## AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 8

Sponsor: SENATOR STREET

Printer's No. 719

- Amend Bill, page 1, lines 1 through 32; page 2, lines 1 1
- 2 through 11; by striking out all of said lines on said pages and
- 3 inserting
- Amending Titles 4 (Amusements), 18 (Crimes and Offenses), 30 4 5 (Fish), 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) and 75 6 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in 7 administration and enforcement relating to gaming, further 8 providing for prohibited acts and penalties; in inchoate 9 crimes, further providing for the offense of manufacture, 10 distribution, use of possession of devices for theft of telecommunications services; in criminal homicide, further 11 12 providing for drug delivery resulting in death; in loss of 13 property rights relating to sexual offenses, further 14 providing for general rule and repealing provisions relating 15 to process and seizure, to custody of property and to 16 disposal of property; in forgery and other fraudulent practices, further providing for the offenses of copying and 17 18 recording devices and of trademark counterfeiting; in riot, 19 disorderly conduct and related offenses, further providing 20 for the offense of gambling devices, gambling, etc; in 21 wiretapping and electronic surveillance, further providing 22 for seizure and forfeiture of electronic, mechanical or other 23 devices; in minors, further providing for sentencing and 24 penalties for trafficking drugs to minors; in nuisances, 25 further providing for the offense of scattering rubbish; in 26 other offenses, further providing for drug trafficking 27 sentencing and penalties; in vehicle chop shop and illegally 28 obtained and altered property, further providing for loss of 29 property rights to Commonwealth and repealing provisions 30 relating to procedure with respect to seized property subject 31 to liens and rights of lienholders; in enforcement, relating 32 to Fish and Boat Code, further providing for forfeiture of 33 fish and devices; adding provisions relating to asset 34 forfeiture in Judicial Code; in forfeitures, further 35 providing for controlled substances forfeiture and for 36 procedure with respect to seized property subject to liens 37 and rights of lienholders; in size, weight and load relating

- 1 to Vehicle Code, further providing for transporting
- 2 foodstuffs in vehicles used to transport waste; in liquid
- 3 fuels and fuel use tax enforcement, further providing for
- 4 forfeitures and process and procedures and for disposition of
- 5 fines and forfeitures; and making repeals of provisions of
- 6 the Liquor Code, the Tax Reform Code of 1971 and another act
- 7 relating to certain forfeiture of property.
- Amend Bill, page 2, lines 14 through 35; pages 3 through 70, 8
- lines 1 through 30; page 71, lines 1 through 16; by striking out
- all of said lines on said pages and inserting 10
- 11 Section 1. Section 1518(f) of Title 4 of the Pennsylvania
- 12 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:
- 13 § 1518. Prohibited acts; penalties.
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- 15 (f) Property subject to seizure, confiscation, destruction 16 or forfeiture. -- Any equipment, device or apparatus, money, 17 material, gaming proceeds or substituted proceeds or real or personal property used, obtained or received or any attempt to 18 19 use, obtain or receive the device, apparatus, money, material, proceeds or real or personal property in violation of this part 20 21 shall be subject to [seizure, confiscation, destruction or forfeiture] the provisions of 42 Pa.C.S. Ch. 58 (relating to 22 23 asset forfeiture).
  - Section 2. Sections 910(c.1), 2506(f) and 3141 of Title 18 are amended to read:
- 26 § 910. Manufacture, distribution, use or possession of devices 27 for theft of telecommunications services.

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- 29 (c.1) Forfeiture of unlawful telecommunication devices .--Upon conviction of a defendant under this section, the court 30 31
  - may, in addition to any other sentence authorized by law, direct
- 32 that the defendant forfeit any unlawful telecommunication 33 devices in the defendant's possession or control which were
- involved in the violation for which the defendant was convicted. 34
- 35 The forfeiture shall be conducted in accordance with 42 Pa.C.S.
- Ch. 58 (relating to asset forfeiture). 36
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- § 2506. Drug delivery resulting in death. 38
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- 40 (f) Forfeiture. -- Assets against which [a forfeiture
- petition] an information or indictment seeking forfeiture has 41
- been filed and is pending or against which the Commonwealth has 42
- 43 indicated an intention to file [a forfeiture petition] an
- information or indictment seeking a forfeiture shall not be 44
- subject to a fine. Nothing in this section shall prevent a fine 45
- from being imposed on assets which have been subject to an 46
- 47 unsuccessful forfeiture [petition] proceeding.
- 48 § 3141. General rule.

A person:

- (1) convicted under section 3121 (relating to rape), 3122.1 (relating to statutory sexual assault), 3123 (relating to involuntary deviate sexual intercourse), 3124.1 (relating to sexual assault), 3125 (relating to aggravated indecent assault) or 3126 (relating to indecent assault); or
- (2) required to register with the Pennsylvania State Police under 42 Pa.C.S. Ch. 97 Subch. H (relating to registration of sexual offenders);

may be required to forfeit property rights in any property or assets used to implement or facilitate commission of the crime or crimes of which the person has been convicted. [Such property may include, but is not limited to, a computer or computers, telephone equipment, firearms, licit or illicit prescription drugs or controlled substances, a motor vehicle or such other property or assets as determined by the court of common pleas to have facilitated the person's criminal misconduct.] The forfeiture shall be conducted in accordance with 42 Pa.C.S. Ch. 58 (relating to asset forfeiture).

Section 3. Sections 3142, 3143 and 3144 of Title 18 are repealed:

[§ 3142. Process and seizure.

- (a) Seizure.--Property subject to forfeiture under this section may be seized by law enforcement authority upon process issued by the court of common pleas having jurisdiction over the person or property.
- (b) Seizure without process.—Seizure without process may be made if the seizure is incident to an arrest or a search under a search warrant and there is probable cause to be believe that the property was or is material to the charges for which the arrest or search warrant was issued. In seizures without process, proceedings for the issuance thereof shall be instituted immediately.
- (c) Return of property.--Property belonging to someone other than the convicted sex offender or registrant shall be returned if the offense was committed without the knowledge or consent of the owner.

§ 3143. Custody of property.

Property taken or detained under this subchapter is deemed to be the property of the law enforcement authority having custody thereof and is subject only to the court of common pleas having jurisdiction over the criminal or forfeiture proceedings, the district attorney in the matter or the Attorney General.

§ 3144. Disposal of property.

Property taken or detained pursuant to the provisions of this subchapter shall be sold in the manner of property forfeited under 42 Pa.C.S. Ch. 68 (relating to forfeitures). The net proceeds, as determined by the law enforcement authority having custody thereof, shall be utilized for investigation or prosecution of sexual offenses or donated to nonprofit charitable institutions which provide counseling and other

assistance to victims of sexual offenses.] Section 4. Sections 4116(i), 4119(f)(1) and (2)(i), 5513(b), 2 3 5707, 6314(f), 6501(b)(5) and (d), 7508(e) and 7707 of Title 18 are amended to read: 5

§ 4116. Copying; recording devices.

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## (i) Forfeiture.--

- (1) No property right shall exist in any property used or intended for use in the commission of a violation of this section or in any proceeds traceable to a violation of this section, and the same shall be deemed contraband and forfeited in accordance with the provisions [set forth in section 6501(d) (relating to scattering rubbish)] of 42 Pa.C.S. Ch. 58 (relating to asset forfeiture).
- [(2) Property and proceeds found in close proximity to illegally recorded devices shall be rebuttably presumed to be used or intended for use to facilitate a violation of this section.1
- (3) The provisions of this subsection shall not, in any way, limit the right of the Commonwealth to exercise any rights or remedies otherwise provided by law.
- § 4119. Trademark counterfeiting.

- (f) Seizure, forfeiture and disposition .--
- (1) Any items bearing a counterfeit mark, any property constituting or derived from any proceeds obtained[, directly or indirectly, ] as the result of an offense under this section and all personal property, including, but not limited to, any items, objects, tools, machines, equipment, instrumentalities or vehicles of any kind, used in connection with a violation of this section shall be seized by a law enforcement officer.
  - (2) (i) All seized personal property and property constituting or derived from any proceeds referenced in paragraph (1) shall be forfeited in accordance with [the procedures set forth in section 6501(d) (relating to scattering rubbish)] 42 Pa.C.S. Ch. 58 (relating to asset forfeiture).

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§ 5513. Gambling devices, gambling, etc.

