94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2005 and 2006

SB1752

Introduced 2/25/2005, by Sen. Jacqueline Y. Collins

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

| 735 ILCS 5/2-1402 | from Ch. | 110, | par. | 2-1402 |
|-------------------|----------|------|------|--------|
| 735 ILCS 5/12-803 | from Ch. | 110, | par. | 12-803 |

Amends the Code of Civil Procedure. Provides that the amount of wages that may be applied toward a judgment is limited to the lesser of (1) 15% of gross weekly wages or (2) the amount by which the disposable earnings for the week exceed the greater of 45 times the federal minimum hourly wage or the minimum hourly wage prescribed by the Minimum Wage Law. Effective immediately.

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AN ACT concerning civil liabilities.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, 3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The Code of Civil Procedure is amended by 5 changing Sections 2-1402 and 12-803 as follows:

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(735 ILCS 5/2-1402) (from Ch. 110, par. 2-1402)

Sec. 2-1402. Supplementary proceedings.

A judgment creditor, or his or her successor in 8 (a) interest when that interest is made to appear of record, is 9 entitled to prosecute supplementary proceedings for the 10 purposes of examining the judgment debtor or any other person 11 to discover assets or income of the debtor not exempt from the 12 enforcement of the judgment, a deduction order or garnishment, 13 14 and of compelling the application of non-exempt assets or 15 income discovered toward the payment of the amount due under the judgment. A supplementary proceeding shall be commenced by 16 17 the service of a citation issued by the clerk. The procedure for conducting supplementary proceedings shall be prescribed 18 19 by rules. It is not a prerequisite to the commencement of a 20 supplementary proceeding that a certified copy of the judgment 21 has been returned wholly or partly unsatisfied. All citations 22 issued by the clerk shall have the following language, or 23 language substantially similar thereto, stated prominently on the front, in capital letters: "YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR IN COURT 24 AS HEREIN DIRECTED MAY CAUSE YOU TO BE ARRESTED AND BROUGHT 25 BEFORE THE COURT TO ANSWER TO A CHARGE OF CONTEMPT OF COURT, 26 WHICH MAY BE PUNISHABLE BY IMPRISONMENT IN THE COUNTY JAIL." 27 28 The court shall not grant a continuance of the supplementary 29 proceeding except upon good cause shown.

30 (b) Any citation served upon a judgment debtor or any other 31 person shall include a certification by the attorney for the 32 judgment creditor or the judgment creditor setting forth the - 2 - LRB094 10620 LCB 40957 b

1 amount of the judgment, the date of the judgment, or its 2 revival date, the balance due thereon, the name of the court, and the number of the case, and a copy of the citation notice 3 required by this subsection. Whenever a citation is served upon 4 5 a person or party other than the judgment debtor, the officer 6 or person serving the citation shall send to the judgment debtor, within three business days of the service upon the 7 cited party, a copy of the citation and the citation notice, 8 9 which may be sent by regular first-class mail to the judgment 10 debtor's last known address. In no event shall a citation hearing be held sooner than five business days after the 11 12 mailing of the citation and citation notice to the judgment 13 debtor, except by agreement of the parties. The citation notice 14 need not be mailed to a corporation, partnership, or 15 association. The citation notice shall be in substantially the 16 following form:

17 "CITATION NOTICE18 (Name and address of Court)

19 Name of Case: (Name of Judgment Creditor),
20 Judgment Creditor v.
21 (Name of Judgment Debtor),
22 Judgment Debtor.
23 Address of Judgment Debtor: (Insert last known
24 address)

24address)25Name and address of Attorney for Judgment26Creditor or of Judgment Creditor (If no27attorney is listed): (Insert name and address)28Amount of Judgment: \$ (Insert amount)29Name of Person Receiving Citation: (Insert name)30Court Date and Time: (Insert return date and time)

specified in citation)

32 NOTICE: The court has issued a citation against the person 33 named above. The citation directs that person to appear in 34 court to be examined for the purpose of allowing the judgment 35 creditor to discover income and assets belonging to the 36 judgment debtor or in which the judgment debtor has an

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interest. The citation was issued on the basis of a judgment against the judgment debtor in favor of the judgment creditor in the amount stated above. On or after the court date stated above, the court may compel the application of any discovered income or assets toward payment on the judgment.

