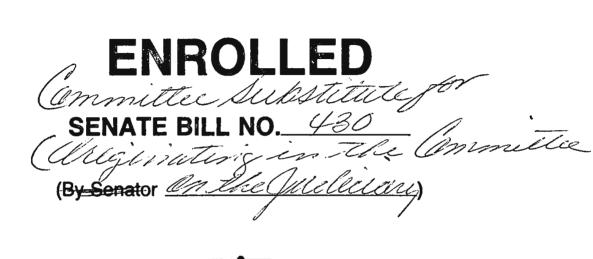
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OFFICE OF WEST VIRGIN'A SECRETALY OF STATE

## **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

**REGULAR SESSION, 1993** 



1993 PASSED In Effect 2 m Passage

#### ENROLLED

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

#### FOR

### Senate Bill No. 430

(Originating in the Committee on the Judiciary.)

[Passed April 10, 1993; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact section five-s, article ten, chapter eleven of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended; and to amend and reenact sections one, two, three, four, five, seven, eight, eight-a, eight-b, nine and eleven, article eight, chapter thirty-six of said code, all relating to taxation procedure and administration; permitting disclosure of certain business registration information to the state treasurer for recovery and disposition of unclaimed property; defining due diligence; reducing the time period for a presumption of abandonment of property from seven years to five years; clarifying state's authority to take custody of abandoned property; requiring the holder of unclaimed property to exercise due diligence to locate the whereabouts of the owner of the property; and definitions.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That section five-s, article ten, chapter eleven of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as

amended, be amended and reenacted; and that sections one, two, three, four, five, seven, eight, eight-a, eight-b, nine and eleven, article eight, chapter thirty-six of said code be amended and reenacted, all to read as follows:

#### CHAPTER 11. TAXATION.

#### ARTICLE 10. PROCEDURE AND ADMINISTRATION.

#### §11-10-5s. Disclosure of certain taxpayer information.

1 (a) Purpose. — The Legislature hereby recognizes 2 the importance of confidentiality of taxpayer informa-3 tion as a protection of taxpayers' privacy rights and to 4 enhance voluntary compliance with the tax law. The 5 Legislature also recognizes the citizens' right to 6 accountable and efficient state government. To accom-7 plish these ends, the Legislature hereby creates 8 certain exceptions to the general principle of confiden-9 tiality of taxpayer information.

#### 10 (b) Exceptions to confidentiality. —

11 (1) Notwithstanding any provision in this code to the 12 contrary, the tax commissioner shall publish in the 13 state register the name and address of every taxpayer, 14 and the amount, by category, of any credit asserted on 15 a tax return under articles thirteen-c, thirteen-d, 16 thirteen-e, thirteen-f, thirteen-g and thirteen-h of this 17 chapter and article one, chapter five-e of this code for 18 any tax year beginning on or after the first day of 19 July, one thousand nine hundred ninety-one. The 20 categories by dollar amount of credit received shall be 21 as follows:

22 (A) More than \$1.00, but not more than \$50,000;

23 (B) More than \$50,000, but not more than \$100,000;

24 (C) More than \$100,000, but not more than \$250,000;

25 (D) More than \$250,000, but not more than \$500,000;

26 (E) More than \$500,000, but not more than \$1,000,000;27 and

28 (F) More than \$1,000,000.

29 (2) Notwithstanding any provision in this code to the

30 contrary, the tax commissioner shall publish in the 31 state register the following information regarding any 32 compromise of a pending civil tax case that occurs on 33 or after the effective date of this section in which the 34 tax commissioner is required to seek the written 35 recommendation of the attorney general and the 36 attorney general has not recommended acceptance of 37 such compromise or when the tax commissioner 38 compromises any civil tax case for an amount that is 39 more than two hundred fifty thousand dollars less 40 than the assessment of tax owed made by the tax 41 commissioner:

42 (A) The names and addresses of taxpayers that are 43 parties to such compromise;

44 (B) A summary of such compromise;

45 (C) Any written advice or recommendation ren46 dered by the attorney general regarding such compro47 mise; and

48 (D) Any written advice or recommendation ren-49 dered by the tax commissioner's staff.

