SENATE BILL NO. 177

INTRODUCED BY MAZUREK BY REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

IN THE SENATE

JANUARY 23, 1991

INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TAXATION.

FIRST READING.

FEBRUARY 6, 1991

FEBRUARY 7, 1991

FEBRUARY 8, 1991

FEBRUARY 9, 1991

FEBRUARY 11, 1991

COMMITTEE RECOMMEND BILL DO PASS AS AMENDED. REPORT ADOPTED.

PRINTING REPORT.

ON MOTION, CONSIDERATION PASSED FOR THE DAY.

SECOND READING, DO PASS.

ENGROSSING REPORT.

THIRD READING, PASSED. AYES, 47; NOES, 1.

TRANSMITTED TO HOUSE.

IN THE HOUSE

FEBRUARY 11, 1991

FEBRUARY 12, 1991

APRIL 4, 1991

APRIL 10, 1991

APRIL 11, 1991

INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TAXATION.

FIRST READING.

COMMITTEE RECOMMEND BILL BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED, REPORT ADOPTED.

SECOND READING, CONCURRED IN.

THIRD READING, CONCURRED IN. AYES, 95; NOES, 2.

RETURNED TO SENATE WITH AMENDMENTS.

IN THE SENATE

APRIL 17, 1991

RECEIVED FROM HOUSE.

SECOND READING, AMENDMENTS CONCURRED IN.

APRIL 18, 1991

THIRD READING, AMENDMENTS CONCURRED IN.

APRIL 19, 1991

SENT TO ENROLLING.

REPORTED CORRECTLY ENROLLED.

52nd Legislature

1

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LC 0312/01

7

INTRODUCED BY 2 BY REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE 3 4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT RELATING TO THE 5 б ADMINISTRATION OF ABANDONED PROPERTY BY THE DEPARTMENT OF 7 REVENUE: ESTABLISHING PRESUMPTIONS OF ABANDONMENT FOR 8 INTANGIBLE PROPERTY; REQUIRING A DETAILED REPORT OF 9 ABANDONED PROPERTY ONLY IF THE PROPERTY HAS A VALUE OF \$25 10 OR MORE: REOUIRING DELIVERY OF ALL ABANDONED PROPERTY AT THE TIME IT IS REPORTED TO THE DEPARTMENT; PROVIDING THAT A 11 12 STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS MAY NOT BE RAISED AS A DEFENSE 13 AGAINST THE STATE BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, THE STATE 14 GOVERNMENT, A LOCAL GOVERNMENT, OR AN AGENCY OF THE FEDERAL, 15 STATE, OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT; CLARIFYING THE DEPARTMENT'S 16 AUTHORITY TO ESTIMATE UNCLAIMED PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS BY PROVIDING THAT THE DEPARTMENT'S AUTHORITY COINCIDES WITH THE 17 TIME PERIOD FOR REPORTING UNCLAIMED PROPERTY; AMENDING 18 SECTIONS 70-9-301, 70-9-302, 70-9-303, AND 70-9-307, MCA, 19 20 AND SECTION 3, CHAPTER 14, LAWS OF 1989: REPEALING SECTION 21 70-9-313, MCA; AND PROVIDING EFFECTIVE DATES AND 22 APPLICABILITY DATES." 23

Senate BILL NO. 177

25 NEW SECTION. Section 1. Intangible property issued in

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Montana Legislative Council

1 state by entity created by state -- presumptions of 2 abandonment. (1) Intangible property is presumed abandoned 3 if:

4 (a) the owner has not claimed or corresponded in
5 writing concerning the property within 5 years after the
6 date prescribed for payment or delivery;

(b) the address of the owner is unknown; and

8 (c) the entity originating or issuing the intangible
9 property is the state or a local political subdivision of
10 the state or is or at the relevant time was incorporated,
11 organized, or created in the state.

(2) For the purposes of this section, intangible
property includes but is not limited to interest, dividends,
or other earnings of the intangible property, less lawful
charges, held by a business association, governmental
entity, or other person or entity.

17 Section 2. Section 70-9-301, MCA, is amended to read:

18 "70-9-301. Report of abandoned property -- duty to 19 prevent abandonment prior to filing. (1) Every person 20 holding moneys money or other property, tangible or 21 intangible, presumed abandoned under parts 1 through 3 shall 22 report the property to the department as hereinafter 23 provided in this part.

24 (2) The report shall <u>must</u> be verified and shall <u>must</u>
25 include:

INTRODUCED BILL

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(a) except with respect to travelers' checks and money
 orders, the name, if known, and last-known address, if any,
 of each person appearing from the records of the holder to
 be the owner of any property of value of \$10 \$25 or more
 presumed abandoned under parts 1 through 3;

6 (b) in case of unclaimed moneys money of life insurance
7 corporations, the full name of the insured or annuitant and
8 his last-known address according to the life insurance
9 corporation's records;

10 (c) the nature and identifying number, if any, or
11 description of the property and the amount appearing from
12 the records to be due. Items less than \$25 of value under
13 \$10 each may be reported in aggregate.

(d) the date when the property became payable,
demandable, or returnable and the date of the last
transaction with the owner with respect to the property; and
(e) other information which the department prescribes
by rule as necessary for the administration of parts 1
through 3.

(3) If the person holding property presumed abandoned
is a successor to other persons who previously held the
property for the owner or if the holder has changed his name
while holding the property, he shall file with his report
all prior known names and addresses of each holder of the
property.

