Second Regular Session Seventy-first General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

PREAMENDED

This Unofficial Version Includes Committee Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading

LLS NO. 18-0494.01 Richard Sweetman x4333

HOUSE BILL 18-1057

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

McKean,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Coram,

House Committees

Senate Committees

Judiciary Finance Appropriations

	A BILL FOR AN ACT
101	CONCERNING THE COLLECTION OF DEBTS, AND, IN CONNECTION
102	THEREWITH, REQUIRING THAT CERTAIN INFORMATION ABOUT
103	JUDGMENT DEBTORS BE DISCLOSED TO JUDGMENT CREDITORS
104	THAT OBTAIN A COURT ORDER FOR SUCH DISCLOSURE AND
105	ALLOWING COLLECTION AGENTS TO ADD CERTAIN EXPENSES TO
106	AMOUNTS DUE FOR COLLECTION.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at http://leg.colorado.gov.)

The bill allows a judgment creditor to file a petition in court to

compel the department of labor and employment to disclose certain information about an individual judgment debtor. Judgment creditors must follow federal requirements for protecting any information disclosed and may not share it with other persons. A civil penalty of \$1,000 may be assessed against a judgment creditor who fails to comply with these requirements.

The bill creates the judgment debtor disclosure fund in the state treasury. The fund consists of money from fees collected for requests for disclosure of current employer information on individual judgment debtors.

The bill allows a collection agency or privately retained attorney collecting on any debt arising from past-due orders, obligations, fines, or fees due to the state, or to any political subdivision within the state, to add to the amount due that has been placed for collection all fees, costs, and costs of collection, including designated contractual costs and attorney fees, regardless of whether the debt has been reduced to judgment.

1	Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:
2	SECTION 1. Short title. The short title of this act is the "Asset
3	Recovery Efficiency Act".
4	SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add article 51.3 to
5	title 13 as follows:
6	ARTICLE 51.3
7	Disclosure of Information for Asset Recovery
8	13-51.3-101. Definitions. AS USED IN THIS ARTICLE 51.3, UNLESS
9	THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:
10	(1) "Department" means the department of labor and
11	EMPLOYMENT.
12	(2) "JUDGMENT CREDITOR" AND "JUDGMENT DEBTOR" HAVE THE
13	MEANINGS SET FORTH IN SECTION 13-54.5-101.
14	13-51.3-102. Disclosure of information for asset recovery -
15	court order - procedures - restrictions on use of information -
16	penalties. (1) The department shall disclose to a judgment

-2- 1057

1	CREDITOR HOLDING A MONEY JUDGMENT AGAINST A JUDGMENT DEBTOR
2	ONLY THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE JUDGMENT DEBTOR'S CURRENT
3	EMPLOYER, OR EMPLOYERS, IF MORE THAN ONE, AS CONTAINED IN THE
4	DEPARTMENT'S WAGE AND EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION DATABASE, ONLY
5	IF:
6	(a) THE JUDGMENT CREDITOR HAS OBTAINED A MONEY JUDGMENT
7	AGAINST THE JUDGMENT DEBTOR FROM A COURT OF COMPETENT
8	JURISDICTION;
9	(b) THE JUDGMENT DEBTOR IS AN INDIVIDUAL; AND
10	(c) The JUDGMENT CREDITOR OBTAINS A COURT ORDER REQUIRING
11	THE DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (2)
12	OF THIS SECTION.
13	(2) (a) REGARDLESS OF WHETHER A JUDGMENT CREDITOR HAS
14	EXHAUSTED OTHER REMEDIES, A JUDGMENT CREDITOR MAY REQUEST THAT
15	THE COURT ORDER THE DEPARTMENT TO DISCLOSE TO THE JUDGMENT
16	CREDITOR THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF AN INDIVIDUAL'S CURRENT
17	EMPLOYER OR EMPLOYERS IF:
18	(I) A COURT HAS ENTERED A MONEY JUDGMENT AGAINST THE
19	INDIVIDUAL;
20	(II) THE JUDGMENT CREDITOR FILES A MOTION WITH THE COURT
21	FOR SUCH DISCLOSURE; AND
22	(III) IF SO REQUIRED BY THE COLORADO RULES OF CIVIL
23	PROCEDURE, THE JUDGMENT CREDITOR SERVES A COPY OF THE MOTION ON
24	THE INDIVIDUAL JUDGMENT DEBTOR.
25	(b) AN INDIVIDUAL JUDGMENT DEBTOR MAY OPPOSE A JUDGMENT
26	CREDITOR'S MOTION TO OBTAIN A DISCLOSURE PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION
2.7	(2)(a) OF THIS SECTION ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE HIDGMENT IS VOID OR

