

First Regular Session  
Sixty-ninth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

**REENGROSSED**

*This Version Includes All Amendments  
Adopted in the House of Introduction*

LLS NO. 13-0652.01 Jason Gelender x4330

**SENATE BILL 13-247**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Heath,**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Court,**

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**Senate Committees**  
Finance

**House Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING THE COLLECTION OF DEBT OWED TO GOVERNMENTAL**  
102 **ENTITIES, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, SPECIFYING**  
103 **PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFSETTING SUCH DEBTS**  
104 **AGAINST STATE TAX REFUNDS AND AUTHORIZING THE STATE TO**  
105 **ENTER INTO RECIPROCAL DEBT COLLECTION AGREEMENTS WITH**  
106 **THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND OTHER STATES.**

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)*

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.*  
*Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

SENATE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
April 15, 2013

SENATE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
April 12, 2013

Current law authorizes the department of personnel to provide centralized debt collection services for debts owed to agencies, institutions, and political subdivisions of the state. The bill specifies procedural requirements, including a hearing requirement, to be followed before the state controller may certify such a debt to the department of revenue to be offset against a tax refund. The bill also authorizes the state to enter into reciprocal debt collection agreements with the federal government and other states. Under such agreements:

- ! The state uses moneys owed by the state to a person, including tax refunds, to pay debts that the person owes to the federal government or another state; and
- ! The federal government or another state uses moneys that it owes to another person, excluding tax refunds in the case of the federal government, to pay debts that the person owes to the state of Colorado.

If multiple creditors have claims against the same person to be paid from moneys owed by the state to the person, such moneys must be used first to pay debts owed to agencies and institutions of the state, next to pay debts owed to political subdivisions of the state, and last to pay debts owed to the federal government and other states.

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-30-202.4, **amend**  
3 (2.5) and **add** (10) as follows:

4 **24-30-202.4. Collection of debts due the state - controller's**  
5 **duties - creation of debt collection fund - definitions - reciprocal debt**  
6 **collection agreements.** (2.5) (a) The department of personnel may  
7 provide debt collection services, INCLUDING LOTTERY OFFSETS, LIMITED  
8 GAMING OFFSETS, AND STATE TAX REFUND OFFSETS, for ACCOUNTS  
9 ASSIGNED TO CENTRAL COLLECTION SERVICES BY political subdivisions of  
10 the state UNDER CONTRACT WITH CENTRAL COLLECTION SERVICES. The  
11 provisions of this section governing the time for referral of accounts to  
12 private collection agencies, write off, release, or compromise of debts  
13 ~~shall~~ DOES not govern the debt collection services provided to political  
14 subdivisions except as agreed between the department and such political

1 subdivisions or state agencies and institutions.

2 (b) UPON VERIFICATION BY THE APPROPRIATE STATE AGENCY,  
3 STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, OR POLITICAL  
4 SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE OF THE AMOUNT OF A DEBT DUE THE STATE,  
5 INSTITUTION, OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION, THE STATE CONTROLLER MAY  
6 CERTIFY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE ANY UNPAID DEBT TO BE  
7 OFFSET AGAINST A TAX REFUND DUE THE DEBTOR PURSUANT TO SECTION  
8 39-21-108 (3), C.R.S. BEFORE CERTIFYING AN UNPAID DEBT TO THE  
9 DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, THE STATE CONTROLLER SHALL GIVE WRITTEN  
10 NOTICE TO THE DEBTOR THAT THE DEBT WILL BE OFFSET AGAINST A TAX  
11 REFUND DUE THE DEBTOR AND THAT THE DEBTOR MAY, WITHIN THIRTY  
12 DAYS OF THE POSTMARK OF THE WRITTEN NOTICE, REQUEST A HEARING TO  
13 DISPUTE THE TAX REFUND OFFSET. SUCH A HEARING MUST BE HELD WITHIN  
14 THIRTY CALENDAR DAYS FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF THE REQUEST FROM THE  
15 DEBTOR. IF THE AGENCY, INSTITUTION, OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION THAT  
16 REFERRED THE DEBT TO THE CONTROLLER CERTIFIES THAT THE DEBT WAS  
17 THE SUBJECT OF A FINAL AGENCY DETERMINATION OR JUDICIAL DECISION  
18 OR THAT THE DEBT HAS BEEN REDUCED TO JUDGMENT, THE DEBTOR MAY  
19 NOT DISPUTE THE VALIDITY OF THE DEBT AT THE HEARING.      IF, AT  
20 THE HEARING, THE DISPUTE IS RESOLVED IN FAVOR OF THE DEBTOR, THE  
21 DEBTOR IS ENTITLED TO A REFUND OF ANY MONEY DUE PLUS INTEREST, IF  
22 REQUESTED, PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 39-21-110 AND 39-21-110.5, C.R.S.  
23 THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL SHALL  
24 PROMULGATE RULES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 4 OF THIS TITLE,  
25 THAT SPECIFY PROVISIONS FOR ADEQUATE NOTICE AND OPPORTUNITY FOR  
26 HEARING. THE STATE CONTROLLER MAY WRITE OFF, RELEASE, OR  
27 COMPROMISE, ANY DEBT AS AUTHORIZED BY PARAGRAPH (c) OF

