Amendment No. 01 (for drafter's use only)

ı	CHAMBER ACTION Senate House
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5	ORIGINAL STAMP BELOW
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11	Representative(s) Sublette offered the following:
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13	Amendment (with title amendment)
14	On page 5, between lines 21&22, of the bill
15	
16	insert:
17	Section 4. Subsection (4) is added to section 30.17,
18	Florida Statutes, to read:
19	30.17 Sheriff to keep an execution docket
20	(4) On October 1, 2001, the sheriff shall cease
21	docketing newly delivered writs of executions. The sheriff
22	shall maintain the existing docket until October 1, 2003. Upon
23	the request of any person or entity who delivered a writ of
24	execution to the sheriff before October 1, 2001, the sheriff
25	shall provide written certification of the date on which the
26	writ was delivered. Except for any certification requested by
27	a state agency or a political subdivision of the state, the
28	sheriff shall charge a fixed, nonrefundable fee of \$20 for
29	each certification. Fees collected under this section shall be
30	disbursed in accordance with s. 30.231(5). The sheriff's
31	duties under this section shall cease on October 1, 2003.

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Section 5. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section 30.231, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

30.231 Sheriffs' fees for service of summons, subpoenas, and executions.--

- (1) The sheriffs of all counties of the state in civil cases shall charge fixed, nonrefundable fees for docketing and service of process, according to the following schedule:
  - (d) Executions:

- 1. Twenty dollars for docketing and indexing each writ of execution, regardless of the number of persons involved.
  - 2. Fifty dollars for each levy.
- a. A levy is considered made when any property or any portion of the property listed <u>or unlisted</u> in the instructions for levy is seized, or upon demand of the sheriff the writ is satisfied by the defendant in lieu of seizure. <u>Seizure requires that the sheriff take actual possession, if practicable, or, alternatively, constructive possession of the property by order of the court.</u>
- b. When the instructions are for levy upon real property, a levy fee is required for each parcel described in the instructions.
- c. When the instructions are for levy based upon personal property, one fee is allowed, unless although the property is may be seized at different locations, conditional upon all of the items being advertised collectively and the sale being held at a single location. However, if the property seized cannot be sold at one location during the same sale as advertised, but requires separate sales at different locations, the sheriff is then authorized to impose a levy fee for the property and sale at each location.
  - 3. Twenty dollars for advertisement of sale under

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process.

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- 4. Twenty dollars for each sale under process.
- Twenty dollars for each deed, bill of sale, or satisfaction of judgment.

Section 6. Effective July 1, 2000, section 55.10, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 55.10 Judgments, orders, and decrees; lien of all, generally; extension of liens; transfer of liens to other security.--
- (1) A judgment, order, or decree becomes a lien on real estate in any county when a certified copy of it is recorded in the official records or judgment lien record of the county, whichever is maintained at the time of recordation, and it shall be a lien for a period of 7 years from the date of the recording provided that the judgment, order, or decree contains the address of the person who has a lien as a result of such judgment, order, or decree or a separate affidavit is recorded simultaneously with the judgment, order, or decree stating the address of the person who has a lien as a result of such judgment, order, or decree. A judgment, order, or decree does not become a lien on real estate unless the address of the person who has a lien as a result of such judgment, order, or decree is contained in the judgment, order, or decree or an affidavit with such address is simultaneously recorded with the judgment, order, or decree.
- The lien provided for in subsection (1) may be extended for an additional period of 10 7 years, subject to the limitation in subsection (3), by rerecording a certified copy of the judgment, order, or decree prior to the within the

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for in subsection (1) and by simultaneously recording an affidavit with the current address of the person who has a lien as a result of the judgment, order, or decree. The one additional period of 10 years shall be effective from the date the judgment, order, or decree is rerecorded. The lien will not be extended unless the affidavit with the current address is simultaneously recorded.

- (3) In the event the lien is extended under subsection (2), the lien of the judgment, order, or decree may be further extended by re-recording a certified copy of it within the 90-day period preceding the expiration of the lien provided for in subsection (2) and by simultaneously recording an affidavit with the current address of the person who has a lien as a result of such judgment, order, or decree. The lien will not be extended unless the affidavit with the current address is recorded.
- $\underline{(3)}$  (4) In no event shall the lien upon real property created by <u>this section</u> subsections (1), (2), and (3)be extended beyond the period provided for in s. 55.081.
- (4) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, this act shall apply to all judgments, orders, and decrees of record which constitute a lien on real property immediately prior to the effective date of this act. Any judgment, order, or decree recorded prior to July 1, 1987, shall be unaffected by the changes in this act and shall remain a lien on real property until the period provided for in s. 55.081 expires or until the lien is satisfied, whichever occurs first.
- (5) This section shall be deemed to operate prospectively.
- (5) (6) Any lien claimed under this section subsections 31 (1), (2), and (3)may be transferred, by any person having an

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interest in the real property upon which the lien is imposed or the contract under which the lien is claimed, from such real property to other security by either depositing in the clerk's office a sum of money or filing in the clerk's office a bond executed as surety by a surety insurer licensed to do business in this state. Such deposit or bond shall be in an amount equal to the amount demanded in such claim of lien plus interest thereon at the legal rate for 3 years plus \$500 to apply on any court costs which may be taxed in any proceeding to enforce said lien. Such deposit or bond shall be conditioned to pay any judgment, order, or decree which may be rendered for the satisfaction of the lien for which such claim of lien was recorded and costs plus \$500 for court costs. Upon such deposit being made or such bond being filed, the clerk shall make and record a certificate showing the transfer of the lien from the real property to the security and mail a copy thereof by registered or certified mail to the lienor named in the claim of lien so transferred, at the address stated therein. Upon the filing of the certificate of transfer, the real property shall thereupon be released from the lien claimed, and such lien shall be transferred to said security. The clerk shall be entitled to a fee of \$10 for making and serving the certificate. If the transaction involves the transfer of multiple liens, an additional charge of \$5 for each additional lien shall be charged. Any number of liens may be transferred to one such security.