-3-

I	EXPIRED. IF AN INDIVIDUAL JUDGMENT DEBTOR SO OPPOSES SUCH A
2	MOTION, THE COURT, AT ITS DISCRETION, MAY HOLD A HEARING AFTER THE
3	TIMELY FILING OF THE OBJECTION WITH THE COURT AND THE SERVICE OF
4	THE OBJECTION UPON THE JUDGMENT CREDITOR.
5	(3) WHEN A COURT ORDER IS GRANTED UNDER SUBSECTION (2) OF
6	THIS SECTION, THE JUDGMENT CREDITOR SHALL:
7	(a) PROVIDE TO THE DEPARTMENT A COPY OF THE COURT ORDER
8	REQUIRING DISCLOSURE;
9	(b) EXECUTE A USER AGREEMENT AND DISCLOSURE CONTRACT
10	WITH THE DEPARTMENT AND PAY THE APPLICABLE FEE ASSOCIATED WITH
11	THE USER AGREEMENT AND DISCLOSURE CONTRACT;
12	(c) PAY THE DEPARTMENT A REASONABLE FEE THAT REFLECTS THE
13	ACTUAL COST OF PROCESSING THE REQUEST AS DETERMINED IN RULES
14	ADOPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION 24-4-103; AND
15	(d) COMPLY WITH THE DATA SAFEGUARD AND SECURITY
16	MEASURES DESCRIBED IN 20 CFR 603.9 WITH RESPECT TO INFORMATION
17	RECEIVED FROM THE DEPARTMENT UNDER THIS SECTION.
18	(4) (a) THE DEPARTMENT MAY CHARGE THE JUDGMENT CREDITOR
19	A ONE-TIME INITIATION FEE ATTRIBUTED TO THE EXECUTION OF THE
20	REQUIRED USER AGREEMENT AND DISCLOSURE CONTRACT AS DETERMINED
21	IN RULES ADOPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION 24-4-103. THE
22	INITIATION FEE MAY NOT EXCEED FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS.
23	(b) THE DEPARTMENT MAY CHARGE THE JUDGMENT CREDITOR AN
24	ANNUAL RENEWAL FEE ATTRIBUTED TO THE EXECUTION OF THE REQUIRED
25	USER AGREEMENT AND DISCLOSURE CONTRACT AS DETERMINED IN RULES
26	ADOPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION 24-4-103. THE ANNUAL
27	RENEWAL FEE MAY NOT EXCEED ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS.

-4- 1057

1	(5) THE FEE PAID UNDER SUBSECTION (3)(c) OF THIS SECTION MAY
2	BE RECOVERED BY THE JUDGMENT CREDITOR AS A TAXABLE LITIGATION
3	COST.
4	(6) The department shall transfer all fees collected
5	UNDER THIS SECTION TO THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE
6	MONEY TO THE JUDGMENT DEBTOR DISCLOSURE FUND CREATED IN
7	SECTION 24-1-121 (1.7).
8	(7) IF A JUDGMENT CREDITOR COMPLIES WITH SUBSECTION (3) OF
9	THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE TO THE JUDGMENT
10	CREDITOR THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE INDIVIDUAL JUDGMENT
11	DEBTOR'S CURRENT EMPLOYER OR EMPLOYERS WITHIN SEVEN BUSINESS
12	DAYS AFTER RECEIVING THE COURT ORDER.
13	(8) A JUDGMENT CREDITOR MAY NOT:
14	(a) USE THE INFORMATION OBTAINED UNDER THIS SECTION FOR A
15	PURPOSE OTHER THAN SATISFYING THE JUDGMENT BETWEEN THE
16	JUDGMENT CREDITOR AND THE INDIVIDUAL JUDGMENT DEBTOR; OR
17	(b) SHARE THE INFORMATION WITH ANY OTHER PERSON EXCEPT AS
18	PERMITTED BY 20 CFR 603.9 (c).
19	(9) (a) The department, with just cause and at its own
20	EXPENSE, MAY AUDIT A JUDGMENT CREDITOR WHO RECEIVES
21	INFORMATION UNDER THIS SECTION FOR COMPLIANCE WITH THE DATA
22	SAFEGUARD AND SECURITY MEASURES OF 20 CFR 603.9.
23	(b) THE DEPARTMENT MAY PAY THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH
24	CONDUCTING AN AUDIT UNDER THIS SUBSECTION (9) ONLY WITH FUNDS
25	FROM THE JUDGMENT DEBTOR DISCLOSURE FUND CREATED IN SECTION
26	24-1-121 (1.7).
27	(10) (a) (I) If a judgment creditor fails to comply with the

