Bill No. $\underline{\text{CS for SB } 1712}$

Amendment No. ____

CHAMBER ACTION	
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11	Senator Campbell moved the following amendment:
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13	Senate Amendment (with title amendment)
14	On page 30, between lines 28 and 29,
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16	insert:
17	Section 16. Subsections (2), (8), (9), and (16),
18	paragraph (a) of subsection (7), paragraph (b) of subsection
19	(11), and paragraphs (b), (l), and (m) of subsection (12) of
20	section 539.001, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
21	539.001 The Florida Pawnbroking Act
22	(2) DEFINITIONSAs used in this section, the term:
23	(a) "Agency" means the Division of Consumer Services
24	of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.
25	(b) "Amount financed" is used interchangeably to mean
26	"amount of money advanced" or "principal amount."
27	(c)(b) "Appropriate law enforcement official" means
28	the sheriff of the county in which a pawnshop is located or,
29	in case of a pawnshop located within a municipality, the
30	police chief of the municipality in which the pawnshop is
31	located; however, any sheriff or police chief may designate as
	1 1.16 DM 04/26/00 1

the appropriate law enforcement official for the county or municipality, as applicable, any law enforcement officer working within the county or municipality headed by that sheriff or police chief. Nothing in this subsection limits the power and responsibilities of the sheriff.

- $\underline{(d)}$ "Claimant" means a person who claims that his or her property was misappropriated.
- (e)(d) "Conveying customer" means a person who delivers property into the custody of a pawnbroker, either by pawn, sale, consignment, or trade.
- $\underline{(f)}$ "Identification" means a government-issued photographic identification or an electronic image taken from a government-issued photographic identification.
- $\underline{(g)}(f)$ "Misappropriated" means stolen, embezzled, converted, or otherwise wrongfully appropriated against the will of the rightful owner.
- $\underline{\text{(h)}_{(g)}}$ "Net worth" means total assets less total liabilities.
- $\underline{\text{(i)}}$ "Pawn" means any advancement of funds on the security of pledged goods on condition that the pledged goods are left in the possession of the pawnbroker for the duration of the pawn and may be redeemed by the pledgor on the terms and conditions contained in this section.
- (j)(i) "Pawnbroker" means any person who is engaged in the business of making pawns; who makes a public display containing the term "pawn," "pawnbroker," or "pawnshop" or any derivative thereof; or who publicly displays a sign or symbol historically identified with pawns. A pawnbroker may also engage in the business of purchasing goods which includes consignment and trade.
 - (k)(j) "Pawnbroker transaction form" means the

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29 30 instrument on which a pawnbroker records pawns and purchases as provided in subsection (8).

(1)(k) "Pawn service charge" means a charge for investigating the title, storage, and insuring of the security; closing the transaction; making daily reports to appropriate law enforcement officials; expenses and losses; and all other services.

(m) (1) "Pawnshop" means the location at which a pawnbroker conducts business.

(n) (m) "Permitted vendor" means a vendor who furnishes a pawnbroker with an invoice specifying the vendor's name and address, the date of the sale, a description of the items sold, and the sales price, and who has an established place of business, or, in the case of a secondhand dealer as defined in s. 538.03, has represented in writing that such dealer has complied with all applicable recordkeeping, reporting, and retention requirements pertaining to goods sold or otherwise delivered to a pawnbroker.

(o) (n) "Person" means an individual, partnership, corporation, joint venture, trust, association, or other legal entity.

(p) (o) "Pledged goods" means tangible personal property that is deposited with, or otherwise delivered into the possession of a pawnbroker in connection with a pawn. "Pledged goods" does not include titles or any other form of written security in tangible property in lieu of actual physical possession, including, but not limited to, choses in action, securities, printed evidence of indebtedness, or certificates of title and other instruments evidencing title to separate items of property, including motor vehicles. For 31 purposes of federal and state bankruptcy laws, a pledgor's

Bill No. CS for SB 1712

Amendment No. ____

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interest in his or her pledged goods during the pendency of a pawn is a right of redemption only.

(q)(p) "Pledgor" means an individual who delivers pledged goods into the possession of a pawnbroker in connection with a pawn.

