LEGISLATIVE GENERAL COUNSEL

H.B. 86 1st Sub. (Buff)

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Senator Peter C. Knudson proposes to substitute the following bill:

1	CHECK ABUSE AMENDMENTS
2	1999 GENERAL SESSION
3	STATE OF UTAH
4	Sponsor: John E. Swallow
5	AN ACT RELATING TO COLLECTING ON DISHONORED INSTRUMENTS; AMENDING
6	PROVISIONS RELATED TO DISHONORED CHECKS OR OTHER INSTRUMENTS;
7	PROVIDING EXCEPTIONS; MAKING TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS; AND PROVIDING A
8	COORDINATION CLAUSE ADDRESSING FINANCIAL INSTITUTION LIABILITY.
9	This act affects sections of Utah Code Annotated 1953 as follows:
10	AMENDS:
11	7-15-1, as last amended by Chapter 245, Laws of Utah 1997
12	7-15-2, as last amended by Chapter 245, Laws of Utah 1997
13	7-15-3, as enacted by Chapter 52, Laws of Utah 1988
14	35A-4-305, as last amended by Chapter 13, Laws of Utah 1998
15	Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:
16	Section 1. Section 7-15-1 is amended to read:
17	7-15-1. Definitions Civil liability of issuer Notice of action Collection costs.
18	(1) As used in this chapter:
19	(a) "Check" means a payment instrument on a depository institution including a:
20	(i) check;
21	(ii) draft;
22	(iii) order; or
23	(iv) other instrument.
24	[(1) Any] (b) "Issuer" means a person who makes, draws, signs, or issues [any] a check[,
25	draft, order, or other instrument upon any depository institution], whether as corporate agent or

