#### HOUSE BILL 2486

State of Washington 65th Legislature 2018 Regular Session

By Representative Graves; by request of Uniform Law Commission Read first time 01/10/18. Referred to Committee on Finance.

AN ACT Relating to the revised uniform unclaimed property act; 1 2 adding a new chapter to Title 63 RCW; repealing RCW 63.29.010, 3 63.29.020, 63.29.030, 63.29.040, 63.29.050, 63.29.060, 63.29.070, 63.29.080, 63.29.090, 63.29.100, 4 63.29.110, 63.29.120, 63.29.130, 5 63.29.133, 63.29.135, 63.29.140, 63.29.150, 63.29.160, 63.29.165, 63.29.170, 63.29.180, 63.29.190, 63.29.192, 63.29.193, 63.29.194, 6 63.29.220, 63.29.230, 63.29.240, 7 63.29.195, 63.29.200, 63.29.210, 8 63.29.250, 63.29.260, 63.29.270, 63.29.280, 63.29.290, 63.29.300, 63.29.310, 63.29.320, 63.29.330, 63.29.340, 63.29.350, 63.29.360, 9 63.29.370, 63.29.380, 63.29.900, 63.29.902, 63.29.903, 63.29.905, and 10 11 63.29.906; prescribing penalties; and providing an effective date.

12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

13 **PART 1** 

- 14 GENERAL PROVISIONS
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 101. SHORT TITLE. This chapter may be cited as the revised uniform unclaimed property act.
- 17 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 102.** DEFINITIONS. The definitions in this
- 18 section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly
- 19 requires otherwise.

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- 1 (1) "Administrator" means the department of revenue established 2 under RCW 82.01.050.
  - (2) "Administrator's agent" means a person with which the administrator contracts to conduct an examination under sections 1001 through 1013 of this act on behalf of the administrator. The term includes an independent contractor of the person and each individual participating in the examination on behalf of the person or contractor.
- 9 (3) "Apparent owner" means a person whose name appears on the 10 records of a holder as the owner of property held, issued, or owing 11 by the holder.
- (4) "Business association" means a corporation, joint stock 12 13 company, investment company other than an investment company registered under the investment company act of 1940, as amended, 15 14 U.S.C. Secs. 80a-1 through 80a-64, partnership, unincorporated 15 16 association, joint venture, limited liability company, business 17 trust, trust company, land bank, safe deposit company, safekeeping depository, financial organization, insurance company, federally 18 chartered entity, utility, sole proprietorship, or other business 19 entity, whether or not for profit. 20
- 21 (5) "Confidential information" means records, reports, and 22 information that are confidential under section 1402 of this act.
  - (6) "Domicile" means:

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- (a) For a corporation, the state of its incorporation;
- (b) For a business association whose formation requires a filing with a state, other than a corporation, the state of its filing;
- (c) For a federally chartered entity or an investment company registered under the investment company act of 1940, as amended, 15 U.S.C. Secs. 80a-1 through 80a-64, the state of its home office; and
- 30 (d) For any other holder, the state of its principal place of 31 business.
- 32 (7) "Electronic" means relating to technology having electrical, 33 digital, magnetic, wireless, optical, electromagnetic, or similar 34 capabilities.
- 35 (8) "Email" means a communication by electronic means which is 36 automatically retained and stored and may be readily accessed or 37 retrieved.
- (9) "Financial organization" means a savings and loan association, building and loan association, savings bank, industrial bank, bank, banking organization, or credit union.

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- 1 (10) "Game-related digital content" means digital content that 2 exists only in an electronic game or electronic game platform. The 3 term:
  - (a) Includes:

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- 5 (i) Game-play currency such as a virtual wallet, even if 6 denominated in United States currency; and
- 7 (ii) The following if for use or redemption only within the game 8 or platform or another electronic game or electronic game platform:
- 9 (A) Points sometimes referred to as gems, tokens, gold, and 10 similar names; and
  - (B) Digital codes; and
  - (b) Does not include an item that the issuer:
- 13 (i) Permits to be redeemed for use outside a game or platform 14 for:
- 15 (A) Money; or
  - (B) Goods or services that have more than minimal value; or
    - (ii) Otherwise monetizes for use outside a game or platform.
    - (11) "Gift card" has the meaning given in RCW 19.240.010.
- 19 (12) "Holder" means a person obligated to hold for the account 20 of, or to deliver or pay to, the owner, property subject to this 21 chapter.
  - (13) "Insurance company" means an association, corporation, or fraternal or mutual benefit organization, whether or not for profit, engaged in the business of providing life endowments, annuities, or insurance, including accident, burial, casualty, credit life, contract performance, dental, disability, fidelity, fire, health, hospitalization, illness, life, malpractice, marine, mortgage, surety, wage protection, and worker compensation insurance.
- 29 (14) "Loyalty card" means a record given without direct monetary 30 consideration under an award, reward, benefit, loyalty, incentive, 31 rebate, or promotional program which may be used or redeemed only to 32 obtain goods or services or a discount on goods or services. The term 33 does not include a record that may be redeemed for money or otherwise 34 monetized by the issuer.
- 35 (15) "Mineral" means gas, oil, coal, oil shale, other gaseous 36 liquid or solid hydrocarbon, cement material, sand and gravel, road 37 material, building stone, chemical raw material, gemstone, 38 fissionable and nonfissionable ores, colloidal and other clay, steam 39 and other geothermal resources, and any other substance defined as a 40 mineral by law of this state other than this chapter.

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- 1 (16) "Mineral proceeds" means an amount payable for extraction, 2 production, or sale of minerals, or, on the abandonment of the 3 amount, an amount that becomes payable after abandonment. The term 4 includes an amount payable:
- 5 (a) For the acquisition and retention of a mineral lease, 6 including a bonus, royalty, compensatory royalty, shut-in royalty, 7 minimum royalty, and delay rental;
  - (b) For the extraction, production, or sale of minerals, including a net revenue interest, royalty, overriding royalty, extraction payment, and production payment; and
    - (c) Under an agreement or option, including a joint operating agreement, unit agreement, pooling agreement, and farm-out agreement.
  - (17) "Money order" means a payment order for a specified amount of money. The term includes an express money order and a personal money order on which the remitter is the purchaser.
- 16 (18) "Municipal bond" means a bond or evidence of indebtedness 17 issued by a municipality or other political subdivision of a state.
  - (19) "Net card value" means the original purchase price or original issued value of a stored value card, plus amounts added to the original price or value, minus amounts used and any service charge, fee, or dormancy charge permitted by law.
  - (20) "Nonfreely transferable security" means a security that cannot be delivered to the administrator by the depository trust clearing corporation or similar custodian of securities providing posttrade clearing and settlement services to financial markets or cannot be delivered because there is no agent to effect transfer. The term includes a worthless security.
  - (21) "Owner" means a person that has a legal, beneficial, or equitable interest in property subject to this chapter or the person's legal representative when acting on behalf of the owner. The term includes:
    - (a) A depositor, for a deposit;

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- (b) A beneficiary, for a trust other than a deposit in trust;
- (c) A creditor, claimant, or payee, for other property; and
- 35 (d) The lawful bearer of a record that may be used to obtain 36 money, a reward, or a thing of value.
- 37 (22) "Payroll card" means a record that evidences a payroll card 38 account as defined in Regulation E, 12 C.F.R. Part 1005, as it 39 existed on the effective date of this section.

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- 1 (23) "Person" means an individual, estate, business association, 2 public corporation, government or governmental subdivision, agency, 3 or instrumentality, or other legal entity.
- 4 (24) "Property" means tangible property described in section 205 5 of this act or a fixed and certain interest in intangible property 6 held, issued, or owed in the course of a holder's business or by a 7 government, governmental subdivision, agency, or instrumentality. The 8 term:
  - (a) Includes all income from or increments to the property;
    - (b) Includes property referred to as or evidenced by:
- 11 (i) Money, virtual currency, interest, or a dividend, check, 12 draft, deposit, or payroll card;
  - (ii) A credit balance, customer's overpayment, stored value card, security deposit, refund, credit memorandum, unpaid wage, unused ticket for which the issuer has an obligation to provide a refund, mineral proceeds, or unidentified remittance;
    - (iii) A security except for:
    - (A) A worthless security; or

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- (B) A security that is subject to a lien, legal hold, or restriction evidenced on the records of the holder or imposed by operation of law, if the lien, legal hold, or restriction restricts the holder's or owner's ability to receive, transfer, sell, or otherwise negotiate the security;
  - (iv) A bond, debenture, note, or other evidence of indebtedness;
- (v) Money deposited to redeem a security, make a distribution, or pay a dividend;
- (vi) An amount due and payable under an annuity contract or insurance policy; and
  - (vii) An amount distributable from a trust or custodial fund established under a plan to provide health, welfare, pension, vacation, severance, retirement, death, stock purchase, profitsharing, employee savings, supplemental unemployment insurance, or a similar benefit; and
- 34 (c) Does not include:
- 35 (i) Property held in a plan described in section 529A of the 36 internal revenue code, as it existed on the effective date of this 37 section, 26 U.S.C. Sec. 529A;
- 38 (ii) Game-related digital content;
- 39 (iii) A loyalty card;

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- 1 (iv) A gift card or gift certificate complying with chapter 2 19.240 RCW.
  - (25) "Putative holder" means a person believed by the administrator to be a holder, until the person pays or delivers to the administrator property subject to this chapter or the administrator or a court makes a final determination that the person is or is not a holder.
- 8 (26) "Record" means information that is inscribed on a tangible 9 medium or that is stored in an electronic or other medium and is 10 retrievable in perceivable form.
  - (27) "Security" means:

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- 12 (a) A security as defined in RCW 62A.8-102;
- 13 (b) A security entitlement as defined in RCW 62A.8-102, including 14 a customer security account held by a registered broker-dealer, to 15 the extent the financial assets held in the security account are not:
- 16 (i) Registered on the books of the issuer in the name of the 17 person for which the broker-dealer holds the assets;
  - (ii) Payable to the order of the person; or
- 19 (iii) Specifically indorsed to the person; or
- 20 (c) An equity interest in a business association not included in 21 (a) or (b) of this subsection.
- 22 (28) "Sign" means, with present intent to authenticate or adopt a 23 record:
  - (a) To execute or adopt a tangible symbol; or
  - (b) To attach to or logically associate with the record an electronic symbol, sound, or process.
- (29) "State" means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, or any territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.
- 31 (30) "Stored value card" means a record evidencing a promise made 32 for consideration by the seller or issuer of the record that goods, 33 services, or money will be provided to the owner of the record to the 34 value or amount shown in the record. The term:
- 35 (a) Includes:
- 36 (i) A record that contains or consists of a microprocessor chip, 37 magnetic strip, or other means for the storage of information, which 38 is prefunded and whose value or amount is decreased on each use and 39 increased by payment of additional consideration; and
- 40 (ii) A payroll card; and

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- 1 (b) Does not include a loyalty card, gift card, or game-related 2 digital content.
- 3 (31) "Utility" means a person that owns or operates for public 4 use a plant, equipment, real property, franchise, or license for the 5 following public services:
  - (a) Transmission of communications or information;
- 7 (b) Production, storage, transmission, sale, delivery, or 8 furnishing of electricity, water, steam, or gas; or
- 9 (c) Provision of sewage or septic services, or trash, garbage, or 10 recycling disposal.
- 11 (32) "Virtual currency" means a digital representation of value 12 used as a medium of exchange, unit of account, or store of value, 13 which does not have legal tender status recognized by the United 14 States. The term does not include:
- 15 (a) The software or protocols governing the transfer of the 16 digital representation of value;
  - (b) Game-related digital content; or
- 18 (c) A loyalty card or gift card.

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- 19 (33) "Worthless security" means a security whose cost of 20 liquidation and delivery to the administrator would exceed the value 21 of the security on the date a report is due under this chapter.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 103. INAPPLICABILITY TO FOREIGN TRANSACTION.
  This chapter does not apply to property held, due, and owing in a
  foreign country if the transaction out of which the property arose
  was a foreign transaction.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 104. RULE MAKING. The administrator may adopt rules under chapter 34.05 RCW to implement and administer this chapter.