(6) (7) Any excess of the security over the aggregate amount of any judgments, orders, or decrees rendered, plus costs actually taxed, shall be repaid to the party filing the security or his or her successor in interest. Any deposit of money shall be considered as paid into court and shall be

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1	subject to the provisions of law relative to payments of money
2	into court and the disposition of these payments.
3	(7) Any party having an interest in such security
4	or the property from which the lien was transferred may at any
5	time, and any number of times, file a complaint in chancery in
6	the circuit court of the county where such security is
7	deposited for an order:
8	(a) To require additional security;
9	(b) To require reduction of security;
10	(c) To require change or substitution of sureties;
11	(d) To require payment or discharge thereof; or
12	(e) Relating to any other matter affecting said
13	security.
14	Section 7. Effective October 1, 2001, section 55.201,
15	Florida Statutes, is created to read:
16	55.201 Central database of judgment liens on personal
17	propertyThe Department of State shall maintain a database
18	of judgment lien records established in accordance with ss.
19	55.201-55.209.
20	Section 8. Effective October 1, 2001, section 55.202,
21	Florida Statutes, is created to read:
22	55.202 Judgments, orders, and decrees; lien on
23	personal property
24	(1) A judgment lien securing the unpaid amount of any
25	money judgment may be acquired by the holder of a judgment
26	entered by:
27	(a) A court of this state;
28	(b) A court of the United States having jurisdiction
29	in this state;
30	(c) A court of the United States or any other state to
31	the extent enforceable under the Florida Enforcement of

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1	Foreign Judgments Act, ss. 55.501-55.509;
2	(d) A foreign state as defined in the Uniform
3	Out-of-Country Foreign Money-Judgment Recognition Act, ss.
4	55.601-55.607, from the time and to the extent enforceable
5	thereunder;
6	(e) An issuing tribunal with respect to a support
7	order being enforced in this state pursuant to chapter 88; or
8	(f) Operation of law pursuant to s. 61.14(6).
9	(2) A judgment lien may be acquired on the judgment
10	debtor's interest in all personal property subject to
11	execution in this state, other than fixtures, money,
12	negotiable instruments, and mortgages.
13	(a) A judgment lien is acquired by recording a
14	judgment lien certificate in accordance with s. 55.203 with
15	the Department of State after the judgment has become final
16	and if no stay of the judgment or its enforcement is in effect
17	at the time the certificate is filed.
18	(b) For any tax lien or assessment granted by law to
19	the state or any of the political subdivisions for any tax
20	enumerated in s. 72.011, a judgment lien may be acquired by
21	recording the lien or warrant with the Department of State.
22	(c) A judgment lien is effective as of the date of
23	recording, but no lien attaches to property until the debtor
24	acquires an interest in the property.
25	(d) Except as provided in s. 55.204(3), a judgment
26	creditor may record only one effective judgment lien
27	certificate based upon a particular judgment.
28	(3) Except as otherwise provided in s. 55.208, the
29	priority of a judgment lien acquired in accordance with this
30	section or s. 55.204(3) is established at the time the
31	judgment lien is recorded. Such judgment lien is deemed

1	recorded as of its effective date as provided in this section
2	or s. 55.204(3).
3	(4) As used in ss. 55.201-55.209, the terms "holder of
4	a judgment" and "judgment creditor" include the Department of
5	Revenue with respect to a judgment being enforced by the
6	Department of Revenue as the state IV-D agency.
7	(5) Liens, assessments, or judgments administered by
8	or secured on behalf of any state agency or political
9	subdivision of the state may be filed directly into the
LO	central database by such agency or subdivision through
L1	electronic or information data exchange programs approved by
L2	the Department of State.
L3	Section 9. Effective October 1, 2001, section 55.203,
L4	Florida Statutes, is created to read:
L5	55.203 Judgment lien certificate; content, recording,
L6	and indexing
L7	(1) An original judgment lien certificate, as provided
L8	in s. 55.202, must include:
L9	(a) The legal name of each judgment debtor and, if a
20	recorded legal entity, the registered name and document filing
21	number as shown in the records of the Department of State.
22	(b) The last known address and social security number,
23	federal identification number, or, in the instance in which
24	the judgment creditor is a state agency or a political
25	subdivision of the state, a taxpayer or other distinct
26	$\underline{\text{identification number of each judgment debtor, except that in}}$
27	cases of default judgment, the social security number must be
28	included only if known, or federal employer identification
29	number of each judgment debtor.
30	(c) The legal name of the judgment creditor and, if a
31	recorded legal entity, the registered name and document filing

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number as shown in the records of the Department of State, and the name of the judgment creditor's attorney or duly authorized representative, if any.

(d) The address and social security number or federal employer identification number of the judgment creditor.

- (e) The identity of the court which entered the judgment and the case number and the date the written judgment was entered.
- (f) The amount due on the money judgment and the applicable interest rate.
- (g) The signature of the judgment creditor or the judgment creditor's attorney or duly authorized representative.
- (h) With respect to a lien created by a delivery of a writ of execution to a sheriff prior to October 1, 2001, an affidavit by the judgment creditor which attests that the person or entity possesses any documentary evidence of the date of delivery of the writ, and a statement of that date or a certification by the sheriff of the date as provided in s. 30.17(4).
- (2) A second judgment lien certificate, as provided in s. 55.204(3), must include the information required in subsection (1) and must state the file number assigned to the record of the original judgment lien certificate, the money amount remaining unpaid, and the interest accrued thereon.
- (3) An amendment, as provided in s. 55.206, or a correction statement, as provided in s. 55.207, must state the file number of the judgment lien record to which the amendment or correction statement relates and must state the action, change, or statement to be added.
  - (4) The Department of State shall examine, for

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1	compliance with ss. 55.201-55.209, each document submitted for
2	recording and shall accept or reject the document accordingly.
3	For each judgment lien certificate recorded, the department
4	shall:
5	(a) Create a record.
6	(b) Assign a unique file number to the record.
7	(c) Include the date of filing of the judgment lien
8	certificate.
9	(d) Maintain the record in a database accessible to
10	the public via the Internet.
11	(e) Index the judgment lien certificate according to
12	the name of each judgment debtor.
13	(f) Index all subsequently filed documents relating to
14	an original judgment lien certificate in a manner that
15	associates them to the original judgment lien certificate.
16	(5) The validity of a judgment lien certificate
17	recorded under this section may not be defeated by technical
18	or clerical errors made in good faith which are not seriously
19	misleading, nor may any claim of estoppel be based on such
20	errors.
21	(6) The Department of State shall prescribe mandatory
22	forms of all documents to be filed under this section.
23	Section 10. Effective October 1, 2001, section 55.204,
24	Florida Statutes, is created to read:
25	55.204 Duration and continuation of judgment lien;
26	destruction of records
27	(1) Except as provided in this section, a judgment
28	lien acquired under s. 55.202 lapses and becomes invalid 5
29	years after the date of recording the judgment lien
30	certificate.