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(b) Confiscation of gambling devices. -- Any gambling device possessed or used in violation of the provisions of subsection (a) of this section shall be seized and forfeited to the Commonwealth. [All provisions of law relating to the seizure, summary and judicial forfeiture, and condemnation of intoxicating liquor shall apply to seizures and forfeitures under the provisions of this section.] The forfeiture shall be conducted in accordance with 42 Pa.C.S. Ch. 58 (relating to asset forfeiture).

1 § 5707. Seizure and forfeiture of electronic, mechanical or other devices.

Any electronic, mechanical or other device possessed, used, sent, distributed, manufactured, or assembled in violation of this chapter is hereby declared to be contraband and may be seized and forfeited to the Commonwealth <u>in accordance with 42 Pa.C.S. Ch. 58 (relating to asset forfeiture)</u>.

§ 6314. Sentencing and penalties for trafficking drugs to minors.

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- (f) Forfeiture.--Assets against which [a forfeiture petition] an information or indictment seeking forfeiture has been filed and is pending or against which the Commonwealth has indicated an intention to file [a forfeiture petition] an information of indictment seeking forfeiture shall not be subject to a fine under this section.
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- $\S$  6501. Scattering rubbish.

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(b) Penalty.--

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(5) Any vehicle, equipment or conveyance, including any private automobile and small truck, used for the transportation or disposal of trash, garbage or debris in the commission of a second or subsequent offense under subsection (a) (3) may be deemed contraband and forfeited in accordance with [the provisions set forth in this section] 42 Pa.C.S. Ch. 58 (relating to asset forfeiture).

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- [(d) Forfeiture.--
- (1) Property subject to forfeiture under this section may be seized by the law enforcement authority upon process issued by any court of common pleas having jurisdiction over the property.
- (2) Property taken or detained under this section shall not be subject to replevin but is deemed to be in the custody of the law enforcement authority subject only to the orders and decrees of the court of common pleas having jurisdiction over the forfeiture proceedings and of the district attorney. When property is seized under this section, the law enforcement authority shall place the property under seal and either:
  - (i) remove the property to a place designated by it; or
  - (ii) require that the district attorney take custody of the property and remove it to an appropriate location for disposition in accordance with law.
- (3) Whenever property is forfeited under this section, the property shall be transferred to the custody of the municipal corporation. The municipal corporation shall sell any forfeited property, but the proceeds from any such sale

shall be used to pay all proper expenses of the proceedings for forfeiture and sale, including expenses of seizure, maintenance of custody, advertising and court costs. The balance of the proceeds shall be used for the enforcement of this act.

- (4) The proceedings for the forfeiture or condemnation of property, the sale of which is provided for in this section, shall be in rem, in which the Commonwealth shall be the plaintiff and the property the defendant. A petition shall be filed in the court of common pleas of the judicial district where the property is located, verified by oath or affirmation of an officer or citizen, containing the following:
  - (i) A description of the property seized.
  - (ii) A statement of the time and place where seized.
  - (iii) The owner, if known.
  - (iv) The person or persons in possession, if known.
  - (v) An allegation that the property is subject to forfeiture pursuant to this subsection and an averment of material facts upon which the forfeiture action is based.
  - (vi) A prayer for an order of forfeiture that the property be adjudged forfeited to the Commonwealth and condemned and be ordered sold according to law, unless cause be shown to the contrary.
- (5) A copy of the petition required under paragraph (4) shall be served personally or by certified mail on the owner or upon the person or persons in possession at the time of the seizure. The copy shall have endorsed a notice, as follows:

To the Claimant of within Described Property: You are required to file an answer to this petition, setting forth your title in, and right to possession of, the property within 30 days from the service hereof, and you are also notified that, if you fail to file the answer, a decree of forfeiture and condemnation will be entered against the property.

The notice shall be signed by the district attorney, deputy district attorney or assistant district attorney.

(6) If the owner of the property is unknown or there was no person in possession of the property when seized or if the owner or such person or persons in possession at the time of the seizure cannot be personally served or located within the jurisdiction of the court, notice of the petition shall be given by the Commonwealth through an advertisement in only one newspaper of general circulation published in the county where the property shall have been seized, once a week for two successive weeks. No other advertisement of any sort shall be necessary, any other law to the contrary notwithstanding. The notice shall contain a statement of the seizure of the property with a description of the property and the place and date of seizure and shall direct any

claimants to the property to file a claim on or before a date given in the notice, which date shall not be less than 30 days from the date of the first publication. If no claims are filed within 30 days of publication, the property shall summarily forfeit to the Commonwealth.

- (7) For purposes of this section, the owner or other such person cannot be found in the jurisdiction of the court if:
  - (i) a copy of the petition is mailed to the last known address by certified mail and is returned without delivery;
  - (ii) personal service is attempted once but cannot be made at the last known address; and
  - (iii) a copy of the petition is left at the last known address.
- (8) The notice provisions of this section are automatically waived when the owner, without good cause, fails to appear in court in response to a subpoena on the underlying criminal charges. Forty-five days after such a failure to appear, if good cause has not been demonstrated, the property shall summarily forfeit to the Commonwealth.
- (9) Upon the filing of a claim for the property setting forth a right of possession, the case shall be deemed at issue and a time shall be fixed for the hearing.
- (10) At the time of the hearing, if the Commonwealth produces evidence that the property in question was unlawfully used, possessed or otherwise subject to forfeiture under this section, the burden shall be upon the claimant to show:
  - (i) That the claimant is the owner of the property or the holder of a chattel mortgage or contract of conditional sale thereon.
  - (ii) That the claimant lawfully acquired the property.
  - (iii) That it was not unlawfully used or possessed by him. In the event that it shall appear that the property was unlawfully used or possessed by a person other than the claimant, then the claimant shall show that the unlawful use or possession was without his knowledge or consent. Such absence of knowledge or consent must be reasonable under the circumstances presented.
- (11) If a person claiming the ownership of or right of possession to or claiming to be the holder of a chattel mortgage or contract of conditional sale upon the property, the disposition of which is provided for in this section, prior to the sale presents a petition to the court alleging over the property lawful ownership, right of possession, a lien or reservation of title and if, upon public hearing, due notice of which having been given to the district attorney, the claimant shall prove by competent evidence to the

satisfaction of the court that the property was lawfully acquired, possessed and used by him or, it appearing that the property was unlawfully used by a person other than the claimant, that the unlawful use was without the claimant's knowledge or consent, then the court may order the property returned or delivered to the claimant. Such absence of knowledge or consent must be reasonable under the circumstances presented. Otherwise, it shall be retained for official use or sold in accordance with paragraph (4).]

§ 7508. Drug trafficking sentencing and penalties.

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(e) Forfeiture. -- Assets against which [a forfeiture petition] an information or indictment seeking forfeiture has been filed and is pending or against which the Commonwealth has indicated an intention to file [a forfeiture petition] an information or indictment seeking forfeiture shall not be subject to a fine. Nothing in this section shall prevent a fine from being imposed on assets which have been subject to an unsuccessful forfeiture [petition] proceeding.

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- § 7707. Loss of property rights to Commonwealth.
- [(a) Forfeitures generally.—The following shall be subject to forfeiture to the Commonwealth, and no property right shall exist in them:
  - (1) Any tool, implement or instrumentality, including, but not limited to, a vehicle or vehicle part used or possessed in connection with any violation of this chapter.
  - (2) All materials, products and equipment of any kind which are used or intended for use in violation of this chapter.
  - (3) All books, records, microfilm, tapes and data which are used or intended for use in violation of this chapter.
  - (4) All money, negotiable instruments, securities or other things of value used or intended to be used to facilitate any violation of this chapter and all proceeds traceable to any transactions in violation of this chapter.
  - (5) All real property used or intended to be used to facilitate any violation of this chapter, including structures or other improvements thereon and including any right, title and interest in the whole or any lot or tract of land and any appurtenances or improvements which are used or intended to be used in any manner or part to commit or to facilitate the commission of a violation of this chapter.
  - (b) Exceptions.--
  - (1) No property shall be forfeited under this section, to the extent of the interest of an owner, by reason of any act or omission established by the owner to have been committed or omitted without the knowledge or consent of that owner.
    - (2) No valid lien or encumbrance on real property shall

be subject to forfeiture or impairment under this paragraph. A lien which is fraudulent or intended to avoid forfeiture under this section shall be invalid.