1 SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION.

2 (10) (a) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, AND  
3 PURSUANT TO 31 U.S.C. SEC. 3716 (b) AND (h) (1), THE DEPARTMENT OF  
4 PERSONNEL, AT THE REQUEST OF ANY EXECUTIVE, JUDICIAL, OR  
5 LEGISLATIVE BRANCH AGENCY OF THE STATE, STATE-SUPPORTED  
6 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE  
7 STATE, MAY ENTER INTO A RECIPROCAL AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED  
8 STATES GOVERNMENT TO OFFSET:

9 (I) THE CLAIM OF ANY PERSON AGAINST THE STATE, INCLUDING  
10 ANY STATE TAX REFUND TO WHICH THE PERSON MAY BE ENTITLED, TO ANY  
11 DEBT OF THE PERSON OWED TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT THAT  
12 THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS CERTIFIED AS FINAL, DUE, AND  
13 OWING, WITH ALL APPEALS AND LEGAL ACTIONS HAVING BEEN WAIVED OR  
14 EXHAUSTED; AND

15 (II) ANY NONTAX CLAIM OF ANY PERSON AGAINST THE UNITED  
16 STATES GOVERNMENT TO ANY LIQUIDATED DEBT OF THE PERSON OWED TO  
17 THE STATE. ANY FEES ASSOCIATED WITH ANY OFFSET OF FEDERAL MONEYS  
18 WILL BE DEDUCTED BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FROM THE  
19 AMOUNT OF MONEYS OFFSET, WHICH MAY THEN BE ADDED TO THE  
20 BALANCE OF THE DEBT OWED, BUT ANY FEES ASSOCIATED WITH ANY  
21 OFFSET OF STATE MONEYS WILL NOT BE CHARGED TO THE UNITED STATES  
22 GOVERNMENT.

23 (b) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, THE  
24 DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL, AT THE REQUEST OF ANY EXECUTIVE,  
25 JUDICIAL, OR LEGISLATIVE BRANCH AGENCY, STATE-SUPPORTED  
26 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE  
27 STATE, MAY ENTER INTO A RECIPROCAL AGREEMENT WITH ANY STATE TO

1       OFFSET:

2               (I) THE CLAIM OF ANY PERSON AGAINST THE STATE TO ANY DEBT  
3       OF THE PERSON OWED TO ANY STATE THAT HAS CERTIFIED THE DEBT AS  
4       FINAL, DUE, AND OWING, WITH ALL APPEALS AND LEGAL ACTIONS HAVING  
5       BEEN WAIVED OR EXHAUSTED; AND

6               (II) ANY CLAIM OF ANY PERSON AGAINST ANY STATE TO ANY  
7       LIQUIDATED DEBT OF THE PERSON OWED TO THE STATE.