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(2) Liens securing the payment of child support or tax

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obligations as set forth in s. 95.091(1)(b) shall not lapse
until 20 years after the date of the original filing of the
warrant or other document required by law to establish a lien.
No second lien based on the original filing may be obtained.
(3) At any time within 6 months before the scheduled
lapse of a judgment lien under subsection (1), the judgment
creditor may acquire a second judgment lien by recording a new
judgment lien certificate. The second judgment lien becomes
effective on the date of lapse of the original judgment lien
or on the date on which the judgment lien certificate is
recorded, whichever is later. The second judgment lien is
deemed recorded on its effective date. The second judgment
lien is deemed a new judgment lien and not a continuation of
the original judgment lien. The second judgment lien
permanently lapses and becomes invalid 5 years after its
effective date, and no additional liens based on the original
judgment may be obtained.
(4) A judgment lien continues only as to itemized
property for an additional 90 days after lapse of the lien.
Such judgment lien will continue only if:
(a) The property had been itemized and its location
described with sufficient particularity in the instructions
for levy;
(b) The levy had been delivered to the sheriff prior
to the date of lapse of the lien to permit the sheriff to act;
and

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(c) The property was located in the county in which

the sheriff has jurisdiction at the time of delivery of the

not defeat the lien. A court may order continuation of the

instruction for levy. Subsequent removal of the property does

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circumstances have prevented levy. 1 The date of lapse of a judgment lien whose 2 3 enforceability has been temporarily stayed or enjoined as a 4 result of any legal or equitable proceeding is tolled until 30 days after the stay or injunction is terminated. 5 The Department of State shall maintain each 6 7 judgment lien record and all information contained therein for a minimum of 1 year after the judgment lien lapses in 8 accordance with this section. 9 10 Section 11. Effective October 1, 2001, section 55.205, 11 Florida Statutes, is created to read: 12 55.205 Effect of judgment lien. --13 (1) A valid judgment lien gives the judgment creditor 14 the right to take possession of the property subject to levy 15 through writ of execution, garnishment, or other judicial process. A judgment creditor who has not recorded a judgment 16 17 lien certificate in accordance with s. 55.203 or whose lien 18 has lapsed may nevertheless take possession of the judgment debtor's property through such other judicial process. A 19 judgment creditor proceeding by writ of execution obtains a 20 lien as of the time of levy and only on the property levied 21 upon. Except as provided in s. 55.208, such judgment creditor 22 takes subject to the claims and interest of priority judgment 23 24 creditors. (2) A buyer in the ordinary course of business as 25 defined in s. 671.201(9) takes free of a judgment lien created 26 27 under this section even though the buyer knows of its existence. A valid security interest as defined in chapter 679 28 in after-acquired property of the judgment debtor which is 29 30 perfected prior to the effective date of a judgment lien takes

priority over the judgment lien on the after-acquired

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1	property.
2	Section 12. Effective October 1, 2001, section 55.206,
3	Florida Statutes, is created to read:
4	55.206 Amendment of judgment lien record; termination,
5	partial release, assignment, continuation, tolling,
6	correction
7	(1) An amendment to a judgment lien acquired under s.
8	55.202 may be recorded by the judgment creditor of record,
9	which may provide for:
10	(a) The termination, partial release, or assignment of
11	the judgment creditor's interest in a judgment lien;
12	(b) The continuation and termination of the
13	continuation of a judgment lien, as provided in s. 55.204(4);
14	(c) The tolling and termination of the tolling of $a$
15	lapse of a judgment lien, as provided in s. 55.204(5); or
16	(d) The correction or change of any other information
17	provided in the record of a judgment lien.
18	(2) Within 30 days following receipt of a written
19	demand by a judgment debtor after the obligation underlying a
20	judgment lien has been fully or partially released, the
21	judgment lienholder must deliver to the judgment debtor a
22	written statement indicating that there is no longer a claim
23	for a lien on the personal property of the judgment debtor or
24	that the judgment lien has been partially released and setting
25	forth the value of the lien remaining unpaid as of the date of
26	the statement. A statement signed by an assignee must include
27	or be accompanied by a separate written acknowledgement of
28	assignment signed by the judgment creditor of record. If the
29	judgment lienholder fails to deliver such a statement within
30	30 days after proper written demand therefor, the judgment
31	lienholder is liable to the judgment debtor for \$100, and for

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1	any actual or consequential damages, including reasonable
2	attorney's fees, caused by such failure to the judgment
3	debtor.
4	(3) The judgment debtor, the judgment creditor, or
5	assignee may file such statement with the Department of State.
6	Section 13. Effective October 1, 2001, section 55.207,
7	Florida Statutes, is created to read:
8	55.207 Correction of judgment lien record
9	(1) A person may file with the Department of State a
10	correction statement with respect to a judgment lien record,
11	as provided in s. 55.203, indexed under the person's name, if
12	the person believes that the record is inaccurate or that the
13	judgment lien certificate was wrongfully filed.
14	(2) A correction statement must:
15	(a) State the judgment debtor named and the file
16	number assigned to the judgment lien record to which the
17	correction statement relates;
18	(b) Indicate that it is a correction statement;
19	(c) Provide the basis for the person's belief that the
20	judgment lien certificate was wrongfully filed or the record
21	is inaccurate; and
22	(d) Indicate the manner in which the person believes
23	the record should be corrected to cure any inaccuracy.
24	(3) The department shall ensure that a correction
25	statement is indexed and available in the same manner as any
26	recorded lien certificate in the central database of judgment
27	lien records.
28	(4) The filing of a correction statement does not
29	affect the effectiveness of the judgment lien or other filed
30	record.
31	Section 14. Effective October 1, 2001, section 55.208,

