# WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 2003** 

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# ENROLLED

# House Bill No. 3095

(By Delegates Craig, Foster, Amores, Kominar, Morgan, Smirl and Pino)

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Passed March 6, 2003

In Effect Ninety Days from Passage

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### OFFICE WEST VIRGINIA SECRETARY OF STATE

## ENROLLED

## H. B. 3095

(BY DELEGATES CRAIG, FOSTER, AMORES, KOMINAR, MORGAN, SMIRL AND PINO)

[Passed March 6, 2003; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend article ten, chapter eleven of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated section five-v, relating to disclosure of certain tax information by tax commissioner to state treasurer for purpose of disposing of abandoned, unclaimed or uncashed tax refund checks; specifying that information so disclosed shall be used by treasurer only for purpose of administering and implementing return, recovery and disposition of abandoned or unclaimed property; specifying that treasurer shall treat information so obtained as records of abandoned property; specifying to whom and how certain information may be disclosed by treasurer; and specifying that tax information disclosed to treasurer remains otherwise confidential in accordance with state law.

#### Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That article ten, chapter eleven of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended by

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adding thereto a new section, designated section five-v, to read as follows:

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#### ARTICLE 10. PROCEDURE AND ADMINISTRATION.

#### §11-10-5v. Disclosure of tax information to the treasurer for return, recovery and disposition of unclaimed and abandoned property.

1 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of this code to the contrary, if the information resides in tax division databases, the 2 tax commissioner shall disclose to the state treasurer the name. 3 4 last known address and social security number, or federal 5 employer identification number, as applicable, of persons or 6 businesses, including joint or combined filers, to which tax 7 refund checks have been issued by this state, which checks have 8 gone unclaimed or uncashed for a period of more than six 9 months after the issuance date of the check. Notwithstanding 10 any provision of this code to the contrary, if the information is 11 included in a tax division database, the tax commissioner shall 12 disclose to the state treasurer the date, check number, warrant 13 number, transaction identification number, invoice number, and amount of any such unclaimed or uncashed refund check, and 14 the tax commissioner's confirmation or denial of confirmation. 15 as applicable, that the tax refund is currently due and payable 16 17 to the payee or payees to whom the unclaimed or uncashed 18 check was originally issued.

19 (b) Disclosure of this information shall begin as soon as practicable after the effective date of this section on such 20 21 schedule and under such arrangements as the treasurer and the 22 tax commissioner may agree. Information so disclosed shall be used by the treasurer only for the purpose of administering and 23 implementing the return, recovery and disposition of abandoned 24 or unclaimed property in accordance with the provisions of 25 article eight, chapter thirty-six of this code. 26

27 (c) The treasurer as administrator for unclaimed property 28 shall treat information obtained in accordance with this section 29 as records of abandoned property in accordance with article 30 eight, chapter thirty-six of this code, and shall use the informa-31 tion to facilitate locating owners of unclaimed tax refunds. 32 Notwithstanding any provision of this code to the contrary, the 33 treasurer may disclose any or all of the information to an owner, 34 his or her personal representative, next of kin, attorney at law 35 or a person entitled to inherit from the owner.

36 (d) Of the information received by the treasurer under this 37 section, only the name, city and state of the last known address 38 of the payee or payees to whom the unclaimed or uncashed 39 check was originally issued may be published by the treasurer, 40 and only for the purpose of returning, recovering or disposing 41 of unclaimed tax refunds. Tax information disclosed pursuant 42 to this section to the treasurer shall remain confidential as 43 provided by section five-d of this article, except to the extent 44 disclosure is allowed under this section. The provisions of this 45 section may not be construed to preclude or limit disclosure of 46 tax information authorized by other provisions of this code.

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That Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

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Originating in the House.

In effect ninety days from passage

Clerk of the Senate

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Speaker of the House of Delegates

The within is approved this the 1 day of  $\underline{\mathbf{\Psi}}$ 2003. Governor

PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNOR Date <u>3/14/03</u> Time <u>9:40an</u>

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