N. (*

(4) The report shall must be filed before November 1 1 2 every year as of the preceding June 30 next--preceding, but the reports of life insurance corporations, banking and 3 financial organizations, and cooperatives shall must be 4 5 filed before May 1 of each year as of the preceding December 31 next-preceding. The department may postpone the reporting 6 date upon written request by any person required to file a 7 report. The department shall furnish forms for this report. 8

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9 (5) Not more than 120 days before filing the report 10 required by this section, the holder in possession of 11 property presumed abandoned and subject to custody as 12 unclaimed property under parts 1 through 3 shall send 13 written notice to the apparent owner at his last-known 14 address informing him that the holder is in possession of 15 property subject to this chapter if:

16 (a) the holder has in his records an address for the 17 apparent owner which the holder's records do not disclose to 18 be inaccurate;

19 (b) the claim of the apparent owner is not barred by20 the statute of limitations; and

21 (c) the property has a value of \$100 or more.

(6) Verification if made by a partnership shall must be
executed by a partner; if made by an unincorporated
association or private corporation, by an officer; and if
made by a public corporation, by its chief fiscal officer."

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1 Section 3. Section 70-9-302, MCA, is amended to read: 2 "70-9-302. Notice of property presumed abandoned ---3 publication. (1) The department shall publish notice of property presumed abandoned not later than March 1 after the 4 report required by 70-9-301 is due or, in the case of 5 б property reported by life insurance corporations, banking 7 and financial organizations, and cooperatives, August 1 of 8 the year the report is due. The notice must be published at 9 least once a week for 2 consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in this state in which is 10 11 iocated the last-known address of any person to be named in 12 the notice is located. If no an address is not listed or the 13 address is outside the state, the notice must be published 14 in the county in which the holder of the property has its 15 principal place of business within this state.

16 (2) The published notice shall <u>must</u> be entitled "Notice
17 of Names of Persons Appearing to Be Owners of Abandoned
18 Property" and shall <u>must</u> contain:

19 (a) the names, in alphabetical order, and last-known 20 addresses, if any, of persons listed in the report and 21 entitled to notice within the county as--hereinbefore 22 specified;

(b) a statement that information concerning the amount
or description of the property and-the-name-and-address-of
the--holder may be obtained by any-persons a person

possessing an interest in the property by addressing an 1 1 2 inquiry to the department; and 3 (c) a statement that if proof of claim is not presented by the owner to-the-holder and if the owner's right to 4 5 receive the property is not established to the holder's 6 department's satisfaction within-65-days-from--the--date--of 7 the--second-published-notice;-the-abandoned-property-will-be 8 placed;-not-later-than-85-days-after-such-publication--date; 9 in-the-custody-of-the-department7-to-whom-all-further-claims 10 must--thereafter--be-directed, the property will be returned 11 to the owner. 12 (3) The department is not required to publish in such 13 the notice any item of less than \$100 unless the department 14 considers such publication to be in the public interest. 15 (4) This section is not applicable to sums payable on 16 travelers' checks or money orders presumed abandoned under 17 70-9-201." 18 Section 4. Section 70-9-303, MCA, is amended to read: "70-9-303. Payment or delivery of abandoned property to 19 20 department -- service charges. (1) Every A person who has 21 filed a report as provided by 70-9-301 shall--within-20-days 22 after--the--time--specified--in--70-9-302--for--claiming-the 23 property-from-the-holder-or;-in-the-case-of-sums-payable--on 24 travelers---checks--or-money-orders-presumed-abandoned-under

25 70-9-2017-within-20-days-after-the-filing-of-the-report7 pay

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or deliver to the department of revenue all abandoned 1 2 property specified in this the report at the time the report is filedy-except-that-if-the-owner-establishes-his-right-to 3 4 receive-the-abandoned-property-to-the--satisfaction--of--the 5 holder--within--the--time--specified--in--70-9-302--or-if-it 6 appears-that--for--some--other--reason--the--presumption--of 7 abandonment-is-erroneous--the-holder-need-not-pay-or-deliver 8 the-propertyy-which-will-no-longer-be-presumed-abandonedy-to 9 the--department--but--in--lieu-thereof-shall-file-a-verified 10 written-explanation-of-the-proof-of-claim-or-of-the-error-in the-presumption-of-abandonment. 11

12 (2) No <u>A</u> service, handling, maintenance, or other
13 charge or fee of any kind may <u>not</u> be deducted or withheld
14 from any property subject to escheat under this chapter
15 unless specifically permitted by this chapter.

16 (3) Even when specifically permitted by this chapter,
17 such charges or fees may not be excluded, withheld, or
18 deducted from property subject to this chapter if, under its
19 normal procedure, the holder would not have excluded,
20 withheld, or deducted such the charges or fees had if the
21 property had been claimed by the owner prior to being
22 reported or remitted to the department."

23 Section 5. Section 70-9-307, MCA, is amended to read:
24 "70-9-307. Period of limitations not to prevent
25 presumption or affect duties -- limitation on department

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1	action. (1) The expiration of any period of time specified
2	by statute or court order during which an action or
3	proceeding may be commenced or enforced to obtain payment of
4	a claim for money or recovery of property does not:
5	(a) shallnot prevent the money or property from being
6	presumed abandoned property or affect any duty to file a
7	report required by parts 1 through 3 or to pay or deliver
8	abandoned property to the department; or
9	(b) constitute a defense in an action or proceeding
10	brought by or on behalf of the department against the
11	federal government, the state government, a local
12	government, or an officer or employee of the federal, state,
13	or local government for the payment or delivery of abandoned
14	property to the department pursuant to this chapter or to
15	enforce or collect a penalty imposed by this chapter.
16	(2) No Except as provided in subsection (1)(b), an
17	action or proceeding may not be commenced by the department
18	with respect to any <u>a</u> duty of a holder under parts 1 through
19	3 more than 10 years after the duty arose."
20	Section 6. Section 3, Chapter 14, Laws of 1989, is
21	amended to read:
22	"Section 3. Retroactive applicability. [This act]
23	applies retroactively, within the meaning of 1-2-109, to tax
24	years beginning after December 31, ±900 1976."
25	NEW SECTION. Section 7. Codification instruction.

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[Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part
 of Title 70, chapter 9, and the provisions of Title 70,
 chapter 9, apply to [section 1].

