) Practicing or attempting to practice under a name
other than the full name as shown on the license,
certificate, or registration card or any other legally
authorized name.

(b) The entry of an order by a circuit court establishing 24 25 that any person holding a license, certificate, or registration 26 card under Department rule is subject to involuntary admission or judicial admission as provided for in the Mental Health and 27 28 Developmental Disabilities Code operates as an automatic 29 suspension of that license, certificate, or registration card. 30 That person may have his or her license, certificate, or 31 registration card restored only upon the determination by a 32 circuit court that the patient is no longer subject to involuntary admission or judicial admission and the issuance of 33 an order so finding and discharging the patient or at the 34

discretion of the Department. Where the circumstances so indicate, the Department may require an examination prior to restoring a suspended license, certificate, or registration card.

5 (c) The Department may refuse to issue or may suspend the 6 license, certificate, or registration card of any person or 7 entity who fails to file a return, pay the tax, penalty, or 8 interest shown in a filed return or pay any final assessment of 9 tax, penalty, or interest, as required by any tax Act 10 administered by the Department of Revenue, until the time the 11 requirements of the tax Act are satisfied.

12 Section 75. Information to appropriate law enforcement 13 agency. Prior to performing a self-help repossession, a 14 repossession agency or repossession agency employee must 15 inform the appropriate law enforcement agency of the jurisdiction in which the agency or employee plans to perform 16 17 the repossession of the agency's or employee's intent to 18 perform the repossession. Failure to provide this information 19 to the appropriate law enforcement agency constitutes a 20 violation of this Act.

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Section 80. Consideration of past crimes.

(a) Notwithstanding the prohibitions set forth in Sections
35 and 40 of this Act, when considering the denial of a
license, certificate, or registration card on the grounds of
conviction of a crime, the Department, in evaluating the
rehabilitation of the applicant and the applicant's present
eligibility for a license, certificate, or registration card,
shall consider each of the following criteria:

(1) the nature and severity of the act or crime underconsideration as grounds for denial;

31 (2) evidence of any act committed subsequent to the act32 or crime under consideration as grounds for denial, which

also could be considered as grounds for disciplinary action
 under this Act;

3 (3) the amount of time that has lapsed since the 4 commission of the act or crime referred to in item (1) or 5 (2) of this subsection (a);

6 (4) the extent to which the applicant has complied with 7 any terms of parole, probation, restitution, or any other 8 sanctions lawfully imposed against the applicant; and

9 (5) evidence, if any, of rehabilitation submitted by 10 the applicant.

(b) When considering the suspension or revocation of a license, certificate, or registration card on the grounds of conviction of a crime, the Department, in evaluating the rehabilitation of the applicant and the applicant's present eligibility for a license, certificate, or registration card, shall consider each of the following criteria:

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(1) the nature and severity of the act or offense;

18 (2) the licensee's, certificate holder's, or 19 registration card holder's criminal record in its 20 entirety;

(3) the amount of time that has lapsed since the
commission of the act or offense;

(4) whether the licensee, certificate holder, or
registration card holder has complied with any terms of
parole, probation, restitution, or any other sanctions
lawfully imposed against him or her;

27 (5) if applicable, evidence of expungement28 proceedings; and

(6) evidence, if any, of rehabilitation submitted by
the licensee, certificate holder, or registration card
holder.

32 Section 85. Assignment of repossession agency license.33 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this Section, a

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repossession agency license is not assignable.

2 (b) A repossession agency may apply to the Department for 3 consent and, upon receipt of such consent and payment of any 4 fee required by the Department, may assign a license to another entity, provided that all owners of the assignor agency shall 5 subsequently own the assignee agency in its entirety. 6

7 Section 90. Insurance required. No repossession agency license shall be issued unless the applicant first files with 8 9 the Department a certification of insurance evidencing coverage in the required amount. The coverage shall provide the 10 Department as an additional insured for the purpose of 11 receiving all notices of modifications or cancellation of such 12 13 insurance. Coverage shall be written by an insurance company 14 that is lawfully engaged to provide insurance coverage in Illinois. Coverage shall provide for a combined single limit 15 policy in the amount of at least \$1,000,000, which policy shall 16 17 include commercial general liability for wrongful repossession, garage keepers, on hook, and drive-away and shall 18 19 provide for \$1,000,000 dishonesty bond and \$1,000,000 20 automobile liability. Coverage shall insure for the liability of all employees certified by the Department while acting in 21 22 the course of their employment.