 $(r)\frac{(q)}{(q)}$ "Purchase" means the transfer and delivery of goods, by a person other than a permitted vendor, to a pawnbroker by acquisition for value, consignment, or trade for other goods.

(s) (r) "Amount financed" is used interchangeably to mean the same as "amount of money advanced" or "principal amount".

(t) (s) "Default date" means that date upon which the pledgor's right of redemption expires and absolute right, title, and interest in and to the pledged goods shall vest in and shall be deemed conveyed to the pawnbroker by operation of law.

(u)(t) "Beneficial owner" means a person who does not have title to property but has rights in the property which are the normal incident of owning the property.

(v)(u) "Operator" means a person who has charge of a corporation or company and has control of its business, or of its branch establishments, divisions, or departments, and who is vested with a certain amount of discretion and independent judgment.

- (7) ORDERS IMPOSING PENALTIES. --
- The agency may enter an order imposing one or more of the penalties set forth in paragraph (b) if the agency finds that a pawnbroker:
- 1. Violated or is operating in violation of any of the 31 provisions of this section or of the rules adopted or orders

Bill No. <u>CS for SB 1712</u>

Amendment No. ____

issued thereunder;

- 2. Made a material false statement in any application, document, or record required to be submitted or retained under this section;
- 3. Refused or failed, or any of its principal officers has refused or failed, after notice, to produce any document or records or disclose any information required to be produced or disclosed under this section or the rules of the agency;
- 4. Made a material false statement in response to any request or investigation by the agency, the Department of Legal Affairs, or the state attorney; or
- 5. Has intentionally defrauded the public through dishonest or deceptive means.
 - (8) PAWNBROKER TRANSACTION FORM. --
- (a) At the time the pawnbroker enters into any pawn or purchase transaction, the pawnbroker shall complete a pawnbroker transaction form for such transaction, including an indication of whether the transaction is a pawn or a purchase, and the pledgor or seller shall sign such completed form. The agency must approve the design and format of the pawnbroker transaction form, which must be 8 1/2 inches x 11 inches in size and elicit the information required under this section. In completing the pawnbroker transaction form, the pawnbroker shall record the following information, which must be typed or printed in black ink written indelibly and legibly in English.
- (b) The front of the pawnbroker transaction form must include:
 - 1. The name and address of the pawnshop.
- 2. A complete and accurate <u>printed</u> description of the pledged goods or purchased goods, <u>notwithstanding product</u> identification letter codes imprinted on the form,including

Bill No. CS for SB 1712

Amendment No. ____

the following information, if applicable:

- a. Brand name.
 - b. Model number.
 - c. Manufacturer's serial number.
- d. Size.
 - e. Color, as apparent to the untrained eye.
 - f. Precious metal type, weight, and content, if known.
- g. Gemstone description, including the number of stones.
- h. In the case of firearms, the type of action, caliber or gauge, number of barrels, barrel length, and finish.
- i. Any other unique identifying marks, numbers, names,or letters.

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Notwithstanding sub-subparagraphs a.-i., in the case of multiple items of a similar nature delivered together in one transaction which do not bear serial or model numbers and which do not include precious metal or gemstones, such as musical or video recordings, books, and hand tools, the description of the items is adequate if it contains the quantity of items and a description of the type of items delivered.

- 3. The name, <u>the current</u> address, home telephone number, <u>and</u> place of employment, <u>the</u> date of birth, <u>a</u> physical description, and <u>a substantial likeness of the</u> right thumbprint of the pledgor or seller.
 - 4. The date and time of the transaction.
- 5. The type of identification accepted from the pledgor or seller, including the issuing agency and the identification number.