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6 The amount of income or assets that may be applied toward 7 the judgment is limited by federal and Illinois law. The 8 JUDGMENT DEBTOR HAS THE RIGHT TO ASSERT STATUTORY EXEMPTIONS 9 AGAINST CERTAIN INCOME OR ASSETS OF THE JUDGMENT DEBTOR WHICH 10 MAY NOT BE USED TO SATISFY THE JUDGMENT IN THE AMOUNT STATED 11 ABOVE:

12 (1) Under Illinois or federal law, the exemptions of personal property owned by the debtor include the debtor's 13 equity interest, not to exceed \$2,000 in value, in any 14 personal property as chosen by the debtor; Social Security 15 16 and SSI benefits; public assistance benefits; unemployment 17 compensation benefits; worker's compensation benefits; veteran's benefits; circuit breaker property tax relief 18 benefits; the debtor's equity interest, not to exceed 19 20 \$1,200 in value, in any one motor vehicle, and the debtor's equity interest, not to exceed \$750 in value, in any 21 implements, professional books, or tools of the trade of 22 the debtor. 23

(2) Under Illinois law, every person is entitled to an
estate in homestead, when it is owned and occupied as a
residence, to the extent in value of \$7,500, which
homestead is exempt from judgment.

(3) Under Illinois law, the amount of wages that may be
applied toward a judgment is limited to the lesser of (i)
15% of gross weekly wages or (ii) the amount by which
disposable earnings for a week exceed the total of 45 times
the federal minimum hourly wage <u>or the Illinois minimum</u>
hourly wage, whichever is greater.

34 (4) Under federal law, the amount of wages that may be
35 applied toward a judgment is limited to the lesser of (i)
36 25% of disposable earnings for a week or (ii) the amount by

1 which disposable earnings for a week exceed 30 times the 2 federal minimum hourly wage.

3 (5) Pension and retirement benefits and refunds may be
4 claimed as exempt under Illinois law.

5 The judgment debtor may have other possible exemptions 6 under the law.

THE JUDGMENT DEBTOR HAS THE RIGHT AT THE CITATION HEARING 7 TO DECLARE EXEMPT CERTAIN INCOME OR ASSETS OR BOTH. The 8 9 judgment debtor also has the right to seek a declaration at an 10 earlier date, by notifying the clerk in writing at (insert 11 address of clerk). When so notified, the Clerk of the Court 12 will obtain a prompt hearing date from the court and will provide the necessary forms that must be prepared by the 13 judgment debtor or the attorney for the judgment debtor and 14 sent to the judgment creditor and the judgment creditor's 15 16 attorney regarding the time and location of the hearing. This 17 notice may be sent by regular first class mail."

18 (c) When assets or income of the judgment debtor not exempt 19 from the satisfaction of a judgment, a deduction order or 20 garnishment are discovered, the court may, by appropriate order 21 or judgment:

(1) Compel the judgment debtor to deliver up, to be
applied in satisfaction of the judgment, in whole or in
part, money, choses in action, property or effects in his
or her possession or control, so discovered, capable of
delivery and to which his or her title or right of
possession is not substantially disputed.

28 (2) Compel the judgment debtor to pay to the judgment 29 creditor or apply on the judgment, in installments, a 30 portion of his or her income, however or whenever earned or 31 acquired, as the court may deem proper, having due regard 32 for the reasonable requirements of the judgment debtor and his or her family, if dependent upon him or her, as well as 33 any payments required to be made by prior order of court or 34 under wage assignments outstanding; provided that the 35 36 judgment debtor shall not be compelled to pay income which - 5 -LRB094 10620 LCB 40957 b

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1 would be considered exempt as wages under the Wage 2 Deduction Statute. The court may modify an order for 3 installment payments, from time to time, upon application of either party upon notice to the other. 4

5 (3) Compel any person cited, other than the judgment 6 debtor, to deliver up any assets so discovered, to be applied in satisfaction of the judgment, in whole or in 7 part, when those assets are held under such circumstances 8 that in an action by the judgment debtor he or she could 9 10 recover them in specie or obtain a judgment for the 11 proceeds or value thereof as for conversion or 12 embezzlement.