The agency shall notify the Department of any claim against 23 24 insurance policy and shall notify the the Department 25 immediately upon cancellation of the insurance policy, whether the cancellation was initiated by the insurance company or the 26 27 insured agency. The agency's license shall automatically be 28 suspended on the date of cancellation of the policy, unless evidence of insurance is provided to the Department prior to 29 30 the effective date of the cancellation.

Section 95. Contingency work prohibited. No person or 31 entity licensed, certified, or registered under this Act shall 32

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work on a contingency basis. Any assignment received from a financial institution or financier requesting repossession work within the State must be issued and accepted on a non-contingent basis.

5 Section 100. Display of license required. At all times, a 6 repossession agency license shall be conspicuously displayed 7 at the agency location on record with the Department.

8 Section 105. Local filing. Nothing in this Act shall prevent local authorities in any city, county, or city and 9 county, by ordinance and within the exercise of the police 10 power of the city or county from requiring repossession agency 11 12 licensees and recovery manager certificate holders to register 13 their names and file a copy of their State identification cards 14 with the city, county, or city and county. No fee may be charged nor may any application be required by the city or 15 16 county for this registration.

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Section 110. Repossession of vehicles.

(a) With regard to collateral subject to registration under
 the Illinois Vehicle Code, repossession occurs when the
 repossessor gains entry into the collateral or when the
 collateral becomes connected to a tow truck.

(b) If personal effects or other property not covered by a security agreement are contained in or on a recovered vehicle at the time it is recovered, the personal effects and other property must be handled in the manner set forth in Article II of Chapter 4 of the Illinois Vehicle Code.

27 Section 115. Deposit of fees and fines. All of the fees and 28 fines collected under this Act shall be deposited into the 29 General Professions Dedicated Fund.

Section 120. Payments; penalty for insufficient funds. Any 1 2 person or entity who delivers a check or other payment to the 3 Department that is returned to the Department unpaid by the 4 financial institution upon which it is drawn shall pay to the 5 Department, in addition to the amount already owed to the Department, a fine of \$50. The fines imposed by this Section 6 7 are in addition to any other discipline provided under this Act prohibiting unlicensed, uncertified, or unregistered practice 8 a nonrenewed license, certificate, 9 practice on or or 10 registration card. The Department shall notify the person or entity that payment of fees and fines shall be paid to the 11 Department by certified check or money order within 30 calendar 12 days after notification. If, after the expiration of 30 days 13 14 from the date of the notification, the person or entity has 15 failed to submit the necessary remittance, the Department shall 16 automatically terminate the license, certificate, or 17 registration card or deny the application, without hearing. If, 18 after termination or denial, the person seeks a license, 19 certificate, or registration card, the person or entity shall 20 apply to the Department for restoration or issuance of the 21 license, certificate, or registration card and pay all fees and fines due to the Department. The Department may establish a fee 22 23 for the processing of an application for restoration of a 24 license, certificate, or registration card to pay all expenses 25 of processing this application. The Secretary may waive the 26 fines due under this Section in individual cases where the Secretary finds that the fines would be unreasonable or 27 28 unnecessarily burdensome.

29 Section 125. Roster. The Department shall maintain a roster 30 of names and addresses of all persons who hold valid licenses, 31 certificates, and registration cards and all persons whose 32 licenses, certificates, or registration cards have been 33 suspended or revoked within the previous year. This roster 09400SB2144sam003

shall be available upon request and payment of the required
 fee.