- (c) Process and seizure.—Property subject to forfeiture under this chapter may be seized by the law enforcement authority upon process issued by a court of common pleas having jurisdiction over the property. Seizure without process may be made if:
  - (1) the seizure is incident to an arrest or a search warrant or inspection under 75 Pa.C.S. § 6308 (relating to investigation by police officers) or any other administrative inspection;
  - (2) the property subject to seizure has been the subject of a proper judgment in favor of the Commonwealth in a criminal injunction or forfeiture proceeding under this chapter;
  - (3) there is probable cause to believe that the property is dangerous to health or safety; or
  - (4) there is probable cause to believe that the property has been used or is intended to be used in violation of this chapter.
- (d) Seizure without process.—In the event seizure without process occurs as provided in this chapter, proceeding for the issuance thereof shall be instituted forthwith.
- (e) Custody of property.—Property taken or detained under this section shall not be subject to replevin but is deemed to be in the custody of the law enforcement authority, subject only to the orders and decrees of the court of common pleas having jurisdiction over the forfeiture proceedings and of the district attorney or the Office of Attorney General. When property is seized under this chapter, the law enforcement authority shall place the property under seal and either:
  - (1) remove the property to a place designated by it; or
  - (2) require that the district attorney or the Office of Attorney General take custody of the property and remove it to an appropriate location for disposition in accordance with law.
  - (f) Use of property held in custody. --
  - (1) Whenever property is forfeited under this chapter, the property shall be transferred to:
    - (i) the custody of the district attorney, if the law enforcement authority seizing the property has local or county jurisdiction; or
    - (ii) the Office of Attorney General, if the law enforcement authority seizing the property has Statewide jurisdiction.
  - (2) The district attorney or the Office of Attorney General, where appropriate, may:
    - (i) Retain the property for official use.
    - (ii) Sell any forfeited property which is not required to be destroyed by law and which is not harmful

to the public, but the proceeds from any such sale must be used to pay all proper expenses of the proceeding for forfeiture and sale, including expenses of seizure, maintenance of custody, advertising and court costs. The balance of the proceeds shall be dealt with in accordance with subsections (g) and (h).

- (g) Use of cash, property or proceeds of property.—Cash or proceeds of forfeited property transferred to the custody of the district attorney under subsection (f) shall be placed in the operating fund of the county in which the district attorney is elected. The appropriate county authority shall immediately release from the operating fund, without restriction, a like amount for the use of the district attorney in enforcing the criminal laws of this Commonwealth. The entity having budgetary control shall not anticipate future forfeitures or proceeds from such forfeitures in adoption and approval of the budget for the district attorney.
- (h) Distribution of property among law enforcement authorities.—If both State and municipal law enforcement authorities were substantially involved in effecting the seizure, the court having jurisdiction over the forfeiture proceedings shall equitably distribute the property between the district attorney and the Office of Attorney General.
- (i) Annual audit of forfeited property.——A county shall provide, through the controller, board of auditors or other appropriate auditor and the district attorney, an annual audit of all forfeited property and proceeds obtained under this section. The audit shall not be made public but shall be submitted to the Office of Attorney General. The county shall report all forfeited property and proceeds obtained under this section and the disposition thereof to the Office of Attorney General by September 30 of each year.
- (j) Annual report; confidential information regarding property.—The Office of Attorney General shall annually submit a report to the Appropriations Committee of the Senate, the Appropriations Committee of the House of Representatives, the Judiciary Committee of the Senate and the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives specifying the forfeited property or proceeds thereof obtained under this section. The report shall give an account of all proceeds derived from the sale of forfeited property and the use made of unsold forfeited property. The Office of Attorney General shall adopt procedures and guidelines governing the release of information by the district attorney to protect the confidentiality of forfeited property or proceeds used in ongoing enforcement activities.
- (k) Proceeds and appropriations.—The proceeds or future proceeds from forfeited property under this chapter shall be in addition to any appropriation made to the Office of Attorney General.] Forfeiture of property shall be authorized for violation of this chapter and conducted in accordance with 42 Pa.C.S. Ch. 58 (relating to asset forfeiture).

- Section 5. Section 7708 of Title 18 is repealed:
- [§ 7708. Procedure with respect to seized property subject to liens and rights of lienholders.
- (a) General procedure. The proceedings for the forfeiture or condemnation of property, the sale of which is provided for under this chapter, shall be in rem in which the Commonwealth shall be the plaintiff and the property the defendant. The Pennsylvania Rules of Civil Procedure shall apply to all forfeiture proceedings brought under this chapter. A petition shall be filed in the court of common pleas of the judicial district where the property is located, verified by oath or affirmation of an officer or citizen, containing the following:
  - (1) A description of the property seized.
  - (2) A statement of the time and place where seized.
  - (3) The owner, if known.

- (4) The person or persons in possession, if known.
- (5) An allegation that the property is subject to forfeiture under section 7707 (relating to loss of property rights to Commonwealth) and an averment of material facts upon which the forfeiture action is based.
- (6) A prayer for an order of forfeiture that the property be adjudged forfeited to the Commonwealth and condemned and be ordered sold according to law unless cause be shown to the contrary.
- (b) Notice to property owners.—A copy of the petition required under subsection (a) shall be served personally or by certified mail on the owner or upon the person or persons in possession at the time of the seizure. The copy shall have endorsed a notice as follows:

To the claimant of within described property: You are required to file an answer to this petition, stating your title in and right to possession of the property within 30 days from the service of this petition, and you are also notified that, if you fail to file an answer, a decree of forfeiture and condemnation will be entered against the property.

The notice shall be signed by the Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General, district attorney, deputy district attorney or assistant district attorney.

- (c) Substitute notice.--
- (1) If the owner of the property is unknown or there was no person in possession of the property when seized or if the owner or such person or persons in possession at the time of the seizure cannot be personally served or located within the jurisdiction of the court, notice of the petition shall be given by the Commonwealth through an advertisement in only one newspaper of general circulation published in the county where the property was seized once a week for two successive weeks. No other advertisement of any sort shall be necessary, any other law to the contrary notwithstanding.
  - (2) The notice shall:

- (ii) direct any claimants to the property to file a claim on or before a date given in the notice, which date shall not be less than 30 days from the date of the first publication.
- (3) If no claims are filed within 30 days of publication, the property shall summarily forfeit to the Commonwealth.
- (d) Property owners not in jurisdiction.—For purposes of this section, the owner or other such person cannot be found in the jurisdiction of the court if:
  - (1) A copy of the petition is mailed to the last known address by certified mail and is returned without a delivery.
  - (2) A personal service is attempted once but cannot be made at the last known address.
  - (3) A copy of the petition is left at the last known address.
  - (e) Notice automatically waived. --
  - (1) The notice provisions of this section are automatically waived when the owner, without good cause, fails to appear in court in response to a subpoena on the underlying criminal charges.
  - (2) Forty-five days after such a failure to appear, if good cause has not been demonstrated, the property shall summarily forfeit to the Commonwealth.
  - (f) Preservation of the property subject for forfeiture. --
  - (1) Upon application of the Commonwealth, the court may enter a restraining order or injunction, require the execution of a satisfactory performance bond or take any other action to preserve the availability of property described in section 7707 for forfeiture under this section either:
    - (i) upon the filing of an information or an indictment charging a violation of this chapter for which criminal forfeiture may be ordered under this chapter and alleging that the property with respect to which the order is sought would be subject to forfeiture; or
    - (ii) prior to the filing of such an indictment or information if, after notice to persons appearing to have an interest in the property and an opportunity for a hearing, the court determines that:
      - (A) There is a substantial probability that the Commonwealth will prevail on the issue of forfeiture and that failure to enter the order will result in the property being destroyed, removed from the jurisdiction of the court or otherwise made unavailable for forfeiture.
      - (B) The need to preserve the availability of the property through the entry of the requested order

outweighs the hardship on any party against whom the order is to be entered.

- (2) An order entered under this subsection shall be effective for not more than 90 days unless extended by the court for good cause shown or unless an indictment or information described in paragraph (1)(i) has been filed.