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- 6. In the case of a pawn: 1 2
 - The amount of money advanced, which must be designated as the amount financed;
 - The maturity date of the pawn, which must be 30 days after the date of the pawn;
 - The last default date of redemption of the pawn and the amount due on the last default date of redemption;
 - The total pawn service charge payable on the maturity date, which must be designated as the finance charge;
 - The amount financed plus the finance charge that must be paid to redeem the pledged goods on the maturity date, which must be designated as the total of payments;
 - The annual percentage rate, computed according to the regulations adopted by the Federal Reserve Board under the federal Truth in Lending Act; and
 - The front or back of the pawnbroker transaction form must include a statement that:
 - (I) Any personal property pledged to a pawnbroker within this state which is not redeemed within 30 days following the maturity date of the pawn, if the 30th day is not a business day, then the following business day, is automatically forfeited to the pawnbroker, and absolute right, title, and interest in and to the property vests in and is deemed conveyed to the pawnbroker by operation of law, and no further notice is necessary;
 - (II) The pledgor is not obligated to redeem the pledged goods; and
- (III) If the pawnbroker transaction form is lost, destroyed, or stolen, the pledgor must immediately advise the issuing pawnbroker in writing by certified or registered mail, 31 return receipt requested, or in person evidenced by a signed

receipt.

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(IV) A pawn may be extended upon mutual agreement of the parties.

- 7. In the case of a purchase, the amount of money paid for the goods or the monetary value assigned to the goods in connection with the transaction.
- 8. A statement that the pledgor or seller of the item represents and warrants that it is not stolen, that it has no liens or encumbrances against it, and that the pledgor or seller is the rightful owner of the goods and has the right to enter into the transaction.
- 9. The name, initials, or employee identification number of the clerk completing the transaction form.

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29 30 Any person who knowingly gives false verification of ownership or gives a false or altered identification and who receives money from a pawnbroker for goods sold or pledged commits:

- If the value of the money received is less than \$300, a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
- If the value of the money received is \$300 or more, a felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
 - (9) RECORDKEEPING; REPORTING; HOLD PERIOD. --
- (a) A pawnbroker must maintain a copy of each completed pawnbroker transaction form on the pawnshop premises for at least 1 year after the date of the transaction. On or before the end of each business day, the pawnbroker must deliver to the appropriate law enforcement official the original pawnbroker transaction forms for each of the 31 I transactions occurring during the previous business day,

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29 30 unless other arrangements have been agreed upon between the pawnbroker and the appropriate law enforcement official. The sheriff, as chief law enforcement officer of the county, or the director of the department of public safety when there is no sheriff, is designated as the central repository for copies of all pawnbroker transaction forms collected by the appropriate law enforcement official in the county. Upon request by the sheriff or public safety director, the appropriate law enforcement official shall submit a copy of each pawnbroker transaction form to the sheriff or public safety director within a time and in such form as is determined by the sheriff or public safety director after consultation with the appropriate law enforcement official. If the original transaction form is lost or destroyed by the appropriate law enforcement official, a copy may be used by the pawnbroker as evidence in court. When an electronic image of a pledgor or seller identification is accepted for a transaction, the pawnbroker must maintain the electronic image in order to meet the same recordkeeping requirements as for the original transaction form. If a criminal investigation occurs, the pawnbroker shall, upon request, provide a clear and legible copy of the image to the appropriate law enforcement official.

(b) If the appropriate law enforcement agency supplies the appropriate software and the pawnbroker presently has the computer ability, pawn transactions shall be electronically transferred. If a pawnbroker does not presently have the computer ability, the appropriate law enforcement agency may provide the pawnbroker with a computer and all necessary equipment for the purpose of electronically transferring pawn 31 | transactions. The appropriate law enforcement agency shall

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retain ownership of the computer, unless otherwise agreed upon. The pawnbroker shall maintain the computer in good working order, ordinary wear and tear excepted. These computerized records must provide for the export of pawn transaction data in the file format and manner specified by the sheriff for inclusion in the statewide database. In the event the pawnbroker transfers pawn transactions electronically, the pawnbroker is not required to also deliver to the appropriate law enforcement official the original or copies of the pawnbroker transaction forms. For audit purposes, the appropriate law enforcement official may 12 manually collect the original or a copy of the completed 13 transaction forms for review, with those forms being returned to the pawnbroker within 15 business days. The appropriate law 14 15 enforcement official may, for the purposes of a criminal investigation, request that the pawnbroker produce an original 16 of a transaction form that has been electronically transferred. The pawnbroker shall deliver this form to the 18 appropriate law enforcement official within 24 hours of the 19 20 request.