3 Section 130. Exemptions.

4 (a) This Act does not apply to any private detective or
5 private detective agency licensed under the Private Detective,
6 Private Alarm, Private Security, and Locksmith Act of 2004.

7 (b) This Act does not apply to any bank, savings bank, 8 savings and loan association, credit union, sales finance 9 agency, or insurance company or any subsidiary of such entity 10 that is organized, chartered, or holding a certificate of 11 authority to do business under the laws of this State or any 12 other state or under federal law.

Section 135. Violations; injunctions; cease and desist order.

(a) If any person or entity violates a provision of this 15 16 Act, the Secretary may, in the name of the People of the State 17 of Illinois, through the Attorney General of the State of 18 Illinois, petition for an order enjoining the violation or for 19 an order enforcing compliance with this Act. Upon the filing of a verified petition in court, the court may issue a temporary 20 21 restraining order, without notice or bond, and may preliminarily and permanently enjoin the violation. If it is 22 23 established that the person or entity has violated or is 24 violating the injunction, the Court may punish the offender for contempt of court. Proceedings under this Section are in 25 26 addition to, and not in lieu of, all other remedies and 27 penalties provided by this Act.

(b) If any person or entity practices as a repossession
agency or a recovery manager or holds himself, herself, or
itself out as such without having a valid license, certificate,
or registration card under this Act, then any licensee,
certificate holder, or registration card holder, any person

injured thereby, or any resident of or legal entity within the
 State may, in addition to the Secretary, petition for relief as
 provided in subsection (a) of this Section.

4 (c) Whenever, in the opinion of the Department or the Board, any person or entity violates any provision of this Act, 5 the Department may issue a rule to show cause why an order to 6 7 cease and desist should not be entered against that person or entity. The rule shall clearly set forth the grounds relied 8 upon by the Department and shall provide a period of 7 days 9 10 from the date of the rule to file an answer to the satisfaction of the Department. Failure to answer to the satisfaction of the 11 Department shall cause an order to cease and desist to be 12 13 issued immediately.

14 Section 140. Investigation; notice and hearing. The Department may investigate the actions or qualifications of any 15 person or entity holding or claiming to hold a license, 16 17 certificate, or registration card. Before suspending, revoking, placing on probationary status, or taking any other 18 19 disciplinary action as the Department may deem proper with 20 regard to any license, certificate, or registration card, at least 30 days before the date set for the hearing, the 21 Department shall (i) notify the accused in writing of any 22 23 charges made and the time and place for a hearing on the 24 charges before the Board, (ii) direct the accused to file a 25 written answer to the charges with the Board under oath within 20 days after the service on the person or entity of such 26 27 notice, and (iii) inform the accused that failure to file an 28 answer shall result in a default judgment against the person or entity and the person's or entity's license, certificate, or 29 30 registration card may be suspended, revoked, placed on 31 probationary status, or other disciplinary action taken with 32 regard to the license, as the Department may deem proper. In case the person or entity, after receiving notice, fails to 33

file an answer, the person's or entity's license may, in the 1 2 discretion of the Department, be suspended, revoked, placed on 3 probationary status, or the Department may take whatever 4 disciplinary action deemed proper, including the imposition of 5 a fine, without a hearing, if the act or acts charged constitute sufficient grounds for such action under this Act. 6 7 This written notice and any notice in the subsequent 8 proceedings may be served by personal delivery to the accused, or by registered or certified mail to the address last 9 specified by the accused in the last notification to the 10 Department. In case the person or entity fails to file an 11 answer after receiving notice, the person's or entity's license 12 13 may, in the discretion of the Department, be suspended, 14 revoked, or placed on probationary status, or the Department 15 may take whatever disciplinary action deemed proper, including the imposition of a fine, without a hearing, if the act or acts 16 17 charged constitute sufficient grounds for such action under 18 this Act. The written answer shall be served by personal 19 delivery, certified delivery, or certified or registered mail 20 to the Department. At the time and place fixed in the notice, the Department shall proceed to hear the charges and the 21 parties or their counsel shall be accorded ample opportunity to 22 present such statements, testimony, evidence, and argument as 23 24 may be pertinent to the charges or to the defense thereto. The 25 Department may continue such hearing from time to time. At the 26 discretion of the Secretary after having first received the recommendation of the Board, the accused person's or entity's 27 28 license, certificate, or registration card may be suspended or 29 revoked, if the evidence constitutes sufficient grounds for such action under this Act. 30