(4) Enter any order upon or judgment against the person 13 cited that could be entered in any garnishment proceeding.

(5) Compel any person cited to execute an assignment of 15 16 any chose in action or a conveyance of title to real or 17 personal property, in the same manner and to the same extent as a court could do in any proceeding by a judgment 18 creditor to enforce payment of a judgment or in aid of the 19 20 enforcement of a judgment.

(6) Authorize the judgment creditor to maintain an 21 action against any person or corporation that, it appears 22 23 upon proof satisfactory to the court, is indebted to the judgment debtor, for the recovery of the debt, forbid the 24 25 transfer or other disposition of the debt until an action can be commenced and prosecuted to judgment, direct that 26 27 the papers or proof in the possession or control of the 28 debtor and necessary in the prosecution of the action be 29 delivered to the creditor or impounded in court, and 30 provide for the disposition of any moneys in excess of the 31 sum required to pay the judgment creditor's judgment and 32 costs allowed by the court.

(d) No order or judgment shall be entered under subsection 33 34 (c) in favor of the judgment creditor unless there appears of record a certification of mailing showing that a copy of the 35 citation and a copy of the citation notice was mailed to the 36

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1 judgment debtor as required by subsection (b).

(e) All property ordered to be delivered up shall, except
as otherwise provided in this Section, be delivered to the
sheriff to be collected by the sheriff or sold at public sale
and the proceeds thereof applied towards the payment of costs
and the satisfaction of the judgment.

(1) The citation may prohibit the party to whom it is 7 (f) directed from making or allowing any transfer or other 8 disposition of, or interfering with, any property not 9 10 exempt from the enforcement of a judgment therefrom, a 11 deduction order or garnishment, belonging to the judgment 12 debtor or to which he or she may be entitled or which may thereafter be acquired by or become due to him or her, and 13 from paying over or otherwise disposing of any moneys not 14 so exempt which are due or to become due to the judgment 15 16 debtor, until the further order of the court or the 17 termination of the proceeding, whichever occurs first. The third party may not be obliged to withhold the payment of 18 any moneys beyond double the amount of the balance due 19 20 sought to be enforced by the judgment creditor. The court 21 may punish any party who violates the restraining provision of a citation as and for a contempt, or if the party is a 22 23 third party may enter judgment against him or her in the amount of the unpaid portion of the judgment and costs 24 25 allowable under this Section, or in the amount of the value of the property transferred, whichever is lesser. 26

27 (2) The court may enjoin any person, whether or not a 28 party to the supplementary proceeding, from making or 29 allowing any transfer or other disposition of, or 30 interference with, the property of the judgment debtor not 31 exempt from the enforcement of a judgment, a deduction 32 order or garnishment, or the property or debt not so exempt concerning which any person is required to attend and be 33 examined until further direction in the premises. The 34 injunction order shall remain in effect until vacated by 35 the court or until the proceeding is terminated, whichever 36

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1 first occurs.

2 (g) If it appears that any property, chose in action, 3 credit or effect discovered, or any interest therein, is 4 claimed by any person, the court shall, as in garnishment 5 proceedings, permit or require the claimant to appear and maintain his or her right. The rights of the person cited and 6 7 the rights of any adverse claimant shall be asserted and 8 determined pursuant to the law relating to garnishment 9 proceedings.

10 (h) Costs in proceedings authorized by this Section shall 11 be allowed, assessed and paid in accordance with rules, 12 provided that if the court determines, in its discretion, that 13 costs incurred by the judgment creditor were improperly 14 incurred, those costs shall be paid by the judgment creditor.