 (j) obtaining from any person[, firm, partnership, or corporation] any money, merchandise, property, or other thing of value; or (j) paying for any service, wages, salary, or rent, (c) "Mailed" means the day that a notice is properly deposited in the United States mail. (2) (a). An issuer of a check is liable to the holder of the check[, draft, order, or other instrument] if: (m) (j) the check[, draft, order, or other instrument]: (f(f)) (\Delta) is not honored upon presentment; and (f(f)) (\Delta) is not honored upon presentment; and (f(f)) (D) (D) is marked "refer to maker"; [or] (f(f)) (D) does not exist; (f(f)) (D) does not have sufficient funds or sufficient credit for payment in full of the check[, draft, or other instrument]; or (ii) (A) the check is issued in partial or complete fulfillment of a valid and legally binding obligation; and (B) the issuer stops payment on the check with the intent to: (1) fraudulently defeat a possessory lien; or (1) otherwise defraud the holder of the check. (b) If an issuer of a check is liable under Subsection (2)(a), the issuer is liable for: (i) the check anount; and (ii) a service charge of \$20. (f(f)) (G) (a) The holder of [the] a check[, draft, order, or other instrument] that has been (i) give written or [verbal] oral notice of dishonor to the [person making, drawing, signing; or issuing] issuer of the check[, draft, order, or other instrument]; and (ii) (impose al waive all or part of the service charge [that may not exceed \$20] imposed under Subsection (2)(b). (b) Notwithstanding Subsection (2)[(a)](b), a holder of a chec	26	otherwise, for the purpose of:
 (i) paying for any service, wages, salary, or rent, (c) "Mailed" means the day that a notice is properly deposited in the United States mail. (2) (a) An issuer of a check is liable to the holder of the check[-draft, order, or other instrument] if: (fa) (i) the check[-draft, order, or other instrument]: (fb) (A) is not honored upon presentment; and (fb) (A) is not honored upon which the check[-draft, order, or other instrument has been] is (fb) (A) does not exist; (fb) (A) does not exist; (fb) (A) does not exist; (fb) (C) does not have sufficient funds or sufficient credit for payment in full of the check[-draft, or other instrument]; or (iii) (A) the check is issued in partial or complete fulfillment of a valid and legally binding obligation; and (B) the issuer stops payment on the check. (D) fraudulently defeat a possessory lier; or (I) fraudulently defeat a possessory lier; or (i) the check amount; and (i) the check amount; and (ii) a service charge of \$20. (c2) (2) (a) The holder of [the] a check[-draft, order, or other instrument] that has been dishonored may: (i) give written or [verbal] oral notice of dishonor to the [person making, drawing, signing; or issuing] issuer of the check[-draft, order, or other instrument]; and (ii) [impose a] waive all or part of the service charge [that may not exceed \$20] imposed under Subsection (2)(b). 	27	(i) obtaining from any person[, firm, partnership, or corporation] any money, merchandise,
30 (c) "Mailed" means the day that a notice is properly deposited in the United States mail. 31 (2) (a) An issuer of a check is liable to the holder of the check[, draft, order, or other 31 (b) (a) An issuer of a check is liable to the holder of the check[, draft, order, or other 32 [(ii)] (b) the check[, draft, order, or other instrument]: 34 (f) (c) is not honored upon presentment; and 35 [(iii)] (b) is marked "refer to maker"; [or] 36 [(b)] (ii) the account upon which the check[, draft, order, or other instrument has been] is 37 made or drawn: 38 [(f)) (A) does not exist; 39 [(iii)] (B) has been closed; or 40 [(iiii)] (C) does not have sufficient funds or sufficient credit for payment in full of the 41 check[, draft, or other instrument]; or 42 (iii) (A) the check is issued in partial or complete fulfillment of a valid and legally binding 43 obligation; and 44 (B) the issuer stops payment on the check, with the intent to: 45 (I) fraudulently defeat a possessory lien; or 46 (II) otherwise defraud the holder of the check. 47 (b) If an issuer of a check is liable under Subsection (2)(a), the issuer is liable for: (28	property, or other thing of value; or
31(2) (a) An issuer of a check is liable to the holder of the check[, draft, order, or other32instrument] if:33[(a)] (i) the check[, draft, order, or other instrument]:34[(fi)] (\Delta) is not honored upon presentment; and35[(ii)] (B) is marked "refer to maker"; [or]36[(b)] (ii) the account upon which the check[, draft, order, or other instrument has been] is37made or drawn:38[(iii)] (\Delta) does not exist;39[(iiii)] (B) has been closed; or40[(iiiii)] (C) does not have sufficient funds or sufficient credit for payment in full of the41check[, draft, or other instrument.]; or42(iii) (A) the check is issued in partial or complete fulfillment of a valid and legally binding43obligation: and44(B) the issuer stops payment on the check with the intent to:45(I) fraudulently defeat a possessory lien; or46(II) otherwise defraud the holder of the check.47(b) If an issuer of a check is liable under Subsection (2)(a), the issuer is liable for:48(i) the check amount; and49(ii) a service charge of \$20.50[(2)] (2) (a) The holder of [the] a check[, draft, order, or other instrument] that has been51dishonored may:52() give written or [verbal] oral notice of dishonor to the [person making, drawing, signing;53or subsection (2)(b).	29	(ii) paying for any service, wages, salary, or rent.
32instrument] if:33[(#)] (i) the check[, draft, order, or other instrument]:34[(#)] (A) is not honored upon presentment; and35[(#)] (B) is marked "refer to maker"; [or]36[(b)] (ii) the account upon which the check[, draft, order, or other instrument has been] is37made or drawn:38[(#)] (A) does not exist;39[(#)] (B) has been closed; or40[(#)] (C) does not have sufficient funds or sufficient credit for payment in full of the41check[, draft, or other instrument-]; or42(H) the check is issued in partial or complete fulfillment of a valid and legally binding43obligation; and44(B) the issuer stops payment on the check with the intent to:45(I) fraudulently defeat a possessory lien; or46(II) otherwise defraud the holder of the check.47(b) If an issuer of a check is liable under Subsection (2)(a), the issuer is liable for;48(i) the check amount; and49(ii) a service charge of \$20.50[(22)] (2) (a) The holder of [the] a check[, draft, order, or other instrument] that has been51dishonored may:52() give written or [verbal] oral notice of dishonor to the [person making, drawing, signing;53or subsection (2)(b).	30	(c) "Mailed" means the day that a notice is properly deposited in the United States mail.
33[(a) (i) the check[, draft, order, or other instrument]:34[(ii)] (<u>A</u>) is not honored upon presentment; and35[(iii)] (<u>B</u>) is marked "refer to maker"; [or]36[(b)] (ii) the account upon which the check[, draft, order, or other instrument has been] is37made or drawn:38[(fi)] (<u>A</u>) does not exist;39[(fiii)] (<u>C</u>) does not have sufficient funds or sufficient credit for payment in full of the41check[, draft, or other instrument]; or42(iii) (A) the check is issued in partial or complete fulfillment of a valid and legally binding43obligation; and44(B) the issuer stops payment on the check with the intent to:45(1) otherwise defraud the holder of the check.46(11) otherwise defraud the holder of the check.47(b) If an issuer of a check is liable under Subsection (2)(a), the issuer is liable for;48(i) a service charge of \$20.50[(2)] (<u>3</u>) (a) The holder of [the] a check[, draft, order, or other instrument] that has been51dishonored may:52() give written or [verbal] oral notice of dishonor to the [person making, drawing, signing;53or issuing] issuer of the check[, draft, order, or other instrument]; and54(ii) [impose a] waive all or part of the service charge [that may not exceed \$20] imposed55under Subsection (2)(b).	31	(2) (a) An issuer of a check is liable to the holder of the check[, draft, order, or other
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35[(iii)] (B) is marked "refer to maker"; [or]36[(b)] (ii) the account upon which the check[, draft, order, or other instrument has been] is37made or drawn:38[(ii)] (A) does not exist;39[(iii)] (B) has been closed; or40[(iiii)] (C) does not have sufficient funds or sufficient credit for payment in full of the41check[, draft, or other instrument.]; or42(iii) (A) the check is issued in partial or complete fulfillment of a valid and legally binding43obligation; and44(B) the issuer stops payment on the check with the intent to:45(I) fraudulently defeat a possessory lien; or46(II) otherwise defraud the holder of the check.47(b) If an issuer of a check is liable under Subsection (2)(a), the issuer is liable for:48(i) the check amount; and49(ii) a service charge of \$20.50[(2)] (3) (a) The holder of [the] a check[, draft, order, or other instrument] that has been51dishonored may:52(i) give written or [verbat] oral notice of dishonor to the [person making, drawing, signing;53or issuing] issuer of the check[, draft, order, or other instrument]; and54(ii) [impose a] waive all or part of the service charge [that may not exceed \$20] imposed55under Subsection (2)(b).	33	[(a)] (i) the check[, draft, order, or other instrument]:
36[(b)] (ii) the account upon which the check[, draft, order, or other instrument has been] is37made or drawn:38[(ii)] (Δ) does not exist;39[(iii)] (Δ) does not exist;39[(iii)] (Δ) does not have sufficient funds or sufficient credit for payment in full of the40[(iiii)] (Δ) does not have sufficient funds or sufficient credit for payment in full of the41check[, draft, or other instrument:]; or42(iii) (A) the check is issued in partial or complete fulfillment of a valid and legally binding43obligation; and44(B) the issuer stops payment on the check with the intent to:45(1) fraudulently defeat a possessory lier; or46(II) otherwise defraud the holder of the check.47(b) If an issuer of a check is liable under Subsection (2)(a), the issuer is liable for:48(i) the check amount; and49(ii) a service charge of \$20.50[(2)] (3) (a) The holder of [the] a check[, draft, order, or other instrument] that has been51dishonored may:52(i) give written or [verbal] oral notice of dishonor to the [person making, drawing, signing;53or issuing] issuer of the check[, draft, order, or other instrument]; and54(ii) [impose a] waive all or part of the service charge [that may not exceed \$20] imposed55under Subsection (2)(b).	34	[(i)] (A) is not honored upon presentment; and
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 [(ii)] (A) does not exist; [(iii)] (B) has been closed; or [(iiii)] (C) does not have sufficient funds or sufficient credit for payment in full of the check[, draft, or other instrument.]; or (iii) (A) the check is issued in partial or complete fulfillment of a valid and legally binding obligation; and (B) the issuer stops payment on the check with the intent to: (I) fraudulently defeat a possessory lien; or (II) otherwise defraud the holder of the check. (I) fraudulently defeat a possessory lien; or (ii) the check amount; and (ii) the check amount; and (ii) the check amount; and (iii) a service charge of \$20. (iii) (impose a) waive all or part of the service charge [that may not exceed \$20] imposed under Subsection (2)(b). 	36	[(b)] (ii) the account upon which the check[, draft, order, or other instrument has been] is
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 [(iii)] (C) does not have sufficient funds or sufficient credit for payment in full of the check[; draft, or other instrument:]; or (iii) (A) the check is issued in partial or complete fulfillment of a valid and legally binding obligation; and (B) the issuer stops payment on the check with the intent to: (I) fraudulently defeat a possessory lien; or (II) otherwise defraud the holder of the check. (II) otherwise defraud the holder of the check. (b) If an issuer of a check is liable under Subsection (2)(a), the issuer is liable for: (i) the check amount; and (ii) a service charge of \$20. [(2)] (3) (a) The holder of [the] a check[; draft, order, or other instrument] that has been dishonored may: (i) give written or [verbal] oral notice of dishonor to the [person making, drawing, signing; or issuing] issuer of the check[, draft, order, or other instrument]; and (ii) [impose a] waive all or part of the service charge [that may not exceed \$20] imposed under Subsection (2)(b). 	38	[(i)] (A) does not exist;
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 46 (II) otherwise defraud the holder of the check. 47 (b) If an issuer of a check is liable under Subsection (2)(a), the issuer is liable for: 48 (i) the check amount; and 49 (ii) a service charge of \$20. 50 [(2)] (3) (a) The holder of [the] a check[, draft, order, or other instrument] that has been 51 dishonored may: 52 (i) give written or [verbal] oral notice of dishonor to the [person making, drawing, signing, 53 or issuing] issuer of the check[, draft, order, or other instrument]; and 54 (ii) [impose a] waive all or part of the service charge [that may not exceed \$20] imposed 55 under Subsection (2)(b). 	44	(B) the issuer stops payment on the check with the intent to:
 (b) If an issuer of a check is liable under Subsection (2)(a), the issuer is liable for: (i) the check amount; and (ii) a service charge of \$20. [(2)] (3) (a) The holder of [the] a check[, draft, order, or other instrument] that has been dishonored may: (i) give written or [verbal] oral notice of dishonor to the [person making, drawing, signing, or issuing] issuer of the check[, draft, order, or other instrument]; and (ii) [impose a] waive all or part of the service charge [that may not exceed \$20] imposed under Subsection (2)(b). 	45	(I) fraudulently defeat a possessory lien; or
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 49 (ii) a service charge of \$20. 50 [(2)] (3) (a) The holder of [the] a check[, draft, order, or other instrument] that has been 51 dishonored may: 52 (i) give written or [verbal] oral notice of dishonor to the [person making, drawing, signing, 53 or issuing] issuer of the check[, draft, order, or other instrument]; and 54 (ii) [impose a] waive all or part of the service charge [that may not exceed \$20] imposed 55 under Subsection (2)(b). 	47	(b) If an issuer of a check is liable under Subsection (2)(a), the issuer is liable for:
 50 [(2)] (3) (a) The holder of [the] <u>a</u> check[, draft, order, or other instrument] that has been 51 dishonored may: 52 (i) give written or [verbal] <u>oral</u> notice of dishonor to the [person making, drawing, signing, 53 or issuing] issuer of the check[, draft, order, or other instrument]; and 54 (ii) [impose a] waive all or part of the service charge [that may not exceed \$20] imposed 55 under Subsection (2)(b). 	48	(i) the check amount; and
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 or issuing] issuer of the check[, draft, order, or other instrument]; and (ii) [impose a] waive all or part of the service charge [that may not exceed \$20] imposed under Subsection (2)(b). 	51	dishonored may:
 54 (ii) [impose a] waive all or part of the service charge [that may not exceed \$20] imposed 55 under Subsection (2)(b). 	52	(i) give written or [verbal] oral notice of dishonor to the [person making, drawing, signing,
55 <u>under Subsection (2)(b)</u> .	53	or issuing] issuer of the check[, draft, order, or other instrument]; and
	54	(ii) [impose a] waive all or part of the service charge [that may not exceed \$20] imposed
56 (b) Notwithstanding Subsection (2)[(a)](b), a holder of a check[, draft, order, or other	55	under Subsection (2)(b).
	56	(b) Notwithstanding Subsection (2)[(a)](b), a holder of a check[, draft, order, or other