31 Section 145. Record of proceeding. The Department, at its 32 expense, shall preserve a record of all proceedings at the 33 formal hearing of any case. The notice of hearing, complaint and all other documents in the nature of pleadings and written motions filed in the proceedings, the transcript of testimony, the report of the Board and orders of the Department shall be in the record of the proceedings. The Department shall furnish a transcript of the record to any person interested in the hearing upon payment of the fee required under Section 2105-115 of the Department of Professional Regulation Law.

Section 150. Subpoenas; oaths; attendance of witnesses. 8 9 The Department has the power to subpoena and to bring before it 10 any person and to take testimony either orally or by deposition, or both, with the same fees and mileage and in the 11 same manner as prescribed in civil cases in the courts of this 12 13 State. The Secretary, the designated hearing officer, and every 14 member of the Board has power to administer oaths to witnesses 15 at any hearing that the Department is authorized to conduct and any other oaths authorized in any Act administered by the 16 17 Department. Any circuit court may, upon application of the Department or its designee or of the applicant, licensee, 18 19 certificate holder, or registration card holder against whom 20 proceedings under this Act are pending, enter an order requiring the attendance of witnesses and their testimony, and 21 22 the production of documents, papers, files, books and records 23 in connection with any hearing or investigation. The court may 24 compel obedience to its order by proceedings for contempt.

25 Section 155. Recommendations for disciplinary action. At 26 the conclusion of the hearing, the Board shall present to the 27 Secretary a written report of its findings and recommendations. The report shall contain a finding whether or not the accused 28 29 person or entity violated this Act or failed to comply with the 30 conditions required in this Act. The Board shall specify the nature of the violation or failure to comply, and shall make 31 its recommendations to the Secretary. The report of findings 32

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and recommendations of the Board shall be the basis for the 1 2 Department's order for refusal or for the granting of a 3 license, certificate, or registration card, or for any 4 disciplinary action, unless the Secretary shall determine that 5 the Board's report is contrary to the manifest weight of the evidence, in which case the Secretary may issue an order in 6 7 contravention of the Board's report. The finding is not 8 admissible in evidence against the person in a criminal prosecution brought for the violation of this Act, but the 9 10 hearing and finding are not a bar to a criminal prosecution brought for the violation of this Act. 11

12 160. Section Rehearing. In any hearing involving 13 disciplinary action against a licensee, certificate holder, or 14 registration card holder, a copy of the Board's report shall be served upon the respondent by the Department, either personally 15 or as provided in this Act for the service of the notice of 16 17 hearing. Within 20 calendar days after service, the respondent 18 may present to the Department a motion in writing for a 19 rehearing that shall specify the particular grounds for 20 rehearing. If no motion for rehearing is filed, then upon the expiration of the time specified for filing a motion, or if a 21 motion for rehearing is denied, then upon denial, the Secretary 22 23 may enter an order in accordance with recommendations of the 24 Board, except as provided in this Act. If the respondent orders 25 from the reporting service, and pays for, a transcript of the record within the time for filing a motion for rehearing, the 26 27 20 calendar day period within which a motion may be filed shall 28 commence upon the delivery of the transcript to the respondent.