- (c) There shall be a statewide system for collecting and accessing pawnshop ticket and second-hand dealer information as defined in chapters 538 and 539. The system shall be administered by the sheriffs and shall include the database known as the Florida Sheriffs' Property Recovery Database. This database shall be the officially recognized statewide database for all pawnshop ticket and second-hand dealer information for which collection is required by law.
- 1. Any law enforcement official who is authorized by law, and who meets the requirements established by and is approved by the sheriffs shall have access to the Florida

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Sheriffs' Property Recovery Database, in a manner prescribed by the sheriffs.

- 2. In order to establish a more efficient and effective system, the sheriffs, which includes the Director of Public Safety in Dade County, as the chief law enforcement officers of their respective counties, shall be designated as the central repository agencies for all pawnshop ticket and second-hand dealer information collected in their counties. Any other law enforcement agency collecting this information shall deliver the information, once collected, to the sheriff of the county in which it is collected, which includes the Director of Public Safety in Miami-Dade County, in a manner prescribed by the sheriffs. Upon receiving the information the sheriffs, which includes the Director of Public Safety in Miami-Dade County, shall cause the information to be transferred to the Florida Sheriffs' Property Recovery Database by electronic transmission or by other means approved by the sheriffs. Pawn ticket information initially transferred to the Florida Sheriffs' Association Property Recovery Database shall be the information as contained in subparagraphs (8)(b)1., 2., and 4. Any law enforcement agency needing to access the information in subparagraphs (8)(b)3., 5., and 6. may show probable cause that a reported item has been misappropriated or a criminal investigation is underway affecting such item, and may request and receive any additional information pertaining to such item from the reporting local law enforcement agency.
- 3. The Florida Sheriffs' Property Recovery Database
 may be accessed through "FLASH," the Florida Sheriffs'

 Statewide Computer Networking System, or through any other
 avenue approved by the sheriffs. Any costs or fees incurred or

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to be incurred by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement or the Florida police chiefs must be approved by the Department of Law Enforcement and the Florida Police Chiefs' Association jointly. No costs or fees shall be assessed to law enforcement agencies within this state to access the Florida Sheriffs' Property Recovery Database. Data that are supplied to the sheriffs may not be sold.

- The sheriffs, in consultation with the Florida Police Chiefs' Association and the Department of Law Enforcement, shall establish the standards and requirements for transmitting and transferring the information into the statewide system and access approval.
- 5. Routine automated queries of the FCIC/NCIC system by the Florida Sheriffs' Property Recovery Database within the statewide computer system, in coordination with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, shall be limited to queries regarding stolen property.

(d)(c) All goods delivered to a pawnbroker in a pawn or purchase transaction must be securely stored and maintained in an unaltered condition within the jurisdiction of the appropriate law enforcement official for a period of 30 calendar days after the transaction. Those goods delivered to a pawnbroker in a purchase transaction may not be sold or otherwise disposed of before the expiration of such period. The pawnbroker shall make all pledged and purchased goods and all records relating to such goods available for inspection by the appropriate law enforcement official during normal business hours throughout such period. The pawnbroker must store and maintain pledged goods for the period prescribed in subsection (10) unless the pledged goods are redeemed earlier; 31 | provided, however, that within the first 30 days after the

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original pawn, the pledged goods may be redeemed only by the pledgor or the pledgor's attorney in fact.

(11) PAWN SERVICE CHARGES. --

- (b) The default date of any pawn may be extended to a subsequent date by mutual agreement, between the pledgor and the pawnbroker except the pawnbroker may not impose a minimum duration of more than 30 days, evidenced by a written memorandum, a copy of which must be supplied to the pledgor, which must clearly specify the new default date, and the pawn service charges owed on the new default date. In this event, the daily pawn service charge for the extension shall be equal to the pawn service charge for the original 30-day period divided by 30 days (i.e., one-thirtieth of the original total pawn service charge). There is no limit on the number of extensions that the parties may agree to.
- (12) PROHIBITED ACTS.--A pawnbroker, or an employee or agent of a pawnbroker, may not:
- (b) Refuse to allow the agency, the appropriate law enforcement official, or the state attorney, or any of their designated representatives having jurisdiction, to inspect completed pawnbroker transaction forms or any record pertaining to such transactions, including computer records, or pledged or purchased goods during the ordinary hours of the pawnbroker's business or other time acceptable to both parties. Upon request of the alleged owner or claimant of the disputed property, the appropriate law enforcement official shall disclose to a claimant or alleged owner the name and address of the pawnbroker, the name and address of the conveying customer, and a description of disputed property that has been pawned, purchased, or consigned goods that the 31 claimant claims to be misappropriated.