(i) This Section is in addition to and does not affect
enforcement of judgments or proceedings supplementary thereto,
by any other methods now or hereafter provided by law.

(j) This Section does not grant the power to any court to order installment or other payments from, or compel the sale, delivery, surrender, assignment or conveyance of any property exempt by statute from the enforcement of a judgment thereon, a deduction order, garnishment, attachment, sequestration, process or other levy or seizure.

24 (k) (Blank).

(1) At any citation hearing at which the judgment debtor 25 26 appears and seeks a declaration that certain of his or her 27 income or assets are exempt, the court shall proceed to 28 determine whether the property which the judgment debtor 29 declares to be exempt is exempt from judgment. At any time 30 before the return date specified on the citation, the judgment 31 debtor may request, in writing, a hearing to declare exempt 32 certain income and assets by notifying the clerk of the court before that time, using forms as may be provided by the clerk 33 of the court. The clerk of the court will obtain a prompt 34 35 hearing date from the court and will provide the necessary forms that must be prepared by the judgment debtor or the 36

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1 attorney for the judgment debtor and sent to the judgment 2 creditor, or the judgment creditor's attorney, regarding the 3 time and location of the hearing. This notice may be sent by regular first class mail. At the hearing, the court shall 4 5 immediately, unless for good cause shown that the hearing is to 6 be continued, shall proceed to determine whether the property which the judgment debtor declares to be exempt is exempt from 7 judgment. The restraining provisions of subsection (f) shall 8 9 not apply to any property determined by the court to be exempt.

10 (m) The judgment or balance due on the judgment becomes a 11 lien when a citation is served in accordance with subsection 12 (a) of this Section. The lien binds nonexempt personal 13 property, including money, choses in action, and effects of the 14 judgment debtor as follows:

15 (1) When the citation is directed against the judgment 16 debtor, upon all personal property belonging to the 17 judgment debtor in the possession or control of the 18 judgment debtor or which may thereafter be acquired or come 19 due to the judgment debtor to the time of the disposition 20 of the citation.

(2) When the citation is directed against a third party, upon all personal property belonging to the judgment debtor in the possession or control of the third party or which thereafter may be acquired or come due the judgment debtor and comes into the possession or control of the third party to the time of the disposition of the citation.

The lien established under this Section does not affect the rights of citation respondents in property prior to the service of the citation upon them and does not affect the rights of bona fide purchasers or lenders without notice of the citation. The lien is effective for the period specified by Supreme Court Rule.

33 This subsection (m), as added by Public Act 88-48, is a 34 declaration of existing law.

(n) If any provision of this Act or its application to any
 person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity of that

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provision or application does not affect the provisions or applications of the Act that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application.

4 (Source: P.A. 88-48; 88-299; 88-667, eff. 9-16-94; 88-670, eff. 5 12-2-94; 89-364, eff. 1-1-96.)

6 (735 ILCS 5/12-803) (from Ch. 110, par. 12-803)

7 Sec. 12-803. Maximum wages subject to collection. The 8 maximum wages, salary, commissions and bonuses subject to collection under a deduction order, for any work week shall not 9 exceed the lesser of (1) 15% of such gross amount paid for that 10 11 week or (2) the amount by which disposable earnings for a week 12 exceed 45 times the Federal Minimum Hourly Wage prescribed by Section 206(a)(1) of Title 29 of the United States Code, as 13 14 amended, or the minimum hourly wage prescribed by Section 4 of 15 the Minimum Wage Law, whichever is greater, in effect at the 16 time the amounts are payable. This provision (and no other) applies irrespective of the place where the compensation was 17 18 earned or payable and the State where the employee resides. No 19 amounts required by law to be withheld may be taken from the amount collected by the creditor. The term "disposable 20 earnings" means that part of the earnings of any individual 21 22 remaining after the deduction from those earnings of any 23 amounts required by law to be withheld.

24 (Source: P.A. 87-569.)

25 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon 26 becoming law.