  (g) Temporary restraining order.--
- (1) A temporary restraining order under subsection (f) may be entered upon application of the Commonwealth without notice or opportunity for a hearing when an information or indictment has not yet been filed with respect to the property if the Commonwealth demonstrates that:
  - (i) there is probable cause to believe that the property with respect to which the order is sought would be subject to forfeiture under this chapter; and
  - (ii) the provision of notice will jeopardize the availability of the property for forfeiture.
- (2) Such temporary order shall expire not more than ten days after the date on which it is entered, unless:
  - (i) extended for good cause shown; or
  - (ii) the party against whom it is entered consents to an extension for a longer period.
- (3) A hearing requested concerning an order entered under this subsection shall be held at the earliest possible time and prior to the expiration of the temporary order.
- (h) Hearing regarding property; rules of evidence.—The court may receive and consider at a hearing held under subsection (f) or (g) evidence and information that would be inadmissible under the rules of evidence.
- (i) Hearing time set.--Upon the filing of a claim for the property setting forth a right of possession, the case shall be deemed at issue, and a time shall be fixed for the hearing.
- (j) Owner's burden of proof.—At the time of the hearing, if the Commonwealth produces evidence that the property in question was unlawfully used, possessed or otherwise subject to forfeiture under section 7706 (relating to presumptions), the burden shall be upon the claimant to show that:
  - (1) The claimant is the owner of the property or the holder of a chattel mortgage or contract of conditional sale thereon.
    - (2) The claimant lawfully acquired the property.
  - (3) It was not unlawfully used or possessed by the claimant. In the event that it shall appear that the property was unlawfully used or possessed by a person other than the claimant, then the claimant must show that the unlawful use or possession was without the claimant's knowledge or consent. Such absence of knowledge or consent must be reasonable under the circumstances presented.
  - (k) Court-ordered release of property. --
  - (1) If a person claiming the ownership of or right of possession to or claiming to be the holder of a chattel

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mortgage or contract of conditional sale upon the property, the disposition of which is provided for in this section, prior to the sale presents a petition to the court alleging over the property lawful ownership, right of possession, a lien or reservation of title and if, upon public hearing, due notice of which having been given to the Office of Attorney General or the district attorney, the claimant proves by competent evidence to the satisfaction of the court:

(i) that the property was lawfully acquired,

- (i) that the property was lawfully acquired, possessed and used by him; or
- (ii) if it appears that the property was unlawfully used by a person other than the claimant, that the unlawful use was without the claimant's knowledge or consent,

then the court may order the property returned or delivered to the claimant.

- (2) Such absence of knowledge or consent must be reasonable under the circumstances presented. Otherwise, the property shall be retained for official use or sold in accordance with section 7707(f).]
- Section 6. Section 927 of Title 30 is amended to read: § 927. Forfeiture of fish and devices.
- (a) General rule. -- A person convicted of an offense under this title shall forfeit any fish seized under section 901(6) (relating to powers and duties of waterways patrolmen and deputies) and any device confiscated under this title.

Forfeitures shall be conducted in accordance with 42 Pa.C.S. Ch. 58 (relating to asset forfeiture).

[(b) Disposition of confiscated property.--Any property confiscated by the commission under this title shall be sold or otherwise disposed of by the executive director. These dispositions shall be recorded on the books of the commission.] Section 7. Title 42 is amended by adding a chapter to read:

## CHAPTER 58 ASSET FORFEITURE

36 <u>Sec.</u>

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- 37 5801. Scope of criminal asset forfeiture.
- 38 5802. Criminal asset forfeiture in general.
- 39 5803. Process for criminal asset forfeiture.
- 40 <u>5804</u>. <u>Process for third-party interest holders</u>.
- 41 5805. Interaction with the Federal Government.
- 42 § 5801. Scope of criminal asset forfeiture.
- 43 (a) Certain forfeitures exempted.--Forfeitures of property
  44 shall be conducted in accordance with this chapter, except for
  45 forfeitures authorized by:
  - (1) Section 3 of the act of July 8, 1978 (P.L.792,
  - No.140), known as the Public Employee Pension Forfeiture Act.
    - (2) Section 6 of the act of April 6, 1980 (P.L.102,
- 49 No.39), entitled "An act restricting the acquisition by
- 50 <u>certain aliens of an interest in agricultural lands."</u>
  - (3) Sections 207, 211 and 505-A of the act of December

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      7, 1982 (P.L.784, No.225), known as the Dog Law.
           (4) 18 Pa.C.S. § 3021 (relating to asset forfeiture).
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 3
          (5) 18 Pa.C.S. § 5511 (relating to cruelty to animals).
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           (6) 18 Pa.C.S. § 6110.1 (relating to possession of
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       firearm by minor).
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           (7) 18 Pa.C.S. § 6321 (relating to transmission of
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       sexually explicit images by minor).
8
           (8) 27 Pa.C.S. § 6208 (relating to penalties).
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           (9) 37 Pa.C.S. § 511 (relating to criminal penalties).
           (10) 42 Pa.C.S. § 6801.1 (relating to terrorism
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11
      forfeiture).
           (11) 75 Pa.C.S. § 9405 (relating to forfeitures; process
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13
       and procedures).
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       (b) Contraband per se exempted. -- Nothing in this chapter
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   shall be construed to apply to the forfeiture of contraband per
   se, the possession of which is inherently unlawful. Such
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   forfeiture includes, but is not limited to, forfeiture of the
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   following:
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           (1) Items bearing a counterfeit mark under 18 Pa.C.S. §
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       4119 (relating to trademark counterfeiting).
           (2) Liquor, alcohol or malt or brewed beverages
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22
       illegally manufactured or possessed under section 601 of the
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       act of April 12, 1951 (P.L.90, No.21), known as the Liquor
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      Co<u>de.</u>
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           (3) Unlawfully stamped cigarettes under section 307 of
       the act of December 30, 2003 (P.L.441, No.64), known as the
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       Tobacco Product Manufacturer Directory Act.
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           (4) Unstamped cigarettes under section 1285 of the act
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      of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code
       of 1971.
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       (c) Conflicting law superseded. -- The procedures in this
   chapter shall supersede any conflicting provisions of other
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   State laws.
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      (d) Preemption. -- This chapter preempts any local ordinance
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   or regulation insofar as it is inconsistent with this chapter,
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   irrespective of the effective date of the ordinance or
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   regulation.
   § 5802. Criminal asset forfeiture in general.
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       (a) Criminal in form. -- Unless otherwise provided,
   forfeitures under this chapter are criminal.
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       (b) Forfeiture disfavored. -- Forfeitures are not favored
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   under State law and any ambiguity in this chapter shall be
   strictly construed against the Commonwealth.
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       (c) Forfeitures generally. --
           (1) After a person is convicted of an offense for which
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      forfeiture is expressly authorized as a penalty, the
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       following shall be subject to forfeiture to the Commonwealth
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       and no property right shall exist in them:
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               (i) The convicted person's property constituting or
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commission of the offense.

derived from any proceeds obtained directly from the

- property is not subject to forfeiture, the property owner may custody of the property and lost, damaged or impermissibly sold
  - (1) Whenever property is forfeited under this chapter and after all ancillary proceedings under section 5804 are concluded, the property shall be transferred to the custody of the district attorney, if the law enforcement authority seizing the property has local or county jurisdiction, or the Attorney General, if the law enforcement authority seizing the property has Statewide jurisdiction.
  - (2) The district attorney or the Attorney General, as applicable, shall sell any forfeited property that is not required to be destroyed by law and is not harmful to the public.
  - (3) Sale of forfeited property to an employee of the district attorney or Attorney General, a person related to an employee by blood or marriage or another law enforcement authority is prohibited.
  - (4) The proceeds from sale shall be used to pay all reasonable expenses related to the maintenance of custody and sale of such property. The balance of the proceeds shall be subject to subsection (f).
- (f) Use of cash or proceeds or property. -- Cash or proceeds of forfeited property transferred under subsection (e) shall be <u>distributed</u> in the following order:
  - (1) To satisfy any restitution orders for victims of the underlying offense.
  - (2) To pay any liabilities owed by the Commonwealth to defendants or claimants who substantially prevail under