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- (1) Operate a pawnshop between the hours of 10 p.m. and 7 a.m.
- (m) Knowingly hire anyone to work in a pawnshop who has been convicted of, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to, or had adjudication withheld for a felony within the last 5 years, or been convicted of, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to, or had adjudication withheld for a crime within the last 5 years which involves theft, larceny, dealing in stolen property, receiving stolen property, burglary, embezzlement, obtaining property by false pretenses, possession of altered property, or any fraudulent, or dishonest dealing.
- (16) HOLD ORDERS; ISSUANCE; REQUIRED INFORMATION; PROCEDURES . --
- (a) When an appropriate law enforcement official in this state has probable cause to believe that property in the possession of a pawnbroker is misappropriated, the official may place a written hold order on the property. The written hold order shall impose a holding period not to exceed 120 $\frac{90}{100}$ days unless extended by court order. The appropriate law enforcement official in this state may rescind, in writing, any hold order. An appropriate law enforcement official may place only one hold order on property.
- (b) Upon the expiration of the holding period, the pawnbroker shall notify, in writing, a the appropriate law enforcement official in this state by certified mail, return receipt requested, that the holding period has expired. The holding period shall expire on the 10th day following receipt of the returned certified notice to the pawnbroker. If, on the 10th day after the written notice has been received by a the 31 | appropriate law enforcement official in this state, the

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29 30 pawnbroker has not received from a court an extension of the hold order on the property and the property is not the subject of a proceeding under subsection (15), title to the property shall vest in and be deemed conveyed by operation of law to the pawnbroker, free of any liability for claims but subject to any restrictions contained in the pawn transaction contract and subject to the provisions of this section.

- (c) A hold order must specify:
- The name and address of the pawnbroker.
- The name, title, and identification number of the representative of the appropriate law enforcement official or the court placing the hold order.
- If applicable, the name and address of the appropriate law enforcement official in this state or court to which such representative is attached and the number, if any, assigned to the claim regarding the property.
- 4. A complete description of the property to be held, including model number and serial number if applicable.
- The name of the person reporting the property to be misappropriated unless otherwise prohibited by law.
- The mailing address of the pawnbroker where the property is held.
 - 7. The expiration date of the holding period.
- The pawnbroker or the pawnbroker's representative must sign and date a copy of the hold order as evidence of receipt of the hold order and the beginning of the 90-day holding period.
- (e)1. Except as provided in subparagraph 2., a pawnbroker may not release or dispose of property subject to a hold order except pursuant to a court order, a written release 31 from a the appropriate law enforcement official in this state,

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or the expiration of the holding period of the hold order.

2. While a hold order is in effect, the pawnbroker must upon request release the property subject to the hold order to the custody of the appropriate law enforcement official in this state for use in a criminal investigation. The release of the property to the custody of the appropriate law enforcement official in this state is not considered a waiver or release of the pawnbroker's property rights or interest in the property. Upon completion of the criminal proceeding, the property must be returned to the pawnbroker unless the court orders other disposition. When such other disposition is ordered, the court shall additionally order the conveying customer to pay restitution to the pawnbroker in the amount received by the conveying customer for the property together with reasonable attorney's fees and costs.

Section 17. Subsection (1) of section 539.003, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

539.003 Confidentiality.--

(1) All records relating to pawnbroker transactions delivered to appropriate law enforcement officials pursuant to s. 539.001 are confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution and may be used only for official law enforcement purposes. This section does not prohibit the disclosure by the appropriate law enforcement officials of the name and address of the pawnbroker, the name and address of the conveying customer, or a description of pawned, purchased, or conveyed property to the alleged owner of pawned property.