50 Under no circumstances may the tax return of the 51 taxpayer nor any other information which would 52 otherwise be confidential under any other provisions 53 of law be disclosed pursuant to the provisions of this 54 subsection.

55 (3) Notwithstanding any provision in this code to the 56 contrary, the tax commissioner may disclose any 57 relevant return information to the prosecuting attor-58 ney for the county in which venue lies for a criminal 59 tax offense when there is reasonable cause, based 60 upon and substantiated by such information, to believe 61 that a criminal tax law has been or is being violated.

62 (4) Notwithstanding any provision in this code to the 63 contrary, the tax commissioner may enter into written 64 exchange of information agreements with the commis-65 sioners of labor, employment security and workers' 66 compensation to disclose and receive return informa-67 tion: *Provided*, That the tax commissioner may pro-68 mulgate rules pursuant to chapter twenty-nine-a of

69 this code regarding further agencies with which 70 written exchange of information agreements may be 71 sought: Provided, however, That the tax commissioner 72 may not promulgate emergency rules regarding fur-73 ther agencies with which written exchange of infor-74 mation agreements may be sought. Such agreements 75 shall be published in the state register and shall only 76 be for the purpose of facilitating premium collection. 77 tax collection and facilitating licensure requirements 78 directly enforced, administered or collected by the 79 respective agencies. The provisions of this subsection 80 shall not be construed to preclude or limit disclosure 81 of tax information authorized by other provisions of 82 this code. Any confidential return information so 83 disclosed shall remain confidential in the hands of 84 such other division to the extent provided by section 85 five-d of this article and by other applicable federal or 86 state laws.

87 (5) Notwithstanding any provision of this code to the 88 contrary, the tax commissioner may enter into a 89 written agreement with the state treasurer to disclose 90 to the state treasurer the following business registra-91 tion information: (1) The names, addresses, and federal 92 employer identification numbers of businesses which 93 have registered to do business in West Virginia; and (2) 94 the type of business activity and organization of those 95 businesses. Disclosure of such information shall begin 96 as soon as practicable after the effective date of this 97 subsection and may be used only for the purpose of 98 recovery and disposition of unclaimed property in 99 accordance with the provisions of article eight, chapter 100 thirty-six of this code. The provisions of this subsection 101 shall not be construed to preclude or limit disclosure 102 of tax information authorized by other provisions of 103 this code. Any confidential return information dis-104 closed hereunder or thereunder shall otherwise 105 remain confidential to the extent provided by section 106 five-d of this article and by other applicable federal or 107 state laws.

108 (c) Tax expenditure reports. — Beginning on the 109 fifteenth day of January, one thousand nine hundred 110 ninety-two and every fifteenth day of January there-111 after, the governor shall submit to the president of the 112 Senate and the speaker of the House of Delegates a tax 113 expenditure report. Such report shall expressly iden-114 tify all tax expenditures. Within three-year cycles. 115 such reports shall be considered together to analyze all 116 tax expenditures by describing the annual revenue 117 loss and benefits of the tax expenditure based upon 118 information available to the tax commissioner. For 119 purposes of this section, the term "tax expenditure" 120 shall mean a provision in the tax laws administered 121 under this article, including, but not limited to, 122 exclusions, deductions, tax preferences, credits and 123 deferrals designed to encourage certain kinds of 124 activities or to aid taxpayers in special circumstances: 125 Provided, That the tax commissioner shall promulgate 126 rules setting forth the procedure by which he or she 127 will compile such reports and setting forth a priority 128 for the order in which the reports will be compiled 129 according to type of tax expenditure.

130 (d) Federal and state return information confiden131 tial. — Notwithstanding any other provisions of this
132 section or of this code, no return information made
133 available to the tax commissioner by the Internal
134 Revenue Service or department or agency of any
135 other state may be disclosed to another person in any
136 manner inconsistent with the provisions of Section
137 6103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as
138 amended, or of such other states' confidentiality laws.