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1
       subsection (1).
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           (3) Either:
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               (i) if, in the custody of the Attorney General, to
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           the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General
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           Fund; or
 6
               (ii) if, in the custody of the district attorney, to
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           the operating fund of the county in which the district
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           attorney is elected.
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       (q) Distribution of property among law enforcement
   authorities. -- If both municipal and State law enforcement
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    authorities were substantially involved in effecting the
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    seizure, the court having jurisdiction over the forfeiture
   proceedings shall equitably distribute the property between the
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   district attorney and the Attorney General who shall dispose of
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   the property in accordance with subsections (e) and (f).
       (h) Annual audit of forfeited property. -- A county of this
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   Commonwealth shall provide, through the controller, board of
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   auditors or other appropriate auditor and the district attorney,
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    an annual audit of all forfeited property and proceeds obtained
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   under this section and the disposition thereof, as well as of
    all fees awarded under subsection (1). The audit shall be
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   submitted to the Office of Attorney General by September 30 of
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   each year.
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       (i) Annual report. -- The Attorney General shall annually
   submit a report to the Appropriations Committee and Judiciary
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   Committee of the Senate and the Appropriations Committee and
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   Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives describing
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   the forfeited property or proceeds thereof obtained under this
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   section, as well as the fees awarded under subsection (1). The
   report shall include an accounting of all proceeds derived from
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   the sale of forfeited property.
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       (j) Public access. -- All accounting and audit records
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   generated under subsections (h) and (i) shall be subject to the
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   act of February 14, 2008 (P.L.6, No.3), known as the Right-to-
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   Know Law.
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       (k) Taxpayer standing. -- A taxpayer of this Commonwealth has
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   standing to challenge in court any action contrary to subsection
    (e), (f), (g), (h), (i) or (j).
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       (1) Fee shifting. -- In any forfeiture proceeding under this
    chapter in which the defendant or claimant substantially
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    prevails, the Commonwealth shall be liable for:
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           (1) Reasonable attorney fees and other litigation costs
       reasonably incurred by the defendant or claimant.
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           (2) Postjudgment interest.
           (3) In cases involving currency or other negotiable
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       instruments:
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               (i) Interest actually paid to the Commonwealth, from
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the date of seizure or arrest of the property, that results from the investment of the property in an interest-bearing account or instrument.

(ii) An imputed amount of interest that the

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currency, instruments or proceeds would have earned at the rate applicable to the 30-day Treasury Bill, for any period during which no interest was paid, not including any period when the property reasonably was in use as evidence in an official proceeding or in conducting scientific tests for the purpose of collecting evidence, commencing 15 days after the property was seized by a State law enforcement authority or was turned over to a State law enforcement authority by a Federal law enforcement authority.

§ 5803. Process for criminal asset forfeiture.

## (a) Seizure.--

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- (1) Property subject to forfeiture under this chapter may be seized by a law enforcement authority upon process issued by any court of common pleas having jurisdiction.
  - (2) Seizure without process may be made if:
  - (i) the seizure is incident to an arrest or a search under a search warrant or inspection under an administrative inspection warrant and there is probable cause to believe that the property is subject to forfeiture under section 5802(c)(1) (relating to criminal asset forfeiture in general);
  - (ii) the property subject to seizure has been the subject of a prior judgment in favor of the Commonwealth in a criminal injunction or forfeiture proceeding under this chapter; or
  - (iii) there is probable cause to believe that the property is subject to forfeiture under section 5802(c) (1) and process or delay is likely to result in the destruction or removal of the property or in its otherwise being made unavailable for forfeiture.
- (b) Seizure of real property. -- Absent exigent circumstances, no real property subject to forfeiture shall be seized unless the Commonwealth first provides property owners and occupants with notice and an opportunity for a hearing. The hearing shall be conducted in accordance with subsections (d) and (e).
- (c) Receipt for seized property. -- When property is seized, the law enforcement authority shall provide an itemized receipt to the person in possession of the property or, in the absence of any person, leave a receipt in the place where the property was found, if reasonably possible. The receipt shall provide notice of the right of interest holders to move for the return of seized property under subsections (d) and (e).
- (d) Pretrial motion for return of seized property. -- When property has been seized for forfeiture and the defendant or another putative interest holder in the property files a pretrial motion for its return, the property shall promptly be returned unless the Commonwealth proves that there is probable cause that the property is subject to forfeiture.
- (e) Hardship release of property subject to forfeiture. --When the defendant or another putative interest holder in the

property files a motion for the hardship release of property, the court shall order the release of seized property from the seizing law enforcement authority pending the final determination of forfeiture, if the putative interest holder 5 establishes by a preponderance of the evidence that: 6 (1) The putative interest holder has a possessory 7 interest in the property. (2) Continued possession by the law enforcement 8 9 authority pending the final disposition of the forfeiture proceedings will cause substantial hardship to the interest 10 11 holder, such as: 12 (i) preventing the functioning of a legitimate 13 business; 14 (ii) preventing an individual from working; 15 (iii) preventing a minor child or student from 16 attending school; (iv) preventing or hindering an individual from 17 18 receiving necessary medical care; 19 (v) hindering the care of an elderly or disabled 20 dependent child or adult; (vi) leaving an individual homeless; or 21 (vii) any other condition that the court determines 22 23 causes a substantial hardship. (3) The hardship from the continued possession by the 24 25 law enforcement authority of the seized property outweighs the risk that the property will be unlawfully used, destroyed 26 or removed from the jurisdiction of the court or otherwise 27 28 made unavailable for forfeiture if it is returned to the 29 owner during the pendency of the proceeding. 30 (f) Initiation of forfeiture.--31 (1) The proceedings for forfeiture of property shall be 32 tried in the same proceeding as the criminal case concerning 33 the determination of the defendant's quilt or innocence for the underlying offense, unless the defendant moves to 34 bifurcate the trial of the forfeiture from the trial of the 35 36 underlying criminal case. 37 (2) An information or an indictment charging the 38 defendant with an offense shall include notice to the defendant that the Commonwealth will seek forfeiture as part 39 of any sentence. The notice shall include: 40 41 (i) An itemized list of the specific property subject to forfeiture, including, but not limited to, the 42 43 address of any real property, the exact dollar amount of 44 any money, negotiable instrument or security and the make, model, year and license plate number of any 45 46 vehicle. (ii) A statement of the time and place of the 47

offense.

therefrom.

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50 51 (iii) A description of the particular use of the property in the commission of the offense or derivation

1 (q) Forfeiture phase of criminal proceeding. -- After a person is convicted on any count in an indictment or information for which forfeiture is sought, the Commonwealth must establish at a forfeiture hearing by clear and convincing evidence that the property is forfeitable under section 5802(c)(1) before the court enters a preliminary order of forfeiture. (h) Extent of forfeitable interest. -- If the court determines 7 it is in the interests of judicial economy, the court or jury 9 may determine the extent of the convicted person's forfeitable\_ interest in the property before a preliminary order of 10 11 forfeiture is entered. The determination shall be subject to

amendments under section 5804 (relating to process for third-

- (i) Right to trial by jury. --
- (1) At the forfeiture hearing, the defendant shall have the right to trial by jury of the forfeiture.
- (2) The defendant may waive this right while preserving the right to trial by jury of the offense charged or other sentencing issues.
- (3) Alternatively, the defendant may preserve this right while waiving the right to trial by jury of the offense charged or other sentencing issues.
- (j) Excessive fines.--

party interest holders).

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- (1) In order to enter a preliminary order of forfeiture under section 5802(c)(1)(ii), the court must make a determination that the forfeiture is not grossly disproportional to the gravity of the underlying offense.
- (2) The Commonwealth shall have the burden of establishing proportionality by clear and convincing evidence.
- (3) The value of property forfeited shall be determined by considering, among other factors:
  - (i) Its market value.
  - (ii) Its subjective value to the defendant and the defendant's family members.
- (4) The gravity of the offense shall be determined by considering, among other factors:
  - (i) The penalty imposed as compared to the maximum penalty available for the offense upon which the forfeiture is based.
  - (ii) Whether the offense was isolated or part of a pattern of criminal conduct.
  - (iii) The specific harm resulting from the offense upon which the forfeiture is based.
- (k) Forfeiture of substitute property. --
- (1) After entering a preliminary order of forfeiture, the court may order the forfeiture of substitute property up to the value of the property subject to the order, if the Commonwealth establishes by clear and convincing evidence that:
  - (i) The convicted person intentionally transferred,