57	instrument] that has been dishonored may not [charge] collect and the issuer is not liable for the
58	service charge [permitted] imposed under Subsection (2)[(a)](b) if:
59	(i) the holder redeposits the check[, draft, order, or other instrument]; and
60	(ii) that check[, draft, order, or other instrument] is honored.
61	(4) If the issuer does not pay the amount owed under Subsection (2)(b) within 15 calendar
62	days from the day on which the notice required under Subsection (5) is mailed, the issuer is liable
63	for:
64	(a) the amount owed under Subsection (2)(b); and
65	(b) collection costs not to exceed \$20.
66	[(3)] (5) (a) [Prior to] A holder shall provide written notice to an issuer before:
67	(i) charging collection costs under Subsection (4) in addition to the amount owed under
68	Subsection (2)(b); or
69	(ii) filing an action based upon this section[, the holder of a dishonored check, draft, order,
70	or other instrument].
71	(b) The written notice required under Subsection (5)(a) shall [give the person making,
72	drawing, signing, or issuing] notify the issuer of the dishonored check[, draft, order, or other
73	instrument written notice of intent to] that:
74	(i) if the amount owed under Subsection (2)(b) is not paid within 15 calendar days from
75	the day on which the notice is mailed, the issuer is liable for:
76	(A) the amount owed under Subsection (2)(b); and
77	(B) collection costs under Subsection (4); and
78	(ii) the holder may file civil action[, allowing] if the [person seven] issuer does not pay to
79	the holder the amount owed under Subsection (4) within 30 calendar days from the [date] day on
80	which the notice [was] is mailed [to tender payment in full, plus the service charge imposed for
81	the dishonored check, draft, order, or other instrument].
82	(6) § (a) § If the issuer has not paid the holder the amounts owed under Subsection (4)
82a	within 30
83	calendar days from the day on which the notice required by Subsection (5) is mailed, the holder
84	may offer to not file civil action under this section if the issuer pays the holder:
84a	Ş <u>(i) THE AMOUNT OWED UNDER SUBSECTION (2)(b);</u>
84b	(ii) THE COLLECTION COSTS UNDER SUBSECTION (4); ş
85	Ş [(a)] (iii) ş an amount that:
86	§ [(i)] (A) § is equal to the greater of:
87	Ş [(Δ)] () ş <u>\$50; or</u>