Section 18. Present subsections (3), (4), and (5) of section 538.04, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, are 31 redesignated as subsections (4), (5), and (6), respectively,

and a new subsection (3) is added to that section to read: 1 2 538.04 Recordkeeping requirements; penalties.--3 (3) If the appropriate law enforcement agency supplies 4 the appropriate software and the secondhand dealer presently has computer capability, transactions of secondhand goods 5 6 shall be electronically transferred. If a secondhand dealer 7 does not presently have computer capability, the appropriate law enforcement agency may provide the secondhand dealer with 8 a computer and all necessary equipment for the purpose of 9 10 electronically transferring transactions of secondhand goods. 11 The appropriate law enforcement agency shall retain ownership 12 of the computer, unless otherwise agreed upon. The secondhand 13 dealer shall maintain the computer in good working order, ordinary wear and tear excepted. In the event the secondhand 14 15 dealer transfers transactions of secondhand goods 16 electronically, the secondhand dealer is not also required to 17 deliver to the appropriate law enforcement official the 18 original or copies of the secondhand goods transaction forms. The appropriate law enforcement official may, for the purposes 19 of a criminal investigation, request that the secondhand 20 21 dealer produce an original of a transaction form that has been electronically transferred. The secondhand dealer shall 22 deliver this form to the appropriate law enforcement official 23 24 within 24 hours of the request. Section 19. Subsection (7) of section 812.155, Florida 25 Statutes, 1998 Supplement, is amended to read: 26 27 812.155 Hiring, leasing, or obtaining personal property or equipment with the intent to defraud; failing to 28 29 return hired or leased personal property or equipment; rules 30 of evidence. --

section does not apply to personal property or equipment that 2 is the subject of a rental-purchase agreement that permits the 3 lessee to acquire ownership of the personal property or 4 equipment. 5 Section 20. If any provision of this act or the 6 application thereof to any person or circumstance is held 7 invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the 8 invalid provision or application, and to this end the 9 10 provisions of this act are declared severable. 11 12 (Redesignate subsequent sections.) 13 14 15 ======= T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ========= 16 And the title is amended as follows: 17 On page 3, line 8, after the semicolon 18 19 insert: amending s. 539.001, F.S.; defining terms; 20 21 modifying findings required of the Division of Consumer Services of the Department of 22 Agriculture and Consumer Services for orders 23 24 imposing penalties; requiring approval of pawnbroker transaction forms; revising content 25 26 of such forms; revising recordkeeping 27 requirements for pawnbrokers to provide that 28 the sheriff or the director of the department of public safety is designated as the central 29 30 repository for copies of all pawnbroker transaction forms collected by law enforcement 31

1 officials; providing for submission of 2 pawnbroker transaction forms to the sheriff or 3 public safety director upon request; requiring 4 pawnbrokers to computerize their records by a 5 specified date; providing for a statewide system for collecting and accessing pawnshop 6 7 ticket and second-hand dealer information; designating the sheriffs as administrators of 8 9 the system; providing authorized law enforcement officials access to the database; 10 designating the sheriffs' offices as central 11 12 repositories responsible for the transfer of information to the statewide database; 13 14 providing that the sheriffs, in consultation with the Florida Police Chiefs and the 15 Department of Law Enforcement, must establish 16 17 standards for transmitting information into the statewide system; providing for fees; limiting 18 the scope of certain database searches; 19 20 prescribing certain prohibited acts; modifying procedures for hold orders; amending s. 21 539.003, F.S.; deleting an exception to 22 confidentiality of records of pawnbroker 23 24 transactions; amending s. 538.04, F.S.; providing for electronic transfer of 25 26 transactions of secondhand goods; authorizing 27 law enforcement agencies to provide a 28 secondhand dealer with a computer and necessary 29 equipment for the electronic transfer of 30 transactions of secondhand goods; providing procedures with respect to the electronic 31

Bill No. CS for SB 1712

Amendment No. ____

transfer of transactions of secondhand goods; amending s. 812.155, F.S.; removing the exclusion of rental-purchase agreements from provisions which provide criminal penalties for hiring, leasing, or obtaining personal property with intent to defraud and failing to return hired or leased personal property or equipment; providing for severability;