4 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 8. Repealer. Section 70-9-313,
5 MCA, is repealed.

6 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 9. Effective dates --7 applicability. (1) [Sections 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, and this 8 section] are effective on passage and approval.

9 (2) [Sections 1, 5, and 7] are effective October 1,10 1991.

11 (3) [Section 1] applies to all intangible property held
12 after September 30, 1991.

13 (4) [Section 5] applies to all abandoned property held 14 after September 30, 1991, by the federal government, the 15 state government, a local government, or a subdivision of 16 the federal, state, or local government regardless of when 17 the present become precurptically abandoned

17 the property became presumptively abandoned.

-End-

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STATE OF MONTANA - FISCAL NOTE

Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for SB0177, as introduced.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

An act relating to the administration of abandoned property by the Department of Revenue; establishing presumptions of abandonment for intangible property; requiring a detailed report of abandoned property only if the property has a value of \$25 or more; requiring delivery of all abandoned property at the time it is reported to the department; providing that a statute of limitations may not be raised as a defense against the state by the federal government, the state government, a local government, or an agency of the federal, state, or local government; clarifying the department's authority to estimate unclaimed property assessments by providing that the department's authority coincides with the time period for reporting unclaimed property; and providing effective dates and applicability dates.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Expenditures:

This proposal has no impact on Department of Revenue expenditures.

Revenues:

This proposal has the potential for increasing the deposits of abandoned property in the Public School Non-Expendable Trust Fund. The interest from this fund is deposited in the school foundation program.

ROD SUNDSTED, BUDGET DIRECTOR DATE Office of Budget and Program Planning

Joseph P. Mazurrk, PRIMARY SPONSOR

Fiscal Note for \$80177, as introduced

52nd Legislature

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SB 0177/02

7

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

 1
 SENATE BILL NO. 177

 2
 INTRODUCED BY MAZUREK

 3
 BY REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT RELATING TO THE 5 ADMINISTRATION OF ABANDONED PROPERTY BY THE DEPARTMENT OF 6 7 REVENUE: ESTABLISHING PRESUMPTIONS OF ABANDONMENT FOR REQUIRING A DETAILED REPORT OF INTANGIBLE PROPERTY; 8 ABANDONED PROPERTY ONLY IF THE PROPERTY HAS A VALUE OF \$25 9 OR MORE; REQUIRING DELIVERY OF ALL ABANDONED PROPERTY AT THE 10 TIME IT IS REPORTED TO THE DEPARTMENT; PROVIDING THAT A 11 STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS MAY NOT BE RAISED AS A DEFENSE 12 AGAINST THE STATE BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, THE A STATE 13 14 GOVERNMENT, A LOCAL GOVERNMENT, OR AN AGENCY OF THE FEDERAL, 15 STATE, OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT; CLARIFYING THE DEPARTMENT'S AUTHORITY TO ESTIMATE UNCLAIMED PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS BY 16 17 PROVIDING THAT THE DEPARTMENT'S AUTHORITY COINCIDES WITH THE TIME PERIOD FOR REPORTING UNCLAIMED PROPERTY; AMENDING 18 SECTIONS 70-9-301, 70-9-302, 70-9-303, AND 70-9-307, MCA, 19 AND SECTION 3, CHAPTER 14, LAWS OF 1989; REPEALING SECTION 20 21 70-9-313, MCA; AND PROVIDING EFFECTIVE DATES AND AN 22 APPLICABILITY BATES DATE."

23

24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
 25 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 1. Intangible property issued in



state by entity created by state -- presumptions of
 abandonment. (1) Intangible property is presumed abandoned
 if:

4 (a) the owner has not claimed or corresponded in 5 writing concerning the property within 5 years after the 6 date prescribed for payment or delivery;

(b) the address of the owner is unknown; and

8 (c) the entity originating or issuing the intangible
9 property is the state or a local political subdivision of
10 the state or is or at the relevant time was incorporated,
11 organized, or created in the state.

(2) For the purposes of this section, intangible
property includes but is not limited to interest, dividends,
or other earnings of the intangible property, less lawful
charges, held by a business association, governmental
entity, or other person or entity.

17 Section 2. Section 70-9-301, MCA, is amended to read:

18 "70-9-301. Report of abandoned property -- duty to 19 prevent abandonment prior to filing. (1) Every person 20 holding moneys money or other property, tangible or 21 intangible, presumed abandoned under parts 1 through 3 shall 22 report the property to the department as hereinafter 23 provided in this part.

24 (2) The report shall must be verified and shall must
25 include:

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SECOND READING

(a) except with respect to travelers' checks and money
 orders, the name, if known, and last-known address, if any,
 of each person appearing from the records of the holder to
 be the owner of any property of value of \$10 \$25 or more
 presumed abandoned under parts 1 through 3;

6 (b) in case of unclaimed moneys money of life insurance 7 corporations, the full name of the insured or annuitant and 8 his last-known address according to the life insurance 9 corporation's records;

(c) the nature and identifying number, if any, or
description of the property and the amount appearing from
the records to be due. Items less than \$25 of value under
9±0 each may be reported in aggregate.

14 (d) the date when the property became payable, 15 demandable, or returnable and the date of the last 16 transaction with the owner with respect to the property; and 17 (e) other information which the department prescribes 18 by rule as necessary for the administration of parts 1 19 through 3.

(3) If the person holding property presumed abandoned
is a successor to other persons who previously held the
property for the owner or if the holder has changed his name
while holding the property, he shall file with his report
all prior known names and addresses of each holder of the
property.

(4) The report shall must be filed before November 1 3 2 every year as of the preceding June 30 next-preceding, but the reports of life insurance corporations, banking and Я 4 financial organizations, and cooperatives shall must be filed before May 1 of each year as of the preceding December 5 31 next-preceding. The department may postpone the reporting б date upon written request by any person required to file a 7 8 report. The department shall furnish forms for this report.