# 29 PART 2 30 PRESUMPTION OF ABANDONMENT

- 31 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 201.** WHEN PROPERTY PRESUMED ABANDONED.
- 32 Subject to section 209 of this act, the following property is
- 33 presumed abandoned if it is unclaimed by the apparent owner during
- 34 the period specified below:
- 35 (1) A traveler's check, fifteen years after issuance;
- 36 (2) A money order, seven years after issuance;

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1 (3) A state or municipal bond, bearer bond, or original issue 2 discount bond, three years after the earliest of the date the bond 3 matures or is called or the obligation to pay the principal of the 4 bond arises;

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- (4) A debt of a business association, three years after the obligation to pay arises;
- (5) A payroll card or demand, savings, or time deposit, including a deposit that is automatically renewable, three years after the maturity of the deposit, except a deposit that is automatically renewable is deemed matured on its initial date of maturity unless the apparent owner consented in a record on file with the holder to renewal at or about the time of the renewal;
- (6) Money or a credit owed to a customer as a result of a retail business transaction, three years after the obligation arose;
  - (7) An amount owed by an insurance company on a life or endowment insurance policy or an annuity contract that has matured or terminated, three years after the obligation to pay arose under the terms of the policy or contract or, if a policy or contract for which an amount is owed on proof of death has not matured by proof of the death of the insured or annuitant, as follows:
- 21 (a) With respect to an amount owed on a life or endowment 22 insurance policy, three years after the earlier of the date:
- 23 (i) The insurance company has knowledge of the death of the 24 insured; or
  - (ii) The insured has attained, or would have attained if living, the limiting age under the mortality table on which the reserve for the policy is based; and
  - (b) With respect to an amount owed on an annuity contract, three years after the date the insurance company has knowledge of the death of the annuitant;
- 31 (8) Property distributable by a business association in the 32 course of dissolution, one year after the property becomes 33 distributable;
  - (9) Property held by a court, including property received as proceeds of a class action, one year after the property becomes distributable;
  - (10) Property held by a government or governmental subdivision, agency, or instrumentality, including municipal bond interest and unredeemed principal under the administration of a paying agent or indenture trustee, one year after the property becomes distributable;

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- 1 (11) Wages, commissions, bonuses, or reimbursements to which an 2 employee is entitled, or other compensation for personal services, 3 other than amounts held in a payroll card, one year after the amount 4 becomes payable;
  - (12) A deposit or refund owed to a subscriber by a utility, one year after the deposit or refund becomes payable; and
- 7 (13) Property not specified in this section or section 202 8 through 207 of this act, the earlier of three years after the owner 9 first has a right to demand the property or the obligation to pay or 10 distribute the property arises.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 202. WHEN TAX DEFERRED RETIREMENT ACCOUNT PRESUMED ABANDONED. (1) Subject to section 209 of this act, property held in a pension account or retirement account that qualifies for tax deferral under the income tax laws of the United States is presumed abandoned if it is unclaimed by the apparent owner three years after the later of:
  - (a) The following dates:

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- (i) Except as in (a)(ii) of this subsection, the date a second consecutive communication sent by the holder by first-class United States mail to the apparent owner is returned to the holder undelivered by the United States postal service; or
- (ii) If the second communication is sent later than thirty days after the date the first communication is returned undelivered, the date the first communication was returned undelivered by the United States postal service; or
  - (b) The earlier of the following dates:
- 27 (i) The date the apparent owner becomes seventy and one-half 28 years of age, if determinable by the holder; or
- (ii) If the internal revenue code, as it existed on the effective date of this section, 26 U.S.C. Sec. 1 et seq., requires distribution to avoid a tax penalty, two years after the date the holder:
- 32 (A) Receives confirmation of the death of the apparent owner in 33 the ordinary course of its business; or
- 34 (B) Confirms the death of the apparent owner under subsection (2) 35 of this section.
- 36 (2) If a holder in the ordinary course of its business receives 37 notice or an indication of the death of an apparent owner and 38 subsection (1)(b) of this section applies, the holder shall attempt

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not later than ninety days after receipt of the notice or indication to confirm whether the apparent owner is deceased.

- (3) If the holder does not send communications to the apparent owner of an account described in subsection (1) of this section by first-class United States mail, the holder shall attempt to confirm the apparent owner's interest in the property by sending the apparent owner an email communication not later than two years after the apparent owner's last indication of interest in the property. However, the holder promptly shall attempt to contact the apparent owner by first-class United States mail if:
- (a) The holder does not have information needed to send the apparent owner an email communication or the holder believes that the apparent owner's email address in the holder's records is not valid;
- (b) The holder receives notification that the email communication was not received; or
- (c) The apparent owner does not respond to the email communication not later than thirty days after the communication was sent.
- (4) If first-class United States mail sent under subsection (3) of this section is returned to the holder undelivered by the United States postal service, the property is presumed abandoned three years after the later of:
- (a) Except as in (b) of this subsection, the date a second consecutive communication to contact the apparent owner sent by first-class United States mail is returned to the holder undelivered;
- (b) If the second communication is sent later than thirty days after the date the first communication is returned undelivered, the date the first communication was returned undelivered; or
- 29 (c) The date established by subsection (1)(b) of this section.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 203. WHEN OTHER TAX DEFERRED ACCOUNT PRESUMED ABANDONED. Subject to section 209 of this act and except for property described in section 202 of this act and property held in a plan described in section 529A of the internal revenue code, as it existed on the effective date of this section, 26 U.S.C. Sec. 529A, property held in an account or plan, including a health savings account, that qualifies for tax deferral under the income tax laws of the United States is presumed abandoned if it is unclaimed by the apparent owner three years after the earlier of:

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- 1 (1) The date, if determinable by the holder, specified in the 2 income tax laws and regulations of the United States by which 3 distribution of the property must begin to avoid a tax penalty, with 4 no distribution having been made; or
  - (2) Thirty years after the date the account was opened.

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- NEW SECTION. Sec. 204. WHEN CUSTODIAL ACCOUNT FOR MINOR PRESUMED ABANDONED. (1) Subject to section 209 of this act, property held in an account established under a state's uniform gifts to minors act or uniform transfers to minors act is presumed abandoned if it is unclaimed by or on behalf of the minor on whose behalf the account was opened three years after the later of:
- (a) Except as in (b) of this subsection, the date a second consecutive communication sent by the holder by first-class United States mail to the custodian of the minor on whose behalf the account was opened is returned undelivered to the holder by the United States postal service;
- (b) If the second communication is sent later than thirty days after the date the first communication is returned undelivered, the date the first communication was returned undelivered; or
- (c) The date on which the custodian is required to transfer the property to the minor or the minor's estate in accordance with the uniform gifts to minors act or uniform transfers to minors act of the state in which the account was opened.
- (2) If the holder does not send communications to the custodian of the minor on whose behalf an account described in subsection (1) of this section was opened by first-class United States mail, the holder shall attempt to confirm the custodian's interest in the property by sending the custodian an email communication not later than two years after the custodian's last indication of interest in the property. However, the holder promptly shall attempt to contact the custodian by first-class United States mail if:
- (a) The holder does not have information needed to send the custodian an email communication or the holder believes that the custodian's email address in the holder's records is not valid;
- 35 (b) The holder receives notification that the email communication 36 was not received; or
- 37 (c) The custodian does not respond to the email communication not 38 later than thirty days after the communication was sent.

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(3) If first-class United States mail sent under subsection (2) of this section is returned undelivered to the holder by the United States postal service, the property is presumed abandoned three years after the later of:

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- (a) The date a second consecutive communication to contact the custodian by first-class United States mail is returned to the holder undelivered by the United States postal service; or
  - (b) The date established by subsection (1)(c) of this section.
- 9 (4) When the property in the account described in subsection (1) 10 of this section is transferred to the minor on whose behalf an 11 account was opened or to the minor's estate, the property in the 12 account is no longer subject to this section.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 205. WHEN CONTENTS OF SAFE DEPOSIT BOX PRESUMED ABANDONED. Tangible property held in a safe deposit box and proceeds from a sale of the property by the holder permitted by law of this state other than this chapter are presumed abandoned if the property remains unclaimed by the apparent owner five years after the earlier of the:
  - (1) Expiration of the lease or rental period for the box; or
- 20 (2) Earliest date when the lessor of the box is authorized by law 21 of this state other than this chapter to enter the box and remove or 22 dispose of the contents without consent or authorization of the 23 lessee.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 206. WHEN STORED VALUE CARD PRESUMED ABANDONED. (1) Subject to section 209 of this act, the net card value of a stored value card, other than a payroll card, is presumed abandoned on the latest of three years after:
- 28 (a) December 31st of the year in which the card is issued or 29 additional funds are deposited into it;
- 30 (b) The most recent indication of interest in the card by the 31 apparent owner; or
- 32 (c) A verification or review of the balance by or on behalf of 33 the apparent owner.
- 34 (2) The amount presumed abandoned in a stored value card is the 35 net card value at the time it is presumed abandoned.

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NEW SECTION. Sec. 207. WHEN SECURITY PRESUMED ABANDONED. (1)
Subject to section 209 of this act, a security is presumed abandoned
three years after:

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- (a) The date a second consecutive communication sent by the holder by first-class United States mail to the apparent owner is returned to the holder undelivered by the United States postal service; or
- (b) If the second communication is made later than thirty days after the first communication is returned, the date the first communication is returned undelivered to the holder by the United States postal service.
  - (2) If the holder does not send communications to the apparent owner of a security by first-class United States mail, the holder shall attempt to confirm the apparent owner's interest in the security by sending the apparent owner an email communication not later than two years after the apparent owner's last indication of interest in the security. However the holder promptly shall attempt to contact the apparent owner by first-class United States mail if:
- (a) The holder does not have information needed to send the apparent owner an email communication or the holder believes that the apparent owner's email address in the holder's records is not valid;
- 22 (b) The holder receives notification that the email communication 23 was not received; or
- (c) The apparent owner does not respond to the email communication not later than thirty days after the communication was sent.
- 27 (3) If first-class United States mail sent under subsection (2) 28 of this section is returned to the holder undelivered by the United 29 States postal service, the security is presumed abandoned three years 30 after the date the mail is returned.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 208. WHEN RELATED PROPERTY PRESUMED ABANDONED. At and after the time property is presumed abandoned under this chapter, any other property right or interest accrued or accruing from the property and not previously presumed abandoned is also presumed abandoned.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 209. INDICATION OF APPARENT OWNER INTEREST IN PROPERTY. (1) The period after which property is presumed abandoned is measured from the later of:

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- 1 (a) The date the property is presumed abandoned under this 2 section and sections 201 through 208, 210, and 211 of this act; or
- 3 (b) The latest indication of interest by the apparent owner in 4 the property.

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- (2) Under this chapter, an indication of an apparent owner's interest in property includes:
- (a) A record communicated by the apparent owner to the holder or agent of the holder concerning the property or the account in which the property is held;
- (b) An oral communication by the apparent owner to the holder or agent of the holder concerning the property or the account in which the property is held, if the holder or its agent contemporaneously makes and preserves a record of the fact of the apparent owner's communication;
- (c) Presentment of a check or other instrument of payment of a dividend, interest payment, or other distribution, or evidence of receipt of a distribution made by electronic or similar means, with respect to an account, underlying security, or interest in a business association;
- (d) Activity directed by an apparent owner in the account in which the property is held, including accessing the account or information concerning the account, or a direction by the apparent owner to increase, decrease, or otherwise change the amount or type of property held in the account;
- (e) A deposit into or withdrawal from an account at a financial organization, including an automatic deposit or withdrawal previously authorized by the apparent owner other than an automatic reinvestment of dividends or interest;
- 29 (f) Subject to subsection (5) of this section, payment of a 30 premium on an insurance policy; and
- 31 (g) Any other action by the apparent owner which reasonably 32 demonstrates to the holder that the apparent owner knows that the 33 property exists.
  - (3) An action by an agent or other representative of an apparent owner, other than the holder acting as the apparent owner's agent, is presumed to be an action on behalf of the apparent owner.
  - (4) A communication with an apparent owner by a person other than the holder or the holder's representative is not an indication of interest in the property by the apparent owner unless a record of the

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- 1 communication evidences the apparent owner's knowledge of a right to 2 the property.
  - (5) If the insured dies or the insured or beneficiary of an insurance policy otherwise becomes entitled to the proceeds before depletion of the cash surrender value of the policy by operation of an automatic premium loan provision or other nonforfeiture provision contained in the policy, the operation does not prevent the policy from maturing or terminating.
- 9 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 210.** KNOWLEDGE OF DEATH OF INSURED OR 10 ANNUITANT. (1) In this section, "death master file" means the United 11 States social security administration death master file or other 12 database or service that is at least as comprehensive as the United 13 States social security administration death master file for 14 determining that an individual reportedly has died.
- 15 (2) With respect to a life or endowment insurance policy or 16 annuity contract for which an amount is owed on proof of death, but 17 which has not matured by proof of death of the insured or annuitant, 18 the company has knowledge of the death of an insured or annuitant 19 when:
- 20 (a) The company receives a death certificate or court order 21 determining that the insured or annuitant has died;
  - (b) Due diligence, performed as required under chapter 48.23 RCW and rules promulgated thereunder to maintain contact with the insured or annuitant or determine whether the insured or annuitant has died, validates the death of the insured or annuitant;
  - (c) The company conducts a comparison for any purpose between a death master file and the names of some or all of the company's insureds or annuitants, finds a match that provides notice that the insured or annuitant has died, and validates the death;
  - (d) The administrator or the administrator's agent conducts a comparison for the purpose of finding matches during an examination conducted under sections 1001 through 1013 of this act between a death master file and the names of some or all of the company's insureds or annuitants, finds a match that provides notice that the insured or annuitant has died, and the company validates the death; or
- (e) The company:

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38 (i) Receives notice of the death of the insured or annuitant from 39 an administrator, beneficiary, policy owner, relative of the insured,

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or trustee or from a personal representative or other legal representative of the insured's or annuitant's estate; and

- (ii) Validates the death of the insured or annuitant.
- (3) The following rules apply under this section:
- 5 (a) A death master file match under subsection (2)(c) or (d) of 6 this section occurs if the criteria for an exact or partial match are 7 satisfied as provided by:
  - (i) Law of this state other than this chapter;

- 9 (ii) A rule or policy adopted by the office of the insurance 10 commissioner; or
  - (iii) Absent a law, rule, or policy under (a)(i) or (ii) of this subsection standards in the national conference of insurance legislators' "model unclaimed life insurance benefits act" as published in 2014.
    - (b) The death master file match does not constitute proof of death for the purpose of submission to an insurance company of a claim by a beneficiary, annuitant, or owner of the policy or contract for an amount due under an insurance policy or annuity contract.
    - (c) The death master file match or validation of the insured's or annuitant's death does not alter the requirements for a beneficiary, annuitant, or owner of the policy or contract to make a claim to receive proceeds under the terms of the policy or contract.
    - (d) If no provision in Title 48 RCW or rules promulgated thereunder establishes a time for validation of a death of an insured or annuitant, the insurance company shall make a good faith effort using other available records and information to validate the death and document the effort taken not later than ninety days after the insurance company has notice of the death.
    - (4) This chapter does not affect the determination of the extent to which an insurance company before the effective date of this section had knowledge of the death of an insured or annuitant or was required to conduct a death master file comparison to determine whether amounts owed by the company on a life or endowment insurance policy or annuity contract were presumed abandoned or unclaimed.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 211. DEPOSIT ACCOUNT FOR PROCEEDS OF INSURANCE POLICY OR ANNUITY CONTRACT. If proceeds payable under a life or endowment insurance policy or annuity contract are deposited into an account with check or draft writing privileges for the beneficiary of the policy or contract and, under a supplementary

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- 1 contract not involving annuity benefits other than death benefits,
- 2 the proceeds are retained by the insurance company or the financial
- 3 organization where the account is held, the policy or contract
- 4 includes the assets in the account.