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Florida Statutes, is created to read: 1 2 55.208 Effect of recorded judgment lien on writs of 3 execution previously delivered to a sheriff .--4 (1) Any lien created by a writ of execution which has 5 been delivered to the sheriff of any county before October 1, 6 2001, remains in effect for 2 years thereafter as to any 7 property of the judgment debtor located in that county before 8 October 1, 2001, and remaining within that county after that date. As to any property of the judgment debtor brought into 9 10 the county on or after October 1, 2001, such writs create no 11 lien, inchoate or otherwise. 12 (2) If a judgment creditor who has delivered a writ of 13 execution to a sheriff in any county prior to October 1, 2001, properly files a judgment lien certificate with the Department 14 15 of State by October 1, 2003, the resulting judgment lien is deemed recorded on the date the writ was delivered to the 16 17 sheriff as to all leviable property of the judgment debtor 18 which is located in that county on October 1, 2001, and that remains continuously in that county thereafter. As to all 19 other property of the judgment debtor, the effective date of 20 the judgment lien is as provided in s. 55.202. The duration of 21 all judgment liens is as provided in s. 55.204, regardless of 22 the date on which a lien is determined to have been recorded. 23 24 (3) If a judgment creditor who has delivered a writ of 25 execution to a sheriff in any county before October 1, 2001, does not properly record a judgment lien certificate with the 26 27 Department of State by October 1, 2003, such writ is considered to have been abandoned and to be of no effect after 28 29 October 1, 2003. 30 Section 15. Effective October 1, 2001, section 55.209,

Florida Statutes, is created to read:

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1	55.209 Department of State; processing fees,
2	responsibilities
3	(1) Except for liens, assessments, or judgments filed
4	electronically by a state agency or a political subdivision of
5	the state, as provided in s. 55.202(6), the Department of
6	State shall collect the following nonrefundable processing
7	fees for all documents filed or recorded in accordance with
8	ss. 55.201-55.209:
9	(a) For any judgment lien certificate or other
10	documents permitted to be filed, \$20.
11	(b) For the certification of any recorded document,
12	\$10.
13	(c) For copies of judgment lien documents which are
14	produced by the Department of State, \$1 per page or part
15	thereof. However, no charge may be collected for copies
16	provided in an online electronic format via the Internet.
17	(d) For indexing a judgment lien by multiple judgment
18	debtor names, \$5 per additional name.
19	(e) For each additional facing page attached to a
20	judgment lien certificate or document permitted to be filed or
21	recorded, \$5.
22	(2) Unless otherwise provided by law, the Department
23	of State may not conduct any search of the database
24	established under s. 55.201 to determine the existence of any
25	judgment lien record or to perform any service other than in
26	connection with those services for which payment of services
27	are required under this section. The information maintained in
28	the database is for public notice purposes only and the
29	department may make no certification or determination of the
30	validity of any judgment lien acquired under ss. 55.202 and
31	<u>55.204(3).</u>

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Section 16. Effective October 1, 2001, subsection (1) of section 55.604, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (8) is added to that section, to read:

55.604 Recognition and enforcement.--Except as provided in s. 55.605, a foreign judgment meeting the requirements of s. 55.603 is conclusive between the parties to the extent that it grants or denies recovery of a sum of money. Procedures for recognition and enforceability of a foreign judgment shall be as follows:

- (1) The foreign judgment shall be filed with the Department of State and the clerk of the court and recorded in the public records in the county or counties where enforcement is sought. The filing with the Department of State shall not create a lien on any property.
- (a) At the time of the recording of a foreign judgment, the judgment creditor shall make and record with the clerk of the circuit court an affidavit setting forth the name, social security number, if known, and last known post-office address of the judgment debtor and of the judgment creditor.
- (b) Promptly upon the recording of the foreign judgment and the affidavit, the clerk shall mail notice of the recording of the foreign judgment, by registered mail with return receipt requested, to the judgment debtor at the address given in the affidavit and shall make a note of the mailing in the docket. The notice shall include the name and address of the judgment creditor and of the judgment creditor's attorney, if any, in this state. In addition, the judgment creditor may mail a notice of the recording of the judgment to the judgment debtor and may record proof of mailing with the clerk. The failure of the clerk to mail

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notice of recording will not affect the enforcement proceedings if proof of mailing by the judgment creditor has been recorded.

(8) A judgement lien on personal property is acquired only when a judgment lien certificate satisfying the requirements of s. 55.203 has been recorded with the Department of State.

Section 17. Effective October 1, 2001, section 56.21, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

56.21 Execution sales; notice.--Notice of all sales under execution shall be given by advertisement once each week for 4 successive weeks in a newspaper published in the county in which the sale is to take place. The time of such notice may be shortened in the discretion of the court from which the execution issued, upon affidavit that the property to be sold is subject to decay and will not sell for its full value if held until date of sale. On or before the date of the first publication or posting of the notice of sale, a copy of the notice of sale shall be furnished by certified mail to the attorney of record of the judgment debtor, or to the judgment debtor at the judgment debtor's last known address if the judgment debtor does not have an attorney of record. Such copy of the notice of sale shall be mailed even though a default judgment was entered. When levying upon personal property, a notice of such levy and execution sale and a copy of the affidavit required by s. 56.27(4) shall be made by the levying creditor to the attorney of record of the judgment creditor or the judgment creditor who has recorded a judgment lien certificate as provided in s. 55.202 or s. 55.204(3) at the address listed in the judgment lien certificate, or, if amended, in any amendment to the judgment lien certificate,