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           sold or deposited the property to avoid the court's
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           jurisdiction.
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               (ii) The substitute property is owned solely by the
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           convicted person.
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           (2) No codefendant shall be subject to joint and several
       liability for forfeiture judgments owed by other defendants
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       under this subsection.
   § 5804. Process for third-party interest holders.
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       (a) Notice to third parties. -- After the court enters a
   preliminary order of forfeiture, the Commonwealth shall send
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   notice to any person who reasonably appears to be a potential
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   claimant with standing to contest the forfeiture in an ancillary
   proceeding under subsection (i). Potential claimants include,
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   but are not limited to:
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           (1) Partial or joint owners of the property subject to
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      the preliminary order of forfeiture.
           (2) Holders of a bona fide security interest in the
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      property subject to the preliminary order of forfeiture.
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           (3) Bona fide purchasers for value of the property
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      subject to the preliminary order of forfeiture.
           (4) Obligees of court-ordered child support from the
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      convicted person.
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           (5) Claimants of employment-related compensation from
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      the convicted person.
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      (b) Contents of notice. -- Notice shall include:
           (1) A description of the specific property subject to
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       the preliminary order of forfeiture, including, but not
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       limited to, the address of any real property, the exact
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      dollar amount of any money, negotiable instrument or
       securities and the make, model, year and license plate number
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       of any vehicle.
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           (2) A statement that either:
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               (i) a petition contesting forfeiture must be filed
           within 60 days of the date of receipt of certified mail_
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           or <u>personal service; or</u>
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36
               (ii) in the case the service fails, a petition
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           contesting forfeiture must be filed within 60 days of the
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           date of final publication of substitute notice.
           (3) A statement describing the required contents of a
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      petition contesting forfeiture as set forth in subsection
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41
      (h).
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           (4) The name and contact information for the
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      Commonwealth attorney to be served with the petition.
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           (5) The signature of the Attorney General, Deputy
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       Attorney General, district attorney, deputy district attorney
       or assistant district attorney.
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       (c) Means of serving notice. -- Notice shall be served
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   personally or by certified mail on the potential claimant.
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       (d) Substitute notice. -- If a potential claimant cannot be
   personally served or located within the jurisdiction of the
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court, notice of the petition shall be provided by the

- (1) in a newspaper of general circulation published in the county where the property was seized, once a week for two successive weeks; and
- (2) on the publicly accessible Internet website of the prosecuting attorney for a period of two weeks.
- (e) Potential claimants not in jurisdiction. -- For purposes of this section, it shall be deemed that a potential claimant cannot be located in the jurisdiction of the court if:
  - (1) A copy of the petition is mailed to the potential claimant's last known address by certified mail and is returned without delivery.
  - (2) Personal service is attempted once but cannot be made at the last known address.
  - (3) A copy of the petition is left at the last known address.
- (f) Proof of notice.--The Commonwealth shall file proof of notice with the court. No forfeiture order shall be final until the court finds that such proof satisfies the notice requirements under subsections (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e).
- (g) Petitioning for hearing.--A person, other than the defendant, asserting a legal interest in property subject to a preliminary order of forfeiture under section 5803(g) (relating to process for criminal asset forfeiture) may, within 60 days of the date of receipt of certified mail or personal service or, in the case such service fails, the date of final publication of substitute notice, petition the court for a hearing to adjudicate the validity of the person's alleged interest in the property.
- (h) Contents of third-party claimant petition.--The petition
  shall:
  - (1) Be signed by the petitioner under penalty of perjury.
  - (2) Describe the nature and extent of the petitioner's right, title or interest in the property, the time and circumstances of the petitioner's acquisition of the right, title or interest in the property and any additional facts supporting the petitioner's claim.
  - (3) Identify the relief sought, which may include, but need not be limited to:
    - (i) Return of the petitioner's property.
    - (ii) Reimbursement for the petitioner's legal interest in the forfeited property.
    - (iii) Severance of the petitioner's property from the forfeited property.
    - (iv) Retention of the property by the petitioner subject to a lien in favor of the State to the extent of the forfeitable interest.
  - (v) Any relief the court deems appropriate and just.

    (i) Ancillary proceeding in general.--

- (2) The hearing on the petition shall, to the extent practicable and consistent with the interests of justice, be held within 30 days of the filing of the petition. The court may consolidate the hearing on the petition with a hearing on any other petition filed under this subsection related to the same underlying offense.
- (3) At the hearing, the petitioner may testify and present evidence and witnesses on the petitioner's own behalf, and cross-examine witnesses who appear at the hearing. The Commonwealth may present evidence and witnesses in rebuttal and in defense of its claim to forfeit the property and may cross-examine witnesses who appear at the hearing. In addition to testimony and evidence presented at the hearing, the court shall consider any relevant portions of the record of the criminal case that resulted in the order of forfeiture.
- (4) If, after the hearing, the court determines that the petitioner has established by a preponderance of the evidence that:
  - (i) the petitioner has a legal right, title or interest in the property and such right, title or interest renders the preliminary order of forfeiture invalid in whole or in part because the right, title or interest was vested in the petitioner rather than the defendant or was superior to any right, title or interest of the defendant at the time of the commission of the acts which gave rise to the forfeiture of the property under this chapter; or
  - (ii) the petitioner is a bona fide purchaser for value of the right, title or interest in the property and was at the time of purchase reasonably without cause to believe that the property was subject to forfeiture under this section.

The court shall amend the order of forfeiture in accordance with its determination.

- (j) Entering a final order.--
- (1) When the ancillary proceeding ends, the court shall enter a final order of forfeiture by amending the preliminary order as necessary to account for any third-party rights or interests.
- (2) If no third party files a timely petition, the preliminary order shall become the final order of forfeiture. § 5805. Interaction with the Federal Government.
- 50 <u>(a) Prohibition on adoptive seizures.--State law enforcement</u> 51 <u>authorities shall not refer seized property to a Federal agency</u>

seeking the adoption by the Federal agency of the seized
property. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit
the Federal Government, or any of its agencies, from seeking
Federal forfeiture.

- (b) Sharing of seized property.--All property, money or other things of value received by a State law enforcement authority under Federal law which authorizes the sharing or transfer of all or a portion of forfeited property or the proceeds of the sale of forfeited property to a State law enforcement authority shall be promptly transferred, sold and deposited as set forth in section 5803(e), (f), (g), (h) and (i) (relating to process for criminal asset forfeiture), if Federal law prohibits compliance with section 5803(e), (f), (g), (h) and (i), State law enforcement authorities shall not seek forfeited property or proceeds of the sale of forfeited property shared or transferred under Federal law.
- (c) Civil and criminal liability.--Any law enforcement authority that violates subsection (a) is civilly liable to the State for three times the amount of the forfeiture diverted and for costs of suit and reasonable attorney fees. Any damages awarded to the State shall be paid to the State Treasury to the credit of the General Fund. Any agent, including a State law enforcement officer who is detached to, deputized or commissioned by, or working in conjunction with a Federal law enforcement authority, who knowingly transfers or otherwise trades seized property in violation of subsection (a) or who receives property, money or other things of value under subsection (b) and knowingly fails to transfer such property in accordance with that subsection is guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree.

Section 8. Sections 6801 and 6802(a), (f), (j) and (k) of Title 42 are amended to read:

- § 6801. Controlled substances forfeiture.
- [(a) Forfeitures generally.—The following shall be subject to forfeiture to the Commonwealth and no property right shall exist in them:
  - (1) All drug paraphernalia, controlled substances or other drugs which have been manufactured, distributed, dispensed or acquired in violation of the act of April 14, 1972 (P.L.233, No.64), known as The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act.
  - (2) All raw materials, products and equipment of any kind which are used, or intended for use, in manufacturing, compounding, processing, delivering, importing or exporting any controlled substance or other drug in violation of The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act.
  - (3) All property which is used, or intended for use, as a container for property described in paragraph (1) or (2).
  - (4) All conveyances, including aircraft, vehicles or vessels, which are used or are intended for use to transport, or in any manner to facilitate the transportation, sale,

receipt, possession or concealment of, property described in paragraph (1) or (2), except that:

- (i) no conveyance used by any person as a common carrier in the transaction of business as a common carrier shall be forfeited under the provisions of this section unless it shall appear that the owner or other person in charge of such conveyance was a consenting party or privy to a violation of The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act;
- (ii) no conveyance shall be forfeited under the provisions of this section by reason of any act or omission established by the owner thereof to have been committed or omitted without his knowledge or consent, which absence of knowledge or consent must be reasonable under the circumstances presented;
- (iii) no bona fide security interest retained or acquired under 13 Pa.C.S. (relating to commercial code) by any merchant dealing in new or used aircraft, vehicles or vessels, or retained or acquired by any licensed or regulated finance company, bank or lending institution, or by any other business regularly engaged in the financing of, or lending on the security of, such aircraft, vehicles or vessels, shall be subject to forfeiture or impairment; and
- (iv) no conveyance shall be forfeited under this section for violation of section 13(a)(31) of The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act.
- (5) All books, records and research, including formulas, microfilm, tapes and data, which are used or intended for use in violation of The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act.
  - (6) (i) All of the following:
    - (A) Money, negotiable instruments, securities or other things of value furnished or intended to be furnished by any person in exchange for a controlled substance in violation of The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act, and all proceeds traceable to such an exchange.
    - (B) Money, negotiable instruments, securities or other things of value used or intended to be used to facilitate any violation of The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act.
    - (C) Real property used or intended to be used to facilitate any violation of The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act, including structures or other improvements thereon, and including any right, title and interest in the whole or any lot or tract of land and any appurtenances or improvements, which is used, or intended to be used, in any manner or part, to commit, or to facilitate the commission of, a violation of The Controlled Substance, Drug,

Device and Cosmetic Act, and things growing on, affixed to and found in the land.

