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HOUSE BILL 1127

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State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Representatives Walen, Reeves, Simmons, and Hill; by request of Department of Revenue

Prefiled 12/23/24. Read first time 01/13/25. Referred to Committee on Finance.

1 AN ACT Relating to modifying provisions of the revised uniform  
2 unclaimed property act by clarifying the abandonment period and  
3 reporting procedures for prearrangement funeral service contracts  
4 trusts, modifying holder reporting requirements, modifying owner  
5 notification requirements, and making other changes not estimated to  
6 impact revenue; amending RCW 18.39.370, 63.30.010, 63.30.040,  
7 63.30.050, 63.30.090, 63.30.230, 63.30.240, 63.30.280, 63.30.300,  
8 63.30.330, 63.30.340, 63.30.360, 63.30.410, 63.30.420, 63.30.460,  
9 63.30.550, 63.30.650, 63.30.680, 63.30.690, 63.30.730, 63.30.740,  
10 63.30.790, and 63.30.820; adding a new section to chapter 63.30 RCW;  
11 creating new sections; repealing RCW 63.30.670; and providing an  
12 effective date.

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

14 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.39.370 and 1989 c 390 s 13 are each amended to  
15 read as follows:

16 Any trust ~~((which))~~ created under this chapter that has not  
17 matured or has not been refunded as provided in RCW 18.39.250 and for  
18 which no beneficiary of the prearrangement funeral service contract  
19 can be located ~~((fifty years after its creation shall))~~ within the  
20 time specified by section 2 of this act must be ~~((considered~~  
21 ~~abandoned and will be handled in accordance with the escheat laws~~

1 ef)) transferred to the state ((of Washington)) as unclaimed property  
2 under chapter 63.30 RCW.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 63.30  
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 (1) The proceeds of any prearrangement funeral service contract  
6 for which money paid is required to be deposited in a trust,  
7 including money required to be deposited in a trust under RCW  
8 18.39.250, is presumed abandoned three years after the earlier of the  
9 following:

10 (a) The date of death of the contract beneficiary.

11 (i) The date of death of a contract beneficiary may be documented  
12 through any source, including a declaration of death, a death  
13 certificate, a comparison of the contract seller's records against  
14 the United States social security administration death master file,  
15 or other equivalent resource.

16 (ii) A funeral establishment may but is under no duty to compare  
17 its records to the United States social security administration death  
18 master file, or other equivalent resource;

19 (b) The date the contract beneficiary, if living, would have  
20 attained the age of 107 years;

21 (c) 50 years from the date that the contract was executed.

22 (2) For purposes of this section:

23 (a) The amount reportable for an abandoned prearrangement funeral  
24 service contract is determined under the laws of the state where the  
25 contract was executed. For contracts entered under the laws of this  
26 state, the amount reportable for an abandoned prearrangement funeral  
27 service contract is the trust balance, inclusive of accrued interest  
28 or income, less any amounts authorized by law under RCW 18.39.250.

29 (b) The apparent owner of an unclaimed prearrangement funeral  
30 service contract is determined under the laws of the state where the  
31 contract was executed. For contracts entered under the laws of this  
32 state, the apparent owner is the contract purchaser, the contract  
33 beneficiary, or the estate or heirs; however, with respect to an  
34 irrevocable contract for which money paid was deposited into a trust  
35 under RCW 18.39.250, the apparent owner is the department of social  
36 and health services, office of financial recovery.

37 (c) (i) "Contract beneficiary" means the person for whom the  
38 prearrangement funeral service contract is purchased and will be the

1 recipient of the funeral merchandise or services at the time of the  
2 person's death.

3 (ii) "Contract purchaser" means the person who purchases the  
4 prearrangement funeral service contract either on the person's behalf  
5 or on behalf of the contract beneficiary.

6 (iii) "Funeral establishment" means a place of business licensed  
7 in accordance with RCW 18.39.145 that provides for any aspect of the  
8 care, shelter, transportation, embalming, preparation, and  
9 arrangements for the disposition of human remains and includes all  
10 areas of such entity and all equipment, instruments, and supplies  
11 used in the care, shelter, transportation, preparation, and embalming  
12 of human remains.

13 (iv) "Prearrangement funeral service contract" means any contract  
14 under which, for a specified consideration, a funeral establishment  
15 promises to furnish funeral merchandise or services upon the death of  
16 the person named or implied in the contract.

17 **Sec. 3.** RCW 63.30.010 and 2022 c 225 s 102 are each amended to  
18 read as follows:

19 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter  
20 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

21 (1) "Administrator" means the department of revenue established  
22 under RCW 82.01.050.

23 (2) "Administrator's agent" means a person with which the  
24 administrator contracts to conduct an examination under RCW 63.30.570  
25 through 63.30.690 on behalf of the administrator. The term includes  
26 an independent contractor of the person and each individual  
27 participating in the examination on behalf of the person or  
28 contractor.

29 (3) "Apparent owner" means a person whose name appears on the  
30 records of a holder as the owner of property held, issued, or owing  
31 by the holder.

32 (4) "Business association" means a corporation, joint stock  
33 company, investment company other than an investment company  
34 registered under the investment company act of 1940, as amended, 15  
35 U.S.C. Secs. 80a-1 through 80a-64, partnership, unincorporated  
36 association, joint venture, limited liability company, business  
37 trust, trust company, land bank, safe deposit company, safekeeping  
38 depository, financial organization, insurance company, federally

1 chartered entity, utility, sole proprietorship, or other business  
2 entity, whether or not for profit.

3 (5) "Confidential information" means records, reports, and  
4 information that are confidential under RCW 63.30.820.

5 (6) "Domicile" means:

6 (a) For a corporation, the state of its incorporation;

7 (b) For a business association whose formation requires a filing  
8 with a state, other than a corporation, the state of the principal  
9 place of business of such a business association, if formed under the  
10 laws of a state other than the state in which its principal place of  
11 business is located, unless determined to be otherwise by a court of  
12 competent jurisdiction;

13 (c) For a federally chartered entity or an investment company  
14 registered under the investment company act of 1940, as amended, 15  
15 U.S.C. Secs. 80a-1 through 80a-64, the state of its home office; and

16 (d) For any other holder, the state of its principal place of  
17 business.

18 (7) "Electronic" means relating to technology having electrical,  
19 digital, magnetic, wireless, optical, electromagnetic, or similar  
20 capabilities.

21 (8) "Email" means a communication by electronic means which is  
22 automatically retained and stored and may be readily accessed or  
23 retrieved.

24 (9) "Financial organization" means a savings and loan  
25 association, building and loan association, savings bank, industrial  
26 bank, bank, banking organization, or credit union.

27 (10) "Game-related digital content" means digital content that  
28 exists only in an electronic game or electronic game platform. The  
29 term:

30 (a) Includes:

31 (i) Game-play currency such as a virtual wallet, even if  
32 denominated in United States currency; and

33 (ii) The following if for use or redemption only within the game  
34 or platform or another electronic game or electronic game platform:

35 (A) Points sometimes referred to as gems, tokens, gold, and  
36 similar names; and

37 (B) Digital codes; and

38 (b) Does not include an item that the issuer:

39 (i) Permits to be redeemed for use outside a game or platform  
40 for:

1 (A) Money; or  
2 (B) Goods or services that have more than minimal value; or  
3 (ii) Otherwise monetizes for use outside a game or platform.

4 (11) "Gift certificate" means a record described in RCW  
5 19.240.010, and includes both gift cards and gift certificates,  
6 including both tangible instruments and electronic records.

7 (12) "Holder" means a person obligated to hold for the account  
8 of, or to deliver or pay to, the owner, property subject to this  
9 chapter.