5 **PART 3** 

#### RULES FOR TAKING CUSTODY OF PROPERTY PRESUMED ABANDONED

- NEW SECTION. Sec. 301. ADDRESS OF APPARENT OWNER TO ESTABLISH PRIORITY. In this section and sections 302 through 307 of this act,
- 9 the following rules apply:

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- 10 (1) The last known address of an apparent owner is any description, code, or other indication of the location of the 12 apparent owner which identifies the state, even if the description, 13 code, or indication of location is not sufficient to direct the 14 delivery of first-class United States mail to the apparent owner.
  - (2) If the United States postal zip code associated with the apparent owner is for a post office located in this state, this state is deemed to be the state of the last known address of the apparent owner unless other records associated with the apparent owner specifically identify the physical address of the apparent owner to be in another state.
- 21 (3) If the address under subsection (2) of this section is in 22 another state, the other state is deemed to be the state of the last 23 known address of the apparent owner.
  - (4) The address of the apparent owner of a life or endowment insurance policy or annuity contract or its proceeds is presumed to be the address of the insured or annuitant if a person other than the insured or annuitant is entitled to the amount owed under the policy or contract and the address of the other person is not known by the insurance company and cannot be determined under section 302 of this act.
- 31 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 302.** ADDRESS OF APPARENT OWNER IN THIS STATE.
- 32 The administrator may take custody of property that is presumed
- 33 abandoned, whether located in this state, another state, or a foreign
- 34 country if:
- 35 (1) The last known address of the apparent owner in the records
- 36 of the holder is in this state; or

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- 1 (2) The records of the holder do not reflect the identity or last 2 known address of the apparent owner, but the administrator has 3 determined that the last known address of the apparent owner is in 4 this state.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 303. IF RECORDS SHOW MULTIPLE ADDRESSES OF APPARENT OWNER. (1) Except as in subsection (2) of this section, if records of a holder reflect multiple addresses for an apparent owner and this state is the state of the most recently recorded address, this state may take custody of property presumed abandoned, whether located in this state or another state.

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- (2) If it appears from records of the holder that the most recently recorded address of the apparent owner under subsection (1) of this section is a temporary address and this state is the state of the next most recently recorded address that is not a temporary address, this state may take custody of the property presumed abandoned.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 304. HOLDER DOMICILED IN THIS STATE. (1)
  Except as in subsection (2) of this section or section 302 or 303 of
  this act, the administrator may take custody of property presumed
  abandoned, whether located in this state, another state, or a foreign
  country, if the holder is domiciled in this state or is this state or
  a governmental subdivision, agency, or instrumentality of this state,
  and:
  - (a) Another state or foreign country is not entitled to the property because there is no last known address of the apparent owner or other person entitled to the property in the records of the holder; or
  - (b) The state or foreign country of the last known address of the apparent owner or other person entitled to the property does not provide for custodial taking of the property.
  - (2) Property is not subject to custody of the administrator under subsection (1) of this section if the property is specifically exempt from custodial taking under the law of this state or the state or foreign country of the last known address of the apparent owner.
  - (3) If a holder's state of domicile has changed since the time property was presumed abandoned, the holder's state of domicile in this section is deemed to be the state where the holder was domiciled at the time the property was presumed abandoned.

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- NEW SECTION. Sec. 305. CUSTODY IF TRANSACTION TOOK PLACE IN THIS STATE. Except as in section 302, 303, or 304 of this act, the administrator may take custody of property presumed abandoned whether located in this state or another state if:
- (1) The transaction out of which the property arose took place in this state;
- (2) The holder is domiciled in a state that does not provide for the custodial taking of the property, except that if the property is specifically exempt from custodial taking under the law of the state of the holder's domicile, the property is not subject to the custody of the administrator; and
- (3) The last known address of the apparent owner or other person entitled to the property is unknown or in a state that does not provide for the custodial taking of the property, except that if the property is specifically exempt from custodial taking under the law of the state of the last known address, the property is not subject to the custody of the administrator.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 306. TRAVELER'S CHECK, MONEY ORDER, OR SIMILAR INSTRUMENT. The administrator may take custody of sums payable on a traveler's check, money order, or similar instrument presumed abandoned to the extent permissible under 12 U.S.C. Secs. 2501 through 2503, as it existed on the effective date of this section.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 307. BURDEN OF PROOF TO ESTABLISH ADMINISTRATOR'S RIGHT TO CUSTODY. If the administrator asserts a right to custody of unclaimed property, the administrator has the burden to prove:
  - (1) The existence and amount of the property;
- 29 (2) The property is presumed abandoned; and
- 30 (3) The property is subject to the custody of the administrator.

## 31 PART 4

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#### 32 REPORT BY HOLDER

NEW SECTION. Sec. 401. REPORT REQUIRED BY HOLDER. (1) A holder of property presumed abandoned and subject to the custody of the administrator shall report in a record to the administrator concerning the property.

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- 1 (2) A holder may contract with a third party to make the report 2 required under subsection (1) of this section.
  - (3) Whether or not a holder contracts with a third party under subsection (2) of this section, the holder is responsible:
  - (a) To the administrator for the complete, accurate, and timely reporting of property presumed abandoned; and
  - (b) For paying or delivering to the administrator property described in the report.
    - (4)(a) Reports due under this section must be filed electronically in a form or manner provided or authorized by the administrator. However, the administrator, upon request or its own initiative, may relieve any holder or class of holders from the electronic filing requirement under this subsection for good cause as determined by the administrator.
      - (b) For purposes of this subsection, "good cause" means:
- 16 (i) A circumstance or condition exists that, in the 17 administrator's judgment, prevents the holder from electronically 18 filing the report due under this section; or
- 19 (ii) The administrator determines that relief from the electronic 20 filing requirement under this subsection supports the efficient or 21 effective administration of this chapter.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 402. CONTENT OF REPORT. (1) The report required under section 401 of this act must:
  - (a) Be signed by or on behalf of the holder and verified as to its completeness and accuracy;
    - (b) If filed electronically, be in a secure format approved by the administrator which protects confidential information of the apparent owner in the same manner as required of the administrator and the administrator's agent under sections 1401 through 1408 of this act;
      - (c) Describe the property;

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- 32 (d) Except for a traveler's check, money order, or similar 33 instrument, contain the name, if known, last known address, if known, 34 and social security number or taxpayer identification number, if 35 known or readily ascertainable, of the apparent owner of property 36 with a value of fifty dollars or more;
- 37 (e) For an amount held or owing under a life or endowment 38 insurance policy or annuity contract, contain the name and last known

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address of the insured, annuitant, or other apparent owner of the policy or contract and of the beneficiary;

- (f) For property held in or removed from a safe deposit box, indicate the location of the property, where it may be inspected by the administrator, and any amounts owed to the holder under section 606 of this act;
- 7 (g) Contain the commencement date for determining abandonment 8 under sections 201 through 211 of this act;
  - (h) State that the holder has complied with the notice requirements of section 501 of this act;
  - (i) Identify property that is a nonfreely transferable security and explain why it is a nonfreely transferable security; and
- 13 (j) Contain other information the administrator prescribes by 14 rules.
  - (2) A report under section 401 of this act may include in the aggregate items valued under fifty dollars each. If the report includes items in the aggregate valued under fifty dollars each, the administrator may not require the holder to provide the name and address of an apparent owner of an item unless the information is necessary to verify or process a claim in progress by the apparent owner.
  - (3) A report under section 401 of this act may include personal information as defined in section 1401(1) of this act about the apparent owner or the apparent owner's property to the extent not otherwise prohibited by federal law.
  - (4) If a holder has changed its name while holding property presumed abandoned or is a successor to another person that previously held the property for the apparent owner, the holder must include in the report under section 401 of this act its former name or the name of the previous holder, if any, and the known name and address of each previous holder of the property.
  - NEW SECTION. Sec. 403. WHEN REPORT TO BE FILED. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2) of this section and subject to subsection (3) of this section, the report under section 401 of this act must be filed before November 1st of each year and cover the twelve months preceding July 1st of that year.
- 37 (2) Subject to subsection (3) of this section, the report under 38 section 401 of this act to be filed by an insurance company must be

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filed before May 1st of each year for the immediately preceding calendar year.

- (3) Before the date for filing the report under section 401 of this act, the holder of property presumed abandoned may request the administrator to extend the time for filing. The administrator may grant an extension. If the extension is granted, the holder may pay or make a partial payment of the amount the holder estimates ultimately will be due. The payment or partial payment terminates accrual of interest on the amount paid.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 404. RETENTION OF RECORDS BY HOLDER. A holder required to file a report under section 401 of this act shall retain records for ten years after the later of the date the report was filed or the last date a timely report was due to be filed, unless a shorter period is provided by rule of the administrator. The holder may satisfy the requirement to retain records under this section through an agent. The records must contain:
  - (1) The information required to be included in the report;
- 18 (2) The date, place, and nature of the circumstances that gave 19 rise to the property right;
- 20 (3) The amount or value of the property;

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- 21 (4) The last address of the apparent owner, if known to the 22 holder; and
- 23 (5) If the holder sells, issues, or provides to others for sale 24 or issue in this state traveler's checks, money orders, or similar 25 instruments, other than third-party bank checks, on which the holder 26 is directly liable, a record of the instruments while they remain 27 outstanding indicating the state and date of issue.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 405. PROPERTY REPORTABLE AND PAYABLE OR DELIVERABLE ABSENT OWNER DEMAND. Property is reportable and payable or deliverable under this chapter even if the owner fails to make demand or present an instrument or document otherwise required to obtain payment.

# 33 **PART 5**

## 34 NOTICE TO APPARENT OWNER OF PROPERTY PRESUMED ABANDONED

NEW SECTION. Sec. 501. NOTICE TO APPARENT OWNER BY HOLDER. (1)
Subject to subsection (2) of this section, the holder of property

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presumed abandoned shall send to the apparent owner notice by firstclass United States mail that complies with section 502 of this act in a format acceptable to the administrator not more than one hundred eighty days nor less than sixty days before filing the report under section 401 of this act if:

- (a) The holder has in its records an address for the apparent owner which the holder's records do not disclose to be invalid and is sufficient to direct the delivery of first-class United States mail to the apparent owner; and
  - (b) The value of the property is seventy-five dollars or more.
- (2) If an apparent owner has consented to receive email delivery from the holder, the holder shall send the notice described in subsection (1) of this section both by first-class United States mail to the apparent owner's last known mailing address and by email, unless the holder believes that the apparent owner's email address is invalid.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 502. CONTENTS OF NOTICE BY HOLDER. (1) Notice under section 501 of this act must contain a heading that reads substantially as follows:

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The state of Washington requires us to notify you that your property may be transferred to the custody of the department of revenue if you do not contact us before (insert date that is thirty days after the date of this notice)."

- (2) The notice under section 501 of this act must:
- 26 (a) Identify the nature and, except for property that does not 27 have a fixed value, the value of the property that is the subject of 28 the notice;
- 29 (b) State that the property will be turned over to the 30 administrator;
- 31 (c) State that after the property is turned over to the 32 administrator an apparent owner that seeks return of the property 33 must file a claim with the administrator;
- 34 (d) State that property that is not legal tender of the United 35 States may be sold by the administrator; and
- (e) Provide instructions that the apparent owner must follow to prevent the holder from reporting and paying or delivering the property to the administrator.

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NEW SECTION. Sec. 503. NOTICE BY ADMINISTRATOR. (1) The administrator shall give notice to an apparent owner that property presumed abandoned and appears to be owned by the apparent owner is held by the administrator under this chapter.

- (2) In providing notice under subsection (1) of this section, the administrator shall:
- (a) Except as otherwise provided in (b) of this subsection, send written notice by first-class United States mail to each apparent owner of property valued at seventy-five dollars or more held by the administrator, unless the administrator determines that a mailing by first-class United States mail would not be received by the apparent owner, and, in the case of a security held in an account for which the apparent owner had consented to receiving email from the holder, send notice by email if the email address of the apparent owner is known to the administrator instead of by first-class United States mail; or
- (b) Send the notice to the apparent owner's email address if the administrator does not have a valid United States mail address for an apparent owner, but has an email address that the administrator does not know to be invalid.
- 21 (3) In addition to the notice under subsection (2) of this 22 section, the administrator shall:
  - (a) Publish every twelve months in the printed or online version of a newspaper of general circulation within this state, which the administrator determines is most likely to give notice to the apparent owner of the property, notice of property held by the administrator which must include:
  - (i) The total value of property received by the administrator during the preceding twelve-month period, taken from the reports under section 401 of this act;
- 31 (ii) The total value of claims paid by the administrator during 32 the preceding twelve-month period;
- 33 (iii) The internet web address of the unclaimed property web site 34 maintained by the administrator;
- 35 (iv) A telephone number and email address to contact the 36 administrator to inquire about or claim property; and
- (v) A statement that a person may access the internet by a computer to search for unclaimed property and a computer may be available as a service to the public at a local public library; and

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- (b) Maintain a web site or database accessible by the public and electronically searchable which contains the names reported to the administrator of all apparent owners for whom property is being held by the administrator.
- 5 (4) The web site or database maintained under subsection (3)(b) 6 of this section must include instructions for filing with the 7 administrator a claim to property and a printable claim form with 8 instructions for its use.
- 9 (5) In addition to giving notice under subsection (2) of this section, publishing the information under subsection (3)(a) of this section and maintaining the web site or database under subsection (3)(b) of this section, the administrator may use other printed publication, telecommunications, the internet, or other media to inform the public of the existence of unclaimed property held by the administrator.
- 16 NEW SECTION. Sec. 504. COOPERATION AMONG STATE OFFICERS AND 17 AGENCIES TO LOCATE APPARENT OWNER. Unless prohibited by law of this state other than this chapter, on request of the administrator, each 18 officer, agency, board, commission, division, and department of this 19 20 state, any body politic and corporate created by this state for a public purpose, and each political subdivision of this state shall 21 make its books and records available to the administrator and 22 cooperate with the administrator to determine the current address of 23 24 an apparent owner of property held by the administrator under this 25 chapter.