- (ii) No property shall be forfeited under this paragraph, to the extent of the interest of an owner, by reason of any act or omission established by the owner to have been committed or omitted without the knowledge or consent of that owner. Such money and negotiable instruments found in close proximity to controlled substances possessed in violation of The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act shall be rebuttably presumed to be proceeds derived from the selling of a controlled substance in violation of The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act.
- (iii) No valid lien or encumbrance on real property shall be subject to forfeiture or impairment under this paragraph. A lien which is fraudulent or intended to avoid forfeiture under this section shall be invalid.
- (7) Any firearms, including, but not limited to, rifles, shotguns, pistols, revolvers, machine guns, zip guns or any type of prohibited offensive weapon, as that term is defined in 18 Pa.C.S. (relating to crimes and offenses), which are used or intended for use to facilitate a violation of The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act. Such operable firearms as are found in close proximity to illegally possessed controlled substances shall be rebuttably presumed to be used or intended for use to facilitate a violation of The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act. All weapons forfeited under this section shall be immediately destroyed by the receiving law enforcement agency.
- (b) Process and seizure.—Property subject to forfeiture under this chapter may be seized by the law enforcement authority upon process issued by any court of common pleas having jurisdiction over the property. Seizure without process may be made if:
  - (1) the seizure is incident to an arrest or a search under a search warrant or inspection under an administrative inspection warrant;
  - (2) the property subject to seizure has been the subject of a prior judgment in favor of the Commonwealth in a criminal injunction or forfeiture proceeding under this chapter;
  - (3) there is probable cause to believe that the property is dangerous to health or safety; or
  - (4) there is probable cause to believe that the property has been used or is intended to be used in violation of The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act.
- (c) Seizure without process.—In the event seizure without process occurs, as provided herein, proceedings for the issuance thereof shall be instituted forthwith.
  - (d) Custody of property. -- Property taken or detained under

this section shall not be subject to replevin, but is deemed to be in the custody of the law enforcement authority subject only to the orders and decrees of the court of common pleas having jurisdiction over the forfeiture proceedings and of the district 5 attorney or the Attorney General. When property is seized under this chapter, the law enforcement authority shall place the property under seal and either:

- (1) remove the property to a place designated by it; or
- require that the district attorney or Attorney General take custody of the property and remove it to an appropriate location for disposition in accordance with law.
- (e) Use of property held in custody. -- Whenever property is forfeited under this chapter, the property shall be transferred to the custody of the district attorney, if the law enforcement authority seizing the property has local or county jurisdiction, or the Attorney General, if the law enforcement authority seizing the property has Statewide jurisdiction. The district attorney or the Attorney General, where appropriate, may:
  - (1) Retain the property for official use.
  - Sell any forfeited property which is not required to be destroyed by law and which is not harmful to the public, but the proceeds from any such sale shall be used to pay all proper expenses of the proceedings for forfeiture and sale, including expenses of seizure, maintenance of custody, advertising and court costs. The balance of the proceeds shall be dealt with in accordance with subsections (f) and (q).
- (f) Use of cash or proceeds of property. -- Cash or proceeds of forfeited property transferred to the custody of the district attorney pursuant to subsection (e) shall be placed in the operating fund of the county in which the district attorney is elected. The appropriate county authority shall immediately release from the operating fund, without restriction, a like amount for the use of the district attorney enforcing the provisions of The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act. The entity having budgetary control shall not anticipate future forfeitures or proceeds therefrom in adoption and approval of the budget for the district attorney.
- (g) Distribution of property among law enforcement authorities. -- If both municipal and State law enforcement authorities were substantially involved in effecting the seizure, the court having jurisdiction over the forfeiture proceedings shall equitably distribute the property between the district attorney and the Attorney General.
- Authorization to utilize property. -- The district attorney and the Attorney General shall utilize forfeited property or proceeds thereof for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act. In appropriate cases, the district attorney and the Attorney General may designate proceeds from forfeited property to be utilized by community-based drug and crime-

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fighting programs and for relocation and protection of witnesses 2 in criminal cases.

- (i) Annual audit of forfeited property .-- It shall be the 4 responsibility of every county in this Commonwealth to provide, through the controller, board of auditors or other appropriate auditor and the district attorney, an annual audit of all forfeited property and proceeds obtained under this section. The audit shall not be made public but shall be submitted to the Office of Attorney General. The county shall report all forfeited property and proceeds obtained under this section and the disposition thereof to the Attorney General by September 30 of each year.
  - (j) Annual report; confidential information regarding property. -- The Attorney General shall annually submit a report, to the Appropriations and Judiciary Committees of the Senate and to the Appropriations and Judiciary Committees of the House of Representatives, specifying the forfeited property or proceeds thereof obtained under this section. The report shall give an accounting of all proceeds derived from the sale of forfeited property and the use made of unsold forfeited property. The Attorney General shall adopt procedures and guidelines governing the release of information by the district attorney to protect the confidentiality of forfeited property or proceeds used in ongoing drug enforcement activities.
  - Proceeds and appropriations. -- The proceeds or future proceeds from forfeited property under this chapter shall be in addition to any appropriation made to the Office of Attorney General.] Forfeiture of property shall be authorized for violation of the act of April 14, 1972 (P.L.233, No.64), known as The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act, and conducted in accordance with Chapter 58 (relating to asset forfeiture). No conveyance may be forfeited under this section for a violation of section 13(a)(31) of The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act.
  - Procedure with respect to seized property subject to § 6802. liens and rights of lienholders.
  - General procedure. -- The proceedings for the forfeiture or condemnation of property, the sale of which is provided for in this chapter, shall be in rem, in which the Commonwealth shall be the plaintiff and the property the defendant. A petition shall be filed in the court of common pleas of the judicial district where the property is located, verified by oath or affirmation of an officer or citizen, containing the following:
    - (1)A description of the property seized.
    - A statement of the time and place where seized. (2)
    - The owner, if known. (3)
    - The person or persons in possession, if known. (4)
    - An allegation that the property is subject to forfeiture pursuant to section [6801(a) (relating to controlled substances forfeiture) or] 6801.1(a) (relating to

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terrorism forfeiture) and an averment of material facts upon which the forfeiture action is based.

(6) A prayer for an order of forfeiture that the property be adjudged forfeited to the Commonwealth and condemned and be ordered sold according to law, unless cause be shown to the contrary.

\* \* \*

- (f) Preservation of the property subject for forfeiture.—
  Upon application of the Commonwealth, the court may enter a restraining order or injunction, require the execution of a satisfactory performance bond or take any other action to preserve the availability of property described in section [6801(a) or] 6801.1(a) for forfeiture under this section either:
  - (1) upon the filing of an information or an indictment charging an offense in this Commonwealth for which criminal forfeiture may be ordered under this chapter and alleging that the property with respect to which the order is sought would be subject to forfeiture; or
  - (2) prior to the filing of such an indictment or information, if, after notice to persons appearing to have an interest in the property and an opportunity for a hearing, the court determines that:
    - (i) there is a substantial probability that the Commonwealth will prevail on the issue of forfeiture and that failure to enter the order will result in the property being destroyed, removed from the jurisdiction of the court or otherwise made unavailable for forfeiture; and
    - (ii) the need to preserve the availability of the property through the entry of the requested order outweighs the hardship on any party against whom the order is to be entered.

However, an order entered pursuant to this paragraph shall be effective for not more than 90 days unless extended by the court for good cause shown or unless an indictment or information described in paragraph (1) has been filed.

\* \* \*

- (j) Owner's burden of proof.—At the time of the hearing, if the Commonwealth produces evidence that the property in question was unlawfully used, possessed or otherwise subject to forfeiture under section [6801(a) or] 6801.1(a), the burden shall be upon the claimant to show:
  - (1) That the claimant is the owner of the property or the holder of a chattel mortgage or contract of conditional sale thereon.
    - (2) That the claimant lawfully acquired the property.
  - (3) That it was not unlawfully used or possessed by him. In the event that it shall appear that the property was unlawfully used or possessed by a person other than the claimant, then the claimant shall show that the unlawful use or possession was without his knowledge or consent. Such

absence of knowledge or consent must be reasonable under the circumstances presented.