10 (13) "Insurance company" means an association, corporation, or  
11 fraternal or mutual benefit organization, whether or not for profit,  
12 engaged in the business of providing life endowments, annuities, or  
13 insurance, including accident, burial, casualty, credit life,  
14 contract performance, dental, disability, fidelity, fire, health,  
15 hospitalization, illness, life, malpractice, marine, mortgage,  
16 surety, wage protection, and (~~worker compensation~~) industrial  
17 insurance. The term does not include governmental agencies that  
18 provide industrial insurance.

19 (14) "Internal revenue code" means the United States internal  
20 revenue code of 1986, as amended, as of January 1, 2023, or such  
21 subsequent date as the department of revenue may provide by rule  
22 consistent with the purpose of this chapter unless the context  
23 clearly indicates otherwise.

24 (15) "Loyalty card" means a record given without direct monetary  
25 consideration under an award, reward, benefit, loyalty, incentive,  
26 rebate, or promotional program, which may be used or redeemed only to  
27 obtain goods or services or a discount on goods or services. The term  
28 does not include a record that may be redeemed for money or otherwise  
29 monetized by the issuer.

30 (~~(15)~~) (16) "Mineral" means gas, oil, coal, oil shale, other  
31 gaseous liquid or solid hydrocarbon, cement material, sand and  
32 gravel, road material, building stone, chemical raw material,  
33 gemstone, fissionable and nonfissionable ores, colloidal and other  
34 clay, steam and other geothermal resources, and any other substance  
35 defined as a mineral by law of this state other than this chapter.

36 (~~(16)~~) (17) "Mineral proceeds" means an amount payable for  
37 extraction, production, or sale of minerals, or, on the abandonment  
38 of the amount, an amount that becomes payable after abandonment. The  
39 term includes an amount payable:

1 (a) For the acquisition and retention of a mineral lease,  
2 including a bonus, royalty, compensatory royalty, shut-in royalty,  
3 minimum royalty, and delay rental;

4 (b) For the extraction, production, or sale of minerals,  
5 including a net revenue interest, royalty, overriding royalty,  
6 extraction payment, and production payment; and

7 (c) Under an agreement or option, including a joint operating  
8 agreement, unit agreement, pooling agreement, and farm-out agreement.

9 ~~((17))~~ (18) "Money order" means a payment order for a specified  
10 amount of money. The term includes an express money order and a  
11 personal money order on which the remitter is the purchaser.

12 ~~((18))~~ (19) "Municipal bond" means a bond or evidence of  
13 indebtedness issued by a municipality or other political subdivision  
14 of a state.

15 ~~((19))~~ (20) "Net card value" means the original purchase price  
16 or original issued value of a stored value card, plus amounts added  
17 to the original price or value, minus amounts used and any service  
18 charge, fee, or dormancy charge permitted by law.

19 ~~((20))~~ (21) "Nonfreely transferable security" means a security  
20 that cannot be delivered to the administrator by the depository trust  
21 clearing corporation or similar custodian of securities providing  
22 posttrade clearing and settlement services to financial markets or  
23 cannot be delivered because there is no agent to effect transfer. The  
24 term includes a worthless security.

25 ~~((21))~~ (22) "Owner" means a person that has a legal,  
26 beneficial, or equitable interest in property subject to this chapter  
27 or the person's legal representative when acting on behalf of the  
28 owner. The term includes:

29 (a) A depositor, for a deposit;

30 (b) A beneficiary, for a trust other than a deposit in trust;

31 (c) A creditor, claimant, or payee, for other property; and

32 (d) The lawful bearer of a record that may be used to obtain  
33 money, a reward, or a thing of value.

34 ~~((22))~~ (23) "Payroll card" means a record that evidences a  
35 payroll card account as defined in Regulation E, 12 C.F.R. Part 1005,  
36 as it existed on January 1, 2023.

37 ~~((23))~~ (24) "Person" means an individual, estate, business  
38 association, public corporation, government or governmental  
39 subdivision, agency, or instrumentality, or other legal entity.

1       (~~(24)~~) (25) "Property" means tangible property described in RCW  
2 63.30.080 or a fixed and certain interest in intangible property  
3 held, issued, or owed in the course of a holder's business or by a  
4 government, governmental subdivision, agency, or instrumentality. The  
5 term:

6       (a) Includes all income from or increments to the property;

7       (b) Includes property referred to as or evidenced by:

8       (i) Money, virtual currency, interest, or a dividend, check,  
9 draft, deposit, or payroll card;

10       (ii) A credit balance, customer's overpayment, stored value card,  
11 security deposit, refund, credit memorandum, unpaid wage, unused  
12 ticket for which the issuer has an obligation to provide a refund,  
13 mineral proceeds, or unidentified remittance;

14       (iii) A security except for:

15       (A) A worthless security; or

16       (B) A security that is subject to a lien, legal hold, or  
17 restriction evidenced on the records of the holder or imposed by  
18 operation of law, if the lien, legal hold, or restriction restricts  
19 the holder's or owner's ability to receive, transfer, sell, or  
20 otherwise negotiate the security;

21       (iv) A bond, debenture, note, or other evidence of indebtedness;

22       (v) Money deposited to redeem a security, make a distribution, or  
23 pay a dividend;

24       (vi) An amount due and payable under an annuity contract or  
25 insurance policy; and

26       (vii) An amount distributable from a trust or custodial fund  
27 established under a plan to provide health, welfare, pension,  
28 vacation, severance, retirement, death, stock purchase, profit-  
29 sharing, employee savings, supplemental unemployment insurance, or a  
30 similar benefit; and

31       (c) Does not include:

32       (i) Property held in a plan described in (~~section~~) Title 26  
33 U.S.C. Sec. 529A of the internal revenue code(~~(, as it existed on~~  
34 ~~January 1, 2023, 26 U.S.C. Sec. 529A))~~);

35       (ii) Game-related digital content;

36       (iii) A loyalty card;

37       (iv) A gift certificate complying with chapter 19.240 RCW;

38       (v) Store credit for returned merchandise; and

39       (vi) A premium paid by an agricultural fair by check. For the  
40 purposes of this subsection, the following definitions apply:

1 (A) "Agricultural fair" means a fair or exhibition that is  
2 intended to promote agriculture by including a balanced variety of  
3 exhibits of livestock and agricultural products, as well as related  
4 manufactured products and arts, including products of the farm home  
5 and educational contests, displays, and demonstrations designed to  
6 train youth and to promote the welfare of farmers and rural living;  
7 and

8 (B) "Premium" means an amount paid for exhibits and educational  
9 contests, displays, and demonstrations of an educational nature. A  
10 "premium" does not include judges' fees and expenses; livestock sale  
11 revenues; or prizes or amounts paid for promotion or entertainment  
12 activities such as queen contests, parades, dances, rodeos, and  
13 races.

14 (~~(25)~~) (26) "Putative holder" means a person believed by the  
15 administrator to be a holder, until the person pays or delivers to  
16 the administrator property subject to this chapter or the  
17 administrator or a court makes a final determination that the person  
18 is or is not a holder.

19 (~~(26)~~) (27) "Record" means information that is inscribed on a  
20 tangible medium or that is stored in an electronic or other medium  
21 and is retrievable in perceivable form.

22 (~~(27)~~) (28) "Security" means:

23 (a) A security as defined in RCW 62A.8-102;

24 (b) A security entitlement as defined in RCW 62A.8-102, including  
25 a customer security account held by a registered broker-dealer, to  
26 the extent the financial assets held in the security account are not:

27 (i) Registered on the books of the issuer in the name of the  
28 person for which the broker-dealer holds the assets;

29 (ii) Payable to the order of the person; or

30 (iii) Specifically indorsed to the person; or

31 (c) An equity interest in a business association not included in  
32 (a) or (b) of this subsection.