26 PART 6

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## TAKING CUSTODY OF PROPERTY BY ADMINISTRATOR

- NEW SECTION. Sec. 601. DEFINITION OF GOOD FAITH. In this section and sections 602 through 610 of this act, payment or delivery of property is made in good faith if a holder:
- 31 (1) Had a reasonable basis for believing, based on the facts then 32 known, that the property was required or permitted to be paid or 33 delivered to the administrator under this chapter; or
  - (2) Made payment or delivery:
- 35 (a) In response to a demand by the administrator or 36 administrator's agent; or

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- 1 (b) Under a guidance or ruling issued by the administrator which 2 the holder reasonably believed required or permitted the property to 3 be paid or delivered.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 602. DORMANCY CHARGE. (1) A holder may deduct a dormancy charge from property required to be paid or delivered to the administrator if:

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- (a) A valid contract between the holder and the apparent owner authorizes imposition of the charge for the apparent owner's failure to claim the property within a specified time; and
- 10 (b) The holder regularly imposes the charge and regularly does 11 not reverse or otherwise cancel the charge.
- 12 (2) The amount of the deduction under subsection (1) of this section is limited to an amount that is not unconscionable considering all relevant factors, including the marginal transactional costs incurred by the holder in maintaining the apparent owner's property and any services received by the apparent owner.
  - NEW SECTION. Sec. 603. PAYMENT OR DELIVERY OF PROPERTY TO ADMINISTRATOR. (1)(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, on filing a report under section 401 of this act, the holder shall pay or deliver to the administrator the property described in the report. Holders who are required to file a report electronically under this chapter must remit payments under this section by electronic funds transfer or other form of electronic payment acceptable to the administrator. However, the administrator, upon request or its own initiative, may relieve any holder or class of holders from the electronic payment requirement under this subsection for good cause as determined by the administrator.
    - (b) For purposes of this subsection, "good cause" means:
  - (i) A circumstance or condition exists that, in the administrator's judgment, prevents the holder from remitting payments due under this section electronically; or
    - (ii) The administrator determines that relief from the electronic payment requirement under this subsection supports the efficient or effective administration of this chapter.
  - (2) If property in a report under section 401 of this act is an automatically renewable deposit and a penalty or forfeiture in the payment of interest would result from paying the deposit to the

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- administrator at the time of the report, the date for payment of the property to the administrator is extended until a penalty or forfeiture no longer would result from payment, if the holder informs the administrator of the extended date.
- 5 (3) Tangible property in a safe deposit box may not be delivered 6 to the administrator until one hundred eighty days after filing the 7 report under section 401 of this act.
- 8 (4) If property reported to the administrator under section 401 9 of this act is a security, the administrator may:
- 10 (a) Make an endorsement, instruction, or entitlement order on 11 behalf of the apparent owner to invoke the duty of the issuer, its 12 transfer agent, or the securities intermediary to transfer the 13 security; or
  - (b) Dispose of the security under section 702 of this act.

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- (5) If the holder of that property reported to the administrator under section 401 of this act is the issuer of a certificated security, the administrator may obtain a replacement certificate in physical or book-entry form under RCW 62A.8-405. An indemnity bond is not required.
- (6) The administrator shall establish procedures for the registration, issuance, method of delivery, transfer, and maintenance of securities delivered to the administrator by a holder.
- (7) An issuer, holder, and transfer agent or other person acting under this section under instructions of and on behalf of the issuer or holder is not liable to the apparent owner for, and must be indemnified by the state against, a claim arising with respect to property after the property has been delivered to the administrator.
- (8) A holder is not required to deliver to the administrator a security identified by the holder as a nonfreely transferable security. If the administrator or holder determines that a security is no longer a nonfreely transferable security, the holder shall deliver the security on the next regular date prescribed for delivery of securities under this chapter. The holder shall make a determination annually whether a security identified in a report filed under section 401 of this act as a nonfreely transferable security is no longer a nonfreely transferable security.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 604. EFFECT OF PAYMENT OR DELIVERY OF PROPERTY TO ADMINISTRATOR. (1) On payment or delivery of property to the administrator under this chapter, the administrator as agent for

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- the state assumes custody and responsibility for safekeeping the property. A holder that pays or delivers property to the administrator in good faith and substantially complies with sections 501 and 502 of this act is relieved of liability arising thereafter with respect to payment or delivery of the property to the administrator.
  - (2) This state shall defend and indemnify a holder against liability on a claim against the holder resulting from the payment or delivery of property to the administrator made in good faith and after the holder substantially complied with sections 501 and 502 of this act.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 605. RECOVERY OF PROPERTY BY HOLDER FROM ADMINISTRATOR. (1) A holder that under this chapter pays money to the administrator may file a claim for reimbursement from the administrator of the amount paid if the holder:
  - (a) Paid the money in error; or

- (b) After paying the money to the administrator, paid money to a person the holder reasonably believed was entitled to the money.
- (2) If a claim for reimbursement under subsection (1) of this section is made for a payment made on a negotiable instrument, including a traveler's check, money order, or similar instrument, the holder must submit proof that the instrument was presented and payment was made to a person the holder reasonably believed was entitled to payment. The holder may claim reimbursement even if the payment was made to a person whose claim was made after expiration of a period of limitation on the owner's right to receive or recover property, whether specified by contract, statute, or court order.
- (3) If a holder is reimbursed by the administrator under subsection (1)(b) of this section, the holder may also recover from the administrator income or gain under section 607 of this act that would have been paid to the owner if the money had been claimed from the administrator by the owner to the extent the income or gain was paid by the holder to the owner.
- (4) A holder that under this chapter delivers property other than money to the administrator may file a claim for return of the property from the administrator if:
  - (a) The holder delivered the property in error; or
  - (b) The apparent owner has claimed the property from the holder.

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(5) If a claim for return of property under subsection (4) of this section is made, the holder shall include with the claim evidence sufficient to establish that the apparent owner has claimed the property from the holder or that the property was delivered by the holder to the administrator in error.

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- (6) The administrator may determine that an affidavit submitted by a holder is evidence sufficient to establish that the holder is entitled to reimbursement or to recover property under this section.
- 9 (7) A holder is not required to pay a fee or other charge for 10 reimbursement or return of property under this section.
  - (8) Not later than ninety days after a claim is filed under subsection (1) or (4) of this section, the administrator shall allow or deny the claim and give the claimant notice of the decision in a record. If the administrator does not take action on a claim during the ninety day period, the claim is deemed denied.
- 16 (9) Decisions under this section are subject to review under 17 sections 1103 and 1104 of this act.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 606. PROPERTY REMOVED FROM SAFE DEPOSIT BOX. 18 Property removed from a safe deposit box and delivered to the 19 20 administrator under this chapter is subject to the holder's right to 21 reimbursement for the cost of opening the box and a lien or contract providing reimbursement to the holder for unpaid rent charges for the 22 box. The administrator shall reimburse the holder from the proceeds 23 24 remaining after deducting the expense incurred by the administrator 25 in selling the property.
- 26 NEW SECTION. Sec. 607. CREDITING INCOME OR GAIN TO OWNER'S money is delivered 27 If property other than the administrator, the owner is entitled to 28 receive from the 29 administrator income or gain realized or accrued on the property 30 before the property is sold. If the property was an interest-bearing demand, savings, or time deposit, the administrator shall pay 31 interest at the lesser of the rate set in RCW 82.32.050. Interest 32 begins to accrue when the property is delivered to the administrator 33 and ends on the earlier of the expiration of ten years after its 34 delivery or the date on which payment is made to the owner. 35
- 36 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 608.** ADMINISTRATOR'S OPTIONS AS TO CUSTODY.
- 37 (1) The administrator may decline to take custody of property

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- 1 reported under section 401 of this act if the administrator 2 determines that:
- 3 (a) The property has a value less than the estimated expenses of 4 notice and sale of the property; or
  - (b) Taking custody of the property would be unlawful.

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- 6 (2) A holder may pay or deliver property to the administrator 7 before the property is presumed abandoned under this chapter if the 8 holder:
- 9 (a) Sends the apparent owner of the property notice required by 10 section 501 of this act and provides the administrator evidence of 11 the holder's compliance with this subsection (2)(a);
- 12 (b) Includes with the payment or delivery a report regarding the 13 property conforming to section 402 of this act; and
- 14 (c) First obtains the administrator's consent in a record to 15 accept payment or delivery.
  - (3) A holder's request for the administrator's consent under subsection (2)(c) of this section must be in a record. If the administrator fails to respond to the request not later than thirty days after receipt of the request, the administrator is deemed to consent to the payment or delivery of the property and the payment or delivery is considered to have been made in good faith.
- 22 (4) On payment or delivery of property under subsection (2) of 23 this section, the property is presumed abandoned.
- 24 Sec. 609. DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY HAVING NO NEW SECTION. SUBSTANTIAL VALUE—IMMUNITY FROM LIABILITY. (1) If the administrator 25 26 takes custody of property delivered under this chapter and later determines that the property has no substantial commercial value or 27 that the cost of disposing of the property will exceed the value of 28 29 the property, the administrator may return the property to the holder 30 or destroy or otherwise dispose of the property.
- 31 (2) An action or proceeding may not be commenced against the 32 state, an agency of the state, the administrator, another officer, 33 employee, or agent of the state, or a holder for or because of an act 34 of the administrator under this section, except for intentional 35 misconduct or malfeasance.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 610. PERIODS OF LIMITATION AND REPOSE. (1)
  Expiration, before, on, or after the effective date of this section,
  of a period of limitation on an owner's right to receive or recover

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- property, whether specified by contract, statute, or court order, does not prevent the property from being presumed abandoned or affect the duty of a holder under this chapter to file a report or pay or deliver property to the administrator.
  - (2) The administrator may not commence an action or proceeding to enforce this chapter with respect to the reporting, payment, or delivery of property more than five years after the holder filed a nonfraudulent report under section 401 of this act with the administrator. The parties may agree in a record to extend the limitation in this subsection.
- 11 (3) The administrator may not commence an action, proceeding, or 12 examination with respect to a duty of a holder under this chapter 13 more than ten years after the duty arose.

14 PART 7

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#### SALE OF PROPERTY BY ADMINISTRATOR

NEW SECTION. Sec. 701. PUBLIC SALE OF PROPERTY. (1) Except as otherwise provided in section 702 of this act, not earlier than three years after receipt of property presumed abandoned, the administrator may sell the property.

- 20 (2) Before selling property under subsection (1) of this section, 21 the administrator shall give notice to the public of:
  - (a) The date of the sale; and
  - (b) A reasonable description of the property.
- 24 (3) A sale under subsection (1) of this section must be to the 25 highest bidder:
- 26 (a) At public sale at a location in this state which the 27 administrator determines to be the most favorable market for the 28 property;
  - (b) On the internet; or
- 30 (c) On another forum the administrator determines is likely to 31 yield the highest net proceeds of sale.
- 32 (4) The administrator may decline the highest bid at a sale under 33 this section and reoffer the property for sale if the administrator 34 determines the highest bid is insufficient.
- 35 (5) If a sale held under this section is to be conducted other 36 than on the internet, the administrator must publish at least one 37 notice of the sale, at least three weeks but not more than five weeks

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- 1 before the sale, in a newspaper of general circulation in the county
- 2 in which the property is sold.