9 (5) Not more than 120 days before filing the report 10 required by this section, the holder in possession of 11 property presumed abandoned and subject to custody as 12 unclaimed property under parts 1 through 3 shall send 13 written notice to the apparent owner at his last-known 14 address informing him that the holder is in possession of 15 property subject to this chapter if:

16 (a) the holder has in his records an address for the
17 apparent owner which the holder's records do not disclose to
18 be inaccurate;

19 (b) the claim of the apparent owner is not barred by 20 the statute of limitations; and

21 (c) the property has a value of \$100 or more.

(6) Verification if made by a partnership shall must be
executed by a partner; if made by an unincorporated
association or private corporation, by an officer; and if
made by a public corporation, by its chief fiscal officer."

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SB 177

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1 Section 3. Section 70-9-302, MCA, is amended to read: "70-9-302. Notice of property presumed abandoned --2 3 publication. (1) The department shall publish notice of 4 property presumed abandoned not later than March 1 after the 5 report required by 70-9-301 is due or, in the case of 6 property reported by life insurance corporations, banking 7 and financial organizations, and cooperatives, August 1 of 8 the year the report is due. The notice must be published at 9 least once a week for 2 consecutive weeks in a newspaper of 10 general circulation in the county in this state in which is 11 tocated the last-known address of any person to be named in 12 the notice is located. If no an address is not listed or the 13 address is outside the state, the notice must be published 14 in the county in which the holder of the property has its 15 principal place of business within this state.

16 (2) The published notice shall <u>must</u> be entitled "Notice
17 of Names of Persons Appearing to Be Owners of Abandoned
18 Property" and shall must contain:

19 (a) the names, in alphabetical order, and last-known 20 addresses, if any, of persons listed in the report and 21 entitled to notice within the county as---hereinbefore 22 specified;

(b) a statement that information concerning the amount
 or description of the property and-the-name-and--address--of
 the---holder may be obtained by any-persons a person

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inquiry to the department; and (c) a statement that if proof of claim is not presented

possessing an interest in the property by addressing an

4 by the owner to--the--holder and if the owner's right to 5 receive the property is not established to the holder's 6 department's satisfaction within--65-days-from-the-date-of 7 the-second-published-noticey-the-abandoned-property-will--be 8 placed --- not-later-than-05-days-after-such-publication-dater 9 in-the-custody-of-the-department7-to-whom-all-further-claims 10 must-thereafter-be-directed, the property will be returned 11 to the owner.

12 (3) The department is not required to publish in such
 13 <u>the</u> notice any item of less than \$100 unless the department
 14 considers such publication to be in the public interest.

15 (4) This section is not applicable to sums payable on 16 travelers' checks or money orders presumed abandoned under 17 70-9-201."

18 Section 4. Section 70-9-303, MCA, is amended to read:

19 "70-9-303. Payment or delivery of abandoned property to 20 department -- service charges. (1) Every A person who has 21 filed a report as provided by 70-9-301 shall7-within-20-days 22 after-the--time--specified--in--70-9-302--for--claiming--the 23 property--from-the-holder-or7-in-the-case-of-suma-payable-on 24 travelets¹-checks-or-money-orders-presumed--abandoned--under 25 70-9-2017-within-20-days-after-the-filing-of-the-report7 pay

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1 or deliver to the department of revenue all abandoned 2 property specified in this the report at the time the report is filed -- except -- that -- if -- the -owner -- establishes -- his -- right -- to 3 4 receive--the--abandoned--property-to-the-satisfaction-of-the 5 holder-within-the--time--specified--in--70-9-302--or--if--it 6 appears--that--for--some--other--reason--the--presumption-of 7 abandonment-is-erroneousy-the-holder-need-not-pay-or-deliver 8 the-property7-which-will-no-longer-be-presumed-abandoned7-to 9 the-department-but-in-lieu-thereof--shall--file--a--verified 10 written-explanation-of-the-proof-of-claim-or-of-the-error-in 11 the-presumption-of-abandonment.

12 (2) No <u>A</u> service, handling, maintenance, or other 13 charge or fee of any kind may <u>not</u> be deducted or withheld 14 from any property subject to escheat under this chapter 15 unless specifically permitted by this chapter.

16 (3) Even when specifically permitted by this chapter,
17 such charges or fees may not be excluded, withheld, or
18 deducted from property subject to this chapter if, under its
19 normal procedure, the holder would not have excluded,
20 withheld, or deducted such the charges or fees had if the
21 property had been claimed by the owner prior to being
22 reported or remitted to the department."

23 Section 5. Section 70-9-307, MCA, is amended to read:
24 "70-9-307. Period of limitations not to prevent
25 presumption or affect duties -- limitation on department

SB 0177/02

action. (1) The expiration of any period of time specified
 by statute or court order during which an action or
 proceeding may be commenced or enforced to obtain payment of
 a claim for money or recovery of property does not:

5 <u>(a)</u> shall-not prevent the money or property from being 6 presumed abandoned property or affect any duty to file a 7 report required by parts 1 through 3 or to pay or deliver 8 abandoned property to the department; or

9 (b) constitute a defense in an action or proceeding brought by or on behalf of the department against the 10 11 federal government, the A state government, a local 12 government, or an officer or employee of the federal, state, or local government for the payment or delivery of abandoned 13 14 property to the department pursuant to this chapter or to enforce or collect a penalty imposed by this chapter. 15 16 (2) No Except as provided in subsection (1)(b), an action or proceeding may not be commenced by the department 17 with respect to any a duty of a holder under parts 1 through 18 19 3 more than 10 years after the duty arose."

20 Section 6. Section 3, Chapter 14, Laws of 1989, is 21 amended to read:

22 "Section 3. Retroactive applicability. [This act]
23 applies retroactively, within the meaning of 1-2-109, to tax
24 years beginning after December 31, ±980 1976."