#### CHAPTER 36. ESTATES AND PROPERTY.

#### ARTICLE 8. UNIFORM DISPOSITION OF UNCLAIMED PROPERTY ACT.

#### §36-8-1. Definitions and use of terms.

1 As used in this article, unless the context otherwise 2 requires:

- 3 (a) "Banking organization" means any bank, trust
- 4 company or a private banker engaged in business in
- 5 this state, or a banking institution as defined in section
- 6 one, article four, chapter thirty-one of this code.

7 (b) "Business association" means any corporation
8 (other than a public corporation), joint stock company,
9 business trust, partnership or any association for
10 business purposes of two or more individuals.

11 (c) "Due diligence" shall include, but not be limited 12 to, the mailing of a letter by first-class mail to the last 13 known address of the owner as indicated on the 14 records of the holder.

(d) "Financial organization" means any savings and
loan association, building and loan association, industrial loan company, credit union, business association
which issues travelers' checks or investment company
engaged in business in this state.

20 (e) "Holder" means any person in possession of 21 property subject to this article belonging to another, or 22 who is trustee in case of a trust, or is indebted to 23 another on an obligation subject to this article.

(f) "Life insurance corporation" means any association or corporation transacting within this state the
business of insurance on the lives of persons or
insurance appertaining thereto, including, but not by
way of limitation, endowments and annuities.

(g) "Owner" means a depositor in case of a deposit,
a beneficiary in case of a trust, a creditor, claimant or
payee in case of other choses in action, or any person
having a legal or equitable interest in property subject
to this article or his legal representative.

(h) "Person" means any individual, business association, government or political subdivision, public
corporation, public authority, estate, trust, two or
more persons having a joint or common interest, or
any other legal or commercial entity; but shall not
include any retirement system supported entirely or
in part by the state of West Virginia.

(i) "Utility" means any person who owns or operates
within this state, for public use, any plant, equipment,
property, franchise, or license for the transmission of
communications or the production, storage, transmission, sale, delivery, or furnishing of electricity, water,

46 steam or gas.

#### §36-8-2. Property held by banking or financial organizations.

1 The following property held or owing by a banking 2 or financial organization is presumed abandoned:

3 (a) Any noninterest bearing demand, savings or 4 matured time deposit made in this state with a 5 banking organization, or other financial organization, 6 excluding any charges which may lawfully be with-7 held, if the owner has not within the immediately 8 preceding five years increased or decreased the 9 amount of the deposit: *Provided*, That notwithstanding 10 the fact that there has been no increase or decrease in 11 the amount of the deposit within the five-year period, 12 there shall be no presumption of abandonment if the 13 owner has within the immediately preceding year:

14 (1) Corresponded in writing with the organization15 concerning the deposit; or

16 (2) Otherwise indicated an interest in the deposit as 17 evidenced by a memorandum on file with the 18 organization.

19 In any case where the owner has taken any of the 20 actions specified in paragraph (1) or (2) of this subdi-21 vision there shall thereafter be no presumption of 22 abandonment unless and until another five years have 23 passed without any increase or decrease in the amount 24 of the deposit and without any of such actions having 25 been taken in the last year of such further five-year 26 period.

(b) Any interest bearing demand, savings or matured time deposit made in this state with a panking organization or other financial organization, together with any interest or dividend thereon, excluding any charges that may lawfully be withheld, if the owner has not within the immediately preceding fifteen years increased or decreased the amount of the deposit: *Provided*, That notwithstanding the fact that there has been no increase or decrease in the amount of the deposit within the fifteen-year period, there shall be no presumption of abandonment if the owner

38 has within the immediately preceding year:

39 (1) Presented the passbook or other similar evidence40 of deposit for the crediting of interest; or

41 (2) Corresponded in writing with the organization 42 concerning the deposit; or

43 (3) Otherwise indicated an interest in the deposit as 44 evidenced by a memorandum on file with the 45 organization.

