SENATE BILL No. 33

By Legislative Post Audit Committee

1-12

AN ACT concerning law enforcement; relating to allocation and uses of certain forfeited property proceeds and certain tax assessment and penalty collection proceeds; prescribing accounting and reporting requirements; amending K.S.A. 79-5211 and K.S.A. 2000 Supp. 60-4117 and repealing the existing sections.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 2000 Supp. 60-4117 is hereby amended to read as follows: 60-4117. Except as provided in K.S.A. 2000 Supp. 65-7014, and amendments thereto: (a) When property is forfeited under this act, the law enforcement agency may:

- (1) Retain such property for official use or transfer the custody or ownership to any local, state or federal agency, subject to any lien preserved by the court;
- (2) destroy or use for investigative or training purposes, any illegal or controlled substances and equipment or other contraband, provided that materials necessary as evidence shall be preserved;
- (3) sell property which is not required by law to be destroyed and which is not harmful to the public:
- (A) All property, except real property, designated by the seizing agency to be sold shall be sold at public sale to the highest bidder for cash without appraisal. The seizing agency shall first cause notice of the sale to be made by publication at least once in an official county newspaper as defined by K.S.A. 64-101, and amendments thereto. Such notice shall include the time, place, and conditions of the sale and description of the property to be sold. Nothing in this subsection shall prevent a state agency from using the state surplus property system and such system's procedures shall be sufficient to meet the requirements of this subsection.
- (B) Real property may be sold pursuant to subsection (A), or the seizing agency may contract with a real estate company, licensed in this state, to list, advertise and sell such real property in a commercially reasonable manner.
- (C) No employee or public official of any agency involved in the investigation, seizure or forfeiture of seized property may purchase or attempt to purchase such property; or

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- (4) salvage the property, subject to any lien preserved by the court.
- (b) When firearms are forfeited under this act, the firearms in the discretion of the seizing agency, shall be destroyed, used within the seizing agency for official purposes, traded to another law enforcement agency for use within such agency or given to the Kansas bureau of investigation for law enforcement, testing, comparison or destruction by the Kansas bureau of investigation forensic laboratory.
- (c) The proceeds of any sale shall be distributed in the following order of priority:
 - (1) For satisfaction of any court preserved security interest or lien;
- (2) thereafter, for payment of all proper expenses of the proceedings for forfeiture and disposition, including expenses of seizure, inventory, appraisal, maintenance of custody, preservation of availability, advertising, service of process, sale and court costs;
 - (3) reasonable attorney fees:
- (A) If the plaintiff's attorney is a county or district attorney, an assistant, or another governmental agency's attorney, fees shall not exceed 15% of the total proceeds, less the amounts of subsection (c)(1) and (2), in an uncontested forfeiture nor 20% of the total proceeds, less the amounts of subsection (c)(1) and (2), in a contested forfeiture. Such fees shall be deposited in the county or city treasury and credited to the special prosecutor's trust fund. Moneys in such fund shall not be considered a source of revenue to meet normal operating expenditures, including salary enhancement. Such fund shall be expended by the county or district attorney, or other governmental agency's attorney through the normal county or city appropriation system and shall be used for such additional law enforcement and prosecutorial purposes as the county or district attorney or other governmental agency's attorney deems appropriate, including educational purposes. All moneys derived from past or pending forfeitures shall be expended pursuant to this act. The board of county commissioners shall provide adequate funding to the county or district attorney's office to enable such office to enforce this act. Neither future forfeitures nor the proceeds therefrom shall be used in planning or adopting a county or district attorney's budget; or
- (B) if the plaintiff's attorney is a private attorney, such reasonable fees shall be negotiated by the employing law enforcement agency;
- (4) repayment of law enforcement funds expended in purchasing of contraband or controlled substances, subject to any interagency agreement.
- (d) Any proceeds remaining shall be credited as follows, subject to any interagency agreement:
- (1) If the law enforcement agency is a state agency, the entire amount shall be deposited in the state treasury and credited to such agency's state

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forfeiture fund and shall be accounted for separately from all moneys from 1 2 other sources. There is hereby established in the state treasury the fol-3 lowing state funds: Kansas bureau of investigation state forfeiture fund, Kansas highway patrol state forfeiture fund, Kansas department of cor-4 rections state forfeiture fund and Kansas national guard counter drug 5 state forfeiture fund. Expenditures from the Kansas bureau of investi-6 7 gation state forfeiture fund shall be made upon warrants of the director 8 of accounts and reports issued pursuant to vouchers approved by the 9 attorney general or by a person or persons designated by the attorney 10 general. Expenditures from the Kansas highway patrol state forfeiture 11 fund shall be made upon warrants of the director of accounts and reports issued pursuant to vouchers approved by the superintendent of the high-12 13 way patrol or by a person or persons designated by the superintendent. Expenditures from the Kansas department of corrections state forfeiture 14 15 fund shall be made upon warrants of the director of accounts and reports issued pursuant to vouchers approved by the secretary of the department 16 17 of corrections or by a person or persons designated by the secretary. 18 Expenditures from the Kansas national guard counter drug state forfei-19 ture fund shall be made upon warrants of the director of accounts and 20 reports issued pursuant to vouchers approved by the adjutant general of 21 Kansas or by a person or persons designated by the adjutant general. Each 22 agency shall compile and submit a forfeiture fund report to the legislature 23 on or before February 1 of each year. Such report shall include, but not 24 be limited to: (A) The fund balance on December 1; (B) the deposits and 25 expenditures for the previous 12 month period ending December 1. 26 Upon the effective date of this act, the director of accounts and reports 27 is directed to transfer each agency's balance in the state special asset 28 forfeiture fund to the agency's new, state forfeiture fund. All liabilities of 29 the state special asset forfeiture fund existing prior to such date are hereby 30 imposed on the Kansas bureau of investigation state forfeiture fund, Kan-31 sas highway patrol state forfeiture fund and the Kansas department of 32 corrections state forfeiture fund. The state special asset forfeiture fund is 33 hereby abolished. 34