33 (~~(28)~~) (29) "Sign" means, with present intent to authenticate  
34 or adopt a record:

35 (a) To execute or adopt a tangible symbol; or

36 (b) To attach to or logically associate with the record an  
37 electronic symbol, sound, or process.

38 (~~(29)~~) (30) "State" means a state of the United States, the  
39 District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United



1 States Virgin Islands, or any territory or insular possession subject  
2 to the jurisdiction of the United States.

3 ~~((30))~~ (31) "Stored value card" means a record evidencing a  
4 promise made for consideration by the seller or issuer of the record  
5 that goods, services, or money will be provided to the owner of the  
6 record to the value or amount shown in the record. The term:

7 (a) Includes:

8 (i) A record that contains or consists of a microprocessor chip,  
9 magnetic strip, or other means for the storage of information, which  
10 is prefunded and whose value or amount is decreased on each use and  
11 increased by payment of additional consideration; and

12 (ii) A payroll card; and

13 (b) Does not include a loyalty card, gift certificate, or game-  
14 related digital content.

15 ~~((31))~~ (32) "Utility" means a person that owns or operates for  
16 public use a plant, equipment, real property, franchise, or license  
17 for the following public services:

18 (a) Transmission of communications or information;

19 (b) Production, storage, transmission, sale, delivery, or  
20 furnishing of electricity, water, steam, or gas; or

21 (c) Provision of sewage or septic services, or trash, garbage, or  
22 recycling disposal.

23 ~~((32))~~ (33) "Virtual currency" means ~~((a))~~ any type of digital  
24 ~~((representation of value))~~ unit, including cryptocurrency, used as a  
25 medium of exchange, unit of account, or store of value, which does  
26 not have legal tender status recognized by the United States. The  
27 term does not include:

28 (a) The software or protocols governing the transfer of the  
29 digital representation of value;

30 (b) Game-related digital content; or

31 (c) A loyalty card or gift certificate.

32 ~~((33))~~ (34) "Worthless security" means a security whose cost of  
33 liquidation and delivery to the administrator would exceed the value  
34 of the security on the date a report is due under this chapter.

35 **Sec. 4.** RCW 63.30.040 and 2023 c 258 s 8 are each amended to  
36 read as follows:

37 Subject to RCW 63.30.120, the following property is presumed  
38 abandoned if it is unclaimed by the apparent owner during the period  
39 specified below:

- 1 (1) A traveler's check, 15 years after issuance;
- 2 (2) A money order, five years after issuance;
- 3 (3) A state or municipal bond, bearer bond, or original issue  
4 discount bond, not held by a government entity or governmental  
5 subdivision, agency, or instrumentality, three years after the  
6 earliest of the date the bond matures or is called or the obligation  
7 to pay the principal of the bond arises;
- 8 (4) A debt of a business association, three years after the  
9 obligation to pay arises;
- 10 (5) A demand, savings, or time deposit, including a deposit that  
11 is automatically renewable, three years after the later of maturity,  
12 if applicable, of the deposit or the owner's last indication of  
13 interest in the deposit, except a deposit that is automatically  
14 renewable is deemed matured on its initial date of maturity unless  
15 the apparent owner consented in a record on file with the holder to  
16 renewal at or about the time of the renewal;
- 17 (6) Money or a credit owed to a customer as a result of a retail  
18 business transaction, three years after the obligation arose;
- 19 (7) An amount owed by an insurance company on a life or endowment  
20 insurance policy or an annuity contract that has matured or  
21 terminated, three years after the obligation to pay arose under the  
22 terms of the policy or contract or, if a policy or contract for which  
23 an amount is owed on proof of death has not matured by proof of the  
24 death of the insured or annuitant, as follows:
- 25 (a) With respect to an amount owed on a life or endowment  
26 insurance policy, three years after the earlier of the date:
- 27 (i) The insurance company has knowledge of the death of the  
28 insured; or
- 29 (ii) The insured has attained, or would have attained if living,  
30 the limiting age under the mortality table on which the reserve for  
31 the policy is based; and
- 32 (b) With respect to an amount owed on an annuity contract, three  
33 years after the date the insurance company has knowledge of the death  
34 of the annuitant;
- 35 (8) Property distributable by a business association in the  
36 course of dissolution, one year after the property becomes  
37 distributable;
- 38 (9) Property held by a court, including property received as  
39 proceeds of a class action, one year after the property becomes  
40 distributable;

1 (10) Property held by a government or governmental subdivision,  
2 agency, or instrumentality, including municipal bond interest and  
3 unredeemed principal under the administration of a paying agent or  
4 indenture trustee, one year after the property becomes distributable;

5 (11) Wages, commissions, or bonuses (~~(, or reimbursements)~~) to  
6 which an employee is entitled, or other compensation for personal  
7 services, one year after the amount becomes payable;

8 (12) A deposit or refund owed to a subscriber by a utility, one  
9 year after the deposit or refund becomes payable;

10 (13) Payroll card, one year after the amount becomes payable;

11 (14) Excess proceeds from the sale of property by an owner of a  
12 self-service storage facility conducted pursuant to RCW 19.150.080,  
13 (~~six months~~) one year from the date of sale;

14 (15) Excess income from the sale of tenant property by a landlord  
15 conducted pursuant to RCW 59.18.312 and 59.18.595, one year from the  
16 date of the sale;

17 (16) Excess funds from the sale of an abandoned vessel by an  
18 operator of a private moorage facility conducted pursuant to RCW  
19 88.26.020, one year from the date of the sale; (~~and~~)

20 (17) A gift certificate issued with an expiration date, three  
21 years after the amount becomes payable or distributable; and

22 (18) Property not specified in this section or RCW 63.30.050  
23 through 63.30.100, the earlier of three years after the owner first  
24 has a right to demand the property or the obligation to pay or  
25 distribute the property arises.

26 **Sec. 5.** RCW 63.30.050 and 2022 c 225 s 202 are each amended to  
27 read as follows:

28 (1) Subject to RCW 63.30.120, property held in a pension account  
29 or retirement account that qualifies for tax deferral under the  
30 income tax laws of the United States is presumed abandoned if it is  
31 unclaimed by the apparent owner three years after the later of:

32 (a) The following dates:

33 (i) Except as in (a)(ii) of this subsection, the date a second  
34 consecutive communication sent by the holder by first-class United  
35 States mail to the apparent owner is returned to the holder  
36 undelivered by the United States postal service; or

37 (ii) If the second communication is sent later than 30 days after  
38 the date the first communication is returned undelivered, the date

1 the first communication was returned undelivered by the United States  
2 postal service; or

3 (b) The earlier of the following dates if the apparent owner is  
4 required to take a distribution to avoid a tax penalty:

5 (i) The date the apparent owner (~~((becomes 72 years of age))~~)  
6 reaches the required minimum distribution age to avoid a tax penalty  
7 under Title 26 U.S.C. Sec. 4974 of the internal revenue code, if  
8 determinable by the holder; or

9 (ii) (~~((If the internal revenue code, as it existed on January 1,~~  
10 ~~2023, 26 U.S.C. Sec. 1 et seq., requires distribution to avoid a tax~~  
11 ~~penalty, two))~~) Two years after the date the holder:

12 (A) Receives confirmation of the death of the apparent owner in  
13 the ordinary course of its business; or

14 (B) Confirms the death of the apparent owner under subsection (2)  
15 of this section.

16 (2) If a holder in the ordinary course of its business receives  
17 notice or an indication of the death of an apparent owner and  
18 subsection (1)(b) of this section applies, the holder (~~((shall))~~) must  
19 attempt not later than 90 days after receipt of the notice or  
20 indication to confirm whether the apparent owner is deceased.