46 In any case where the owner has taken any of the 47 actions specified in paragraph (1), (2) or (3) of this 48 subdivision there shall thereafter be no presumption 49 of abandonment unless and until another fifteen years 50 have passed without any increase or decrease in the 51 amount of the deposit and without any of such actions 52 having been taken in the last year of such further 53 fifteen-year period.

(c) Any noninterest bearing funds paid in this state toward the purchase of shares or other interest in a financial organization or any deposit made therewith in this state, excluding any charges that may lawfully be withheld, if the owner has not within the immediately preceding five years increased or decreased the amount of the funds or deposit: *Provided*, That notwithstanding the fact that there has been no increase or decrease in the amount of the funds or deposit within said five-year period, there shall be no presumption of abandonment if the owner has within the immediately preceding year:

66 (1) Corresponded in writing with the financial 67 organization concerning the funds or deposit; or

68 (2) Otherwise indicated an interest in the funds or 69 deposit as evidenced by a memorandum on file with 70 the financial organization.

71 In any case where the owner has taken any of the 72 actions specified in paragraph (1) or (2) of this subdi-73 vision there shall thereafter be no presumption of 74 abandonment unless and until another five years have 75 passed without any increase or decrease in the amount 76 of the funds or deposit and without any of such actions77 having been taken in the last year of such further78 five-year period.

(d) Any interest bearing funds paid in this state toward the purchase of shares or other interest in a financial organization or any deposit made therewith in this state, and any interest or dividends thereon, excluding any charges that may lawfully be withheld, if the owner has not within the immediately preceding fifteen years increased or decreased the amount of the funds or deposit: *Provided*, That notwithstanding the fact that there has been no increase or decrease in the amount of the funds or deposit within said fifteen-year period, there shall be no presumption of abandonment if the owner has within the immediately preceding year:

92 (1) Presented an appropriate record for the crediting 93 of interest or dividends; or

94 (2) Corresponded in writing with the financial 95 organization concerning the funds or deposit; or

96 (3) Otherwise indicated an interest in the funds or 97 deposit as evidenced by a memorandum on file with 98 the financial organization.

99 In any case where the owner has taken any of the 100 actions specified in paragraph (1), (2) or (3) of this 101 subdivision there shall thereafter be no presumption 102 of abandonment unless and until another fifteen years 103 have passed without any increase or decrease in the 104 amount of the funds or deposit and without any of 105 such actions having been taken in the last year of such 106 further fifteen-year period.

107 (e) Any sum payable on any check certified in this 108 state or on any written instrument issued in this state 109 on which a banking or financial organization is 110 directly liable, including, by way of illustration but not 111 of limitation, a certificate of deposit and draft that has 112 been outstanding for more than five years from the 113 date it was payable, or from the date of its issuance if 114 payable on demand, unless the owner has within the 115 preceding year corresponded in writing with the 116 banking or financial organization concerning it, or 117 otherwise indicated an interest as evidenced by a 118 memorandum on file with the banking or financial 119 organization.

120 (f) Any funds or other personal property, tangible or 121 intangible, removed from a safe-deposit box or any 122 other safekeeping depository in this state on which the 123 lease or rental period has expired due to nonpayment 124 of rental charges or other reason, or any surplus amounts arising from the sale thereof pursuant to law. 125 126 that have been unclaimed by the owner for more than 127 five years from the date on which the lease or rental 128 period expired.

(g) No holder may impose with respect to property
described in this section any charges due to dormancy
or inactivity or cease payment of interest unless there
is an enforceable written contract between the holder
and the owner of the property pursuant to which the
holder may impose those charges or cease payment of
interest.

(h) Any amount held or owing by any organization
for the payment of a travelers check on which such
organization is directly liable shall be presumed
abandoned if such amount is held or owing for payment of a travelers check which shall have been
outstanding for more than fifteen years from the date
of its sale.