29 Section 165. Appointment of a hearing officer. The 30 Secretary has the authority to appoint any attorney duly 31 licensed to practice law in the State of Illinois to serve as 32 the hearing officer in any action for refusal to issue or renew

1 a license, certificate, or registration card or to discipline a licensee, certificate holder, or registration card holder. The 2 3 hearing officer has full authority to conduct the hearing. The 4 hearing officer shall report his findings and recommendations 5 to the Board and the Secretary. The Board has 60 calendar days from receipt of the report to review the report of the hearing 6 officer and present its findings of fact, conclusions of law 7 and recommendations to the Secretary. If the Board fails to 8 present its report within the 60 calendar day period, the 9 Secretary may issue an order based on the report of the hearing 10 officer. If the Secretary disagrees with the recommendation of 11 the Board or the hearing officer, the Secretary may issue an 12 order in contravention of the recommendation. 13

14 Section 170. Hearing by other examiner. Whenever the 15 Secretary is not satisfied that substantial justice has been 16 done in the revocation, suspension or refusal to issue or renew 17 a license, certificate, or registration card, the Secretary may 18 order a rehearing by the same or other examiners.

Section 175. Order; certified copy. An order or a certified copy thereof, over the seal of the Department and purporting to be signed by the Secretary, shall be prima facie proof:

23 (a) that the signature is the genuine signature of the24 Secretary;

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(b) that the Secretary is duly appointed and qualified; and(c) that the Board and its members are qualified to act.

27 Section 180. Restoration. At any time after the suspension 28 or revocation of any license, certificate, or registration 29 card, the Department may restore the license, certificate, or 30 registration card to the accused person, upon the written 31 recommendation of the Board, unless after an investigation and 09400SB2144sam003

1 a hearing the Board determines that restoration is not in the 2 public interest.

3 Section 185. License, certificate, and registration card 4 surrender. Upon the revocation or suspension of any license, certificate, or registration card, the licensee, certificate 5 or registration card holder shall immediately 6 holder, 7 surrender the license, certificate, or registration card to the the 8 Department. If licensee, certificate holder, or 9 registration card holder fails to do so, the Department has the 10 right to seize the license, certificate, or registration card.

11 Section 190. Summary suspension. The Secretary may 12 summarily suspend the license of a repossession agency, the 13 certificate of a recovery manager, or the registration card of 14 an employee without a hearing, simultaneously with the institution of proceedings for a hearing provided for in this 15 16 Act, if the Secretary finds that evidence in his or her 17 possession indicates that a repossession agency's, recovery 18 manager's, or employee's continuation in the business of 19 collateral recovery would constitute an imminent danger to the 20 public. In the event that the Secretary summarily suspends a 21 license, certificate, or registration card without a hearing, a 22 hearing by the Board must be held within 30 calendar days after 23 the suspension has occurred.

Section 195. Judicial review. All final administrative decisions of the Department are subject to judicial review under the Administrative Review Law and its rules. The term "administrative decision" is defined as in Section 3-101 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

Proceedings for judicial review shall be commenced in the circuit court of the county in which the party applying for review resides; but if the party is not a resident of this 09400SB2144sam003 -35- LRB094 14899 RAS 55553 a

1 State, the venue shall be in Sangamon County.

2 Section 200. Certification of records. The Department 3 shall not be required to certify any record to the Court or 4 file any answer in court or otherwise appear in any court in a judicial review proceeding, unless there is filed in the court, 5 with the complaint, a receipt from the Department acknowledging 6 7 payment of the costs of furnishing and certifying the record. Failure on the part of the plaintiff to file such receipt in 8 Court shall be grounds for dismissal of the action. 9

10 Section 205. Violations; criminal penalties. Any person 11 who is found to have violated any provision of this Act is 12 guilty of a Class A misdemeanor for the first offense, and a 13 Class 4 felony for second and subsequent offenses.

14 Section 210. Illinois Administrative Procedure Act. The 15 Illinois Administrative Procedure Act is expressly adopted and 16 incorporated in this Act as if all of the provisions of that 17 Act were included in this Act, except that the provision of 18 paragraph (d) of Section 10-65 of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act, which provides that at hearings the license 19 holder has the right to show compliance with all lawful 20 21 requirements for retention, continuation, or renewal of the 22 certificate, is specifically excluded. For the purpose of this 23 Act, the notice required under Section 10-25 of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act is deemed sufficient when mailed 24 to the last known address of a party.". 25