88	§ [(B)] (II) § triple the check amount; and
89	§ [(iii)] (B) § does not exceed the check amount plus \$250; and
90	§ [(b)] (iv) ş if the holder retains an attorney to recover on the dishonored check, reasonable
91	attorney's fees not to exceed § [the amounts set forth in Utah Code of Judicial Administration, Rule
92	<u>4-505.01.</u>] <u>\$50.</u>
92a	(b)(i) NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTION (6)(a), AT LEAST 2/3 OF ALL AMOUNTS CHARGED OR
92b	COLLECTED UNDER SUBSECTION (6)(a)(iv) SHALL BE PAID TO AND BE THE PROPERTY OF THE
92c	ORIGINAL PAYEE OF THE CHECK.
92d	(ii) A PERSON WHO IS NOT THE ORIGINAL PAYEE MAY NOT RETAIN MORE THAN 1/3 OF
92e	ALL AMOUNTS CHARGED OR COLLECTED UNDER SUBSECTION (6)(a)(iv).
92f	(iii) THE ORIGINAL PAYEE OF A CHECK MAY NOT CONTRACT FOR A PERSON TO RETAIN
92g	MORE THAN 1/3 OF ALL AMOUNTS CHARGED OR COLLECTED UNDER SUBSECTION (6)(a)(iv).
93	[(4)] (7) (a) A civil action may not be filed under this section unless the issuer fails to pay
94	the amounts owed under Subsection (4) within 30 calendar days from the day on which the notice
95	required by Subsection (5) is mailed.
96	(b) In a civil action, the [person making, drawing, signing, or issuing] issuer of the check[,
97	draft, order, or other instrument] is liable to the holder for:
98	[(a)] <u>(i)</u> the <u>check</u> amount [of the check, draft, order, or other instrument];
99	$\left[\frac{\text{(b)}}{\text{(ii)}}\right]$ interest; $\left[\frac{\text{and}}{\text{and}}\right]$
100	[(c)] (iii) all costs of collection, including all court costs and reasonable attorneys' fees;
101	and
102	(iv) damages:
103	(A) equal to the greater of:
104	<u>(I) \$100; or</u>
105	(II) triple the check amount; and
106	(B) not to exceed the check amount plus \$500.
107	[(5) As used in this section, "costs of collection" includes reasonable compensation, as
108	approved by the court, for time expended if the collection is pursued personally by the holder and
109	not through an agent.]
110	(c) If an issuer is held liable under Subsection (7)(b), notwithstanding Subsection (7)(b),
111	a court may waive all or part of the amounts owed under Subsections (7)(b)(ii) through (iv) upon
112	a finding of good cause.
112a	(d) (i) NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTION (7)(b), AT LEAST 2/3 OF ALL AMOUNTS CHARGED OR
112b	COLLECTED UNDER SUBSECTION (7)(b)(iv) SHALL BE PAID TO AND BE THE PROPERTY OF THE
112c	<u>ORIGINAL PAYEE OF THE CHECK.</u> ş