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and to all secured creditors who have filed financing
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    statements as provided in s. 679.401 in the name of the
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    judgment debtor reflecting a security interest in property of
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    the kind to be sold at the execution sale at the address
    listed in the financing statement, or, if amended, in any
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    amendment to the financing statement. Such notice shall be
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    made in the same manner as notice is made to any judgment
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    debtor under this section. When levying upon real property,
    notice of such levy and execution sale shall be made to the
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   property owner of record in the same manner as notice is made
    to any judgment debtor pursuant to this section. When selling
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    real or personal property, the sale date shall not be earlier
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    than 30 days after the date of the first advertisement.
           Section 18. Effective October 1, 2001, section 56.27,
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    Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
           56.27 Executions; payment to execution creditor of
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   money collected .--
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          (1) All money received under executions shall be paid,
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    in the order prescribed, to the following: the sheriff, for
    costs; the levying creditor in the amount of $500 as
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    liquidated expenses; and the judgment lienholder having the
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    earliest recorded judgment lien acquired under ss. 55.202 and
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    55.204(3), as set forth in an affidavit required by subsection
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    4), or his or her attorney, in satisfaction of the judgment
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    lien, provided that the judgment lien has not lapsed at the
    time of the levy party in whose favor the execution was issued
26
27
    or his or her attorney. The receipt of the attorney shall be a
    release of the officer paying the money to him or her. When
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    the name of more than one attorney appears in the court file,
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    the money shall be paid to the attorney who originally
    commenced the action or who made the original defense unless
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the file shows that another attorney has been substituted.

(2) When property sold under execution brings more than the amount needed to satisfy the provisions of subsection (1), the surplus shall be paid in the order of priority to any judgment lienholders whose judgment liens have not lapsed. Priority shall be based on the effective date of the judgment lien acquired under s. 55.202 or s. 55.204(3), as set forth in an affidavit required under subsection (4). If there is a surplus after all valid judgment liens and execution liens have been satisfied of the execution, the surplus must be paid to the defendant or, if there is another writ against the defendant docketed and indexed with the sheriff, the surplus must be paid to the junior writ.

- (3) The value of the property levied upon shall not be considered excessive unless the value unreasonably exceeds the total debt reflected in all unsatisfied judgment liens that have not lapsed and any unsatisfied lien of the levying creditor.
- (4) On or before the date of the first publication or posting of the notice of sale provided for under s. 56.21, the levying creditor shall file an affidavit setting forth the following as to the judgment debtor:
- (a) An attestation that the levying creditor has reviewed the database or judgment lien records established in accordance with ss. 55.201-55.209 and that the information contained in the affidavit based on that review is true and correct;
- (b) The information required under s. 55.203(1) and (2) for each judgment lien certificate indexed under the name of the judgment debtor as to each judgment creditor; the file number assigned to the record of the original and, if any, the

- not have any other levy in process or, if another levy is in process, the levying creditor believes in good faith that the total value of the property under execution does not exceed the amount of outstanding judgments.
- (5) A sheriff paying money received under an execution in accordance with the information contained in the affidavit under subsection (4) is not liable to anyone for damages arising from a wrongful levy.

Section 19. Subsection (1) of section 56.29, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 56.29 Proceedings supplementary.--
- (1) When any <u>person or entity</u> sheriff holds an unsatisfied execution <u>and has delivered a writ of execution to any sheriff</u>, the plaintiff in execution may file an affidavit so stating and that the execution is valid and outstanding and thereupon is entitled to these proceedings supplementary to execution.

Section 20. Section 77.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

77.01 Right to garnishment.—Every person or entity who has sued to recover a debt or has recovered judgment in any court against any person or entity, natural or corporate, has a right to a writ of garnishment, in the manner hereinafter provided, to subject any debt due or any debt under a negotiable instrument that will become due to defendant by a third person, and any tangible or intangible personal property of defendant in the possession or control of a third person. The officers, agents, and employees of any

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companies or corporations are third persons in regard to the 1 2 companies or corporations, and as such are subject to 3 garnishment after judgment against the companies or 4 corporations. 5 Section 21. Section 77.041, Florida Statutes, is 6 created to read: 7 77.041 Notice to defendant for claim of exemption from 8 garnishment; procedure for hearing. --9 (1) Upon application for a writ of garnishment by a 10 plaintiff, the clerk of the court shall attach to the writ the 11 following "Notice to Defendant": 12 13 NOTICE TO DEFENDANT OF RIGHT AGAINST GARNISHMENT OF WAGES, MONEY, AND OTHER PROPERTY 14 15 The Writ of Garnishment delivered to you with this Notice means that wages, money, and other property belonging 16 17 to you have been garnished to pay a court judgment against 18 you. HOWEVER, YOU MAY BE ABLE TO KEEP OR RECOVER YOUR WAGES, MONEY, OR PROPERTY. READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY. 19 State and federal laws provide that certain wages, 20 money, and property, even if deposited in a bank, savings and 21 22 loan, or credit union, may not be taken to pay certain types of court judgments. Such wages, money, and property are exempt 23 from garnishment. The major exemptions are listed below on the 24 25 form for Claim of Exemption and Request for Hearing. This list does not include all possible exemptions. You should consult a 26 27 lawyer for specific advice. TO KEEP YOUR WAGES, MONEY, AND OTHER PROPERTY 28 29 FROM BEING GARNISHED, OR TO GET BACK ANYTHING 30 ALREADY TAKEN, YOU MUST COMPLETE A FORM FOR

