# 98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

# State of Illinois

# 2013 and 2014

### HB2929

by Rep. Timothy L. Schmitz

## SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

55 ILCS 5/5-1134 new 625 ILCS 5/11-208.7

Amends the Counties Code. Authorizes a county to collect administrative fees pursuant to certain provisions of the Illinois Vehicle Code. Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Authorizes a county to impose administrative fees and procedures for impounding vehicles for specified violations. Effective immediately.

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FISCAL NOTE ACT MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning local government.

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

Section 5. The Counties Code is amended by adding Section
5 5-1134 as follows:

6 (55 ILCS 5/5-1134 new)
7 Sec. 5-1134. Administrative fees for impounding vehicles.
8 A county may collect an administrative fee for impounding
9 vehicles as provided by Section 11-208.7 of the Illinois

10 <u>Vehicle Code</u>.

Section 10. The Illinois Vehicle Code is amended by changing Section 11-208.7 as follows:

13 (625 ILCS 5/11-208.7)

Sec. 11-208.7. Administrative fees and procedures for impounding vehicles for specified violations.

(a) Any municipality <u>or county</u> may, consistent with this
Section, provide by ordinance procedures for the release of
properly impounded vehicles and for the imposition of a
reasonable administrative fee related to its administrative
and processing costs associated with the investigation,
arrest, and detention of an offender, or the removal,

1 impoundment, storage, and release of the vehicle. The 2 administrative fee imposed by the municipality <u>or county</u> may be 3 in addition to any fees charged for the towing and storage of 4 an impounded vehicle. The administrative fee shall be waived by 5 the municipality <u>or county</u> upon verifiable proof that the 6 vehicle was stolen at the time the vehicle was impounded.

7 (b) Any ordinance establishing procedures for the release
8 of properly impounded vehicles under this Section may impose
9 fees for the following violations:

10 (1) operation or use of a motor vehicle in the 11 commission of, or in the attempt to commit, an offense for 12 which a motor vehicle may be seized and forfeited pursuant 13 to Section 36-1 of the Criminal Code of 2012; or

14 (2) driving under the influence of alcohol, another 15 drug or drugs, an intoxicating compound or compounds, or 16 any combination thereof, in violation of Section 11-501 of 17 this Code; or

(3) operation or use of a motor vehicle in the
commission of, or in the attempt to commit, a felony or in
violation of the Cannabis Control Act; or

(4) operation or use of a motor vehicle in the
commission of, or in the attempt to commit, an offense in
violation of the Illinois Controlled Substances Act; or

(5) operation or use of a motor vehicle in the
commission of, or in the attempt to commit, an offense in
violation of Section 24-1, 24-1.5, or 24-3.1 of the

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Criminal Code of 1961 or the Criminal Code of 2012; or

(6) driving while a driver's license, permit, or privilege to operate a motor vehicle is suspended or revoked pursuant to Section 6-303 of this Code; except that vehicles shall not be subjected to seizure or impoundment if the suspension is for an unpaid citation (parking or moving) or due to failure to comply with emission testing; or

9 (7) operation or use of a motor vehicle while 10 soliciting, possessing, or attempting to solicit or 11 possess cannabis or a controlled substance, as defined by 12 the Cannabis Control Act or the Illinois Controlled 13 Substances Act; or

14 (8) operation or use of a motor vehicle with an expired 15 driver's license, in violation of Section 6-101 of this 16 Code, if the period of expiration is greater than one year; 17 or

(9) operation or use of a motor vehicle without ever having been issued a driver's license or permit, in violation of Section 6-101 of this Code, or operating a motor vehicle without ever having been issued a driver's license or permit due to a person's age; or

(10) operation or use of a motor vehicle by a person
against whom a warrant has been issued by a circuit clerk
in Illinois for failing to answer charges that the driver
violated Section 6-101, 6-303, or 11-501 of this Code; or

1 (11) operation or use of a motor vehicle in the 2 commission of, or in the attempt to commit, an offense in 3 violation of Article 16 or 16A of the Criminal Code of 1961 4 or the Criminal Code of 2012; or

5 (12) operation or use of a motor vehicle in the 6 commission of, or in the attempt to commit, any other 7 misdemeanor or felony offense in violation of the Criminal 8 Code of 1961 or the Criminal Code of 2012, when so provided 9 by local ordinance.

10 (c) The following shall apply to any fees imposed for 11 administrative and processing costs pursuant to subsection 12 (b):

(1) All administrative fees and towing and storage
charges shall be imposed on the registered owner of the
motor vehicle or the agents of that owner.