21 (3) If the holder does not send communications to the apparent  
22 owner of an account described in subsection (1) of this section by  
23 first-class United States mail, the holder (~~((shall))~~) must attempt to  
24 confirm the apparent owner's interest in the property by sending the  
25 apparent owner an email communication not later than two years after  
26 the apparent owner's last indication of interest in the property.  
27 However, the holder promptly (~~((shall))~~) must attempt to contact the  
28 apparent owner by first-class United States mail if:

29 (a) The holder does not have information needed to send the  
30 apparent owner an email communication or the holder believes that the  
31 apparent owner's email address in the holder's records is not valid;

32 (b) The holder receives notification that the email communication  
33 was not received; or

34 (c) The apparent owner does not respond to the email  
35 communication not later than 30 days after the communication was  
36 sent.

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

1 (a) Except as in (b) of this subsection, the date a second  
2 consecutive communication to contact the apparent owner sent by  
3 first-class United States mail is returned to the holder undelivered;

4 (b) If the second communication is sent later than 30 days after  
5 the date the first communication is returned undelivered, the date  
6 the first communication was returned undelivered; or

7 (c) The date established by subsection (1)(b) of this section.

8 (5) This section does not apply to property held in a pension  
9 account or retirement account established by the state of Washington  
10 or any local governmental entity under chapter 41.28 RCW.

11 **Sec. 6.** RCW 63.30.090 and 2022 c 225 s 206 are each amended to  
12 read as follows:

13 (1) Subject to RCW 63.30.120, the net card value of a stored  
14 value card, other than a payroll card, is presumed abandoned on the  
15 latest of three years after:

16 (a) (~~December 31st of the year in which the~~) The card is issued  
17 or additional funds are deposited into it;

18 (b) The most recent indication of interest in the card by the  
19 apparent owner; or

20 (c) A verification or review of the balance by or on behalf of  
21 the apparent owner.

22 (2) The amount presumed abandoned in a stored value card is the  
23 net card value at the time it is presumed abandoned.

24 **Sec. 7.** RCW 63.30.230 and 2022 c 225 s 402 are each amended to  
25 read as follows:

26 (1) The report required under RCW 63.30.220 must:

27 (a) Be signed by or on behalf of the holder and verified as to  
28 its completeness and accuracy;

29 (b) If filed electronically, be in a secure format approved by  
30 the administrator which protects confidential information of the  
31 apparent owner in the same manner as required of the administrator  
32 and the administrator's agent under RCW 63.30.810 through 63.30.880;

33 (c) Describe the property;

34 (d) Except for a traveler's check, money order, or similar  
35 instrument, contain the name, if known, last known address, if known,  
36 and social security number or taxpayer identification number, if  
37 known or readily ascertainable, of the apparent owner of property  
38 with a value of (~~(\$50)~~) \$5 or more;

1 (e) For an amount held or owing under a life or endowment  
2 insurance policy or annuity contract, contain the name and last known  
3 address of the insured, annuitant, or other apparent owner of the  
4 policy or contract and of the beneficiary;

5 (f) For property held in or removed from a safe deposit box,  
6 indicate the location of the property, where it may be inspected by  
7 the administrator, and any amounts owed to the holder under RCW  
8 63.30.370;

9 (g) Contain the commencement date for determining abandonment  
10 under RCW 63.30.040 through 63.30.140;

11 (h) State that the holder has complied with the notice  
12 requirements of RCW 63.30.280; and

13 ~~((Identify property that is a nonfreely transferable security  
14 and explain why it is a nonfreely transferable security; and~~

15 ~~(j))~~) Contain other information the administrator prescribes by  
16 rules.

17 (2) A report under RCW 63.30.220 may include in the aggregate  
18 items valued under ~~((\$50))~~ \$5 each. If the report includes items in  
19 the aggregate valued under ~~((\$50))~~ \$5 each, the administrator may not  
20 require the holder to provide the name and address of an apparent  
21 owner of an item unless the information is necessary to verify or  
22 process a claim in progress by the apparent owner.

23 (3) A report under RCW 63.30.220 may include personal information  
24 as defined in RCW 63.30.810(1) about the apparent owner or the  
25 apparent owner's property to the extent not otherwise prohibited by  
26 federal law.

27 (4) If a holder has changed its name while holding property  
28 presumed abandoned or is a successor to another person that  
29 previously held the property for the apparent owner, the holder must  
30 include in the report under RCW 63.30.220 its former name or the name  
31 of the previous holder, if any, and the known name and address of  
32 each previous holder of the property.

33 **Sec. 8.** RCW 63.30.240 and 2022 c 225 s 403 are each amended to  
34 read as follows:

35 (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2) of this  
36 section and subject to subsection (3) of this section, the report  
37 under RCW 63.30.220 must be filed and paid on or before ~~((November~~  
38 ~~1st))~~ October 31st of each year and cover the 12 months preceding  
39 July 1st of that year.

1 (2) Subject to subsection (3) of this section, the report under  
2 RCW 63.30.220 to be filed by an insurance company must be filed and  
3 paid on or before (~~May 1st~~) April 30th of each year for the  
4 immediately preceding calendar year.

5 (3) Before the date for filing the report under RCW 63.30.220,  
6 the holder of property presumed abandoned may request the  
7 administrator to extend the time for filing. The administrator may  
8 grant an extension. If the extension is granted, the holder may pay  
9 or make a partial payment of the amount the holder estimates  
10 ultimately will be due. The payment or partial payment terminates  
11 accrual of interest on the amount paid.

12 **Sec. 9.** RCW 63.30.280 and 2022 c 225 s 501 are each amended to  
13 read as follows:

14 (1) Subject to subsection (2) of this section, the holder of  
15 property presumed abandoned (~~shall~~) must send to the apparent owner  
16 notice by first-class United States mail that complies with RCW  
17 63.30.290 in a format acceptable to the administrator not more than  
18 180 days nor less than 60 days before filing the report under RCW  
19 63.30.220 if:

20 (a) The holder has in its records an address for the apparent  
21 owner which the holder's records do not disclose to be invalid and is  
22 sufficient to direct the delivery of first-class United States mail  
23 to the apparent owner; and

24 (b) The value of the property is (~~\$75~~) \$50 or more.

25 (2) If an apparent owner has consented to receive email delivery  
26 from the holder, the holder (~~shall~~) must send the notice described  
27 in subsection (1) of this section both by first-class United States  
28 mail to the apparent owner's last known mailing address and by email,  
29 unless the holder believes that the apparent owner's email address is  
30 invalid.

31 **Sec. 10.** RCW 63.30.300 and 2022 c 225 s 503 are each amended to  
32 read as follows:

33 (1) The administrator (~~shall~~) must give notice to an apparent  
34 owner that property presumed abandoned and appears to be owned by the  
35 apparent owner is held by the administrator under this chapter.

36 (2) In providing notice under subsection (1) of this section, the  
37 administrator (~~shall~~) must:

1 (a) Except as otherwise provided in (b) of this subsection, send  
2 written notice by first-class United States mail to each apparent  
3 owner of property valued at (~~(\$75)~~) \$50 or more held by the  
4 administrator, unless the administrator determines that a mailing by  
5 first-class United States mail would not be received by the apparent  
6 owner, and, in the case of a security held in an account for which  
7 the apparent owner had consented to receiving email from the holder,  
8 send notice by email if the email address of the apparent owner is  
9 known to the administrator instead of by first-class United States  
10 mail; or

11 (b) Send the notice to the apparent owner's email address if the  
12 administrator does not have a valid United States mail address for an  
13 apparent owner, but has an email address that the administrator does  
14 not know to be invalid.