112d	<u>ş</u> <u>All</u>	(ii) A PERSON WHO IS NOT THE ORIGINAL PAYEE MAY NOT RETAIN MORE THAN 1/3 OF
112e		INTS CHARGED OR COLLECTED UNDER SUBSECTION (7)(b)(iv).
112f		(iii) THE ORIGINAL PAYEE OF A CHECK MAY NOT CONTRACT FOR A PERSON TO RETAIN
112g	MORE	THAN 1/3 OF ALL AMOUNTS CHARGED OR COLLECTED UNDER SUBSECTION (7)(b)(iv). §
113		(8) This section may not be construed to prohibit the holder of the check from seeking
114	relief u	under any other applicable statute or cause of action.
115		(9) (a) Notwithstanding the other provisions of this section, a holder of a check is exempt
116	<u>from t</u>	his section if:
117		(i) the holder:
118		(A) is a depository institution; or

119	(B) a person that receives a payment on behalf of a depository institution;
120	(ii) the check is a payment on a loan that originated at the depository institution that:
121	(A) is the holder; or
122	(B) on behalf of which the holder received the payment; and
123	(iii) the loan contract states a specific service charge for dishonor.
124	(b) A holder exempt under Subsection (9)(a) may contract with an issuer for the collection
125	of fees or charges for the dishonor of a check.
126	Section 2. Section 7-15-2 is amended to read:
127	7-15-2. Notice Form.
128	(1) (a) "Notice" means notice given to the [person making, drawing, or issuing the] issuer
129	of a check[, draft, order, or other instrument] either [in person] orally or in writing.
130	(b) [A] Written notice may be given by United States mail that is:
131	(i) first class; and
132	(ii) postage prepaid.
133	(c) Notwithstanding Subsection (1)(b), written notice is conclusively presumed to have
134	been given when the notice is:
135	(i) properly deposited in the United States [mails,] mail;
136	(ii) postage prepaid[, by];
137	(iii) certified or registered mail[,];
138	(iv) return receipt requested[;; and
139	(v) addressed to the signer at the signer's:
140	(A) address as it appears on the check[, draft, order, or other instrument]; or [at the
141	signer's]
142	(B) last-known address.
143	(2) Written notice [as applied in] under Subsection 7-15-1[(3)] (5) shall take substantially
144	the following form:
145	Date:
146	To:
147	You are hereby notified that the check(s) described below issued by you has (have) been
148	returned to us unpaid:
149	[Instrument] Check date:

150	[Instrument] Check number:
151	Originating institution:
152	Amount:
153	Reason for dishonor (marked on [instrument] check):
154	[This instrument,] In accordance with Section 7-15-1, Utah Code Annotated, you are liable
155	for this check together with a service charge of \$20, which must be paid to the undersigned [within
156	seven days from the date of this notice].
157	If you do not pay the check amount and the \$20 service charge within 15 calendar days
158	from the day on which this notice was mailed, you are required to pay within 30 calendar days
159	from the day on which this notice is mailed:
160	(1) the check amount;
161	(2) the \$20 service charge; and
162	(3) collection costs not to exceed \$20.
163	If you do not pay the check amount, the \$20 service charge, and the collection costs within
164	30 calendar days from the day on which this notice is mailed, in accordance with Section 7-15-1,
165	Utah Code Annotated, [or] an appropriate civil legal action may be filed against you for:
166	(1) the <u>check</u> amount [due and owing together with];
167	(2) interest[;];
168	(3) court costs[;]:
169	(4) attorneys' fees[, and];
170	(5) actual costs of collection as provided by law; and
171	(6) damages in an amount equal to the greater of \$100 or triple the check amount, except
172	that damages recovered under this Subsection (6) may not exceed the check amount by more than
173	<u>\$500</u> .
174	In addition, the criminal code provides in Section 76-6-505, Utah Code Annotated, that any
175	person who issues or passes a check for the payment of money, for the purpose of obtaining from
176	any person, firm, partnership, or corporation, any money, property, or other thing of value or
177	paying for any services, wages, salary, labor, or rent, knowing it will not be paid by the drawee and
178	payment is refused by the drawee, is guilty of issuing a bad check.
179	The civil action referred to in this notice does not preclude the right to prosecute under the
180	criminal code of the state of Utah.