CLAIM OF EXEMPTION AND REQUEST FOR HEARING AS

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1	SET FORTH BELOW AND HAVE THE FORM NOTARIZED.
2	YOU MUST FILE THE FORM WITH THE CLERK'S OFFICE
3	WITHIN 20 DAYS AFTER THE DATE YOU RECEIVE THIS
4	NOTICE OR YOU MAY LOSE IMPORTANT RIGHTS. YOU
5	MUST ALSO MAIL OR DELIVER A COPY OF THIS FORM
6	TO THE PLAINTIFF AND THE GARNISHEE AT THE
7	ADDRESSES LISTED ON THE WRIT OF GARNISHMENT.
8	If you request a hearing, it will be held as soon as
9	possible after your request is received by the court. The
10	plaintiff must file any objection within 2 business days if
11	you hand delivered to the plaintiff a copy of the form for
12	Claim of Exemption and Request for Hearing or, alternatively,
13	7 days if you mailed a copy of the form for claim and request
14	to the plaintiff. If the plaintiff files an objection to your
15	Claim of Exemption and Request for Hearing, the clerk will
16	notify you and the other parties of the time and date of the
17	hearing. You may attend the hearing with or without an
18	attorney. If the plaintiff fails to file an objection, no
19	hearing is required, the writ of garnishment will be dissolved
20	and your wages, money, or property will be released.
21	YOU SHOULD FILE THE FORM FOR CLAIM OF EXEMPTION
22	IMMEDIATELY TO KEEP YOUR WAGES, MONEY, OR
23	PROPERTY FROM BEING APPLIED TO THE COURT
24	JUDGMENT. THE CLERK CANNOT GIVE YOU LEGAL
25	ADVICE. IF YOU NEED LEGAL ASSISTANCE YOU SHOULD
26	SEE A LAWYER. IF YOU CAN'T AFFORD A PRIVATE
27	LAWYER, LEGAL SERVICES MAY BE AVAILABLE.
28	CONTACT YOUR LOCAL BAR ASSOCIATION OR ASK THE
29	CLERK'S OFFICE ABOUT ANY LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAM
30	IN YOUR AREA.
31	CLAIM OF EXEMPTION AND REQUEST FOR HEARING

1	I claim exemptions from garnishment under the following
2	categories as checked:
3	1. Head of family wages. (You must check a
4	or b below.)
5	a. I provide more than one-half of the
6	support for a child or other dependent and
7	have net earnings of \$500 or less per week.
8	b. I provide more than one-half of the
9	support for a child or other dependent, have
10	net earnings of more than \$500 per week, but
11	have not agreed in writing to have my wages
12	garnished.
13	2. Social Security benefits.
14	3. Supplemental Security Income benefits.
15	4. Public assistance (welfare).
16	5. Workers' Compensation.
17	6. Unemployment Compensation.
18	
19	8. Retirement or profit-sharing benefits or
20	pension money.
21	9. Life insurance benefits or cash surrender
22	value of a life insurance policy or proceeds
23	of annuity contract.
24	10. Disability income benefits.
25	11. Prepaid College Trust Fund or Medical
26	Savings Account.
27	12. Other exemptions as provided by law.
28	(explain)
29	
30	I request a hearing to decide the validity of my claim. Notice
31	of the hearing should be given to me at:

1	
2	Address:
3	
4	Telephone number:
5	
6	The statements made in this request are true to the best of $my$
7	knowledge and belief.
8	
9	
10	
11	Defendant's signature
12	
13	<u>Date</u>
14	
15	STATE OF FLORIDA
16	
17	COUNTY OF
18	
19	Sworn and subscribed to before me this day of
20	(month and year), by (name of person making
21	statement)
22 23	Notary Public/Deputy Clerk
23 24	Notary Public, Deputy Cierk
2 <del>-1</del> 25	Personally KnownOR Produced Identification
26	
27	Type of Identification Produced
28	(2) The plaintiff must mail, by first class, a copy of
29	the writ of garnishment, a copy of the motion for writ of
30	garnishment, and the "Notice to Defendant" to the defendant's
31	last known address within 5 business days after the writ is
	<u>.</u>

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issued or 3 business days after the writ is served on the garnishee, whichever is later. However, if such documents are returned as undeliverable by the post office, or if the last known address is not discoverable after diligent search, the plaintiff must mail, by first class, the documents to the defendant at the defendant's place of employment. The plaintiff shall file in the proceeding a certificate of such service.

(3) Upon the filing by a defendant of a claim of exemption and request for hearing, a hearing will be held as soon as is practicable to determine the validity of the claimed exemptions. If the plaintiff does not file a sworn written statement that contests the defendant's claim of exemption within 2 business days after hand delivering the claim and request or, alternatively, 7 business days, if the claim and request were served by mail, no hearing is required and the clerk must automatically dissolve the writ and notify the parties of the dissolution by mail.

Section 22. Section 77.055, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

77.055 Service of garnishee's answer and notice of right to dissolve writ Notice to defendant and other interested persons.—Within 5 days after service of the garnishee's answer on the plaintiff or after the time period for the garnishee's answer has expired, the plaintiff shall serve, by mail, the following documents: a copy of the writ, a copy of the garnishee's answer, and a notice advising, and a certificate of service. The notice shall advise the recipient that he or she must move to dissolve the writ of garnishment within 20 days after the date indicated on the certificate of service in the notice if any allegation in the plaintiff's

motion for writ of garnishment is untrue within the time period set forth in s. 77.07(2) or be defaulted and that he or she may have exemptions from the garnishment which must be asserted as a defense. The plaintiff shall serve these documents on the defendant at the defendant's last known address and any other address disclosed by the garnishee's answer and on any other person disclosed in the garnishee's answer to have any ownership interest in the deposit, account, or property controlled by the garnishee. The plaintiff shall file in the proceeding a certificate of such service.

Section 23. Subsection (1) of section 77.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

77.06 Writ; effect.--

(1) Service of the writ shall make garnishee liable for all debts due by him or her to defendant and for any tangible or intangible personal property of defendant in the garnishee's possession or control at the time of the service of the writ or at any time between the service and the time of the garnishee's answer. Service of the writ creates a lien in or upon any such debts or property at the time of service or at the time such debts or property come into the garnishee's possession or control.