-5- 1057

1	DATA SAFEGUARD AND SECURITY MEASURES DESCRIBED IN 20 CFR 603.9,
2	THE JUDGMENT CREDITOR, AFTER A COURT FINDING OF WILLFUL
3	NONCOMPLIANCE, IS SUBJECT TO A CIVIL PENALTY OF NOT MORE THAN ONE
4	THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR EACH VIOLATION.
5	(II) THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, ON THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S
6	BEHALF OR ON BEHALF OF THE DEPARTMENT, MAY FILE AN ACTION IN
7	DISTRICT COURT TO SEEK AND ENFORCE THE CIVIL PENALTY.
8	(III) THE PREVAILING PARTY IS ENTITLED TO AN AWARD OF ITS
9	REASONABLE ATTORNEY FEES, COURT COSTS, AND INVESTIGATIVE
10	EXPENSES.
11	(b) IF THE JUDGMENT CREDITOR IS FOUND TO BE THE PREVAILING
12	PARTY, ALL ATTORNEY FEES, COURT COSTS, AND INVESTIGATIVE EXPENSES
13	REQUIRED TO BE PAID TO THE JUDGMENT CREDITOR MUST BE PAID OUT OF
14	THE JUDGMENT DEBTOR DISCLOSURE FUND CREATED IN SECTION $24-1-121$
15	(1.7).
16	(11) A COLLECTION AGENCY OR PRIVATELY RETAINED ATTORNEY
17	COLLECTING ON ANY DEBT ARISING FROM PAST-DUE ORDERS,
18	OBLIGATIONS, FINES, OR FEES DUE TO THE STATE, OR DUE TO ANY
19	POLITICAL SUBDIVISION WITHIN THE STATE, MAY ADD TO THE AMOUNT DUE
20	THAT HAS BEEN PLACED FOR COLLECTION ALL FEES, COSTS, AND COSTS OF
21	COLLECTION, INCLUDING DESIGNATED CONTRACTUAL COSTS AND
22	ATTORNEY FEES. EXCLUSIVE OF THE ACCRUAL OF INTEREST AND COURT
23	COSTS, ANY FEES OR COSTS MAY NOT EXCEED THE PERCENTAGE PUBLISHED
24	ANNUALLY BY THE CENTRAL COLLECTION SERVICES SECTION OF THE
25	DIVISION OF FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF
26	PERSONNEL UNLESS ADDITIONAL REASONABLE ATTORNEY FEES ARE
27	AWARDED BY A COURT OF COMPETENT JURISDICTION.

-6- 1057

1	13-51.3-103. Disposition of civil penalties, attorney fees, court
2	costs, and investigative expenses recovered. The department shall
3	TRANSMIT ALL CIVIL PENALTIES, ATTORNEY FEES, COURT COSTS, AND
4	INVESTIGATIVE EXPENSES COLLECTED UNDER SECTION 13-51.3-102 TO THE
5	STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THEM TO THE GENERAL FUND.
6	SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-1-121, add (1.7)
7	as follows:
8	24-1-121. Department of labor and employment - creation -
9	judgment debtor disclosure fund. (1.7) THERE IS HEREBY CREATED IN
10	THE STATE TREASURY THE JUDGMENT DEBTOR DISCLOSURE FUND. THE
11	FUND CONSISTS OF MONEY FROM FEES COLLECTED UNDER SECTION
12	13-51.3-102 FOR REQUESTS FOR DISCLOSURE OF CURRENT EMPLOYER
13	INFORMATION ON INDIVIDUAL JUDGMENT DEBTORS. THE MONEY IN THE
14	FUND IS SUBJECT TO ANNUAL APPROPRIATION BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
15	FOR THE DIRECT AND INDIRECT COSTS INCURRED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF
16	LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT IN PROCESSING REQUESTS FOR DISCLOSURE OF
17	CURRENT EMPLOYER INFORMATION ON JUDGMENT DEBTORS UNDER
18	SECTION 13-51.3-102 AND PAYMENT TO JUDGMENT CREDITORS UNDER
19	SECTION 13-51.3-102 (10)(b). THE STATE TREASURER SHALL CREDIT ALL
20	INTEREST DERIVED FROM THE DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENT OF MONEY IN THE
21	FUND TO THE FUND. AT THE END OF ANY FISCAL YEAR, ALL UNEXPENDED
22	AND UNENCUMBERED MONEY IN THE FUND REMAINS IN THE FUND AND IS
23	NOT TRANSFERRED TO THE GENERAL FUND OR ANY OTHER FUND.
24	SECTION 4. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act
25	takes effect January 1, 2019; except that, if a referendum petition is filed
26	pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this
27	act or an item, section, or part of this act within the ninety-day period

-7- 1057

- after final adjournment of the general assembly, then the act, item,
- 2 section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the
- 3 general election to be held in November 2018 and, in such case, will take
- 4 effect on January 1, 2019, or on the date of the official declaration of the
- 5 vote thereon by the governor, whichever is later.

-8- 1057