

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## HB 2844

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*Synopsis as Enacted*

*C 200 L 92*

**Brief Description:** Removing the limitation on deficiency claims against owners of vehicles subjected to a law enforcement impound.

By Representatives Zellinsky and R. Fisher.

House Committee on Transportation  
Senate Committee on Transportation

**Background:** A registered tow truck operator who has lawfully impounded and stored a vehicle has a lien on the vehicle for the impound and storage charges incurred. If a vehicle remains unclaimed after the proper notification and waiting period, the tow truck operator must sell the vehicle at a public auction.

If an operator does not satisfy the lien through the sale of the vehicle at the public auction, the operator has a deficiency claim of up to \$300, less the amount received at the auction, against the last registered owner. For vehicles over 10,000 pounds gross vehicle weight, the operator has a deficiency claim of \$1,000, less the bid at the auction.

**Summary:** The limitation on deficiency claims for tow truck operators who lawfully impound and sell vehicles at a public auction does not apply to law enforcement-directed impounds.

**Votes on Final Passage:**

House	96	1	
Senate	40	0	(Senate amended)
House	95	1	(House concurred)

**Effective:** June 11, 1992