# §36-8-3. Unclaimed funds held by life insurance corporations.

(a) Unclaimed funds, as defined in this section, held 1 2 and owing by a life insurance corporation shall be presumed abandoned if the last-known address, 3 according to the records of the corporation, of the 4 5 person entitled to the funds is within this state. If a person other than the insured or annuitant is entitled 6 to the funds and no address of such person is known 7 to the corporation or if it is not definite and certain 8 from the records of the corporation what person is 9 entitled to the funds, it is presumed that the last-10

11 known address of the person entitled to the funds is 12 the same as the last-known address of the insured or 13 annuitant according to the records of the corporation.

14 (b) "Unclaimed funds", as used in this section, 15 means all moneys held and owing by any life insur-16 ance corporation unclaimed and unpaid for more than 17 five years after the moneys became due and payable 18 as established from the records of the corporation 19 under any life or endowment insurance policy or 20 annuity contract which has matured or terminated. A 21 life insurance policy not matured by actual proof of 22 the death of the insured is deemed to be matured and 23 the proceeds thereof are deemed to be due and 24 payable if such policy was in force when the insured 25 attained the limiting age under the mortality table on 26 which the reserve is based, unless the person appear-27 ing entitled thereto has within the preceding five 28 years: (1) Assigned, readjusted, or paid premiums on 29 the policy, or subjected the policy to loan; or (2) 30 corresponded in writing with the life insurance 31 corporation concerning the policy. Moneys otherwise 32 payable according to the records of the corporation are 33 deemed due and payable although the policy or 34 contract has not been surrendered as required.

#### §36-8-4. Deposits and refunds held by utilities.

1 The following funds held or owing by any utility are 2 presumed abandoned:

3 (a) Any deposit made subsequent to the year one 4 thousand nine hundred fifty-seven, by a subscriber 5 with a utility to secure payment for, or any sum paid 6 in advance for, utility services to be furnished in this 7 state, less any lawful deductions, that has remained 8 unclaimed by the person appearing on the records of 9 the utility entitled thereto for more than five years 10 after the termination of the services for which the 11 deposit or advance payment was made.

12 (b) Any sum which a utility has been ordered to 13 refund and which was received subsequent to the year 14 one thousand nine hundred fifty-seven, for utility 15 services rendered in this state, together with any

16 interest thereon, less any lawful deductions, that has
17 remained unclaimed by the person appearing on the
18 records of the utility entitled thereto for more than
19 five years after the date it became payable in accor20 dance with the final determination or order providing
21 for the refund.

#### §36-8-5. Undistributed dividends and distributions of business associations.

1 Any stock or other certificate of ownership, or any 2 dividend, profit, distribution, interest, payment on 3 principal or other sum held or owing by a business 4 association for or to a shareholder, certificate holder, 5 member, bondholder or other security holder, or a 6 participating patron of a cooperative, who has not 7 claimed it or corresponded in writing with the busi-8 ness association concerning it, within five years after 9 the date prescribed for payment or delivery, is pre-10 sumed abandoned if:

11 (a) It is held or owing by a business association12 organized under the laws of or created in this state; or

(b) It is held or owing by a business association doing
business in this state, but not organized under the laws
of or created in this state and the records of the
business association indicate that the last-known
address of the person entitled thereto is in this state.

#### §36-8-7. Property held by fiduciaries.

1 All intangible personal property and any income or 2 increment thereon, held in a fiduciary capacity for the 3 benefit of another person is presumed abandoned 4 unless the owner has, within five years after the final 5 date for distribution of such property and the cessation 6 of all active fiduciary duties as required by law or the 7 instrument under which the fiduciary is acting, 8 increased or decreased the principal, accepted pay-9 ment of principal or income, corresponded in writing 10 with the fiduciary concerning the property, or other-11 wise indicated an interest as evidence by a memoran-12 dum on file with the fiduciary:

13 (a) If the property is held by a banking organization

14 or a financial organization, or by a business association15 organized under the laws of or created in this state; or

(b) If it is held by a business association, doing
business in this state, but not organized under the laws
of or created in this state, and the records of the
business association indicate that the last-known
address of the person entitled thereto is in this state;
or

22 (c) If it is held in this state by any other person.