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- Sec. 702. DISPOSAL OF SECURITIES. (1) Except as 3 otherwise provided in this subsection, the administrator must sell 4 5 all securities delivered to the administrator as required by this chapter as soon as practicable, in the judgment of the administrator, б after receipt by the administrator. However, this subsection does not 7 apply with respect to any securities that, in the judgment of the 8 9 administrator, cannot be sold, are worthless, or are not cost-10 effective to sell.
  - (2) Securities listed on an established stock exchange must be sold at prices prevailing at the time of sale on the exchange. Other securities may be sold over the counter at prices prevailing at the time of sale or by any other method the administrator considers advisable. All securities may be sold over the counter at prices prevailing at the time of the sale, or by any other method the administrator deems advisable.
  - NEW SECTION. Sec. 703. RECOVERY OF SECURITIES OR VALUE BY OWNER. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a person making a claim under this chapter with respect to securities is only entitled to receive the proceeds received from sale, even if the sale of the securities has not been completed at the time the administrator receives the claim. However, if the administrator receives a claim for securities and the administrator has not ordered those securities to be sold as of the time the claim is received by the administrator, the claimant is entitled to receive either the securities delivered to the administrator by the holder, or the proceeds received from the sale, less any amounts deducted pursuant to section 803 of this act.
- 30 (2) With respect to securities that, in the judgment of the 31 administrator, cannot be sold or are not cost-effective to sell and 32 that remain in the possession of the administrator, a person making a 33 claim under this chapter is only entitled to receive the securities 34 delivered to the administrator by the holder.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 704. PURCHASER OWNS PROPERTY AFTER SALE. A purchaser of property at a sale conducted by the administrator under this chapter takes the property free of all claims of the owner, a

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- 1 previous holder, or a person claiming through the owner or holder.
- 2 The administrator shall execute documents necessary to complete the
- 3 transfer of ownership to the purchaser.
- Sec. 705. MILITARY MEDAL OR DECORATION. (1) The 4 NEW SECTION. 5 administrator may not sell a medal or decoration awarded for military service in the armed forces of the United States. б
  - (2) The administrator, with the consent of the respective organization under (a) of this subsection, agency under (b) of this subsection, or entity under (c) of this subsection, may deliver a medal or decoration described in subsection (1) of this section to be held in custody for the owner, to:
- (a) A military veterans organization qualified under the internal 12 revenue code, as it existed on the effective date of this section, 26 13 14 U.S.C. Sec. 501(c)(19);
  - (b) The agency that awarded the medal or decoration; or
- 16 (c) A governmental entity.

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17 (3) On delivery under subsection (2) of this section, the 18 administrator is not responsible for safekeeping the medal or 19 decoration.

PART 8 20 21

### ADMINISTRATION OF PROPERTY

- 22 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 801.** DEPOSIT OF FUNDS BY ADMINISTRATOR. (1) 23 Except as otherwise provided in this section, the administrator shall 24 deposit in the general fund of the state all funds received under 25 this chapter, including proceeds from the sale of property under sections 701 through 705 of this act. 26
  - (2) The administrator shall maintain an account with an amount of funds the administrator reasonably estimates is sufficient to pay claims allowed under this chapter in each fiscal year. If the aggregate amount of claims by owners allowed at any time exceeds the amount held in the account, an excess claim must be paid out of the general fund of the state.
- 33 NEW SECTION. Sec. 802. ADMINISTRATOR TO RETAIN RECORDS OF 34 PROPERTY. The administrator shall:

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- 1 (1) Record and retain the name and last known address of each 2 person shown on a report filed under section 401 of this act to be the apparent owner of property delivered to the administrator; 3
  - (2) Record and retain the name and last known address of each insured or annuitant and beneficiary shown on the report;
- 6 (3) For each policy of insurance or annuity contract listed in 7 the report of an insurance company, record and retain the policy or account number, the name of the company, and the amount due or paid; 8 9 and
- 10 (4) For each apparent owner listed in the report, record and retain the name of the holder that filed the report and the amount 11 12 due or paid.
- 803. 13 NEW SECTION. Sec. EXPENSES AND SERVICE CHARGES OF 14 ADMINISTRATOR. Before making a deposit of funds received under this chapter to the general fund of the state, the administrator may 15 deduct: 16
- Expenses of disposition of property delivered to the 17 (1)administrator under this chapter; 18
- (2) Costs of mailing and publication in connection with property 19 20 delivered to the administrator under this chapter;
  - (3) Reasonable service charges; and

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- (4) Expenses incurred in examining records of or collecting 22 23 property from a putative holder or holder.
- 24 NEW SECTION. Sec. 804. ADMINISTRATOR HOLDS PROPERTY AS 25 CUSTODIAN FOR OWNER. Property received by the administrator under this chapter is held in custody for the benefit of the owner and is 26 27 not owned by the state.

#### 28 PART 9

#### CLAIM TO RECOVER PROPERTY FROM ADMINISTRATOR

- Sec. 901. CLAIM OF ANOTHER STATE TO RECOVER NEW SECTION. 31 PROPERTY. (1) If the administrator knows that property held by the 32 administrator under this chapter is subject to a superior claim of 33 another state, the administrator shall:
- (a) Report and pay or deliver the property to the other state; or 34
- (b) Return the property to the holder so that the holder may pay 35 36 or deliver the property to the other state.

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- 1 (2) The administrator is not required to enter into an agreement 2 to transfer property to the other state under subsection (1) of this 3 section.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 902. WHEN PROPERTY SUBJECT TO RECOVERY BY
  ANOTHER STATE. (1) Property held under this chapter by the
  administrator is subject to the right of another state to take
  custody of the property if:
  - (a) The property was paid or delivered to the administrator because the records of the holder did not reflect a last known address in the other state of the apparent owner and:
  - (i) The other state establishes that the last known address of the apparent owner or other person entitled to the property was in the other state; or
- 14 (ii) Under the law of the other state, the property has become 15 subject to a claim by the other state of abandonment;
  - (b) The records of the holder did not accurately identify the owner of the property, the last known address of the owner was in another state, and, under the law of the other state, the property has become subject to a claim by the other state of abandonment;
  - (c) The property was subject to the custody of the administrator of this state under section 305 of this act and, under the law of the state of domicile of the holder, the property has become subject to a claim by the state of domicile of the holder of abandonment; or
    - (d) The property:

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- (i) Is a sum payable on a traveler's check, money order, or similar instrument that was purchased in the other state and delivered to the administrator under section 306 of this act; and
- (ii) Under the law of the other state, has become subject to a claim by the other state of abandonment.
- (2) A claim by another state to recover property under this section must be presented in a form prescribed by the administrator, unless the administrator waives presentation of the form.
- (3) The administrator shall decide a claim under this section not later than ninety days after it is presented. If the administrator determines that the other state is entitled under subsection (1) of this section to custody of the property, the administrator shall allow the claim and pay or deliver the property to the other state.
- (4) The administrator may require another state, before recovering property under this section, to agree to indemnify this

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- 1 state and its agents, officers, and employees against any liability
- 2 on a claim to the property.
- 3 NEW SECTION. Sec. 903. CLAIM FOR PROPERTY BY PERSON CLAIMING TO
- 4 BE OWNER. (1) A person claiming to be the owner of property held
- 5 under this chapter by the administrator may file a claim for the
- 6 property on a form prescribed by the administrator. The claimant must
- 7 verify the claim as to its completeness and accuracy.
- 8 (2) The administrator may waive the requirement in subsection (1)
- 9 of this section and may pay or deliver property directly to a person
- 10 if:
- 11 (a) The person receiving the property or payment is shown to be
- 12 the apparent owner included on a report filed under section 401 of
- 13 this act;
- 14 (b) The administrator reasonably believes the person is entitled
- 15 to receive the property or payment; and
- 16 (c) The property has a value of less than two hundred fifty
- 17 dollars.
- 18 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 904.** WHEN ADMINISTRATOR MUST HONOR CLAIM FOR
- 19 PROPERTY. (1) The administrator shall pay or deliver property to a
- 20 claimant under section 903(1) of this act if the administrator
- 21 receives evidence sufficient to establish to the satisfaction of the
- 22 administrator that the claimant is the owner of the property.
- 23 (2) Not later than ninety days after a claim is filed under
- 24 section 903(1) of this act, the administrator shall allow or deny the
- 25 claim and give the claimant notice in a record of the decision.
- 26 (3) If the claim is denied under subsection (2) of this section:
- 27 (a) The administrator shall inform the claimant of the reason for
- 28 the denial and specify what additional evidence, if any, is required
- 29 for the claim to be allowed;
- 30 (b) The claimant may file an amended claim with the administrator
- 31 or commence an action under section 906 of this act; and
- 32 (c) The administrator shall consider an amended claim filed under
- 33 (b) of this subsection as an initial claim.
- 34 (4) If the administrator does not take action on a claim during
- 35 the ninety-day period following the filing of a claim under section
- 36 903(1) of this act, the claim is deemed denied.

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NEW SECTION. Sec. 905. ALLOWANCE OF CLAIM FOR PROPERTY. (1) Not later than thirty days after a claim is allowed under section 904(2) of this act, the administrator shall pay or deliver to the owner the property or pay to the owner the net proceeds of a sale of the property, together with income or gain to which the owner is entitled under section 607 of this act. On request of the owner, the administrator may sell or liquidate a security and pay the net proceeds to the owner, even if the security had been held by the administrator for less than three years or the administrator has not complied with the notice requirements under section 702 of this act.

- (2) Property held under this chapter by the administrator is subject to a claim for the payment of an enforceable debt the owner owes in this state for:
- (a) Child support arrearages, including child support collection costs and child support arrearages that are combined with maintenance;
- (b) A civil or criminal fine or penalty, court costs, a surcharge, or restitution imposed by a final order of an administrative agency or a final court judgment; or
- (c) State or local taxes, penalties, and interest that have been determined to be delinquent.
- (3) Before delivery or payment to an owner under subsection (1) of this section of property or payment to the owner of net proceeds of a sale of the property, the administrator first shall apply the property or net proceeds to a debt under subsection (2) of this section the administrator determines is owed by the owner. The administrator shall pay the amount to the appropriate state or local agency and notify the owner of the payment.
- (4) The administrator may make periodic inquiries of state and local agencies in the absence of a claim filed under section 903 of this act to determine whether an apparent owner included in the unclaimed property records of this state has enforceable debts described in subsection (2) of this section. The administrator first shall apply the property or net proceeds of a sale of property held by the administrator to a debt under subsection (2) of this section of an apparent owner which appears in the records of the administrator and deliver the amount to the appropriate state or local agency. The administrator shall notify the apparent owner of the payment.

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- 1 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 906.** ACTION BY PERSON WHOSE CLAIM IS DENIED.
- 2 Not later than one year after filing a claim under section 904(1) of
- 3 this act, the claimant may commence an action against the
- 4 administrator in Thurston county superior court to establish a claim
- 5 that has been denied or deemed denied under section 903(4) of this
- 6 act.

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7 PART 10

#### 8 VERIFIED REPORT OF PROPERTY—EXAMINATION OF RECORDS

- 9 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1001.** VERIFIED REPORT OF PROPERTY. If a person does not file a report required by section 401 of this act or the administrator believes that a person may have filed an inaccurate, incomplete, or false report, the administrator may require the person to file a verified report in a form prescribed by the administrator. The verified report must:
- 15 (1) State whether the person is holding property reportable under 16 this chapter;
- 17 (2) Describe property not previously reported or about which the administrator has inquired;
- 19 (3) Specifically identify property described under subsection (2) 20 of this section about which there is a dispute whether it is 21 reportable under this section; and
- 22 (4) State the amount or value of the property.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 1002. EXAMINATION OF RECORDS TO DETERMINE COMPLIANCE. The administrator, at reasonable times and on reasonable notice, may:
  - (1) Examine the records of a person, including examination of appropriate records in the possession of an agent of the person under examination, if the records are reasonably necessary to determine whether the person has complied with this chapter;
- 30 (2) Issue an administrative subpoena requiring the person or 31 agent of the person to make records available for examination; and
- 32 (3) Bring an action seeking judicial enforcement of the subpoena.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 1003. RULES FOR CONDUCTING EXAMINATION. (1) 34 The administrator shall adopt rules governing procedures and
- 35 standards for an examination under section 1002 of this act,

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1 including rules for use of an estimation, extrapolation, and 2 statistical sampling in conducting an examination.

- (2) An examination under section 1002 of this act must be performed under rules adopted under subsection (1) of this section and with generally accepted examination practices and standards applicable to an unclaimed property examination.
- (3) If a person subject to examination under section 1002 of this act has filed the reports required under sections 401 and 1001 of this act and has retained the records required by section 404 of this act, the following rules apply:
- 11 (a) The examination must include a review of the person's 12 records.
  - (b) The examination may not be based on an estimate unless the person expressly consents in a record to the use of an estimate or the person has failed to make its records available to the department for examination.
- 17 (c) The person conducting the examination shall consider the 18 evidence presented in good faith by the person in preparing the 19 findings of the examination under section 1007 of this act.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 1004. RECORDS OBTAINED IN EXAMINATION.
  Records obtained and records, including work papers, compiled by the
  administrator in the course of conducting an examination under
  section 1002 of this act:
  - (1) Are subject to the confidentiality and security provisions of sections 1401 through 1408 of this act and are not public records;
  - (2) May be used by the administrator in an action to collect property or otherwise enforce this chapter;
    - (3) May be used in a joint examination conducted with another state, the United States, a foreign country or subordinate unit of a foreign country, or any other governmental entity if the governmental entity conducting the examination is legally bound to maintain the confidentiality and security of information obtained from a person subject to examination in a manner substantially equivalent to sections 1401 through 1408 of this act;
  - (4) Must be disclosed, on request, to the person that administers the unclaimed property law of another state for that state's use in circumstances equivalent to circumstances described in this section and sections 1001 through 1003 and 1005 through 1013 of this act, if the other state is required to maintain the confidentiality and

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- security of information obtained in a manner substantially equivalent to sections 1401 through 1408 of this act;
- 3 (5) Must be produced by the administrator under an administrative 4 or judicial subpoena or administrative or court order; and
- 5 (6) Must be produced by the administrator on request of the 6 person subject to the examination in an administrative or judicial 7 proceeding relating to the property.
- 8 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1005.** EVIDENCE OF UNPAID DEBT OR UNDISCHARGED 9 OBLIGATION. (1) A record of a putative holder showing an unpaid debt or undischarged obligation is prima facie evidence of the debt or obligation.
  - (2) A putative holder may establish by a preponderance of the evidence that there is no unpaid debt or undischarged obligation for a debt or obligation described in subsection (1) of this section or that the debt or obligation was not, or no longer is, a fixed and certain obligation of the putative holder.
  - (3) A putative holder may overcome prima facie evidence under subsection (1) of this section by establishing by a preponderance of the evidence that a check, draft, or similar instrument was:
- 20 (a) Issued as an unaccepted offer in settlement of an 21 unliquidated amount;
- (b) Issued but later was replaced with another instrument because the earlier instrument was lost or contained an error that was corrected;
  - (c) Issued to a party affiliated with the issuer;
  - (d) Paid, satisfied, or discharged;
- (e) Issued in error;

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- (f) Issued without consideration;
- 29 (q) Issued but there was a failure of consideration;
- 30 (h) Voided within a reasonable time after issuance for a valid 31 business reason set forth in a contemporaneous record; or
- 32 (i) Issued but not delivered to the third-party payee for a 33 sufficient reason recorded within a reasonable time after issuance.
- 34 (4) In asserting a defense under this section, a putative holder 35 may present evidence of a course of dealing between the putative 36 holder and the apparent owner or of custom and practice.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 1006. FAILURE OF PERSON EXAMINED TO RETAIN RECORDS. If a person subject to examination under section 1002 of

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- 1 this act does not retain the records required by section 404 of this
- 2 act, the administrator may determine the value of property due using
- 3 a reasonable method of estimation based on all information available
- 4 to the administrator, including extrapolation and use of statistical
- 5 sampling when appropriate and necessary, consistent with examination
- 6 procedures and standards adopted under section 1003(1) of this act
- 7 and in accordance with section 1003(2) of this act.
- 8 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1007.** REPORT TO PERSON WHOSE RECORDS WERE
- 9 EXAMINED. At the conclusion of an examination under section 1002 of
- 10 this act, the administrator shall provide to the person whose records
- 11 were examined a complete and unredacted examination report that
- 12 specifies:
- 13 (1) The work performed;
- 14 (2) The property types reviewed;
- 15 (3) The methodology of any estimation technique, extrapolation,
- or statistical sampling used in conducting the examination;

reassigning the examination to another person.