181	(Signed)
182	Name of Holder:
183	Address of Holder:
184	Telephone Number:
185	(3) Notwithstanding the other provisions of this section, a holder exempt under Subsection
186	7-15-1(9) is exempt from this section.
187	Section 3. Section 7-15-3 is amended to read:
188	7-15-3. Liability of financial institution upon wrongful dishonor.
189	If a person is liable to a holder under Section 7-15-1 or under a contract with a depository
190	institution as provided in Subsection 7-15-1(9), and the liability is proximately caused by a
191	financial institution's wrongful dishonor under Section 70A-4-402, any award against the financial
192	institution under Section 70A-4-402 shall include[, but not be limited to,] all amounts awarded
193	against the person to the holder under:
194	(<u>1</u>) Section 7-15-1[;]; or
195	(2) the contract with the depository institution as provided in Subsection 7-15-1(9).
100	Continue A. Continue 25A A 205 in annual data march
196	Section 4. Section 35A-4-305 is amended to read:
196 197	35A-4-305. Collection of contributions Unpaid contributions to bear interest.
197	35A-4-305. Collection of contributions Unpaid contributions to bear interest.
197 198	35A-4-305. Collection of contributions Unpaid contributions to bear interest.(1) (a) Contributions unpaid on the date on which they are due and payable, as prescribed
197 198 199	35A-4-305. Collection of contributions Unpaid contributions to bear interest. (1) (a) Contributions unpaid on the date on which they are due and payable, as prescribed by the division, shall bear interest at the rate of 1% per month from and after that date until
197 198 199 200	35A-4-305. Collection of contributions Unpaid contributions to bear interest. (1) (a) Contributions unpaid on the date on which they are due and payable, as prescribed by the division, shall bear interest at the rate of 1% per month from and after that date until payment plus accrued interest is received by the division.
197 198 199 200 201	 35A-4-305. Collection of contributions Unpaid contributions to bear interest. (1) (a) Contributions unpaid on the date on which they are due and payable, as prescribed by the division, shall bear interest at the rate of 1% per month from and after that date until payment plus accrued interest is received by the division. (b) (i) Contribution reports not made and filed by the date on which they are due as
197 198 199 200 201 202	 35A-4-305. Collection of contributions Unpaid contributions to bear interest. (1) (a) Contributions unpaid on the date on which they are due and payable, as prescribed by the division, shall bear interest at the rate of 1% per month from and after that date until payment plus accrued interest is received by the division. (b) (i) Contribution reports not made and filed by the date on which they are due as prescribed by the division shall be subject to a penalty to be assessed and collected in the same
197 198 199 200 201 202 203	 35A-4-305. Collection of contributions Unpaid contributions to bear interest. (1) (a) Contributions unpaid on the date on which they are due and payable, as prescribed by the division, shall bear interest at the rate of 1% per month from and after that date until payment plus accrued interest is received by the division. (b) (i) Contribution reports not made and filed by the date on which they are due as prescribed by the division shall be subject to a penalty to be assessed and collected in the same manner as contributions due under this section equal to 5% of the contribution due if the failure
197 198 199 200 201 202 203 203	 35A-4-305. Collection of contributions Unpaid contributions to bear interest. (1) (a) Contributions unpaid on the date on which they are due and payable, as prescribed by the division, shall bear interest at the rate of 1% per month from and after that date until payment plus accrued interest is received by the division. (b) (i) Contribution reports not made and filed by the date on which they are due as prescribed by the division shall be subject to a penalty to be assessed and collected in the same manner as contributions due under this section equal to 5% of the contribution due if the failure to file on time was not more than 15 days, with an additional 5% for each additional 15 days or
197 198 199 200 201 202 203 204 205	35A-4-305. Collection of contributions Unpaid contributions to bear interest. (1) (a) Contributions unpaid on the date on which they are due and payable, as prescribed by the division, shall bear interest at the rate of 1% per month from and after that date until payment plus accrued interest is received by the division. (b) (i) Contribution reports not made and filed by the date on which they are due as prescribed by the division shall be subject to a penalty to be assessed and collected in the same manner as contributions due under this section equal to 5% of the contribution due if the failure to file on time was not more than 15 days, with an additional 5% for each additional 15 days or fraction thereof during which the failure continued, but not to exceed 25% in the aggregate and not
197 198 199 200 201 202 203 204 205 206	35A-4-305. Collection of contributions Unpaid contributions to bear interest. (1) (a) Contributions unpaid on the date on which they are due and payable, as prescribed by the division, shall bear interest at the rate of 1% per month from and after that date until payment plus accrued interest is received by the division. (b) (i) Contribution reports not made and filed by the date on which they are due as prescribed by the division shall be subject to a penalty to be assessed and collected in the same manner as contributions due under this section equal to 5% of the contribution due if the failure to file on time was not more than 15 days, with an additional 5% for each additional 15 days or fraction thereof during which the failure continued, but not to exceed 25% in the aggregate and not less than \$25 with respect to each reporting period.
197 198 199 200 201 202 203 204 205 206 207	35A-4-305. Collection of contributions Unpaid contributions to bear interest. (1) (a) Contributions unpaid on the date on which they are due and payable, as prescribed by the division, shall bear interest at the rate of 1% per month from and after that date until payment plus accrued interest is received by the division. (b) (i) Contribution reports not made and filed by the date on which they are due as prescribed by the division shall be subject to a penalty to be assessed and collected in the same manner as contributions due under this section equal to 5% of the contribution due if the failure to file on time was not more than 15 days, with an additional 5% for each additional 15 days or fraction thereof during which the failure continued, but not to exceed 25% in the aggregate and not less than \$25 with respect to each reporting period. (ii) If a report is filed after such time and it is shown to the satisfaction of the division or
197 198 199 200 201 202 203 204 205 206 207 208	35A-4-305. Collection of contributions Unpaid contributions to bear interest. (1) (a) Contributions unpaid on the date on which they are due and payable, as prescribed by the division, shall bear interest at the rate of 1% per month from and after that date until payment plus accrued interest is received by the division. (b) (i) Contribution reports not made and filed by the date on which they are due as prescribed by the division shall be subject to a penalty to be assessed and collected in the same manner as contributions due under this section equal to 5% of the contribution due if the failure to file on time was not more than 15 days, with an additional 5% for each additional 15 days or fraction thereof during which the failure continued, but not to exceed 25% in the aggregate and not less than \$25 with respect to each reporting period. (ii) If a report is filed after such time and it is shown to the satisfaction of the division or its authorized representative that the failure to file was due to a reasonable cause and not to willful