15 (3) In addition to the notice under subsection (2) of this  
16 section, the administrator (~~(shall)~~) must:

17 (a) Publish every 12 months in the printed or online version of a  
18 newspaper of general circulation within this state, which the  
19 administrator determines is most likely to give notice to the  
20 apparent owner of the property, notice of property held by the  
21 administrator which must include:

22 (i) The total value of property received by the administrator  
23 during the preceding 12-month period, taken from the reports under  
24 RCW 63.30.220;

25 (ii) The total value of claims paid by the administrator during  
26 the preceding 12-month period;

27 (iii) The internet web address of the unclaimed property website  
28 maintained by the administrator;

29 (iv) A telephone number and email address to contact the  
30 administrator to inquire about or claim property; and

31 (v) A statement that a person may access the internet by a  
32 computer to search for unclaimed property and a computer may be  
33 available as a service to the public at a local public library; and

34 (b) Maintain a website or database accessible by the public and  
35 electronically searchable which contains the names reported to the  
36 administrator of all apparent owners for whom property is being held  
37 by the administrator.

38 (4) The website or database maintained under subsection (3)(b) of  
39 this section must include instructions for filing with the



1 administrator a claim to property and a printable claim form with  
2 instructions for its use.

3 (5) In addition to giving notice under subsection (2) of this  
4 section, publishing the information under subsection (3)(a) of this  
5 section and maintaining the website or database under subsection  
6 (3)(b) of this section, the administrator may use other printed  
7 publication, telecommunications, the internet, or other media to  
8 inform the public of the existence of unclaimed property held by the  
9 administrator.

10 **Sec. 11.** RCW 63.30.330 and 2022 c 225 s 602 are each amended to  
11 read as follows:

12 (1) A holder may deduct a dormancy charge from property required  
13 to be paid or delivered to the administrator if:

14 (a) A valid contract between the holder and the apparent owner  
15 authorizes imposition of the charge for the apparent owner's failure  
16 to claim the property within a specified time; ~~((and))~~

17 (b) The holder regularly imposes the charge and regularly does  
18 not reverse or otherwise cancel the charge; and

19 (c) The holder notifies the apparent owner three months before  
20 ceasing interest payments or charging dormancy fees.

21 (2) The amount of the deduction under subsection (1) of this  
22 section is limited to an amount that is not unconscionable  
23 considering all relevant factors, including the marginal  
24 transactional costs incurred by the holder in maintaining the  
25 apparent owner's property and any services received by the apparent  
26 owner. A deduction of \$10 a year for maintaining property valued at  
27 \$50 or less, or \$20 per year for maintaining property valued at more  
28 than \$50, or other amounts established by the administrator by rule,  
29 is not unconscionable. However, if permitted under subsection (1) of  
30 this section, a higher charge may be appropriate considering all  
31 relevant factors.

32 **Sec. 12.** RCW 63.30.340 and 2022 c 225 s 603 are each amended to  
33 read as follows:

34 (1)(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, on filing a  
35 report under RCW 63.30.220, the holder (~~shall~~) must pay or deliver  
36 to the administrator the property described in the report. Holders  
37 who are required to file a report electronically under this chapter  
38 must remit payments under this section by electronic funds transfer

1 or other form of electronic payment acceptable to the administrator.  
2 However, the administrator, upon request or its own initiative, may  
3 relieve any holder or class of holders from the electronic payment  
4 requirement under this subsection for good cause as determined by the  
5 administrator.

6 (b) For purposes of this subsection, "good cause" means:

7 (i) A circumstance or condition exists that, in the  
8 administrator's judgment, prevents the holder from remitting payments  
9 due under this section electronically; or

10 (ii) The administrator determines that relief from the electronic  
11 payment requirement under this subsection supports the efficient or  
12 effective administration of this chapter.

13 (2) If property in a report under RCW 63.30.220 is an  
14 automatically renewable deposit and a penalty or forfeiture in the  
15 payment of interest would result from paying the deposit to the  
16 administrator at the time of the report, the date for payment of the  
17 property to the administrator is extended until a penalty or  
18 forfeiture no longer would result from payment, if the holder informs  
19 the administrator of the extended date.

20 ~~(3) ((Tangible property in a safe deposit box may not be  
21 delivered to the administrator until 180 days after filing the report  
22 under RCW 63.30.220.~~

23 ~~(4))~~ If property reported to the administrator under RCW  
24 63.30.220 is a security, the administrator may:

25 (a) Make an endorsement, instruction, or entitlement order on  
26 behalf of the apparent owner to invoke the duty of the issuer, its  
27 transfer agent, or the securities intermediary to transfer the  
28 security; or

29 (b) Dispose of the security under RCW 63.30.430.

30 ~~((5))~~ (4) If the holder of that property reported to the  
31 administrator under RCW 63.30.220 is the issuer of a certificated  
32 security, the administrator may obtain a replacement certificate in  
33 physical or book-entry form under RCW 62A.8-405. An indemnity bond is  
34 not required.

35 ~~((6))~~ (5) The administrator ~~((shall))~~ must establish procedures  
36 for the registration, issuance, method of delivery, transfer, and  
37 maintenance of securities delivered to the administrator by a holder.

38 ~~((7))~~ (6) An issuer, holder, and transfer agent or other person  
39 acting under this section under instructions of and on behalf of the  
40 issuer or holder is not liable to the apparent owner for, and must be

1 indemnified by the state against, a claim arising with respect to  
2 property after the property has been delivered to the administrator.

3 ~~((8))~~ (7) A holder is not required to deliver to the  
4 administrator a security identified by the holder as a nonfreely  
5 transferable security. If the administrator or holder determines that  
6 a security is no longer a nonfreely transferable security, the holder  
7 ~~((shall))~~ must deliver the security on the next regular date  
8 prescribed for delivery of securities under this chapter. The holder  
9 ~~((shall))~~ must make a determination annually whether a security  
10 identified in a report filed under RCW 63.30.220 as a nonfreely  
11 transferable security is no longer a nonfreely transferable security.

12 (8) If the property reported to the administrator is virtual  
13 currency, the holder must liquidate the virtual currency within 30  
14 days before filing the report under RCW 63.30.220. The report and  
15 liquidated proceeds must be submitted according to the due dates  
16 under RCW 63.30.240. The owner will not have recourse against the  
17 holder or the administrator to recover any gain in value after the  
18 virtual currency's liquidation under this subsection.

19 **Sec. 13.** RCW 63.30.360 and 2022 c 225 s 605 are each amended to  
20 read as follows:

21 (1) A holder that under this chapter pays money to the  
22 administrator may file a claim for ~~((reimbursement))~~ a refund from  
23 the administrator of the amount paid if the holder:

24 (a) Paid the money in error to the administrator; or

25 (b) After paying the money to the administrator, paid money to a  
26 person the holder reasonably believed was entitled to the money.

27 (2) If a claim for ~~((reimbursement))~~ a refund under subsection  
28 (1) of this section is made for a payment made on a negotiable  
29 instrument, including a traveler's check, money order, or similar  
30 instrument, the holder must submit proof that the instrument was  
31 presented and the payment was made to a person the holder reasonably  
32 believed was entitled to the payment. The holder may claim  
33 ~~((reimbursement))~~ a refund even if the payment was made to a person  
34 whose claim was made after the expiration of a period of limitation  
35 on the owner's right to receive or recover property, whether  
36 specified by contract, statute, or court order.

37 (3) If a holder is ~~((reimbursed))~~ paid by the administrator under  
38 subsection (1)(b) of this section, and the property was an interest-  
39 bearing demand, savings, or time deposit, the holder may also recover

1 from the administrator (~~(income or gain)~~) interest under RCW  
2 63.30.380 that would have been paid to the owner if the money had  
3 been claimed from the administrator by the owner to the extent the  
4 (~~(income or gain)~~) interest was paid by the holder to the owner.

5 (4) A holder that under this chapter delivers property other than  
6 money to the administrator may file a claim for return of the  
7 property from the administrator if:

8 (a) The holder delivered the property to the administrator in  
9 error; or

10 (b) The apparent owner has claimed the property from the holder.