## §36-8-8. Property held by courts and public officers and agencies.

1 (a) All intangible personal property held for the 2 owner by any state or federal court, public corpora-3 tion, public authority, or public officer in this state, or 4 a political subdivision thereof, that has remained 5 unclaimed by the owner for more than five years is 6 presumed abandoned: *Provided*, That this provision 7 shall in no way affect such property in the custody or 8 control of any state or federal court in any pending 9 action: *Provided*, however, That if any federal statute 10 provides for the distribution of any unclaimed proper-11 ty subject to the jurisdiction of a federal court, this 12 statute shall not apply.

13 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) 14 of this section, all intangible personal property in the 15 custody or control of a general receiver of a state court 16 of record appointed pursuant to the provisions of 17 article six, chapter fifty-one of this code, that has 18 remained unclaimed by the owner for more than five 19 years is presumed abandoned: Provided, That any 20 such property in the custody or control of any such 21 general receiver in which there is any contingent 22 remainder interest, or any vested remainder interest 23 which is subject to open to let in persons not yet in 24 being or to open to let in members of any class, or any 25 executory interest, or executory devise interest, or any 26 base, gualified, conditional, or limited fee estate or 27 interest, or any other qualified, conditional, limited or 28 determinable estate or interest, shall not be presumed 29 abandoned until such property has remained

30 unclaimed for more than five years after such estate

31 or interest has vested or any such class has closed and

32 the persons entitled to such property have been

33 determined.

#### §36-8-8a. Providing for recovery of abandoned property.

With respect to property originating or issued by this
 state, any political subdivision, thereof or any entity
 incorporated, organized, created or otherwise located
 therein, the following provision shall apply:

5 (a) Unless presumed abandoned and subject to the 6 custody of this state by any other provision of law, all 7 intangible property, including, but not limited to, any 8 interest, dividend, or other earnings thereon, less any 9 lawful charges, that is held by a business association, 10 federal, state or local government or person or entity, 11 regardless of where the holder may be found, is 12 presumed abandoned and subject to the custody of this 13 state as unclaimed property if:

14 (1) The address of the owner was never known or15 the last known address of the owner is unknown; and

16 (2) The entity originating or issuing the intangible
17 property is in this state or any of its political subdivi18 sions or is incorporated, organized, created or other19 wise located in this state.

(b) Subsection (a) of this section shall apply to all
property held at the time of enactment or at anytime
thereafter regardless of when such property became
or becomes presumptively abandoned.

#### §36-8-8b. Presumption of abandonment of personal property held by federal government.

1 (a) All tangible personal property or intangible 2 personal property, including choses in action in 3 amounts certain, and all debts owed, entrusted funds 4 or other property held by any federal, state or local 5 government or governmental subdivision, agency, 6 entity, officer or appointee thereof, shall be presumed 7 abandoned in this state if the last-known address of 8 the owner of the property is in this state and the 9 property has remained unclaimed for five years:
10 Provided, That if another provision of law provides for
11 a presumption of abandonment and custodial taking of
12 the subject property by this state upon the passage of
13 a longer period of time, such longer period of time
14 shall control.

15 (b) This section shall apply to all abandoned proper-16 ty held by any federal, state or local government or 17 governmental subdivision, agency, entity, officer or 18 appointee thereof, at the time of enactment, or at any 19 time thereafter, regardless of when such property 20 became or becomes presumptively abandoned.

#### §36-8-9. Miscellaneous personal property held for another person; exception; prohibiting the levying of charges on inactive savings account.