- 17 (4) Each calculation showing the value of property determined to
- 18 be due; and

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- 19 (5) The findings of the person conducting the examination.
- 20 Sec. 1008. COMPLAINT TO ADMINISTRATOR ABOUT NEW SECTION. CONDUCT OF PERSON CONDUCTING EXAMINATION. (1) If a person subject to 21 examination under section 1002 of this act believes the person 22 23 conducting the examination has made an unreasonable or unauthorized 24 request or is not proceeding expeditiously to complete the 25 examination, the person in a record may ask the administrator to 26 take appropriate remedial action, intervene and 27 countermanding the request of the person conducting the examination, imposing a time limit for completion of the examination, or 28
- 30 (2) If a person in a record requests a conference with the 31 administrator to present matters that are the basis of a request 32 under subsection (1) of this section, the administrator shall hold 33 the conference not later than thirty days after receiving the 34 request. The administrator may hold the conference in person, by 35 telephone, or by electronic means.
- 36 (3) If a conference is held under subsection (2) of this section, 37 not later than thirty days after the conference ends, the

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- 1 administrator shall provide a report in a record of the conference to
- 2 the person that requested the conference.

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- 3 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1009.** ADMINISTRATOR'S CONTRACT WITH ANOTHER
- 4 TO CONDUCT EXAMINATION. (1) In this section, "related to the
- 5 administrator" refers to an individual who is:
- 6 (a) The administrator's spouse, partner in a civil union, 7 domestic partner, or reciprocal beneficiary;
- 8 (b) The administrator's child, stepchild, grandchild, parent, 9 stepparent, sibling, stepsibling, half-sibling, aunt, uncle, niece, 10 or nephew;
- 11 (c) A spouse, partner in a civil union, domestic partner, or 12 reciprocal beneficiary of an individual under (b) of this subsection; 13 or
- 14 (d) Any individual residing in the administrator's household.
- 15 (2) The administrator may contract with a person to conduct an 16 examination under this section and sections 1001 through 1008 and 17 1010 through 1013 of this act. The contract may be awarded only under 18 chapter 39.26 RCW.
- 19 (3) If the person with which the administrator contracts under 20 subsection (2) of this section is:
- 21 (a) An individual, the individual may not be related to the 22 administrator; or
- (b) A business entity, the entity may not be owned in whole or in part by the administrator or an individual related to the administrator.
  - (4) At least sixty days before assigning a person under contract with the administrator under subsection (2) of this section to conduct an examination, the administrator shall demand in a record that the person to be examined submit a report and deliver property that is previously unreported.
- 31 (5) If the administrator contracts with a person under subsection 32 (2) of this section:
- 33 (a) The contract may provide for compensation of the person based 34 on a fixed fee, hourly fee, or contingent fee;
- 35 (b) A contingent fee arrangement may not provide for a payment 36 that exceeds ten percent of the amount or value of property paid or 37 delivered as a result of the examination; and

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- 1 (c) On request by a person subject to examination by a 2 contractor, the administrator shall deliver to the person a complete 3 and unredacted copy of the contract.
- 4 (6) A contract under subsection (2) of this section is subject to public disclosure without redaction under chapter 42.56 RCW.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 1010. LIMIT ON FUTURE EMPLOYMENT. The 6 administrator or an individual employed by the administrator who 7 participates in, recommends, or approves the award of a contract 8 under section 1009(2) of this act on or after the effective date of 9 10 this section may not be employed by, contracted with, or compensated in any capacity by the contractor or an affiliate of the contractor 11 for two years after the latest of participation in, recommendation 12 13 of, or approval of the award or conclusion of the contract.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 1011. REPORT BY ADMINISTRATOR TO STATE OFFICIAL. (1) Not later than three months after the end of the state fiscal year, the administrator shall compile and submit a report to the governor and legislature. The report must contain the following information about property presumed abandoned for the preceding fiscal year for the state:
- 20 (a) The total amount and value of all property paid or delivered 21 under this chapter to the administrator, separated into:
  - (i) The part voluntarily paid or delivered; and
  - (ii) The part paid or delivered as a result of an examination under section 1002 of this act, separated into the part recovered as a result of an examination conducted by:
    - (A) A state employee; and

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- (B) A contractor under section 1009 of this act;
- (b) The name of and amount paid to each contractor under section 1009 of this act and the percentage the total compensation paid to all contractors under section 1009 of this act bears to the total amount paid or delivered to the administrator as a result of all examinations performed under section 1009 of this act;
- (c) The total amount and value of all property paid or delivered by the administrator to persons that made claims for property held by the administrator under this chapter and the percentage the total payments made and value of property delivered to claimants bears to the total amounts paid and value delivered to the administrator; and

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- 1 (d) The total amount of claims made by persons claiming to be owners which:
- 3 (i) Were denied;
- 4 (ii) Were allowed; and
- 5 (iii) Are pending.

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- 6 (2) The report under subsection (1) of this section is a public record subject to public disclosure without redaction under chapter 42.56 RCW.
- 9 Sec. 1012. DETERMINATION OF LIABILITY FOR NEW SECTION. UNREPORTED REPORTABLE PROPERTY. If the administrator determines from 10 11 an examination conducted under section 1002 of this act that a putative holder failed or refused to pay or deliver to the 12 administrator property which is reportable under this chapter, the 13 administrator shall issue a determination of the putative holder's 14 15 liability to pay or deliver and give notice in a record to the 16 putative holder of the determination.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 1013. INTEREST AND PENALTIES. (1) A person who fails to pay or deliver property when due is required to pay to the administrator interest at the rate as computed under RCW 82.32.050(2) from the date the property should have been paid or delivered until the property is paid or delivered. However, the administrator must waive or cancel interest imposed under this subsection if:
  - (a) The administrator finds that the failure to pay or deliver the property within the time prescribed by this chapter was the result of circumstances beyond the person's control sufficient for waiver or cancellation of interest under RCW 82.32.105;
  - (b) The failure to timely pay or deliver the property within the time prescribed by this chapter was the direct result of written instructions given to the person by the administrator; or
  - (c) The extension of a due date for payment or delivery under an assessment issued by the administrator was not at the person's request and was for the sole convenience of the administrator.
  - (2) If a person fails to file any report or to pay or deliver any amounts or property when due under a report required under this chapter, there is assessed a penalty equal to ten percent of the amount unpaid and the value of any property not delivered.

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- (3) If an examination results in an assessment for amounts unpaid or property not delivered, there is assessed a penalty equal to ten percent of the amount unpaid and the value of any property not delivered.
- 5 (4) If a person fails to pay or deliver to the administrator by 6 the due date any amounts or property due under an assessment issued 7 by the administrator to the person, there is assessed an additional 8 penalty of five percent of the amount unpaid and the value of any 9 property not delivered.
  - (5) Penalties under subsections (2) through (4) of this section may be waived or canceled only if the administrator finds that the failure to pay or deliver within the time prescribed by this chapter was the result of circumstances beyond the person's control sufficient for waiver or cancellation of penalties under RCW 82.32.105.
  - (6) If a person willfully fails to file a report or to provide written notice to apparent owners as required under this chapter, the administrator may assess a civil penalty of one hundred dollars for each day the report is withheld or the notice is not sent, but not more than five thousand dollars.
  - (7) If a holder, having filed a report, failed to file the report electronically as required by RCW 63.29.170, or failed to pay electronically any amounts due under the report as required by RCW 63.29.190, the administrator must assess a penalty equal to five percent of the amount payable or deliverable under the report, unless the administrator grants the taxpayer relief from the electronic filing and payment requirements. Total penalties assessed under this subsection may not exceed five percent of the amount payable and value of property deliverable under the report.
    - (8) The penalties imposed in this section are cumulative.

## 31 PART 11

## DETERMINATION OF LIABILITY—PUTATIVE HOLDER REMEDIES

NEW SECTION. Sec. 1101. INFORMAL CONFERENCE. (1) Not later than thirty days after receipt of a notice under section 1012 of this act, the putative holder may request an informal conference with the administrator to review the determination. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the administrator may designate an employee to act on behalf of the administrator.

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1 (2) If a putative holder makes a timely request under subsection 2 (1) of this section for an informal conference:

- (a) Not later than twenty days after the date of the request, the administrator shall set the time and place of the conference;
- (b) The administrator shall give the putative holder notice in a record of the time and place of the conference;
- (c) The conference may be held in person, by telephone, or by electronic means, as determined by the administrator;
- (d) The request tolls the ninety-day period under sections 1103 and 1104 of this act until notice of a decision under (g) of this subsection has been given to the putative holder or the putative holder withdraws the request for the conference;
- 13 (e) The conference may be postponed, adjourned, and reconvened as 14 the administrator determines appropriate;
  - (f) The administrator or administrator's designee with the approval of the administrator may modify a determination made under section 1012 of this act or withdraw it; and
  - (g) The administrator shall issue a decision in a record and provide a copy of the record to the putative holder and examiner not later than twenty days after the conference ends.
  - (3) A conference under subsection (2) of this section is not an administrative remedy and is not a contested case subject to chapter 34.05 RCW. An oath is not required and rules of evidence do not apply in the conference.
  - (4) At a conference under subsection (2) of this section, the putative holder must be given an opportunity to confer informally with the administrator and the person that examined the records of the putative holder to:
- 29 (a) Discuss the determination made under section 1012 of this 30 act; and
- 31 (b) Present any issue concerning the validity of the 32 determination.
  - (5) If the administrator fails to act within the period prescribed in subsection (2)(a) or (g) of this section, the failure does not affect a right of the administrator, except that interest does not accrue on the amount for which the putative holder was determined to be liable under section 1012 of this act during the period in which the administrator failed to act until the earlier of:

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- 1 (a) The date under section 1103 of this act the putative holder 2 initiates administrative review or files an action under section 1104 3 of this act; or
  - (b) Ninety days after the putative holder received notice of the administrator's determination under section 1012 of this act if no review was initiated under section 1103 of this act and no action was filed under section 1104 of this act.
  - (6) The administrator may hold an informal conference with a putative holder about a determination under section 1012 of this act without a request at any time before the putative holder initiates administrative review under section 1103 of this act or files an action under section 1104 of this act.
- 13 (7) Interest and penalties under section 1204 of this act 14 continue to accrue on property not reported, paid, or delivered as 15 required by this chapter after the initiation, and during the 16 pendency, of an informal conference under this section.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 1102. REVIEW OF ADMINISTRATOR'S
  DETERMINATION. A putative holder may seek relief from a determination
  under section 1012 of this act by:
  - (1) Administrative review under section 1103 of this act; or
- 21 (2) Judicial review under section 1104 of this act.

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NEW SECTION. Sec. 1103. ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW. Any person having been issued an assessment by the administrator, or a denial of an application for a refund or return of property, under the provisions of this chapter is entitled to a review by the administrator conducted in accordance with the provisions of RCW 34.05.410 through 34.05.494, subject to judicial review under RCW 34.05.510 through 34.05.598. A petition for review under this section is timely if received in writing by the administrator before the due date of the assessment, including any extension of the due date granted by the administrator, or in the case of a refund or return application, thirty days after the administrator rejects the application in writing, regardless of any subsequent action by the administrator to reconsider its initial decision. The period for filing a petition for review under this section may be extended as provided in a rule adopted by the administrator under chapter 34.05 RCW or upon a written agreement signed by the holder and the administrator.

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NEW SECTION. Sec. 1104. JUDICIAL REMEDY. (1) Any person who has paid or delivered property to the administrator under the provisions of this chapter, except one who has failed to keep and preserve records as required in this chapter, feeling aggrieved by such payment or delivery, may appeal to the Thurston county superior court. The person filing a notice of appeal under this section is deemed the plaintiff, and the administrator, the defendant.