Section 24. Effective July 1, 2000, section 222.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

222.01 Designation of homestead by owner before levy.--

(1) Whenever any <u>natural</u> person residing in this state desires to avail himself or herself of the benefit of the provisions of the constitution and laws exempting property as a homestead from forced sale under any process of law, he or she may make a statement, in writing, containing a description

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of the real property, mobile home, or modular home claimed to
be exempt and declaring that the real property, mobile home,
or modular home is the homestead of the party in whose behalf
such claim is being made. Such statement shall be signed by
the person making it and shall be recorded in the circuit
court.
(2) When a certified copy of a judgment has been filed
in the public records of a county pursuant to s. 55.10, a
person who is entitled to the benefit of the provisions of the
State Constitution exempting real property as homestead and
who has a contract to sell or a commitment from a lender for a
mortgage on the homestead may file a notice of homestead in
the public records of the county in which the homestead
property is located in substantially the following form:
NOTICE OF HOMESTEAD
To:(Name and address of judgment creditor as
shown on recorded judgment and name and address
of any other person shown in the recorded
judgment to receive a copy of the Notice of
Homestead)
You are notified that the undersigned claims as
homestead exempt from levy and execution under
Section 4, Article X of the State Constitution,
the following described property:

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...(Legal description)...

1	or she has applied for and received the
2	homestead tax exemption as to the
3	above-described property, that is the tax
4	identification parcel number of this property,
5	and that the undersigned has resided on this
6	property continuously and uninterruptedly from
7	(date) to the date of this Notice of
8	Homestead. Further, the undersigned will either
9	convey or mortgage the above-described property
10	pursuant to the following:
11	<u> </u>
12	(Describe the contract of sale or loan
13	commitment by date, names of parties, date of
14	anticipated closing, and amount. The name,
15	address, and telephone number of the person
16	conducting the anticipated closing must be set
17	forth.)
18	
19	The undersigned also certifies, under oath,
20	that the judgment lien filed by you on
21	(date) and recorded in Official Records
22	Book, Page, of the Public Records of
23	County, Florida, does not constitute a
24	valid lien on the described property.
25	
26	YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED, PURSUANT TO SECTION
27	222.01 ET SEQ., FLORIDA STATUTES, THAT WITHIN
28	45 DAYS AFTER THE MAILING OF THIS NOTICE YOU
29	MUST FILE AN ACTION IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
30	COUNTY, FLORIDA, FOR A DECLARATORY
31	JUDGMENT TO DETERMINE THE CONSTITUTIONAL

1	HOMESTEAD STATUS OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY OR TO
2	FORECLOSE YOUR JUDGMENT LIEN ON THE PROPERTY
3	AND RECORD A LIS PENDENS IN THE PUBLIC RECORDS
4	OF THE COUNTY WHERE THE HOMESTEAD IS LOCATED.
5	YOUR FAILURE TO SO ACT WILL RESULT IN ANY BUYER
6	OR LENDER, OR HIS OR HER SUCCESSORS AND
7	ASSIGNS, UNDER THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED CONTRACT OF
8	SALE OR LOAN COMMITMENT TO TAKE FREE AND CLEAR
9	OF ANY JUDGMENT LIEN YOU MAY HAVE ON THE
10	PROPERTY.
11	
12	This day of, 2
13	
14	<u></u>
15	(Signature of Owner)
16	
17	<u></u>
18	(Printed Name of Owner)
19	
20	<u></u>
21	(Owner's Address)
22	
23	Sworn to and subscribed before me by
24	who is personally
25	known to me or produced
26	as identification,
27	this day of, 2
28	
29	<u></u>
30	Notary Public
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status.

- The clerk shall mail a copy of the notice of homestead to the judgment lienor, by certified mail, return receipt requested, at the address shown in the most recent recorded judgment or accompanying affidavit, and to any other person designated in the most recent recorded judgment or accompanying affidavit to receive the notice of homestead, and shall certify to such service on the face of such notice and record the notice. Notwithstanding the use of certified mail, return receipt requested, service shall be deemed complete upon mailing. (4) A lien pursuant to s. 55.10 of any lienor upon whom such notice is served, who fails to institute an action for a declaratory judgment to determine the constitutional homestead status of the property described in the notice of homestead or to file an action to foreclose the judgment lien, together with the filing of a lis pendens in the public records of the county in which the homestead is located, within 45 days after service of such notice shall be deemed as not attaching to the property by virtue of its status as homestead property as to the interest of any buyer or lender, or his or her successors or assigns, who takes under the contract of sale or loan commitment described above within 180 days after the filing in the public records of the notice of homestead. This subsection shall not act to prohibit a lien from attaching to the real property described in the notice of homestead at such time as the property loses its homestead
  - (5) As provided in s. 4, Art. X of the State Constitution, this subsection shall not apply to:
- (a) Liens and judgments for the payment of taxes and assessments on real property.

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- (b) Liens and judgments for obligations contracted for the purchase of real property.
- (c) Liens and judgments for labor, services, or materials furnished to repair or improve real property.
- (d) Liens and judgments for other obligations contracted for house, field, or other labor performed on real property.

Section 25. Section 222.12, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

222.12 Proceedings for exemption. -- Whenever any money or other thing due for labor or services as aforesaid is attached by such process, the person to whom the same is due and owing may make oath before the officer who issued the process or before a notary public that the money attached is due for the personal labor and services of such person, and she or he is the head of a family residing in said state. When such an affidavit is made, notice of same shall be forthwith given to the party, or her or his attorney, who sued out the process, and if the facts set forth in such affidavit are not denied under oath within 2 business days after the service of said notice, the process shall be returned, and all proceedings under the same shall cease. If the facts stated in the affidavit are denied by the party who sued out the process within the time above set forth and under oath, then the matter shall be tried by the court from which the writ or process issued, in like manner as claims to property levied upon by writ of execution are tried, and the money or thing attached shall remain subject to the process until released by the judgment of the court which shall try the issue.