8               (c) IF MULTIPLE CREDITORS HAVE CERTIFIED LIQUIDATED DEBT  
9       AGAINST THE SAME PERSON ON A CLAIM AGAINST THE STATE PURSUANT TO  
10       THIS SECTION, THE DEBTS OF THE STATE, ANY STATE-SUPPORTED  
11       INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, OR ANY POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF  
12       THE STATE SHALL BE CREDITED FIRST IN THE PRIORITY ESTABLISHED IN  
13       PARAGRAPH (b) OF SUBSECTION (3.5) OF THIS SECTION, WITH THE  
14       UNDERSTANDING THAT ANY STATE AGENCY OR STATE-SUPPORTED  
15       INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION DEBT WILL BE PAID FIRST BEFORE ANY  
16       DEBT FOR A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE ASSIGNED TO CENTRAL  
17       COLLECTION SERVICES. IF THERE IS ANY BALANCE DUE THE CLAIMANT  
18       AFTER SETTLING THE WHOLE DEMANDS OF THE STATE, ANY EXECUTIVE,  
19       JUDICIAL, OR LEGISLATIVE BRANCH AGENCY OF THE STATE, ANY  
20       STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, AND ANY  
21       POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE, THE BALANCE SHALL BE CREDITED  
22       TO THE LIQUIDATED DEBTS CERTIFIED BY THE UNITED STATES  
23       GOVERNMENT AND THEN TO THE LIQUIDATED DEBTS CERTIFIED BY ANY  
24       OTHER STATE IN THE ORDER IN WHICH THE CLAIMS WERE FILED WITH THE  
25       STATE TREASURER. IF THERE IS A BALANCE DUE THE CLAIMANT AFTER  
26       SATISFACTION OF ALL LIQUIDATED DEBTS AS ITEMIZED IN THIS SECTION  
27       AND ANY COURT-ORDERED PAYMENTS, THE BALANCE SHALL BE PAID TO

1 THE CLAIMANT.

2 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-30-202.7, **amend**  
3 (1) (b) as follows:

4 **24-30-202.7. Lottery winnings offset - definitions.** (1) As used  
5 in this section, unless the context otherwise requires:

6 (b) "Outstanding debt" means any unpaid debt due to the state that  
7 is referred pursuant to section 24-30-202.4 (2) to the state controller or  
8 the central collection services section of the division of finance and  
9 procurement, or any successor section, in the department of personnel,  
10 including the collection fee and any allowable fees and costs pursuant to  
11 section 24-30-202.4 (8). "Outstanding debt" ~~does not include~~ INCLUDES  
12 any debt collected by the department of personnel for a political  
13 subdivision of the state UNDER CONTRACT WITH CENTRAL COLLECTION  
14 SERVICES, WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT ANY STATE AGENCY OR  
15 STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION DEBT WILL BE PAID  
16 BEFORE ANY DEBT FOR A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE ASSIGNED  
17 TO CENTRAL COLLECTION SERVICES.

18 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-35-605, **amend**  
19 (2) (b) (V) as follows:

20 **24-35-605. Payments - limited gaming and pari-mutuel**  
21 **wagering licensees - procedures.** (2) (b) If the registry operator replies  
22 that the winner is listed in the registry:

23 (V) The department of human services shall process moneys  
24 received from the registry operator pursuant to subparagraph (IV) of this  
25 paragraph (b) in accordance with section 26-13-118.7, C.R.S. The judicial  
26 department shall process moneys received from the registry operator  
27 pursuant to subparagraph (IV) of this paragraph (b) in accordance with

1 the rules of the department. THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL SHALL  
2 PROCESS MONEYS RECEIVED FROM THE REGISTRY OPERATOR PURSUANT TO  
3 SUBPARAGRAPH (IV) OF THIS PARAGRAPH (b) IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE  
4 RULES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL, WITH THE UNDERSTANDING  
5 THAT ANY STATE AGENCY OR STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTION OF HIGHER  
6 EDUCATION DEBT WILL BE PAID BEFORE ANY DEBT FOR A POLITICAL  
7 SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE ASSIGNED TO CENTRAL COLLECTION SERVICES.