(2) If the law enforcement agency is a city or county agency, the entire amount shall be deposited in such city or county treasury and, shall be credited to a special law enforcement trust fund and shall be accounted for separately from all moneys from other sources. Each agency shall compile and submit annually a special law enforcement trust fund report to the entity which has budgetary authority over such agency and such report shall specify, for such period, the type and approximate value of the forfeited property received, the amount of any forfeiture proceeds received, and how any of those proceeds were expended.

(3) (e) Moneys in the Kansas bureau of investigation state forfeiture

fund, Kansas highway patrol state forfeiture fund, Kansas department of corrections state forfeiture fund, the special law enforcement trust funds and the Kansas national guard counter drug state forfeiture fund shall not be considered a source of revenue to meet normal operating expenses. *Except as provided in subsection (f), the moneys in* such funds shall be expended by the agencies or departments through the normal city, county or state appropriation system and shall be used for such special, additional law enforcement purposes as the law enforcement agency head deems appropriate. Neither future forfeitures nor the proceeds from such forfeitures shall be used in planning or adopting a law enforcement agency's budget.

- (f) If the aggregate amount of moneys received during a fiscal year by a law enforcement agency under the Kansas standard asset seizure and forfeiture act and credited to a state forfeiture fund or to a special law enforcement trust fund of a county or city law enforcement agency, as the case may be, exceeds the authorized budget of the law enforcement agency for such fiscal year by more than the amount equal to 25% of such law enforcement agency's budget for such fiscal year, then the amount that is in excess of the amount equal to 25% of such law enforcement agency's budget may be reallocated and used for support of drug abuse treatment programs, drug and crime prevention and education programs, housing programs, jobs skills programs or other community-based programs, including grants to not-for-profit community organizations for such purposes. In any such case of a state law enforcement agency, such reallocation and use shall be in accordance with the provisions of appropriation acts or as otherwise prescribed by law. In any such case of a county or city law enforcement agency, such reallocation and use shall be determined by the entity which has budgetary authority over such agency.
- (g) Each state law enforcement agency shall compile and submit a state forfeiture fund report to the director of the Kansas bureau of investigation on or before February 1 of each year. The annual forfeiture fund report shall include, but not be limited to: (1) The fund balance on December 1; (2) the deposits and expenditures for the previous twelve-month period ending December 1 that are credited to the state forfeiture fund in a form approved by the director of the Kansas bureau of investigation; and (3) a copy of the most recent federal annual certification report submitted by the state agency regarding moneys received by the state agency under federal forfeiture programs. The director of the Kansas bureau of investigation shall prepare annually a combined state forfeiture funds report from the individual state forfeiture fund reports and shall submit the combined report to the legislature as soon after February 1 as practicable.
- (h) Each county or city law enforcement agency which receives moneys or other property under the Kansas standard asset seizure and for-

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41 42 43 feiture act shall compile and submit annually a special law enforcement trust fund report to the entity which has budgetary authority over such agency. The annual special law enforcement trust fund report shall specify: (1) The type and approximate value of the forfeited property received under the Kansas standard asset seizure and forfeiture act; (2) the amount of any forfeiture proceeds received under such act; and (3) how such proceeds were expended.

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Sec. 2. K.S.A. 79-5211 is hereby amended to read as follows: 79-5211. All moneys received from the collection of taxes imposed under the provisions of K.S.A. 79-5201 et seq., and amendments thereto, and 25% of all moneys collected from assessments of delinquent taxes and penalties imposed thereunder, shall be remitted to the state treasurer who shall deposit the entire amount thereof in the state treasury and credit the same to the state general fund. The director of taxation shall remit 75% of all moneys received from the collection of assessments of delinquent taxes and penalties imposed pursuant to the provisions of K.S.A. 79-5201 et seg., and amendments thereto, as follows: (a) If the law enforcement agency which conducted the investigation is a county agency, the entire amount shall be deposited in the county treasury and credited to a special law enforcement trust fund for use, shall be accounted for separately from all moneys from other sources and shall be used solely for law enforcement and criminal prosecution purposes; (b) if the law enforcement agency which conducted the investigation is a city agency, the entire amount shall be deposited in the city treasury and credited to a special law enforcement trust fund for use, shall be accounted for separately from all moneys from other sources and shall be used solely for law enforcement and criminal prosecution purposes; and (c) if more than one law enforcement agency is substantially involved in the investigative process, the amount shall be distributed equally among the city, county and state law enforcement agencies involved and credited to the appropriate county and city special law enforcement trust funds and state law enforcement agency funds unless an alternate distribution is mutually agreed upon by the law enforcement agencies involved and submitted in writing to the director of taxation. Funds received by city and county treasurers shall not be considered to be a source of revenue to meet normal operating expenses of law enforcement agencies.

- Sec. 3. K.S.A. 79-5211 and K.S.A. 2000 Supp. 60-4117 is hereby repealed.
- Sec. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.