Section 26. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 679.301, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

- 679.301 Persons who take priority over unperfected 1 2 security interests; right of "lien creditor."--3 (2) If the secured party files with respect to a 4 purchase money security interest before or within 15 days 5 after the debtor receives possession of the collateral, the 6 secured party he or she takes priority over the rights of a 7 transferee in bulk or of a lien creditor which arise between 8 the time the security interest attaches and the time of 9 filing. 10 (3) A "lien creditor" means a creditor who has 11 acquired a lien on the property involved by attachment, levy, 12 or the like and includes a judgment lienholder as provided 13 under ss. 55.202-55.209, an assignee for benefit of creditors from the time of assignment, and a trustee in bankruptcy from 14 15 the date of the filing of the petition or a receiver in equity 16 from the time of appointment. 17 Section 27. There is hereby appropriated from the 18 Corporations Trust Fund to the Department of State the following positions and funds to administer this act: 19 Effective July 1, 2000, four full-time equivalent 20 (1) 21 positions and \$274,858 in recurring salaries and benefits, \$200,000 in recurring expense, and \$442,753 in nonrecurring 22 operating capital outlay; and 23 24 (2) Effective March 1, 2001, nine additional full-time 25 equivalent positions and \$67,111 in recurring salaries and benefits and \$32,247 in nonrecurring operating capital outlay. 26 27 Section 28. Subsection (2) of section 607.1901, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 28
  - (2)(a) The Legislature shall appropriate from the fund

607.1901 Corporations Trust Fund creation; transfer of

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funds.--

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such amounts as it deems necessary for the operation of the division.

- (b) An amount equal to 2.9 percent of all moneys deposited each month in the fund is transferred to the Corporation Tax Administration Trust Fund created pursuant to s. 213.31.
- (c) In the last six months of any fiscal year, an amount equal to 43 percent of all moneys deposited each month into the fund is transferred to the General Revenue Fund.
- (d) The division shall transfer from the trust fund to the Cultural Institutions Trust Fund, quarterly, the amount of \$10 from each corporate annual report fee collected by the division and prorations transferring \$8 million each fiscal year, to be used as provided in s. 265.2861. Effective October 1, 2001, an additional \$2 million each fiscal year shall be transferred from the Corporations Trust Fund to the Cultural Institutions Trust Fund to be used as provided in s. 265.2861. The additional \$2 million is contingent upon the receipt of corresponding revenues collected under s. 55.209, as created by this act.
- (e) The division shall transfer from the trust fund to the Cultural Institutions Trust Fund, quarterly, prorations transferring \$250,000 each fiscal year, to be used as provided in s. 265.609.
- (f) The division shall transfer from the trust fund to the Cultural Institutions Trust Fund, quarterly, prorations transferring \$550,000 each fiscal year, to be used as provided in s. 265.608.
- $\mbox{(g)}$  The division shall transfer from the trust fund to the Historical Resources Operating Trust Fund, quarterly,
- prorations transferring \$2 million each fiscal year, to be

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used as provided in s. 267.0671.
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               The division shall transfer from the trust fund to
3
    the Historical Resources Operating Trust Fund, quarterly,
4
   prorations transferring $1.5 million each fiscal year, to be
    used as provided in s. 267.072.
5
          (i) Effective October 1, 2001, the division shall
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7
    transfer from the trust fund to the department's Grants and
8
   Donations Trust Fund quarterly prorations equaling not more
    than $1.6 million each fiscal year, to be used in the
9
10
    provision of services under s. 288.816. The transfer of $1.6
11
    million is contingent upon the receipt of corresponding
12
    revenues collected under s. 55.209, as created by this act.
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15
    ======= T I T L E
                                 A M E N D M E N T ========
    And the title is amended as follows:
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           On page 1, line 23,
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   after the semicolon, insert:
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           amending s. 30.17, F.S.; providing for phaseout
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           of sheriff's execution docket; amending s.
           30.231, F.S.; clarifying seizure of property
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           for levy; amending s. 55.10, F.S.; increasing
25
           the time period to rerecord a lien in order to
           get the lien extended for a certain time;
26
           providing for application; creating s. 55.201,
27
           F.S.; requiring the Department of State to
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           establish a database of judgment lien records;
           creating s. 55.202, F.S.; providing for
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           acquisition of a judgment lien on personal
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property; creating s. 55.203, F.S.; providing requirements for the content, recording, and indexing of judgment lien certificates by the Department of State; creating s. 55.204, F.S.; providing for lapse of a judgment lien; providing for acquisition of a second judgment lien; creating s. 55.205, F.S.; providing for the effect of a judgment lien; creating s. 55.206, F.S.; providing for amendment, termination, partial release, assignment, continuation, tolling, or correction of a recorded judgment lien; creating s. 55.207, F.S.; providing for filing and effect of a correction statement as to a judgment lien record; creating s. 55.208, F.S.; providing for phaseout of the effect of writs of execution delivered to a sheriff prior to a date certain; creating s. 55.209, F.S.; providing for the responsibilities of the Department of State and for filing fees; amending s. 55.604, F.S.; eliminating requirement for the filing of a foreign judgment with the Department of State; conditioning the effect of a foreign judgment as a lien on personal property in this state based on the recording of a lien certificate; amending s. 56.21, F.S.; providing for notice of levy and execution sale and affidavit of levying creditor to judgment creditors and certain secured creditors; amending s. 56.27, F.S.; providing for distribution of money collected under execution; amending s. 56.29,

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F.S.; clarifying who may file an affidavit for 1 2 purposes of supplementary proceedings; amending 3 s. 77.01, F.S.; providing entities with right 4 to writ of garnishment; creating s. 77.041, 5 F.S.; providing for notice of procedures for asserting exemptions and requesting a hearing; 6 7 amending s. 77.055, F.S.; clarifying requirements for service of garnishee's answer 8 and notice of right to dissolve writ of 9 10 garnishment; amending s. 77.06, F.S.; providing for creation of judgment lien upon service of 11 12 writ of garnishment; amending s. 222.01, F.S.; 13 revising provisions relating to designation of homestead by the owner before levy; providing 14 15 procedures; amending s. 222.12, F.S.; providing for taking of oath before notary public 16 17 regarding exemptions from garnishment; amending s. 679.301, F.S.; revising the definition of a 18 lien creditor; providing appropriations from 19 20 the Corporations Trust Fund in the Department of State; amending s. 607.1901, F.S.; providing 21 for the transfer of funds from the Corporations 22 Trust Fund; 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

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