25 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 7. Codification instruction.

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SB 177

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(Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part
 of Title 70, chapter 9, and the provisions of Title 70,
 chapter 9, apply to [section 1].

÷

MEW SECTION. Section 8. Repealer. Section 70-9-313,
MCA, is repealed.

6 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 9. Effective dates --7 applicability. (1) [Sections 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, and this 8 section] are effective on passage and approval.

9 (2) [Sections 1, 5, and 7] are effective October 1,10 1991.

11 (3)--{Section-1}-applies-to-all-intangible-property-held
12 after-September-307-1991-

13 (4)(3) [Section SECTIONS 1 AND 5] applies APPLY to all abandoned property held after September 30, 1991, by the 15 federal government, the <u>A</u> state government, a local 16 government, or a subdivision of the federal, state, or local 17 government regardless of when the property became 18 presumptively abandoned.

-End-

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SB 0177/02

SB 0177/02

1	SENATE BILL NO. 177	1	state by entity created by state presumptions of
2	INTRODUCED BY MAZUREK	2	abandonment. (1) Intangible property is presumed abandoned
3	BY REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	3	if:
4		4	(a) the owner has not claimed or corresponded in
5	A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT RELATING TO THE	5	writing concerning the property within 5 years after the
6	ADMINISTRATION OF ABANDONED PROPERTY BY THE DEPARTMENT OF	6	date prescribed for payment or delivery;
7	REVENUE; ESTABLISHING PRESUMPTIONS OF ABANDONMENT FOR	7	(b) the address of the owner is unknown; and
8	INTANGIBLE PROPERTY; REQUIRING A DETAILED REPORT OF	8	(c) the entity originating or issuing the intangible
9	ABANDONED PROPERTY ONLY IF THE PROPERTY HAS A VALUE OF \$25	9	property is the state or a local political subdivision of
10	OR MORE; REQUIRING DELIVERY OF ALL ABANDONED PROPERTY AT THE	10	the state or is or at the relevant time was incorporated,
11	TIME IT IS REPORTED TO THE DEPARTMENT; PROVIDING THAT A	11	organized, or created in the state.
12	STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS MAY NOT BE RAISED AS A DEPENSE	12	(2) For the purposes of this section, intangible
13	AGAINST THE STATE BY THE PEDERAL GOVERNMENT, THE <u>A</u> STATE	13	property includes but is not limited to interest, dividends,
14	GOVERNMENT, A LOCAL GOVERNMENT, OR AN AGENCY OF THE FEDERAL,	14	or other earnings of the intangible property, less lawful
15	STATE, OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT; CLARIFYING THE DEPARTMENT'S	15	charges, held by a business association, governmental
16	AUTHORITY TO ESTIMATE UNCLAIMED PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS BY	16	entity, or other person or entity.
17	PROVIDING THAT THE DEPARTMENT'S AUTHORITY COINCIDES WITH THE	17	Section 2. Section 70-9-301, MCA, is amended to read:
18	TIME PERIOD FOR REPORTING UNCLAIMED PROPERTY; AMENDING	18	"70-9-301. Report of abandoned property duty to
19	SECTIONS 70-9-301, 70-9-302, 70-9-303, AND 70-9-307, MCA,	19	prevent abandonment prior to filing. (1) Every person
20	AND SECTION 3, CHAPTER 14, LAWS OF 1989; REPEALING SECTION	20	holding moneys money or other property, tangible or
21	70-9-313, MCA; AND PROVIDING EFFECTIVE DATES AND AN	21	intangible, presumed abandoned under parts 1 through 3 shall
22	APPLICABILITY DATES DATE."	22	report the property to the department as hereinafter
23		23	provided in this part.
24	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:	24	(2) The report shall must be verified and shall must
25	NEW SECTION. Section 1. Intangible property issued in	25	include:
			THIRD READING

ntana Legislative Council

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(a) except with respect to travelers' checks and money
 orders, the name, if known, and last-known address, if any,
 of each person appearing from the records of the holder to
 be the owner of any property of value of \$10 \$25 or more
 presumed abandoned under parts 1 through 3;

6 (b) in case of unclaimed moneys money of life insurance
7 corporations, the full name of the insured or annuitant and
8 his last-known address according to the life insurance
9 corporation's records;

10 (c) the nature and identifying number, if any, or
11 description of the property and the amount appearing from
12 the records to be due. Items <u>less than \$25</u> of value under
13 \$10 each may be reported in aggregate.

(d) the date when the property became payable,
demandable, or returnable and the date of the last
transaction with the owner with respect to the property; and
(e) other information which the department prescribes
by rule as necessary for the administration of parts 1
through 3.

(3) If the person holding property presumed abandoned
is a successor to other persons who previously held the
property for the owner or if the holder has changed his name
while holding the property, he shall file with his report
all prior known names and addresses of each holder of the
property.

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1 (4) The report shall must be filed before November 1 2 every year as of the preceding June 30 next-preceding, but the reports of life insurance corporations, banking and 3 financial organizations, and cooperatives shall must be 4 filed before May 1 of each year as of the preceding December 5 31 next-preceding. The department may postpone the reporting 6 7 date upon written request by any person required to file a 8 report. The department shall furnish forms for this report.

9 (5) Not more than 120 days before filing the report 10 required by this section, the holder in possession of 11 property presumed abandoned and subject to custody as 12 unclaimed property under parts 1 through 3 shall send 13 written notice to the apparent owner at his last-known 14 address informing him that the holder is in possession of 15 property subject to this chapter if:

16 (a) the holder has in his records an address for the
17 apparent owner which the holder's records do not disclose to
18 be inaccurate;

(b) the claim of the apparent owner is not barred bythe statute of limitations; and

21 (c) the property has a value of \$100 or more.

(6) Verification if made by a partnership shall must be
executed by a partner; if made by an unincorporated
association or private corporation, by an officer; and if
made by a public corporation, by its chief fiscal officer."