16 (2) The fees shall be in addition to (i) any other
17 penalties that may be assessed by a court of law for the
18 underlying violations; and (ii) any towing or storage fees,
19 or both, charged by the towing company.

20 (3) The fees shall be uniform for all similarly21 situated vehicles.

(4) The fees shall be collected by and paid to the
 municipality <u>or county</u> imposing the fees.

(5) The towing or storage fees, or both, shall be
collected by and paid to the person, firm, or entity that
tows and stores the impounded vehicle.

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1 (d) Any ordinance establishing procedures for the release 2 of properly impounded vehicles under this Section shall provide 3 for an opportunity for a hearing, as provided in subdivision 4 (b) (4) of Section 11-208.3 of this Code, and for the release of 5 the vehicle to the owner of record, lessee, or a lienholder of 6 record upon payment of all administrative fees and towing and 7 storage fees.

8 ordinance establishing procedures for (e) Any the 9 impoundment and release of vehicles under this Section shall 10 include the following provisions concerning notice of 11 impoundment:

12 (1) Whenever a police officer has cause to believe that
13 a motor vehicle is subject to impoundment, the officer
14 shall provide for the towing of the vehicle to a facility
15 authorized by the municipality <u>or county</u>.

16 (2) At the time the vehicle is towed, the municipality 17 or county shall notify or make a reasonable attempt to notify the owner, lessee, or person identifying himself or 18 herself as the owner or lessee of the vehicle, or any 19 20 person who is found to be in control of the vehicle at the time of the alleged offense, of the fact of the seizure, 21 22 and of the vehicle owner's or lessee's right to an 23 administrative hearing.

(3) The municipality <u>or county</u> shall also provide
 notice that the motor vehicle will remain impounded pending
 the completion of an administrative hearing, unless the

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owner or lessee of the vehicle or a lienholder posts with the municipality <u>or county</u> a bond equal to the administrative fee as provided by ordinance and pays for all towing and storage charges.

5 (f) Any ordinance establishing procedures for the 6 impoundment and release of vehicles under this Section shall 7 include a provision providing that the registered owner or 8 lessee of the vehicle and any lienholder of record shall be 9 provided with a notice of hearing. The notice shall:

10 (1) be served upon the owner, lessee, and any 11 lienholder of record either by personal service or by first 12 class mail to the interested party's address as registered 13 with the Secretary of State;

14 (2) be served upon interested parties within 10 days 15 after a vehicle is impounded by the municipality <u>or county</u>; 16 and

17 (3) contain the date, time, and location of the 18 administrative hearing. An initial hearing shall be 19 scheduled and convened no later than 45 days after the date 20 of the mailing of the notice of hearing.

21 (q) In addition to the requirements contained in 22 subdivision (b) (4) of Section 11-208.3 of this Code relating to 23 administrative hearings, any ordinance providing for the impoundment and release of vehicles under this Section shall 24 25 include the following requirements concerning administrative 26 hearings:

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(1) administrative hearings shall be conducted by a
 hearing officer who is an attorney licensed to practice law
 in this State for a minimum of 3 years;

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(2) at the conclusion of the administrative hearing, the hearing officer shall issue a written decision either sustaining or overruling the vehicle impoundment;

7 (3) if the basis for the vehicle impoundment is
8 sustained by the administrative hearing officer, any
9 administrative fee posted to secure the release of the
10 vehicle shall be forfeited to the municipality <u>or county</u>;

(4) all final decisions of the administrative hearing officer shall be subject to review under the provisions of the Administrative Review Law; and

14 (5) unless the administrative hearing officer 15 overturns the basis for the vehicle impoundment, no vehicle 16 shall be released to the owner, lessee, or lienholder of 17 record until all administrative fees and towing and storage 18 charges are paid.

(h) Vehicles not retrieved from the towing facility or storage facility within 35 days after the administrative hearing officer issues a written decision shall be deemed abandoned and disposed of in accordance with the provisions of Article II of Chapter 4 of this Code.

(i) Unless stayed by a court of competent jurisdiction, any
fine, penalty, or administrative fee imposed under this Section
which remains unpaid in whole or in part after the expiration

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1 of the deadline for seeking judicial review under the 2 Administrative Review Law may be enforced in the same manner as 3 a judgment entered by a court of competent jurisdiction.

4 (Source: P.A. 97-109, eff. 1-1-12; 97-1150, eff. 1-25-13.)

5 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon6 becoming law.