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

16 (6) The administrator may determine that an affidavit submitted  
17 by a holder is evidence sufficient to establish that the holder is  
18 entitled to (~~(reimbursement)~~) a refund or to recover property under  
19 this section.

20 (7) A holder is not required to pay a fee or other charge for  
21 (~~(reimbursement)~~) a refund or return of property under this section.

22 (8) Not later than 90 days after a claim is filed under  
23 subsection (1) or (4) of this section, the administrator (~~(shall)~~)  
24 must allow or deny the claim and give the (~~(claimant)~~) holder notice  
25 of the decision in a record. If the administrator does not take  
26 action on a claim during the 90-day period, the claim is deemed  
27 denied.

28 (9) (a) If, upon receipt of an application under this section for  
29 a refund or return of property, or an examination conducted under RCW  
30 63.30.580, it is determined by the administrator that any amount,  
31 interest, or penalty has been paid in excess of what was properly due  
32 under this chapter or that any property was delivered to the  
33 administrator under this chapter in error, then except for amounts  
34 delivered by the administrator to a claimant under RCW 63.30.540 and  
35 63.30.550, the excess amount must be refunded to the holder, or the  
36 property delivered in error returned to the holder, as the case may  
37 be.

38 (b) (i) Except as otherwise provided in this section, no refund or  
39 return of property may be made for any amount or property paid or  
40 delivered, or for any interest or penalty paid, more than six years

1 after the end of the calendar year in which the payment or delivery  
2 occurred.

3 (ii) The expiration of the limitations period in (b)(i) of this  
4 subsection will not restrict a refund or the return of property if  
5 the administrator received a complete application for such refund or  
6 return of property before the expiration of such limitations period.

7 (10) The execution of a written waiver signed by the holder and  
8 the administrator will extend the time for making a refund of any  
9 amounts paid, or a return of property delivered in error, during, or  
10 attributable to, the years covered by the waiver if, before the  
11 expiration of the waiver, a complete application for refund or return  
12 of such amounts or property is made by the holder or the  
13 administrator discovers a refund is due or a return of property under  
14 this section is required.

15 (11) For purposes of this section, an application for a refund or  
16 return of property is complete if it includes information the  
17 administrator deems sufficient to substantiate the holder's claim for  
18 a refund or return of property. If the administrator receives an  
19 incomplete application before the expiration of the limitations  
20 period in subsection (9)(b)(i) of this section, the administrator  
21 must provide the holder written notice of the deficiencies of  
22 information in the application and grant the holder 90 days from the  
23 date of such notice to provide sufficient documentation to  
24 substantiate the holder's claim for a refund or return of property.

25 (12) Interest as provided under RCW 82.32.050 (1)(c) and (2) must  
26 be added to the amount of any refund allowed by the administrator or  
27 any court. Interest must be computed from the date the administrator  
28 received the excess payment until the date the refund is issued.

29 (13) Decisions under this section are subject to review under RCW  
30 63.30.730 and 63.30.740.

31 **Sec. 14.** RCW 63.30.410 and 2022 c 225 s 610 are each amended to  
32 read as follows:

33 (1) Expiration, before, on, or after January 1, 2023, of a period  
34 of limitation on an owner's right to receive or recover property,  
35 whether specified by contract, statute, or court order, does not  
36 prevent the property from being presumed abandoned or affect the duty  
37 of a holder under this chapter to file a report or pay or deliver  
38 property to the administrator.

1           (2) (~~The administrator may not commence an action or proceeding~~  
2 ~~to enforce this chapter with respect to the reporting, payment, or~~  
3 ~~delivery of property)) If a holder files a report meeting the  
4 requirements under RCW 63.30.220, the administrator, absent a showing  
5 of fraud, may not issue a determination of liability under RCW  
6 63.30.680 more than six years after the holder filed ((a  
7 ~~nonfraudulent report under RCW 63.30.220 with the administrator)) the  
8 report. The parties may agree in a record to extend the limitation in  
9 this subsection.~~~~

10           (3) The administrator may not issue a determination of liability  
11 under RCW 63.30.680 or otherwise commence an action, proceeding, or  
12 examination with respect to a reporting obligation or other duty of a  
13 holder under this chapter more than 10 years after the duty arose,  
14 including circumstances where the holder:

- 15           (a) Fails to file a report with the administrator;  
16           (b) Files an incomplete report with the administrator; or  
17           (c) Files a fraudulent report with the administrator.

18           **Sec. 15.** RCW 63.30.420 and 2022 c 225 s 701 are each amended to  
19 read as follows:

20           (1) Except as otherwise provided in RCW 63.30.430, the  
21 administrator may sell the property (~~((a))~~) not earlier than two  
22 years after receipt of property stored in a safe deposit box and  
23 presumed abandoned(~~(; and (b) not earlier than three years after~~  
24 ~~receipt of all other property presumed abandoned))~~).

25           (2) Before selling property under subsection (1) of this section,  
26 the administrator (~~(shall)~~) must give notice to the public of:

- 27           (a) The date of the sale; and  
28           (b) A reasonable description of the property.

29           (3) A sale under subsection (1) of this section must be to the  
30 highest bidder:

31           (a) At public sale at a location in this state which the  
32 administrator determines to be the most favorable market for the  
33 property;

34           (b) On the internet; or

35           (c) On another forum the administrator determines is likely to  
36 yield the highest net proceeds of sale.

37           (4) The administrator may decline the highest bid at a sale under  
38 this section and reoffer the property for sale if the administrator  
39 determines the highest bid is insufficient.

1 (5) The administrator must publish at least one notice of the  
2 sale, at least three weeks but not more than five weeks before the  
3 sale, in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which  
4 the property is sold.

5 **Sec. 16.** RCW 63.30.460 and 2022 c 225 s 705 are each amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (1) The administrator may not sell a medal or decoration awarded  
8 for military service in the armed forces of the United States.

9 (2) The administrator, with the consent of the respective  
10 organization under (a) of this subsection, agency under (b) of this  
11 subsection, or entity under (c) of this subsection, may deliver a  
12 medal or decoration described in subsection (1) of this section to be  
13 held in custody for the owner, to:

14 (a) A military veterans organization qualified under the internal  
15 revenue code (~~(, as it existed on January 1, 2023, 26 U.S.C. Sec.~~  
16 ~~501(e)(19))~~);

17 (b) The agency that awarded the medal or decoration; or

18 (c) A governmental entity.

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

22 **Sec. 17.** RCW 63.30.550 and 2022 c 225 s 905 are each amended to  
23 read as follows:

24 (1) Not later than 30 days after a claim is allowed under RCW  
25 63.30.540(2), the administrator (~~(shall)~~) must pay or deliver to the  
26 owner the property or pay to the owner the net proceeds of a sale of  
27 the property, together with income or gain to which the owner is  
28 entitled under RCW 63.30.380. (~~(On request of the owner, the~~  
29 ~~administrator may sell or liquidate a security and pay the net~~  
30 ~~proceeds to the owner, even if the security had been held by the~~  
31 ~~administrator for less than three years or the administrator has not~~  
32 ~~complied with the notice requirements under RCW 63.30.430.)~~)

33 (2) Property held under this chapter by the administrator is  
34 subject to a claim for the payment of an enforceable debt the owner  
35 owes in this state for:

36 (a) Child support arrearages, including child support collection  
37 costs and child support arrearages that are combined with  
38 maintenance;

1 (b) A civil or criminal fine or penalty, court costs, a  
2 surcharge, or restitution imposed by a final order of an  
3 administrative agency or a final court judgment; or

4 (c) State or local taxes, penalties, and interest that have been  
5 determined to be delinquent.