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212 shall attach to the contribution, to be assessed and collected in the same manner as contributions 213 due under this section, a penalty equal to 5% of the contribution due. 214 (ii) A penalty may not attach if within ten days after the mailing or personal delivery. arrangements for payment have been made with the division, or its authorized representative, and 215 216 payment is made in accordance with those arrangements. 217 (d) The division shall assess as a penalty a service charge, in addition to any other penalties 218 that may apply, in an amount not to exceed the [maximum] service charge [allowed] imposed by 219 [Subsection] Section 7-15-1[(2)] for dishonored instruments if: 220 (i) any amount due the division for contributions, interest, other penalties or benefit 221 overpayments is paid by check, draft, order, or other instrument; and 222 (ii) the instrument is dishonored or not paid by the institution against which it is drawn. 223 (e) Except for benefit overpayments under Subsection 35A-4-405(5), benefit overpayments, contributions, interest, penalties, and assessed costs, uncollected three years after they become due, 224 225 may be charged as uncollectable and removed from the records of the division if: 226 (i) no assets belonging to the liable person and subject to attachment can be found; and 227 (ii) in the opinion of the division there is no likelihood of collection at a future date. 228 (f) Interest and penalties collected in accordance with this section shall be paid into the 229 Special Administrative Expense Fund. 230 (g) Action required for the collection of sums due under this chapter is subject to the 231 applicable limitations of actions under Title 78, Chapter 12, Limitation of Actions. 232 (2) (a) If an employer fails to file a report when prescribed by the division for the purpose 233 of determining the amount of the employer's contribution due under this chapter, or if the report 234 when filed is incorrect or insufficient or is not satisfactory to the division, the division may 235 determine the amount of wages paid for employment during the period or periods with respect to 236 which the reports were or should have been made and the amount of contribution due from the 237 employer on the basis of such information as it may be able to obtain. 238 (b) The division shall give written notice of the determination to the employer. 239 (c) The determination is considered correct unless: 240 (i) the employer, within ten days after mailing or personal delivery of notice of the 241 determination, applies to the division for a review of the determination as provided in Section 242 35A-4-508; or

243 (ii) unless the division or its authorized representative of its own motion reviews the 244 determination. 245 (d) The amount of contribution so determined shall be subject to penalties and interest as 246 provided in Subsection (1). 247 (3) (a) If, after due notice, any employer defaults in any payment of contributions, interest, 248 or penalties on the contributions, or any claimant defaults in any repayment of benefit 249 overpayments and penalties on the overpayments, the amount due shall be collectible by civil 250 action in the name of the division, and the employer adjudged in default shall pay the costs of the 251 action. 252 (b) Civil actions brought under this section to collect contributions, interest or penalties 253 from an employer, or benefit overpayments and penalties from a claimant shall be: 254 (i) heard by the court at the earliest possible date; and 255 (ii) entitled to preference upon the calendar of the court over all other civil actions except: (A) petitions for judicial review under this chapter; and 256 257 (B) cases arising under the workers' compensation law of this state. 258 (c) (i) To collect contributions, interest or penalties, or benefit overpayments and penalties 259 due from employers or claimants located outside Utah the division may employ private collectors 260 providing debt collection services outside Utah. Accounts may be placed with private collectors 261 only after the employer or claimant has been given a final notice that the division intends to place 262 the account with a private collector for further collection action. The notice shall advise the 263 employer or claimant of the employer's or claimant's rights under this chapter and the rules

applicable of the department.

(ii) A private collector may receive as compensation up to, but no more than, 25% of the lesser of the amount collected or the amount due, plus the costs and fees of any civil action or post-judgment remedy instituted by the private collector with the approval of the division. The employer or claimant shall be liable to pay the compensation of the collector, costs, and fees in addition to the original amount due.

(iii) A private collector is subject to the federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15
U.S.C. Sec. 1692 et seq.

(iv) A civil action may not be maintained by any private collector without specific prior
written approval of the division. When division approval is given for civil action against an

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employer or claimant, the division may cooperate with the private collector to the extent necessaryto effect the civil action.

- (d) (i) Notwithstanding Section 35A-4-312, the division may disclose the contribution,
 interest, penalties or benefit overpayments and penalties, costs due, the name of the employer or
 claimant, and the employer's or claimant's address and telephone number when any collection
 matter is referred to a private collector under Subsection (3)(c).
- (ii) A private collector is subject to the confidentiality requirements and penalty provisions
 provided in Section 35A-4-312 and Subsection 35A-4-104(4), except to the extent disclosure is
 necessary in any civil action to enforce collection of the amounts due.
- (e) An action taken by the division under this section may not be construed to be anelection to forego other collection procedures by the division.
- (4) (a) In the event of any distribution of an employer's assets under an order of any court
 under the laws of Utah, including any receivership, assignment for benefits of creditors,
 adjudicated insolvency, composition, or similar proceedings, contributions then or thereafter due
 shall be paid in full prior to all other claims except taxes and claims for wages of not more than
 \$400 to each claimant, earned within five months of the commencement of the proceeding.
- (b) If an employer commences a proceeding in the Federal Bankruptcy Court under any
 chapter of the Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1978, 11 U.S.C. 101 et seq., as amended, contributions,
 interest, and penalties then or thereafter due shall be entitled to the priority provided for taxes,
 interest, and penalties in the Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1978.
- 294 (5) (a) In addition and as an alternative to any other remedy provided by this chapter and 295 provided that no appeal or other proceeding for review provided by this chapter is then pending 296 and the time for taking it has expired, the division may issue a warrant in duplicate, under its 297 official seal, directed to the sheriff of any county of the state, commanding the sheriff to levy upon 298 and sell the real and personal property of a delinquent employer or claimant found within the 299 sheriff's county for the payment of the contributions due thereon, with the added penalties, interest, 300 or benefit overpayment and penalties, and costs, and to return the warrant to the division and pay 301 into the fund the money collected by virtue of the warrant by a time to be therein specified, not 302 more than 60 days from the date of the warrant.
- 303 (b) Immediately upon receipt of the warrant in duplicate, the sheriff shall file the duplicate304 with the clerk of the district court in the sheriff's county. The clerk shall enter in the judgment

305 docket, in the column for judgment debtors, the name of the delinquent employer or claimant

306 mentioned in the warrant, and in appropriate columns the amount of the contribution, penalties,

interest, or benefit overpayment and penalties, and costs, for which the warrant is issued and thedate when the duplicate is filed.