All personal property not otherwise covered by this 1 2 article, including any income or increment thereon 3 and after deducting any lawful charges, that is held or 4 owing in this state in the ordinary course of the 5 holder's business and has remained unclaimed by the 6 owner for more than five years after it became 7 payable or distributable is presumed abandoned: 8 Provided, That this section shall not apply to such 9 property held or owing by a utility prior to the year 10 one thousand nine hundred fifty-seven: Provided, 11 however, That notwithstanding the provisions of 12 section two of this article, no banking or other finan-13 cial organization or institution shall, after the effective 14 date of this section, demand, collect, charge or contract 15 to receive any charge due to dormancy or inactivity on 16 any interest bearing savings or time deposit for any 17 period of time prior to the withdrawal of such funds 18 by the depositor, his personal agent or representative, 19 or the accrual under this article of the right of the 20 state to deposit or sell as abandoned property any such 21 deposit. For purposes of this proviso, any interest 22 bearing savings or time deposit shall be deemed to be 23 dormant or inactive if the depositor, his personal agent 24 or representative has not within the immediately 25 preceding two years increased or decreased the 26 amount of the deposit.

#### §36-8-11. Report of abandoned property.

(a) Every person holding funds or other property,
 tangible or intangible, presumed abandoned under this
 article shall report to the state treasurer with respect
 to the property as hereinafter provided.

5 (b) The report shall be verified and shall include:

6 (1) The name, if known, and last-known address, if 7 any, of each person appearing from the records of the 8 holder to be the owner of any property of the value of 9 fifty dollars or more presumed abandoned under this 10 article;

11 (2) In case of unclaimed funds of life insurance 12 corporations, the full name of the insured or annuitant 13 and his last-known address according to the life 14 insurance corporation's records;

15 (3) The nature and identifying number, if any, or
16 description of the property and the amount appearing
17 from the records to be due, except that items of value
18 under fifty dollars each may be reported in aggregate;

19 (4) The date when the property became payable,20 demandable or returnable and the date of the last21 transaction with the owner with respect to the prop-22 erty; and

23 (5) Other information which the state treasurer
24 prescribes by rule as necessary for the administration
25 of this article.

(c) If the person holding property presumed abandoned is a successor to other persons who previously
held the property for the owner, or if the holder has
changed his name while holding the property, he shall
file with his report all prior known names and
addresses of each holder of the property.

32 (d) The report shall be filed before the thirty-first
33 day of March of each year as of the thirty-first day of
34 December next preceding. The state treasurer may
35 postpone the reporting date upon written request by
36 any person required to file a report.

37 (e) If the holder of property presumed abandoned 38 under this chapter knows the whereabouts of the 39 owner, the holder shall, before filing the annual 40 report, communicate with the owner and take neces-41 sary steps to prevent abandonment from being pre-42 sumed. All holders shall exercise due diligence, as 43 defined in subdivision (i), section one of this article, at 44 least sixty days but no more than 120 days prior to 45 submission of the report to ascertain the whereabouts 46 of the owner if: (1) The holder has in its records and address for the apparent owner which the holder's 47 48 records do not disclose to be inaccurate; and (2) the property has a value of fifty dollars or more. 49

50 (f) Verification, if made by a partnership, shall be 51 executed by a partner; if made by an unincorporated 52 association or private corporation, by an officer; and if 53 made by a public corporation, by its chief fiscal officer.

54 (g) The initial report filed under this article shall 55 include all items of property which, under the provi-56 sions hereof, would have been presumed abandoned 57 on the effective date of this article had this article 58 been in effect on the first day of July, one thousand 59 nine hundred fifty-two.

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60 (h) The state treasurer may at reasonable times and 61 upon reasonable notice examine the records of any 62 person if he has reason to believe that the person has 63 failed to report property that should have been 64 reported pursuant to this section.

(i) Every person filing a report shall deliver or pay
to the state treasurer all abandoned property specified
in the report, at the time of the report.

If an examination of the records of a person results in disclosure of property reportable and deliverable under this section, the treasurer may assess the cost of the examination against the holder at a rate established by administrative regulation promulgated pursuant to chapter twenty-nine-a of this code, but in no case may the charges exceed the value of the property found to be reportable and deliverable.

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled. Chairman Senate Committee mest & more Chairman House Committee

Originated in the Senate.

In effect ninety days from passage, 0 Clerk of the Senate

ouse of Delg Clerk of Presid Speaker House of Delegates

 $\dots$  this the 12 the The within Lo. app. I.M. ...., 1993.

PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNOR Date 1/23/93 Time 9:10 AM