6 (3) Before delivery or payment to an owner under subsection (1)  
7 of this section of property or payment to the owner of net proceeds  
8 of a sale of the property, the administrator first (~~shall~~) must  
9 apply the property or net proceeds to a debt under subsection (2) of  
10 this section the administrator determines is owed by the owner. The  
11 administrator (~~shall~~) must pay the amount to the appropriate state  
12 or local agency and notify the owner of the payment.

13 (4) The administrator may make periodic inquiries of state and  
14 local agencies in the absence of a claim filed under RCW 63.30.530 to  
15 determine whether an apparent owner included in the unclaimed  
16 property records of this state has enforceable debts described in  
17 subsection (2) of this section. The administrator first (~~shall~~)  
18 must apply the property or net proceeds of a sale of property held by  
19 the administrator to a debt under subsection (2) of this section of  
20 an apparent owner which appears in the records of the administrator  
21 and deliver the amount to the appropriate state or local agency. The  
22 administrator (~~shall~~) must notify the apparent owner of the  
23 payment.

24 **Sec. 18.** RCW 63.30.650 and 2022 c 225 s 1009 are each amended to  
25 read as follows:

26 (1) In this section, "related to the administrator" refers to an  
27 individual who is:

28 (a) The administrator's spouse, partner in a civil union,  
29 domestic partner, or reciprocal beneficiary;

30 (b) The administrator's child, stepchild, grandchild, parent,  
31 stepparent, sibling, stepsibling, half-sibling, aunt, uncle, niece,  
32 or nephew;

33 (c) A spouse, partner in a civil union, domestic partner, or  
34 reciprocal beneficiary of an individual under (b) of this subsection;  
35 or

36 (d) Any individual residing in the administrator's household.

37 (2) The administrator may contract with a person to conduct an  
38 examination under this section and RCW 63.30.570 through 63.30.640



1 and 63.30.660 through 63.30.690. The contract may be awarded only  
2 under chapter 39.26 RCW.

3 (3) If the person with which the administrator contracts under  
4 subsection (2) of this section is:

5 (a) An individual, the individual may not be related to the  
6 administrator; or

7 (b) A business entity, the entity may not be owned in whole or in  
8 part by the administrator or an individual related to the  
9 administrator.

10 (4) ~~((At least 60 days before assigning a person under contract  
11 with the administrator under subsection (2) of this section to  
12 conduct an examination, the administrator shall demand in a record  
13 that the person to be examined submit a report and deliver property  
14 that is previously unreported.~~

15 ~~(5))~~) If the administrator contracts with a person under  
16 subsection (2) of this section:

17 (a) The contract may provide for compensation of the person based  
18 on a fixed fee, hourly fee, or contingent fee;

19 (b) A contingent fee arrangement may not provide for a payment  
20 that exceeds 10 percent of the amount or value of property paid or  
21 delivered as a result of the examination; and

22 (c) On request by a person subject to examination by a  
23 contractor, the administrator ~~((shall))~~ must deliver to the person a  
24 complete and unredacted copy of the contract.

25 ~~((+6))~~ (5) A contract under subsection (2) of this section is  
26 subject to public disclosure without redaction under chapter 42.56  
27 RCW.

28 **Sec. 19.** RCW 63.30.680 and 2022 c 225 s 1012 are each amended to  
29 read as follows:

30 If the administrator determines from an examination conducted  
31 under RCW 63.30.580 that a ~~((putative))~~ holder failed or refused to  
32 pay or deliver to the administrator property which is reportable  
33 under this chapter, the administrator ~~((shall))~~ must issue a  
34 determination of the ~~((putative))~~ holder's liability to pay or  
35 deliver and give notice in a record to the ~~((putative))~~ holder of the  
36 determination.

37 **Sec. 20.** RCW 63.30.690 and 2023 c 258 s 9 are each amended to  
38 read as follows:

1 (1) A (~~person~~) holder who fails to pay or deliver property when  
2 due is required to pay to the administrator interest at the rate as  
3 computed under RCW 82.32.050(1)(c) and set under RCW 82.32.050(2).  
4 However, the administrator must waive or cancel interest imposed  
5 under this subsection if:

6 (a) The administrator finds that the failure to pay or deliver  
7 the property within the time prescribed by this chapter was the  
8 result of circumstances beyond the (~~person's~~) holder's control  
9 sufficient for waiver or cancellation of interest under RCW  
10 82.32.105;

11 (b) The failure to timely pay or deliver the property within the  
12 time prescribed by this chapter was the direct result of written  
13 instructions given to the (~~person~~) holder by the administrator; or

14 (c) The extension of a due date for payment or delivery under an  
15 assessment issued by the administrator was not at the (~~person's~~)  
16 holder's request and was for the sole convenience of the  
17 administrator.

18 (2) If a (~~person~~) holder fails to file any report or to pay or  
19 deliver any amounts or property when due under a report required  
20 under this chapter, there is assessed a penalty equal to 10 percent  
21 of the amount unpaid and the value of any property not delivered.

22 (3) If an examination results in an assessment for amounts unpaid  
23 or property not delivered, there is assessed a penalty equal to 10  
24 percent of the amount unpaid and the value of any property not  
25 delivered.

26 (4) If a (~~person~~) holder fails to pay or deliver to the  
27 administrator by the due date any amounts or property due under (~~a~~  
28 ~~assessment~~) a determination issued by the administrator to the  
29 (~~person~~) holder, there is assessed an additional penalty of five  
30 percent of the amount unpaid and the value of any property not  
31 delivered.

32 (5) If a holder makes a fraudulent report under this chapter, the  
33 administrator may require the holder to pay the administrator, in  
34 addition to interest under this section, a civil penalty of \$1,000  
35 for each day from the date the report was made until corrected, up to  
36 a cumulative maximum amount of \$25,000, plus 25 percent of the amount  
37 or value of any property that should have been reported or was  
38 underreported.

39 (6) Penalties under subsections (2) through (4) of this section  
40 may be waived or canceled only if:

1 (a) The administrator finds that the failure to pay or deliver  
2 within the time prescribed by this chapter was the result of  
3 circumstances beyond the ((~~person's~~)) holder's control sufficient for  
4 waiver or cancellation of penalties under RCW 82.32.105; or

5 (b) The ((~~person~~)) holder requests the waiver for a report  
6 required to be filed under RCW 63.30.220 and has timely filed as  
7 provided by RCW 63.30.240 all reports due under RCW 63.30.220 and  
8 paid or delivered all property associated with those reports for a  
9 period of 24 months immediately preceding the period covered by the  
10 report for which the waiver is being requested.

11 (7) If a ((~~person~~)) holder willfully fails to file a report or to  
12 provide written notice to apparent owners as required under this  
13 chapter, the administrator may assess a civil penalty of \$100 for  
14 each day the report is withheld or the notice is not sent, but not  
15 more than \$5,000.

16 (8) If a holder, having filed a report, failed to file the report  
17 electronically as required by RCW 63.30.220, or failed to pay  
18 electronically any amounts due under the report as required by RCW  
19 63.30.340, the administrator must assess a penalty equal to five  
20 percent of the amount payable or deliverable under the report, unless  
21 the administrator grants the ((~~taxpayer~~)) holder relief from the  
22 electronic filing and payment requirements. Total penalties assessed  
23 under this subsection may not exceed five percent of the amount  
24 payable and value of property deliverable under the report.

25 (9) If a holder enters into a contract or other arrangement for  
26 the purpose of evading an obligation under this chapter or otherwise  
27 willfully fails to perform a duty imposed on the holder under this  
28 chapter, the administrator may require the holder to pay the  
29 administrator, in addition to interest as provided in this section, a  
30 civil penalty of \$1,000 for each day the obligation is evaded or the  
31 duty not performed, up to a cumulative maximum amount of \$25,000,  
32 plus 25 percent of the amount or value of property that should have  
33 been but was not reported, paid, or delivered as a result of the  
34 evasion or failure to perform.