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(c) The amount of the warrant so docketed shall:

(i) have the force and effect of an execution against all personal property of the delinquentemployer; and

(ii) become a lien upon the real property of the delinquent employer or claimant in the
same manner and to the same extent as a judgment duly rendered by any district court and
docketed in the office of the clerk.

315 (d) After docketing, the sheriff shall:

(i) proceed in the same manner as is prescribed by law with respect to execution issuedagainst property upon judgments of a court of record; and

(ii) be entitled to the same fees for the sheriff's services in executing the warrant, to becollected in the same manner.

(6) (a) Contributions imposed by this chapter are a lien upon the property of any employer
liable for the contribution required to be collected under this section who shall sell out the
employer's business or stock of goods or shall quit business, if the employer fails to make a final
report and payment on the date subsequent to the date of selling or quitting business on which they
are due and payable as prescribed by rule.

(b) An employer's successor, successors, or assigns, if any, shall be required to withhold sufficient of the purchase money to cover the amount of the contributions and interest or penalties due and payable until such time as the former owner shall produce a receipt from the division showing that they have been paid or a certificate stating that no amount is due. If the purchaser of a business or stock of goods fails to withhold sufficient purchase money, the purchaser shall be personally liable for the payment of the amount of the contributions required to be paid by the former owner, interest and penalties accrued and unpaid by the former owner, owners, or assignors.

(7) (a) If any employer is delinquent in the payment of any contribution, the division may
give notice of the amount of the delinquency by registered mail to all persons having in their
possession or under their control, any credits or other personal property belonging to the employer,
or owing any debts to the employer at the time of the receipt by them of the notice.

(b) Any persons notified under Subsection (7)(a) shall neither transfer nor make any otherdisposition of the credits, other personal property, or debts until:

- (i) the division has consented to a transfer or disposition; or
- 339 (ii

(ii) 20 days after the receipt of the notice.

(c) All persons notified under Subsection (7)(a) shall within five days after receipt of the
notice, advise the division of credits, other personal property, or other debts in their possession,
under their control or owing by them, as the case may be.

343 (8) (a) Each employer shall furnish the division necessary information for the proper
344 administration of this chapter and shall include wage information for each employee, for each
345 calendar quarter beginning October 1, 1984. The information shall be furnished at a time, in the
346 form, and to those individuals as the department may by rule require.

(b) Each employer shall furnish each individual worker who is separated that information
as the department may by rule require, and shall furnish within 48 hours of the receipt of a request
from the division a report of the earnings of any individual during the individual's base-period.
The report shall be on a form prescribed by the division and contain all information prescribed by

the division.

(c) For each failure by an employer to conform to this Subsection (8) the division shall,
unless good cause is shown to the satisfaction of the division for the failure, assess a \$50 penalty
to be collected in the same manner as contributions due under this chapter.

(9) If any person liable to pay any contribution or benefit overpayment imposed by this
chapter neglects or refuses to pay the same after demand, the amount, including any interest,
additional amount, addition to contributions, or assessable penalty, together with any additional
accruable costs, shall be a lien in favor of the division upon all property and rights to property,
whether real or personal belonging to the person.

(10) (a) The lien imposed by Subsection (9) arises at the time the assessment, as defined
in the department rules, is made and continues until the liability for the amount so assessed, or a
judgment against the taxpayer arising out of the liability, is satisfied.

(b) The lien imposed by Subsection (9) is not valid as against any purchaser, holder of a
security interest, mechanics lien holder, or judgment lien creditor until a warrant which meets the
requirements of Subsection (5) has been filed with the clerk of the district court. For the purposes
of Subsection (10)(b):

(i) "Judgment lien creditor" means a person who obtains a valid judgment of a court of
record for recovery of specific property or a sum certain of money, and who in the case of a
recovery of money, has a perfected lien under the judgment on the property involved. A judgment
lien does not include inchoate liens such as attachment or garnishment liens until they ripen into
a judgment. A judgment lien does not include the determination or assessment of a quasi-judicial
authority, such as a state or federal taxing authority.

(ii) "Mechanics lien holder" means any person who has a lien on real property, or on the proceeds of a contract relating to real property, for services, labor, or materials furnished in connection with the construction or improvement of the property. A person has a lien on the earliest date the lien becomes valid against subsequent purchasers without actual notice, but not before the person begins to furnish the services, labor, or materials.

- 378 (iii) "Person" means:
- (A) an individual;
- 380 (B) a trust;
- 381 (C) an estate;
- 382 (D) a partnership;
- 383 (E) an association;
- 384 (F) a company;
- 385 (G) a limited liability company;
- 386 (H) a limited liability partnership; or
- 387 (I) a corporation.

(iv) "Purchaser" means a person who, for adequate and full consideration in money or
 money's worth, acquires an interest, other than a lien or security interest, in property which is valid
 under state law against subsequent purchasers without actual notice.

(v) "Security interest" means any interest in property acquired by contract for the purpose
 of securing payment or performance of an obligation or indemnifying against loss or liability. A
 security interest exists at any time:

- (A) the property is in existence and the interest has become protected under the law againsta subsequent judgment lien arising out of an unsecured obligation; and
- (B) to the extent that, at that time, the holder has parted with money or money's worth.
- 397 Section 5. Coordination clause.

- 398 If this bill and S.B. 113, Financial Services Amendments, both pass, it is the intent of the
- 399 Legislature that the amendments to Sections 7-15-1 and 7-15-2 in this bill supersede the
- 400 amendments to these sections in S.B. 113 including the amendments referred to in the coordination
- 401 <u>clause.</u>