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1

Section 3. Section 70-9-302, MCA, is amended to read: 1 2 "70-9-302. Notice of property presumed abandoned --3 publication. (1) The department shall publish notice of 4 property presumed abandoned not later than March 1 after the 5 report required by 70-9-301 is due or, in the case of 6 property reported by life insurance corporations, banking 7 and financial organizations, and cooperatives, August 1 of 8 the year the report is due. The notice must be published at 9 least once a week for 2 consecutive weeks in a newspaper of 10 general circulation in the county in this state in which is 11 located the last-known address of any person to be named in 12 the notice is located. If no an address is not listed or the 13 address is outside the state, the notice must be published in the county in which the holder of the property has its 14 15 principal place of business within this state.

16 (2) The published notice shall must be entitled "Notice
17 of Names of Persons Appearing to Be Owners of Abandoned
18 Property" and shall must contain:

19 (a) the names, in alphabetical order, and last-known 20 addresses, if any, of persons listed in the report and 21 entitled to notice within the county as---hereinbefore 22 specified;

(b) a statement that information concerning the amount
or description of the property and-the-name-and--address--of
the---holder may be obtained by any--persons a person

2 inguiry to the department: and 3 (c) a statement that if proof of claim is not presented 4 by the owner to--the--holder and if the owner's right to 5 receive the property is not established to the holder's 6 department's satisfaction within--65-days-from-the-date-of 7 the-second-published-noticer-the-abandoned-property-will--be 8 placed7--not-later-than-85-days-after-such-publication-dater 9 in-the-custody-of-the-departmenty-to-whom-all-further-claims 10 must-thereafter-be-directed, the property will be returned 11 to the owner. 12 (3) The department is not required to publish in such 13 the notice any item of less than \$100 unless the department 14 considers such publication to be in the public interest. 15 (4) This section is not applicable to sums payable on 16 travelers' checks or money orders presumed abandoned under 17 70-9-201."

possessing an interest in the property by addressing an

18 Section 4. Section 70-9-303, MCA, is amended to read:

19 "70-9-303. Payment or delivery of abandoned property to 20 department -- service charges. (1) Every A person who has 21 filed a report as provided by 70-9-301 shall7-within-20-days 22 after-the--time--specified--in--70-9-302--for--claiming--the 23 property--from-the-holder-or7-in-the-case-of-sums-payable-on 24 travelersi-checks-or-money-orders-presumed--abandoned--under 25 70-9-2017-within-20-days-after-the-filing-of-the-report7 pay

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1 or deliver to the department of revenue all abandoned 2 property specified in this the report at the time the report 3 is filed7-except-that-if-the-owner-establishes-his-right--to 4 receive--the--abandoned--property-to-the-satisfaction-of-the 5 holder-within-the--time--specified--in--70-9-302--or--if--it 6 appears--that--for--some--other--reason--the--presumption-of 7 abandonment-is-erroneousy-the-holder-need-not-pay-or-deliver 8 the-property--which-will-no-longer-be-presumed-abandoned--to 9 the-department-but-in-lieu-thereof--shall--file--a--verified 10 written-explanation-of-the-proof-of-claim-or-of-the-error-in 11 the-presumption-of-abandonment.

12 (2) No <u>A</u> service, handling, maintenance, or other
13 charge or fee of any kind may <u>not</u> be deducted or withheld
14 from any property subject to escheat under this chapter
15 unless specifically permitted by this chapter.

16 (3) Even when specifically permitted by this chapter, such charges or fees may not be excluded, withheld, or deducted from property subject to this chapter if, under its normal procedure, the holder would not have excluded, withheld, or deducted such the charges or fees hed if the property had been claimed by the owner prior to being reported or remitted to the department."

23 Section 5. Section 70-9-307, MCA, is amended to read:
24 "70-9-307. Period of limitations not to prevent
25 presumption or affect duties -- limitation on department

action. (1) The expiration of any period of time specified
 by statute or court order during which an action or
 proceeding may be commenced or enforced to obtain payment of
 a claim for money or recovery of property does not:

5 <u>(a)</u> shall-not prevent the money or property from being 6 presumed abandoned property or affect any duty to file a 7 report required by parts 1 through 3 or to pay or deliver 8 abandoned property to the department; or

(b) constitute a defense in an action or proceeding 9 brought by or on behalf of the department against the 10 federal government, the A state government, a local 11 12 government, or an officer or employee of the federal, state, or local government for the payment or delivery of abandoned 13 property to the department pursuant to this chapter or to 14 enforce or collect a penalty imposed by this chapter. 15 (2) No Except as provided in subsection (1)(b), an 16 action or proceeding may not be commenced by the department 17 with respect to any a duty of a holder under parts 1 through 18 19 3 more than 10 years after the duty arose." Section 6. Section 3, Chapter 14, Laws of 1989, is 20

20 Section 5, Chapter 14, Laws 6L 1969, 15 21 amended to read:

22 "Section 3. Retroactive applicability. [This act]
23 applies retroactively, within the meaning of 1-2-109, to tax
24 years beginning after December 31, 1988 1976."

25 NEW SECTION. Section 7. Codification instruction.

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[Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part
 of Title 70, chapter 9, and the provisions of Title 70,
 chapter 9, apply to [section 1].

MEW SECTION. Section 8. Repealer. Section 70-9-313,
MCA, is repealed.

6 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 9. Effective dates ---7 applicability. (1) [Sections 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, and this 8 section] are effective on passage and approval.

9 {2} [Sections 1, 5, and 7] are effective October 1,10 1991.

11 (3)--{Section-1}-applies-to-all-intangible-property-held
12 after-September-307-1991-

13 (4)(3) [Section SECTIONS 1 AND 5] applies APPLY to all abandoned property held after September 30, 1991, by the federal government, the <u>A</u> state government, a local government, or a subdivision of the federal, state, or local government regardless of when the property became presumptively abandoned.