35 (10) The penalties imposed in this section are cumulative.

36 **Sec. 21.** RCW 63.30.730 and 2022 c 225 s 1103 are each amended to  
37 read as follows:

38 Any ((~~person~~)) putative holder having been issued a determination  
39 by the administrator, or a denial of an application for a refund or

1 return of property, under the provisions of this chapter is entitled  
2 to a review by the administrator conducted in accordance with the  
3 provisions of RCW 34.05.410 through 34.05.494, subject to judicial  
4 review under RCW 34.05.510 through 34.05.598. A petition for review  
5 under this section is timely if received in writing by the  
6 administrator on or before 90 days after the holder receives the  
7 determination from the administrator pursuant to RCW 63.30.680 or  
8 from any extension of the due date granted by the administrator, or  
9 in the case of a refund or return application, 30 days after the  
10 administrator rejects the application in writing, regardless of any  
11 subsequent action by the administrator to reconsider its initial  
12 decision. The period for filing a petition for review under this  
13 section may be extended as provided in a rule adopted by the  
14 administrator under chapter 34.05 RCW or upon a written agreement  
15 signed by the holder and the administrator.

16 **Sec. 22.** RCW 63.30.740 and 2022 c 225 s 1104 are each amended to  
17 read as follows:

18 (1) Any (~~person~~) putative holder who has paid or delivered  
19 property to the administrator under the provisions of this chapter,  
20 except one who has failed to keep and preserve records as required in  
21 this chapter, feeling aggrieved by such payment or delivery, may  
22 appeal to the Thurston county superior court. The (~~person~~) putative  
23 holder filing a notice of appeal under this section is deemed the  
24 plaintiff, and the administrator, the defendant.

25 (2) An appeal under this section must be made within 30 days  
26 after the administrator rejects in writing an application for refund  
27 or return of property, regardless of any subsequent action by the  
28 administrator to reconsider its initial decision.

29 (3) (a) In an appeal filed under this section, the plaintiff must  
30 set forth the amount or property, if any, payable or deliverable on  
31 the report or assessment that the plaintiff is contesting, which the  
32 holder concedes to be the correct amount payable or deliverable, and  
33 the reason why the amount payable or deliverable should be reduced or  
34 abated.

35 (b) The appeal is perfected only by serving a copy of the notice  
36 of appeal upon the administrator and filing the original with proof  
37 of service with the clerk of the superior court of Thurston county,  
38 within the time specified in subsection (2) of this section.

1 (4) (a) The trial in the superior court on appeal must be de novo  
2 and without the necessity of any pleadings other than the notice of  
3 appeal. At trial, the burden is on the plaintiff to (i) prove that  
4 the amount paid by that ~~((person))~~ putative holder is incorrect,  
5 either in whole or in part, or the property in question was delivered  
6 in error to the administrator, and (ii) establish the correct amount  
7 payable or the property required to be delivered to the  
8 administrator, if any.

9 (b) Both parties are entitled to subpoena the attendance of  
10 witnesses as in other civil actions and to produce evidence that is  
11 competent, relevant, and material to determine the correct amount  
12 due, if any, that should be paid by the plaintiff.

13 (c) Either party may seek appellate review in the same manner as  
14 other civil actions are appealed to the appellate courts.

15 (5) An appeal may be maintained under this section without the  
16 need for the plaintiff to first:

17 (a) Protest against the payment of any amount due or reportable  
18 under this chapter or to make any demand to have such amount refunded  
19 or returned; or

20 (b) Petition the administrator for a refund, return of property,  
21 or a review of its action as authorized in RCW 63.30.730.

22 (6) No court action or proceeding of any kind may be maintained  
23 by the plaintiff to recover any amount paid, delivered, or reported  
24 to the administrator under this chapter, except as provided in this  
25 section or as may be available to the plaintiff under RCW 34.05.510  
26 through 34.05.598.

27 (7) No appeal may be maintained under this section with respect  
28 to matters reviewed by the administrator under the provisions of  
29 chapter 34.05 RCW.

30 **Sec. 23.** RCW 63.30.790 and 2022 c 225 s 1302 are each amended to  
31 read as follows:

32 (1) ~~((Subject to subsection (2) of this section, an))~~ An  
33 agreement under RCW 63.30.780 is void if ~~((it is entered into during~~  
34 ~~the period beginning on the date the property was paid or delivered~~  
35 ~~by a holder to the administrator and ending 24 months after the~~  
36 ~~payment or delivery.~~

37 ~~(2) If a provision in an agreement described in subsection (1) of~~  
38 ~~this section applies to mineral proceeds for which compensation is to~~  
39 ~~be paid to the other person based in whole or in part on a part of~~

1 ~~the underlying minerals or mineral proceeds not then presumed~~  
2 ~~abandoned, the provision is void regardless of when the agreement was~~  
3 ~~entered into.~~

4 ~~(3))~~ a provision in the agreement applies to mineral proceeds  
5 for which compensation is to be paid to the other person based in  
6 whole or in part of the underlying minerals or mineral proceeds not  
7 then presumed abandoned.

8 (2) An agreement under ~~((subsection (1) of this section which))~~  
9 RCW 63.30.780 that provides for compensation in an amount that ~~((is~~  
10 ~~unconscionable))~~ exceeds five percent of the value of the property  
11 reasonably expected to be recovered, is unenforceable ~~((except by the~~  
12 ~~apparent owner. An apparent owner that believes the compensation the~~  
13 ~~apparent owner has agreed to pay is unconscionable or the~~  
14 ~~administrator, acting on behalf of an apparent owner, or both, may~~  
15 ~~file an action in superior court to reduce the compensation to the~~  
16 ~~maximum amount that is not unconscionable)).~~

17 ~~((4))~~ (3) An apparent owner or the administrator may assert  
18 that an agreement ~~((described in this section))~~ under RCW 63.30.780  
19 is void on a ground other than it provides for payment of  
20 unconscionable compensation in an amount that exceeds five percent of  
21 the value of the property reasonably expected to be recovered.

22 ~~((5))~~ (4) This section does not apply to an apparent owner's  
23 agreement with an attorney to pursue a claim for recovery of  
24 specifically identified property held by the administrator or to  
25 contest the administrator's denial of a claim for recovery of the  
26 property.

27 **Sec. 24.** RCW 63.30.820 and 2022 c 225 s 1402 are each amended to  
28 read as follows:

29 (1) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the following  
30 are confidential and exempt from public inspection or disclosure:

31 (a) Reports and records of a holder in the possession of the  
32 administrator or the administrator's agent; ~~((and))~~

33 (b) Personal information and other information derived or  
34 otherwise obtained by or communicated to the administrator or the  
35 administrator's agent from an examination under this chapter of the  
36 records of a person; and

37 (c) Correspondence sent by the administrator or the  
38 administrator's agent to holders concerning past, current, pending,  
39 or potential examinations.

1 (2) A record or other information that is confidential under law  
2 of this state other than this chapter, another state, or the United  
3 States continues to be confidential when disclosed or delivered under  
4 this chapter to the administrator or administrator's agent.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 25.** RCW 63.30.670 (Report by administrator to  
6 state official) and 2022 c 225 s 1011 are each repealed.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 26.** Sections 1 and 2 of this act apply to  
8 prearrangement funeral service contracts executed before, on, or  
9 after the effective date of this section.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 27.** Sections 3 through 6, 13 through 16, and  
11 19 through 22 of this act apply retroactively and prospectively to  
12 January 1, 2023.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 28.** Sections 7 and 9 through 11 of this act  
14 take effect January 1, 2026.

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