Court-ordered release of property. -- If a person claiming the ownership of or right of possession to or claiming to be the holder of a chattel mortgage or contract of conditional sale upon the property, the disposition of which is provided for in this section, prior to the sale presents a petition to the court alleging over the property lawful ownership, right of possession, a lien or reservation of title and if, upon public hearing, due notice of which having been given to the Attorney General or the district attorney, the claimant shall prove by competent evidence to the satisfaction of the court that the property was lawfully acquired, possessed and used by him or, it appearing that the property was unlawfully used by a person other than the claimant, that the unlawful use was without the claimant's knowledge or consent, then the court may order the property returned or delivered to the claimant. Such absence of knowledge or consent must be reasonable under the circumstances presented. Otherwise, it shall be retained for official use or sold in accordance with section [6801(e) or] 6801.1(f).

Section 9. Sections 4909(c), 9405(a), (b), (c)(1), (d), (i) and (j) and 9406 of Title 75 are amended to read: § 4909. Transporting foodstuffs in vehicles used to transport waste.

\* \* \*

(c) Vehicle forfeiture.--Any vehicle or conveyance used in the commission of an offense under this section shall be deemed contraband and forfeited [to the Department of Environmental Resources. The provisions of law relating to the seizure, summary and judicial forfeiture, and condemnation of intoxicating liquor shall apply to seizures and forfeitures under this section. Proceeds from the sale of forfeited vehicles or conveyances shall be deposited in the Solid Waste Abatement Fund] in accordance with 42 Pa.C.S. Ch. 58 (relating to asset forfeiture).

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§ 9405. Forfeitures; process and procedures.

- (a) Subjects of forfeiture. -- The following are subject to forfeiture to the Commonwealth and no property right shall exist in them:
  - (1) Any liquid fuels or fuels produced in or imported into this Commonwealth by any distributor who does not possess a valid liquid fuels tax permit or fuels permit as required by section 9003 (relating to liquid fuels and fuels permits; bond or deposit of securities), except liquid fuels or fuels imported in barrels, drums or similar containers with a capacity of not more than 55 gallons in each barrel, drum or container.
  - (2) All conveyances, including vehicles or vessels, used to transport liquid fuels or fuels as described in paragraph (1). [except:

- (i) no conveyance used by any person as a common carrier in the transaction of business as a common carrier is subject to forfeiture under this section unless it appears that the owner or other person in charge of the conveyance is a consenting party or privy to a violation of Chapter 90 (relating to liquid fuels and fuels tax); and
- (ii) no bona fide security interest retained or acquired under Title 13 (relating to commercial code) by any merchant dealing in new or used vehicles or vessels, or retained or acquired by any licensed or regulated finance company, bank, lending institution or by any other business regularly engaged in the financing of or lending on the security of such vehicles or vessels, shall be subject to forfeiture or impairment.] Forfeiture of such conveyances shall be conducted in accordance with 42 Pa.C.S. Ch. 58 (relating to asset forfeiture).
- (b) Method of seizure.--[Property] <u>Liquid fuels or fuels</u> subject to forfeiture under this section may be seized by the Department of Revenue upon process issued by any court of common pleas having jurisdiction over the property. Seizure without process may be made if the seizure is incident to an inspection or arrest for a violation of this chapter or Chapter 90 (relating to liquid fuels and fuels tax).
  - (c) Limit on return of [property] <u>liquid fuels or fuels</u>.-(1) No [property] <u>liquid fuels or fuels</u> seized in accordance with this section, when in the custody of the Department of Revenue, shall be seized or taken therefrom by any writ of replevin or other judicial process unless a petition for forfeiture is not timely filed.

\* \* \*

(d) In rem proceedings.—The proceedings for the forfeiture of any liquid fuels or fuels [or conveyances] seized under this section shall be in rem. The Commonwealth shall be the plaintiff and the property shall be the defendant. A petition shall be filed, within five days after seizure, in the court of common pleas of the county in which the property was seized by revenue agents of the Department of Revenue, verified by oath or affirmation of any revenue agent. In the event that the petition is not filed within the time prescribed herein, the seized property shall be immediately returned to the person from whom seized or the owner thereof.

\* \* \*

(i) Standard of proof.—The claimant shall have the burden of proving that he is not subject to the provisions of this section, but the burden of proof shall be upon the Commonwealth to prove all other facts necessary for the forfeiture of the property. In the event that the Commonwealth has not met its burden by a preponderance of the evidence or the claimant has proved that he is not subject to the provisions of this section, the court shall order the property returned to the claimant;

otherwise, the court shall order the property forfeited to the Commonwealth. [In the case of a motor vehicle, vessel or 3 conveyance, should the claimant prove to the satisfaction of the court that he is the registered owner of the motor vehicle, vessel or conveyance and that he did not know or have reason to know that it was being used to transport liquid fuels or fuels in violation of the provisions of section 9404 (relating to 7 violations and penalties) or 9019 (relating to diesel fuel 9 importers and transporters; prohibiting use of dyed diesel fuel on highways; violations and penalties), the court in its 10 11 discretion may order the motor vehicle, vessel or conveyance 12 returned to the claimant.

(j) Encumbered motor vehicle. -- In the case of a motor vehicle, should the claimant prove that he holds a valid encumbrance upon such motor vehicle, notice of which encumbrance has been duly noted on the certificate of title to the motor vehicle in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 11 (relating to certificate of title and security interests), the forfeiture shall be subject to such encumbrance as of the date of the seizure less prepaid or unearned interest. Before the motor vehicle may be sold, exchanged or otherwise transferred or retained for use by the Commonwealth, the outstanding amount of the encumbrance shall be paid to the claimant or possession of the motor vehicle shall be turned over to the claimant who shall expose the same to public sale and shall pay over to the Commonwealth any amount realized in excess of the outstanding amount of such encumbrance less the reasonable costs incurred by claimant in conducting such sale. 1

\$ 9406. Disposition of fines and forfeitures.

All fines imposed under this chapter and the net proceeds received from the sale of forfeited [property] <u>liquid fuels or fuels</u> shall be payable to the Commonwealth and credited to the Motor License Fund.

Section 10. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the following forfeitures shall be conducted in accordance with 42 Pa.C.S. Ch. 58:

- (1) The forfeiture of property specified in section 1 of the act of July 3, 1941 (P.L.263, No.121), entitled "An act providing for the forfeiture and condemnation of vehicles used to store, possess or transport narcotics or drugs, the possession or transportation of which is in violation of law."
- (2) The seizure of property specified in sections 211(a) (3) and 601 of the act of April 12, 1951 (P.L.90, No.21), known as the Liquor Code.
- (3) The forfeiture of property specified in section 1285 of the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971.
- (4) The forfeiture of property specified in section 614 of the act of July 7, 1980 (P.L.380, No.97), known as the Solid Waste Management Act.

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- (5) The forfeiture of property specified in section 1715 of the act of July 28, 1988 (P.L.556, No.101), known as the Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling and Waste Reduction Act.
- (6) The forfeiture of property specified in section 1 of the act of December 1, 2004 (P.L.1766, No.227), entitled "An act authorizing cities of the first class that have adopted a home rule charter to enforce ordinances, rules and regulations prohibiting dumping or disposal of waste, trash or debris."

Section 11. Repeals are as follows:

- (1) The General Assembly finds that the repeals under paragraphs (2) and (3) are necessary to effectuate the addition of 42 Pa.C.S. Ch. 58.
- (2) Sections 602 and 603(a) and (b) of the act of April 12, 1951 (P.L.90, No.21), known as the Liquor Code, are repealed to the extent of any inconsistency with this act.
- (3) The following acts and parts of acts are repealed absolutely:
  - (i) Sections 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the act of July 3, 1941 (P.L.263, No.121), entitled "An act providing for the forfeiture and condemnation of vehicles used to store, possess or transport narcotics or drugs, the possession or transportation of which is in violation of law."
  - (ii) Section 603(c) of the act of April 12, 1951 (P.L.90, No.21), known as the Liquor Code.
  - (iii) Section 1285(f), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l), (m) and (n) of the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971.

Section 12. This act shall take effect in 90 days.