-End-

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HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

April 4, 1991 Page 1 of 1

Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on <u>Taxation</u> report that <u>Senate</u> <u>Bill 177</u> (third reading copy -- blue) <u>be concurred in as</u> <u>amended</u>.

Signed: ghairman Harrington, Dan

Carried by: Rep. Stang

And, that such amendments read:

2. Page 9, lines 14 through 17. Strike: "by the" on line 14 through "government" on line 17



52nd Legislature

SB 0177/03

SB 0177/03

1	SENATE BILL NO. 177	l state by entity created by state presumptions	s of
2	INTRODUCED BY MAZUREK	2 abandonment. (1) Intangible property is presumed aban	ndoned
3	BY REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	3 AND SUBJECT TO THE CUSTODY OF THIS STATE AS UNCL	AIMED
4		4 PROPERTY if:	
5	A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT RELATING TO THE	5 (a) the owner has not claimed or corresponde	ed in
6	ADMINISTRATION OF ABANDONED PROPERTY BY THE DEPARTMENT OF	6 writing concerning the property within 5 years after the second sec	er the
7	REVENUE; ESTABLISHING PRESUMPTIONS OF ABANDONMENT FOR	7 date prescribed for payment or delivery;	
8	INTANGIBLE PROPERTY; REQUIRING A DETAILED REPORT OF	8 (b) the address of the owner is unknown; and	
9	ABANDONED PROPERTY ONLY IF THE PROPERTY HAS A VALUE OF \$25	9 (c) the entity originating or issuing the intar	ngible
10	OR MORE; REQUIRING DELIVERY OF ALL ABANDONED PROPERTY AT THE	10 property is the state or a local political subdivision	ion of
11	TIME IT IS REPORTED TO THE DEPARTMENT; PROVIDING THAT A	11 the state or is or at the relevant time was incorpor	rated,
12	STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS MAY NOT BE RAISED AS A DEFENSE	12 organized, or created in the state.	
13	AGAINST THE STATE BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, THE A STATE	13 (2) For the purposes of this section, intar	ngible
14	GOVERNMENT, A LOCAL GOVERNMENT, OR AN AGENCY OF THE FEDERAL,	14 property includes but is not limited to interest, divid	dends,
15	STATE, OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT; CLARIFYING THE DEPARTMENT'S	15 or other earnings of the intangible property, less	lawful
16	AUTHORITY TO ESTIMATE UNCLAIMED PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS BY	16 charges, held by a business association, govern	mental
17	PROVIDING THAT THE DEPARTMENT'S AUTHORITY COINCIDES WITH THE	17 entity, or other person or entity.	
18	TIME PERIOD FOR REPORTING UNCLAIMED PROPERTY; AMENDING	18 Section 2. Section 70-9-301, MCA, is amended to re	ead:
19	SECTIONS 70-9-301, 70-9-302, 70-9-303, AND 70-9-307, MCA,	19 "70-9-301. Report of abandoned property du	ty to
20	AND SECTION 3, CHAPTER 14, LAWS OF 1989; REPEALING SECTION	20 prevent abandonment prior to filing. (1) Every	person
21	70-9-313, MCA; AND PROVIDING EFFECTIVE DATES AND AN	21 holding moneys money or other property, tangib	le or
22	APPLICABILITY BATES DATE."	22 intangible, presumed abandoned under parts 1 through 3	shall
23		23 report the property to the department as here:	
24	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:	24 provided in this part.	
25	NEW SECTION. Section 1. Intangible property issued in	25 (2) The report shall must be verified and shall	t must



AS AMENDED

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include:

(a) except with respect to travelers' checks and money
orders, the name, if known, and last-known address, if any,
of each person appearing from the records of the holder to
be the owner of any property of value of \$10 \$25 or more
presumed abandoned under parts 1 through 3;

7 (b) in case of unclaimed moneys money of life insurance
8 corporations, the full name of the insured or annuitant and
9 his last-known address according to the life insurance
10 corporation's records;

11 (c) the nature and identifying number, if any, or
12 description of the property and the amount appearing from
13 the records to be due. Items <u>less than \$25</u> of value under
14 \$10 each may be reported in aggregate.

15 (d) the date when the property became payable, 16 demandable, or returnable and the date of the last 17 transaction with the owner with respect to the property; and 18 (e) other information which the department prescribes 19 by rule as necessary for the administration of parts 1 20 through 3.

(3) If the person holding property presumed abandoned
is a successor to other persons who previously held the
property for the owner or if the holder has changed his name
while holding the property, he shall file with his report
all prior known names and addresses of each holder of the

1 property.

(4) The report shall must be filed before November 1 2 3 every year as of the preceding June 30 next--preceding, but the reports of life insurance corporations, banking and 4 5 financial organizations, and cooperatives shall must be filed before May 1 of each year as of the preceding December 6 7 31 next-preceding. The department may postpone the reporting date upon written request by any person required to file a 8 9 report. The department shall furnish forms for this report.

10 (5) Not more than 120 days before filing the report 11 required by this section, the holder in possession of 12 property presumed abandoned and subject to custody as 13 unclaimed property under parts 1 through 3 shall send 14 written notice to the apparent owner at his last-known 15 address informing him that the holder is in possession of 16 property subject to this chapter if:

17 (a) the holder has in his records an address for the
apparent owner which the holder's records do not disclose to
be inaccurate;

20 (b) the claim of the apparent owner is not barred by

21 the statute of limitations; and

22 (c) the property has a value of \$100 cr more.