8 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-21-108, **amend**  
9 (3) (a) (I) (A) as follows:

10 **39-21-108. Refunds.** (3) (a) (I) (A) Whenever it is established  
11 that any taxpayer has, for any period open under the statutes, overpaid a  
12 tax covered by articles 22 and 26 to 29 of this title, article 60 of title 34,  
13 C.R.S., and article 3 of title 42, C.R.S., and that: There is an unpaid  
14 balance of tax and interest accrued, according to the records of the  
15 executive director, owing by such taxpayer for any other period; there is  
16 an amount required to be repaid to the unemployment compensation fund  
17 pursuant to section 8-81-101 (4), C.R.S., the amount of which has been  
18 determined to be owing as a result of a final agency determination or  
19 judicial decision or that has been reduced to judgment by the division of  
20 unemployment insurance in the department of labor and employment;  
21 there is any unpaid child support debt as set forth in section 14-14-104,  
22 C.R.S., or child support arrearages that are the subject of enforcement  
23 services provided pursuant to section 26-13-106, C.R.S., as certified by  
24 the department of human services; there are any unpaid obligations owing  
25 to the state as set forth in section 26-2-133, C.R.S., for overpayment of  
26 public assistance or medical assistance benefits, the amount of which has  
27 been determined to be owing as a result of final agency determination or

1 judicial decision or that has been reduced to judgment, as certified by the  
2 department of human services; there is any unpaid loan or other  
3 obligation due to a state-supported institution of higher education as set  
4 forth in section 23-5-115, C.R.S., the amount of which has been  
5 determined to be owing as a result of a final agency determination or  
6 judicial decision or that has been reduced to judgment, as certified by the  
7 appropriate institution; there is any unpaid loan due to the student loan  
8 division of the department of higher education as set forth in section  
9 23-3.1-104 (1) (p), C.R.S., the amount of which has been determined to  
10 be owing as a result of a final agency determination or judicial decision  
11 or that has been reduced to judgment, as certified by the division; there  
12 is any unpaid loan due to the collegeinvest division of the department of  
13 higher education as set forth in section 23-3.1-206, C.R.S., the amount of  
14 which has been determined to be owing as a result of a final agency  
15 determination or judicial decision or that has been reduced to judgment;  
16 there is any outstanding judicial fine, fee, cost, or surcharge as set forth  
17 in section 16-11-101.8, C.R.S., or judicial restitution as set forth in  
18 section 16-18.5-106.8, C.R.S., the amount of which has been determined  
19 to be owing as a result of a final judicial department determination or  
20 certified by the judicial department as a judgment owed the state or a  
21 victim; there is any unpaid debt owing to the state or any agency thereof  
22 by such taxpayer, and that is found to be owing as a result of a final  
23 agency determination or the amount of which has been reduced to  
24 judgment and as certified by the controller; or the taxpayer is a qualified  
25 individual identified pursuant to section 39-22-120 (10) or 39-22-2003  
26 (9), so much of the overpayment of tax plus interest allowable thereon as  
27 does not exceed the amount of such unpaid balance or unpaid debt must



1 be credited first to the unpaid balance of tax and interest accrued and then  
2 to the unpaid debt, and any excess of the overpayment must be refunded.  
3 If the taxpayer elects to designate his or her refund as a credit against a  
4 subsequent year's tax liability, the amount allowed to be so credited must  
5 be reduced first by the unpaid balance of tax and interest accrued and then  
6 by the unpaid debt. If the taxpayer filed a joint return, the executive  
7 director shall notify the taxpayer's spouse that the portion of the  
8 overpayment that is generated by the spouse's income will be refunded  
9 upon receipt of a request detailing said amount. As used in this section,  
10 unless the context otherwise requires, "agency" includes A state-supported  
11 ~~institutions~~ INSTITUTION of higher education OR A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION  
12 OF THE STATE UNDER CONTRACT WITH CENTRAL COLLECTION SERVICES.

13 **SECTION 5. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
14 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
15 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August  
16 7, 2013, if adjournment sine die is on May 8, 2013); except that, if a  
17 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the  
18 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act  
19 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect  
20 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
21 November 2014 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
22 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.