- (2) An appeal under this section must be made within thirty days after the administrator rejects in writing an application for refund or return of property, regardless of any subsequent action by the administrator to reconsider its initial decision.
- (3)(a) In an appeal filed under this section, the plaintiff must set forth the amount or property, if any, payable or deliverable on the report or assessment that the plaintiff is contesting, which the holder concedes to be the correct amount payable or deliverable, and the reason why the amount payable or deliverable should be reduced or abated.
- (b) The appeal is perfected only by serving a copy of the notice of appeal upon the administrator and filing the original with proof of service with the clerk of the superior court of Thurston county, within the time specified in subsection (2) of this section.
- (4)(a) The trial in the superior court on appeal must be de novo and without the necessity of any pleadings other than the notice of appeal. At trial, the burden is on the plaintiff to (i) prove that the amount paid by that person is incorrect, either in whole or in part, or the property in question was delivered in error to the administrator, and (ii) establish the correct amount payable or the property required to be delivered to the administrator, if any.
- (b) Both parties are entitled to subpoena the attendance of witnesses as in other civil actions and to produce evidence that is competent, relevant, and material to determine the correct amount due, if any, that should be paid by the plaintiff.
- (c) Either party may seek appellate review in the same manner as other civil actions are appealed to the appellate courts.
- (5) An appeal may be maintained under this section without the need for the plaintiff to first:
- 37 (a) Protest against the payment of any amount due or reportable 38 under this chapter or to make any demand to have such amount refunded 39 or returned; or

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- 1 (b) Petition the administrator for a refund, return of property, 2 or a review of its action as authorized in section 1103 of this act.
  - (6) No court action or proceeding of any kind may be maintained by the plaintiff to recover any amount paid, delivered, or reported to the administrator under this chapter, except as provided in this section or as may be available to the plaintiff under RCW 34.05.510 through 34.05.598.
- 8 (7) No appeal may be maintained under this section with respect 9 to matters reviewed by the administrator under the provisions of 10 chapter 34.05 RCW.

11 PART 12

# 12 ENFORCEMENT BY ADMINISTRATOR

- 13 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1201.** JUDICIAL ACTION TO ENFORCE LIABILITY.
- 14 (1) If a determination under section 1012 of this act becomes final 15 and is not subject to administrative or judicial review, the
- 16 administrator may commence an action in superior court or in an
- 17 appropriate court of another state to enforce the determination and
- 18 secure payment or delivery of past due, unpaid, or undelivered
- 19 property. The action must be brought not later than one year after
- 20 the determination becomes final.
- 21 (2) In an action under subsection (1) of this section, if no
- 22 court in this state has jurisdiction over the defendant, the
- 23 administrator may commence an action in any court having jurisdiction
- 24 over the defendant.

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- 25 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1202.** INTERSTATE AND INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT—
- 26 COOPERATION. (1) Subject to subsection (2) of this section, the
- 27 administrator may:
- 28 (a) Exchange information with another state or foreign country 29 relating to property presumed abandoned or relating to the possible
- 30 existence of property presumed abandoned; and
- 31 (b) Authorize in a record another state or foreign country or a
- 32 person acting on behalf of the other state or country to examine its
- 33 records of a putative holder as provided in sections 1001 through
- 34 1013 of this act.
- 35 (2) An exchange or examination under subsection (1) of this
- 36 section may be done only if the state or foreign country has
- 37 confidentiality and security requirements substantially equivalent to

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- 1 those in sections 1401 through 1408 of this act or agrees in a record
- 2 to be bound by this state's confidentiality and security
- 3 requirements.

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- NEW SECTION. Sec. 1203. ACTION INVOLVING ANOTHER STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY. (1) The administrator may join another state or foreign country to examine and seek enforcement of this chapter against a putative holder.
  - (2) On request of another state or foreign country, the attorney general may commence an action on behalf of the other state or country to enforce, in this state, the law of the other state or country against a putative holder subject to a claim by the other state or country, if the other state or country agrees to pay costs incurred by the attorney general in the action.
  - (3) The administrator may request the official authorized to enforce the unclaimed property law of another state or foreign country to commence an action to recover property in the other state or country on behalf of the administrator. This state shall pay the costs, including reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses, incurred by the other state or foreign country in an action under this subsection.
  - (4) The administrator may pursue an action on behalf of this state to recover property subject to this chapter but delivered to the custody of another state if the administrator believes the property is subject to the custody of the administrator.
  - (5) The administrator may retain an attorney in this state, another state, or a foreign country to commence an action to recover property on behalf of the administrator and may agree to pay attorneys' fees based in whole or in part on a fixed fee, hourly fee, or a percentage of the amount or value of property recovered in the action.
- 31 (6) Expenses incurred by this state in an action under this 32 section may be paid from property received under this chapter or the 33 net proceeds of the property. Expenses paid to recover property may 34 not be deducted from the amount that is subject to a claim under this 35 chapter by the owner.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 1204. INTEREST AND PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO ACT IN TIMELY MANNER. A holder that fails to report, pay, or deliver property within the time prescribed by this chapter shall pay to the

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- 1 administrator interest at the rate set by RCW 82.32.050 on the
- 2 property or value of the property from the date the property should
- 3 have been reported, paid, or delivered to the administrator until the
- 4 date reported, paid, or delivered.

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- 5 NEW SECTION. Sec. 1205. OTHER CIVIL PENALTIES. (1) If a holder enters into a contract or other arrangement for the purpose of б evading an obligation under this chapter or otherwise willfully fails 7 to perform a duty imposed on the holder under this chapter, the 8 administrator may require the holder to pay the administrator, in 9 10 addition to interest as provided in section 1204(1) of this act, a civil penalty of one thousand dollars for each day the obligation is 11 evaded or the duty is not performed, up to a cumulative maximum 12 amount of twenty-five thousand dollars, plus twenty-five percent of 13 14 the amount or value of property that should have been but was not 15 reported, paid, or delivered as a result of the evasion or failure to 16 perform.
  - (2) If a holder makes a fraudulent report under this chapter, the administrator may require the holder to pay to the administrator, in addition to interest under section 1204(1) of this act, a civil penalty of one thousand dollars for each day from the date the report was made until corrected, up to a cumulative maximum amount of twenty-five thousand dollars, plus twenty-five percent of the amount or value of any property that should have been reported but was not included in the report or was underreported.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 1206. WAIVER OF INTEREST AND PENALTY. The administrator:
- 27 (1) May waive, in whole or in part, interest under section 28 1204(1) of this act and penalties under section 1204(2) or 1205 of 29 this act; and
- 30 (2) Shall waive a penalty under section 1204(2) of this act if 31 the administrator determines that the holder acted in good faith and 32 without negligence.

### 33 **PART 13**

### 34 AGREEMENT TO LOCATE PROPERTY OF APPARENT OWNER HELD BY ADMINISTRATOR

NEW SECTION. Sec. 1301. WHEN AGREEMENT TO LOCATE PROPERTY Sec. 1301. WHEN AGREEMENT TO LOCATE PROPERTY and another person,

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- the primary purpose of which is to locate, deliver, recover, or assist in the location, delivery, or recovery of property held by the administrator, is enforceable only if the agreement:
  - (1) Is in a record that clearly states the nature of the property and the services to be provided;
    - (2) Is signed by or on behalf of the apparent owner; and
- 7 (3) States the amount or value of the property reasonably 8 expected to be recovered, computed before and after a fee or other 9 compensation to be paid to the person has been deducted.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 1302. WHEN AGREEMENT TO LOCATE PROPERTY VOID.

  11 (1) Subject to subsection (2) of this section, an agreement under
- 12 section 1301 of this act is void if it is entered into during the
- 13 period beginning on the date the property was paid or delivered by a
- 14 holder to the administrator and ending twenty-four months after the
- 15 payment or delivery.

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- 16 (2) If a provision in an agreement described in subsection (1) of 17 this section applies to mineral proceeds for which compensation is to 18 be paid to the other person based in whole or in part on a part of 19 the underlying minerals or mineral proceeds not then presumed 20 abandoned, the provision is void regardless of when the agreement was 21 entered into.
  - (3) An agreement under subsection (1) of this section which provides for compensation in an amount that is unconscionable is unenforceable except by the apparent owner. An apparent owner that believes the compensation the apparent owner has agreed to pay is unconscionable or the administrator, acting on behalf of an apparent owner, or both, may file an action in superior court to reduce the compensation to the maximum amount that is not unconscionable.
  - (4) An apparent owner or the administrator may assert that an agreement described in this section is void on a ground other than it provides for payment of unconscionable compensation.
- 32 (5) This section does not apply to an apparent owner's agreement 33 with an attorney to pursue a claim for recovery of specifically 34 identified property held by the administrator or to contest the 35 administrator's denial of a claim for recovery of the property.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 1303. RIGHT OF AGENT OF APPARENT OWNER TO RECOVER PROPERTY HELD BY ADMINISTRATOR. (1) An apparent owner that contracts with another person to locate, deliver, recover, or assist

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- in the location, delivery, or recovery of property of the apparent owner which is held by the administrator may designate the person as the agent of the apparent owner. The designation must be in a record signed by the apparent owner.
- 5 (2) The administrator shall give the agent of the apparent owner 6 all information concerning the property which the apparent owner is 7 entitled to receive, including information that otherwise is 8 confidential information under section 1402 of this act.
- 9 (3) If authorized by the apparent owner, the agent of the 10 apparent owner may bring an action against the administrator on 11 behalf of and in the name of the apparent owner.

#### 12 **PART 14**

# 13 CONFIDENTIALITY AND SECURITY OF INFORMATION

- NEW SECTION. Sec. 1401. DEFINITIONS—APPLICABILITY. (1) In this section and sections 1402 through 1408 of this act, "personal information" means:
- 17 (a) Information that identifies or reasonably can be used to 18 identify an individual, such as first and last name in combination 19 with the individual's:
- 20 (i) Social security number or other government-issued number or 21 identifier;
- 22 (ii) Date of birth;
- 23 (iii) Home or physical address;
- 24 (iv) Email address or other online contact information or 25 internet provider address;
- 26 (v) Financial account number or credit or debit card number;
- 27 (vi) Biometric data, health or medical data, or insurance 28 information; or
- 29 (vii) Passwords or other credentials that permit access to an 30 online or other account;
- 31 (b) Personally identifiable financial or insurance information, 32 including nonpublic personal information defined by applicable 33 federal law; and
- 34 (c) Any combination of data that, if accessed, disclosed, 35 modified, or destroyed without authorization of the owner of the data 36 or if lost or misused, would require notice or reporting under 37 chapter 19.255 RCW and federal privacy and data security law, whether

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- or not the administrator or the administrator's agent is subject to the law.
- 3 (2) A provision of this section or sections 1402 through 1408 of 4 this act that applies to the administrator or the administrator's 5 records applies to an administrator's agent.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 1402. CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the following are confidential and exempt from public inspection or disclosure:
- 9 (a) Records of the administrator and the administrator's agent 10 related to the administration of this chapter;

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- (b) Reports and records of a holder in the possession of the administrator or the administrator's agent; and
  - (c) Personal information and other information derived or otherwise obtained by or communicated to the administrator or the administrator's agent from an examination under this chapter of the records of a person.
- 17 (2) A record or other information that is confidential under law 18 of this state other than this chapter, another state, or the United 19 States continues to be confidential when disclosed or delivered under 20 this chapter to the administrator or administrator's agent.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 1403. WHEN CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION MAY BE DISCLOSED. (1) When reasonably necessary to enforce or implement this chapter, the administrator may disclose confidential information concerning property held by the administrator or the administrator's agent only to:
  - (a) An apparent owner or the apparent owner's personal representative, attorney, other legal representative, relative, or agent designated under section 1303 of this act to have the information;
- 30 (b) The personal representative, other legal representative, 31 relative of a deceased apparent owner, agent designated under section 32 1303 of this act by the deceased apparent owner, or a person entitled 33 to inherit from the deceased apparent owner;
- 34 (c) Another department or agency of this state or the United 35 States;
- 36 (d) The person that administers the unclaimed property law of 37 another state, if the other state accords substantially reciprocal 38 privileges to the administrator of this state if the other state is

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- required to maintain the confidentiality and security of information obtained in a manner substantially equivalent to this section and sections 1401, 1402, and 1404 through 1408 of this act; or
- 4 (e) A person subject to an examination as required by section 5 1004(6) of this act.
- б (2) Except as otherwise provided in section 1402(1) of this act, the administrator shall include on the web site or in the database 7 required by section 503(3)(b) of this act the name of each apparent 8 owner of property held by the administrator. The administrator may 9 published notices, printed 10 telecommunications, the internet, or other media and on the web site 11 or in the database additional information concerning the apparent 12 owner's property if the administrator believes the information will 13 14 assist in identifying and returning property to the owner and does not disclose personal information except the home or physical address 15 16 of an apparent owner.
- 17 (3) The administrator and the administrator's agent may not use 18 confidential information provided to them or in their possession 19 except as expressly authorized by this chapter or required by law 20 other than this chapter.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 1404. CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT. A person to be examined under section 1002 of this act may require, as a condition of disclosure of the records of the person to be examined, that each person having access to the records disclosed in the examination execute and deliver to the person to be examined a confidentiality agreement that:
- 27 (1) Is in a form that is reasonably satisfactory to the 28 administrator; and
- 29 (2) Requires the person having access to the records to comply 30 with the provisions of this section and sections 1401 through 1403 31 and 1405 through 1408 of this act applicable to the person.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 1405. NO CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION IN NOTICE.

  Except as otherwise provided in sections 501 and 502 of this act, a

  holder is not required under this chapter to include confidential

  information in a notice the holder is required to provide to an

  apparent owner under this chapter.