23 (6) Verification if made by a partnership shall must be
24 executed by a partner; if made by an unincorporated
25 association or private corporation, by an ufficer; and if

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1	made by a public corporation, by its chief fiscal officer."
2	Section 3. Section 70-9-302, MCA, is amended to read:
3	"70-9-302. Notice of property presumed abandoned
4	publication. (1) The department shall publish notice of
5	property presumed abandoned not later than March 1 after the
6	report required by 70-9-301 is due or, in the case of
7	property reported by life insurance corporations, banking
8	and financial organizations, and cooperatives, August 1 of
9	the year the report is due. The notice must be published at
10	least once a week for 2 consecutive weeks in a newspaper of
11	general circulation in the county in this state in which $\frac{1}{2}$
12	$\frac{1}{2}$ ocated the last-known address of any person to be named in
13	the notice is located. If no an address is not listed or the
14	address is outside the state, the notice must be published
15	in the county in which the holder of the property has its
16	principal place of business within this state.

17 (2) The published notice shall must be entitled "Notice
18 of Names of Persons Appearing to Be Owners of Abandoned
19 Property" and shall must contain:

20 (a) the names, in alphabetical order, and last-known 21 addresses, if any, of persons listed in the report and 22 entitled to notice within the county as--hereinbefore 23 specified;

(b) a statement that information concerning the amountor description of the property and-the-name-and-address-of

the--holder may be obtained by any--persons <u>a person</u> possessing an interest in the property by addressing an inquiry to the department; and (c) a statement that if proof of claim is not presented by the owner to-the-holder and if the owner's right to receive the property is not established to the holder's

department's satisfaction within-65-days-from--the--date--of 7 8 the--second-published-notice;-the-abandoned-property-will-be placedy-not-later-than-85-days-after-such-publication--datey 9 in-the-custody-of-the-departmenty-to-whom-all-further-claims 10 11 must--thereafter--be-directed, the property will be returned 12 to the owner. 13 (3) The department is not required to publish in such 14 the notice any item of less than \$100 unless the department considers such publication to be in the public interest. 15 (4) This section is not applicable to sums payable on 16 17 travelers' checks or money orders presumed abandoned under 70-9-201." 18 19 Section 4. Section 70-9-303, MCA, is amended to read:

20 "70-9-303. Payment or delivery of abandoned property to 21 department -- service charges. (1) Every <u>A</u> person who has 22 filed a report as provided by 70-9-301 shall7-within-20-days 23 after--the--time--specified--in--70-9-302--for--claiming-the 24 property-from-the-holder-or7-in-the-case-of-sums-payable--on 25 travelersi--checks--or-money-orders-presumed-abandoned-under

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1 78-9-2817-within-20-days-after-the-filing-of-the-report; pay or deliver to the department of revenue all abandoned 2 property specified in this the report at the time the report 3 is filedy-except-that-if-the-owner-establishes-his-right-to 4 receive-the-abandoned-property-to-the--satisfaction--of--the 5 holder--within--the--time--specified--in--70-9-302--or-if-it 6 appears-that--for--some--other--reason--the--presumption--of 7 abandonment-is-erroneousy-the-holder-need-not-pay-or-deliver 8 the~property7-which-will-no-longer-be-presumed-abandoned7-to 9 the--department--but--in--lieu-thereof-shall-file-a-verified 10 written-explanation-of-the-proof-of-claim-or-of-the-error-in 11 the-presumption-of-abandonment. 12

13 (2) No <u>A</u> service, handling, maintenance, or other
14 charge or fee of any kind may <u>not</u> be deducted or withheld
15 from any property subject to escheat under this chapter
16 unless specifically permitted by this chapter.

17 (3) Even when specifically permitted by this chapter, 18 such charges or fees may not be excluded, withheld, or 19 deducted from property subject to this chapter if, under its 20 normal procedure, the holder would not have excluded, 21 withheld, or deducted such the charges or fees had if the 22 property had been claimed by the owner prior to being 23 reported or remitted to the department."

Section 5. Section 70-9-307, MCA, is amended to read:
"70-9-307. Period of limitations not to prevent

1 presumption or affect duties -- limitation on department 2 action. (1) The expiration of any period of time specified 3 by statute or court order during which an action or 4 proceeding may be commenced or enforced to obtain payment of a claim for money or recovery of property does not: 5 6 (a) shall--not prevent the money or property from being 7 presumed abandoned property or affect any duty to file a 8 report required by parts 1 through 3 or to pay or deliver 9 abandoned property to the department; or 10 (b) constitute a defense in an action or proceeding brought by or on behalf of the department against the 11 12 federal government, the A state government, a local 13 government, or an officer or employee of the federal, state, 14 or local government for the payment or delivery of abandoned 15 property to the department pursuant to this chapter or to 16 enforce or collect a penalty imposed by this chapter. 17 (2) No Except as provided in subsection (1)(b), an 18 action or proceeding may not be commenced by the department 19 with respect to any a duty of a holder under parts 1 through 20 3 more than 10 years after the duty arose." 21 Section 6. Section 3, Chapter 14, Laws of 1989, is 22 amended to read: 23 "Section 3. Retroactive applicability. [This actl 24 applies retroactively, within the meaning of 1+2-109, to tax

25 years beginning after December 31, 1988 1976."

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1 NEW SECTION. Section 7. Codification instruction. [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part 2 3 of Title 70, chapter 9, and the provisions of Title 70, chapter 9, apply to [section 1]. 4 5 NEW SECTION. Section 8. Repealer. Section 70-9-313, 6 MCA, is repealed. NEW SECTION. Section 9. Effective 7 dates 8 applicability. (1) [Sections 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, and this 9 section) are effective on passage and approval. 10 (2) [Sections 1, 5, and 7] are effective October 1, 11 1991. 12 +3)--{Section-1}-applies-to-all-intangible-property-held 13 after-September-307-1991-14 (4)(3) [Section SECTIONS 1 AND 5] applies APPLY to all 15 abandoned property held after September 30, 1991, by-the 16 federal--governmenty the A state--governmenty---a---local 17 governmenty-or-a-subdivision-of-the-federaly-state;-or-local 18 government regardless of when the property became 19 presumptively abandoned.

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-End-

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