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- NEW SECTION. Sec. 1406. SECURITY OF INFORMATION. (1) If a holder is required to include confidential information in a report to the administrator, the information must be provided by a secure means.
  - (2) If confidential information in a record is provided to and maintained by the administrator or administrator's agent as required by this chapter, the administrator or agent shall:
    - (a) Implement administrative, technical, and physical safeguards to protect the security, confidentiality, and integrity of the information required by chapter 19.255 RCW and federal privacy and data security law whether or not the administrator or the administrator's agent is subject to the law;
- 13 (b) Protect against reasonably anticipated threats or hazards to 14 the security, confidentiality, or integrity of the information; and
  - (c) Protect against unauthorized access to or use of the information which could result in substantial harm or inconvenience to a holder or the holder's customers, including insureds, annuitants, and policy or contract owners and their beneficiaries.
    - (3) The administrator:

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- (a) After notice and comment, shall adopt and implement a security plan that identifies and assesses reasonably foreseeable internal and external risks to confidential information in the administrator's possession and seeks to mitigate the risks; and
- (b) Shall ensure that an administrator's agent adopts and implements a similar plan with respect to confidential information in the agent's possession.
- 27 (4) The administrator and the administrator's agent shall educate 28 and train their employees regarding the plan adopted under subsection 29 (3) of this section.
- 30 (5) The administrator and the administrator's agent shall in a 31 secure manner return or destroy all confidential information no 32 longer reasonably needed under this chapter.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 1407. SECURITY BREACH. (1) Except to the extent prohibited by law other than this chapter, the administrator or administrator's agent shall notify a holder as soon as practicable of:
- 37 (a) A suspected loss, misuse, or unauthorized access, disclosure, 38 modification, or destruction of confidential information obtained

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- 1 from the holder in the possession of the administrator or an 2 administrator's agent; and
- 3 (b) Any interference with operations in any system hosting or 4 housing confidential information which:
- 5 (i) Compromises the security, confidentiality, or integrity of the information; or
  - (ii) Creates a substantial risk of identity fraud or theft.
- 8 (2) Except as necessary to inform an insurer, attorney, 9 investigator, or others as required by law, the administrator and an 10 administrator's agent may not disclose, without the express consent 11 in a record of the holder, an event described in subsection (1) of 12 this section to a person whose confidential information was supplied 13 by the holder.
- 14 (3) If an event described in subsection (1) of this section 15 occurs, the administrator and the administrator's agent shall:
- 16 (a) Take action necessary for the holder to understand and 17 minimize the effect of the event and determine its scope; and
  - (b) Cooperate with the holder with respect to:
- 19 (i) Any notification required by law concerning a data or other 20 security breach; and
- 21 (ii) A regulatory inquiry, litigation, or similar action.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 1408. INDEMNIFICATION FOR BREACH. (1) If a claim is made or action commenced arising out of an event described in section 1407(1) of this act relating to confidential information possessed by the administrator, this state shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless a holder and the holder's affiliates, officers, directors, employees, and agents as to:
- 28 (a) Any claim or action; and

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- (b) A liability, obligation, loss, damage, cost, fee, penalty, fine, settlement, charge, or other expense, including reasonable attorneys' fees and costs, established by the claim or action.
  - (2) If a claim is made or action commenced arising out of an event described in section 1407(1) of this act relating to confidential information possessed by an administrator's agent, the administrator's agent shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless a holder and the holder's affiliates, officers, directors, employees, and agents as to:
    - (a) Any claim or action; and

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- 1 (b) A liability, obligation, loss, damage, cost, fee, penalty, 2 fine, settlement, charge, or other expense, including reasonable 3 attorneys' fees and costs, established by the claim or action.
  - (3) The administrator shall require an administrator's agent that will receive confidential information required under this chapter to maintain adequate insurance for indemnification obligations of the administrator's agent under subsection (2) of this section. The agent required to maintain the insurance shall provide evidence of the insurance to:
    - (a) The administrator not less frequently than annually; and
- 11 (b) The holder on commencement of an examination and annually 12 thereafter until all confidential information is returned or 13 destroyed under section 1406(5) of this act.

14 PART 15

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#### 15 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- NEW SECTION. Sec. 1501. UNIFORMITY OF APPLICATION AND CONSTRUCTION. In applying and construing this uniform chapter and this act, consideration must be given to the need to promote uniformity of the law with respect to its subject matter among states that enact it.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 1502. RELATION TO ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES IN GLOBAL AND NATIONAL COMMERCE ACT. This chapter modifies, limits, or supersedes the electronic signatures in global and national commerce act, 15 U.S.C. Sec. 7001 et seq., but does not modify, limit, or supersede section 101(c) of that act, 15 U.S.C. Sec. 7001(c), or authorize electronic delivery of any of the notices described in section 103(b) of that act, 15 U.S.C. Sec. 7003(b).
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 1503. TRANSITIONAL PROVISION. (1) An initial report filed under this chapter for property that was not required to be reported before the effective date of this section, but that is required to be reported under this chapter, must include all items of property that would have been presumed abandoned during the ten-year period preceding the effective date of this section as if this chapter had been in effect during that period.
- 35 (2) This chapter does not relieve a holder of a duty that arose 36 before the effective date of this section to report, pay, or deliver

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- 1 property. Subject to section 610 (2) and (3) of this act, a holder
- 2 that did not comply with the law governing unclaimed property before
- 3 the effective date of this section is subject to applicable
- 4 provisions for enforcement and penalties in effect before the
- 5 effective date of this section.
- 6 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1504.** SEVERABILITY. If any provision of this
- 7 act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid,
- 8 the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other
- 9 persons or circumstances is not affected.
- 10 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1505.** REPEALS. The following acts or parts of
- 11 acts are each repealed:
- 12 (1) RCW 63.29.010 (Definitions and use of terms) and 2012 c 117 s
- 13 177, 2005 c 285 s 1, 2004 c 168 s 13, & 1983 c 179 s 1;
- 14 (2) RCW 63.29.020 (Property presumed abandoned—General rule—
- 15 Exceptions) and 2015 3rd sp.s. c 6 s 2101, 2011 c 116 s 1, & 2010 c
- 16 29 s 1;
- 17 (3) RCW 63.29.030 (General rules for taking custody of intangible
- 18 unclaimed property) and 1983 c 179 s 3;
- 19 (4) RCW 63.29.040 (Travelers checks and money orders) and 1983 c
- 20 179 s 4;
- 21 (5) RCW 63.29.050 (Checks, drafts, and similar instruments issued
- 22 or certified by banking and financial organizations) and 2003 1st
- 23 sp.s. c 13 s 2 & 1983 c 179 s 5;
- 24 (6) RCW 63.29.060 (Bank deposits and funds in financial
- 25 organizations) and 2003 1st sp.s. c 13 s 3 & 1983 c 179 s 6;
- 26 (7) RCW 63.29.070 (Funds owing under life insurance policies) and
- 27 2012 c 117 s 178, 2003 1st sp.s. c 13 s 4, & 1983 c 179 s 7;
- 28 (8) RCW 63.29.080 (Deposits held by utilities) and 1983 c 179 s
- 29 8;
- 30 (9) RCW 63.29.090 (Refunds held by business associations) and
- 31 1983 c 179 s 9;
- 32 (10) RCW 63.29.100 (Stock and other intangible interests in
- 33 business associations) and 2003 1st sp.s. c 13 s 5, 1996 c 45 s 1, &
- 34 1983 c 179 s 10;
- 35 (11) RCW 63.29.110 (Property of business associations held in
- 36 course of dissolution) and 1983 c 179 s 11;
- 37 (12) RCW 63.29.120 (Property held by agents and fiduciaries) and
- 38 2012 c 117 s 179, 2003 1st sp.s. c 13 s 6, & 1983 c 179 s 12;

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- 1 (13) RCW 63.29.130 (Property held by courts and public agencies— 2 When abandoned—Overpayments) and 2007 c 183 s 1, 1993 c 498 s 2, &
- 3 1983 c 179 s 13;
- 4 (14) RCW 63.29.133 (Property held by landlord) and 1992 c 38 s 9;
- 5 (15) RCW 63.29.135 (Abandoned intangible property held by local government) and 1990 2nd ex.s. c 1 s 301;
- 7 (16) RCW 63.29.140 (Gift certificates and credit memos) and 2015 8 3rd sp.s. c 6 s 2102, 2004 c 168 s 15, 2003 1st sp.s. c 13 s 7, &
- 9 1983 c 179 s 14;
- 10 (17) RCW 63.29.150 (Wages) and 1983 c 179 s 15;
- 11 (18) RCW 63.29.160 (Contents of safe deposit box or other 12 safekeeping repository) and 1983 c 179 s 16;
- 13 (19) RCW 63.29.165 (Property in self-storage facility) and 1993 c 14 498 s 4 & 1988 c 240 s 21;
- 15 (20) RCW 63.29.170 (Report of abandoned property) and 2015 3rd 16 sp.s. c 6 s 2103, 2004 c 168 s 16, 2003 c 237 s 1, 1996 c 45 s 2, 17 1993 c 498 s 7, & 1983 c 179 s 17;
- 18 (21) RCW 63.29.180 (Notice and publication of information about unclaimed property) and 2015 3rd sp.s. c 6 s 2104, 2005 c 367 s 2, 20 2003 c 237 s 2, 1993 c 498 s 9, 1986 c 84 s 1, & 1983 c 179 s 18;
- 21 (22) RCW 63.29.190 (Payment or delivery of abandoned property)
  22 and 2015 3rd sp.s. c 6 s 2105;
- 23 (23) RCW 63.29.192 (Penalty and interest paid in excess—Refunds— 24 Returns) and 2015 3rd sp.s. c 6 s 2110;
- 25 (24) RCW 63.29.193 (Petition for review—Denied application for refund or return) and 2015 3rd sp.s. c 6 s 2111;
- 27 (25) RCW 63.29.194 (Appeal of payment or delivered property) and 28 2015 3rd sp.s. c 6 s 2112;
- 29 (26) RCW 63.29.195 (Agreement—Established between a holder and 30 the department) and 2015 3rd sp.s. c 6 s 2113;
- 31 (27) RCW 63.29.200 (Custody by state—Holder relieved from 32 liability—Reimbursement of holder paying claim—Reclaiming for owner 33 —Defense of holder—Payment of safe deposit box or repository 34 sharmer) and 2012 r 117 r 100 s 1003 r 170 r 20:
- 34 charges) and 2012 c 117 s 180 & 1983 c 179 s 20;
- 35 (28) RCW 63.29.210 (Crediting of dividends, interest, or increments to owner's account) and 1983 c 179 s 21;
- 37 (29) RCW 63.29.220 (Public sale of abandoned property) and 2011
- 38 2nd sp.s. c 8 s 1, 2005 c 367 s 4, 1996 c 45 s 3, 1993 c 498 s 10, & 39 1983 c 179 s 22;

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- 1 (30) RCW 63.29.230 (Deposit of funds) and 1983 c 179 s 23;
- 2 (31) RCW 63.29.240 (Filing of claim with department) and 2011 2nd
- 3 sp.s. c 8 s 2 & 1983 c 179 s 24;
- 4 (32) RCW 63.29.250 (Claim of another state to recover property— 5 Procedure) and 1983 c 179 s 25;
- 6 (33) RCW 63.29.260 (Action to establish claim) and 1983 c 179 s 7 26;
- 8 (34) RCW 63.29.270 (Election to take payment or delivery) and 9 1983 c 179 s 27;
- 10 (35) RCW 63.29.280 (Destruction or disposition of property having 11 insubstantial commercial value—Immunity from liability) and 2005 c 12 367 s 5 & 1983 c 179 s 28;
- 13 (36) RCW 63.29.290 (Periods of limitation) and 2015 3rd sp.s. c 6 14 s 2106 & 1983 c 179 s 29;
- 15 (37) RCW 63.29.300 (Requests for reports and examination of records) and 2015 3rd sp.s. c 6 s 2107 & 1983 c 179 s 30;
- 17 (38) RCW 63.29.310 (Retention of records) and 1983 c 179 s 31;
- 18 (39) RCW 63.29.320 (Enforcement) and 1983 c 179 s 32;
- 19 (40) RCW 63.29.330 (Interstate agreements and cooperation—Joint 20 and reciprocal actions with other states) and 1983 c 179 s 33;
- 21 (41) RCW 63.29.340 (Interest and penalties) and 2015 3rd sp.s. c 22 6 s 2108 & 2011 c 96 s 45;
- 23 (42) RCW 63.29.350 (Penalty for excessive fee for locating 24 abandoned property—Consumer protection act application) and 2012 c 25 117 s 181, 2010 c 29 s 2, & 1983 c 179 s 35;
- 26 (43) RCW 63.29.360 (Foreign transactions) and 1983 c 179 s 36;
- 27 (44) RCW 63.29.370 (Rules) and 1983 c 179 s 38;
- 28 (45) RCW 63.29.380 (Information and records confidential) and 29 1983 c 179 s 39;
- 30 (46) RCW 63.29.900 (Effect of new provisions—Clarification of application) and 1983 c 179 s 37;
- 32 (47) RCW 63.29.902 (Uniformity of application and construction) 33 and 1983 c 179 s 41;
- 34 (48) RCW 63.29.903 (Short title) and 1983 c 179 s 42;
- 35 (49) RCW 63.29.905 (Effective date—1983 c 179) and 1983 c 179 s 36 47; and
- 37 (50) RCW 63.29.906 (Effective date—1996 c 45) and 1996 c 45 s 5.

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- 1 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1506.** CODIFICATION. Sections 101 through 1503
- 2 and 1507 of this act constitute a new chapter in Title 63 RCW.
- 3 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1507.** EFFECTIVE DATE. This act takes effect
- 4 January 1, 2019.

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