

CHAPTER 270A

REVENUE RECAPTURE ACT

270A.03 Definitions.
270A.07 Procedure for setoff collection.

270A.11 Data privacy.

270A.03 DEFINITIONS.

[For text of subds 1 to 4, see M.S.2000]

Subd. 5. **Debt.** "Debt" means a legal obligation of a natural person to pay a fixed and certain amount of money, which equals or exceeds \$25 and which is due and payable to a claimant agency. The term includes criminal fines imposed under section 609.10 or 609.125 and restitution. A debt may arise under a contractual or statutory obligation, a court order, or other legal obligation, but need not have been reduced to judgment.

A debt includes any legal obligation of a current recipient of assistance which is based on overpayment of an assistance grant where that payment is based on a client waiver or an administrative or judicial finding of an intentional program violation; or where the debt is owed to a program wherein the debtor is not a client at the time notification is provided to initiate recovery under this chapter and the debtor is not a current recipient of food stamps, transitional child care, or transitional medical assistance.

A debt does not include any legal obligation to pay a claimant agency for medical care, including hospitalization if the income of the debtor at the time when the medical care was rendered does not exceed the following amount:

- (1) for an unmarried debtor, an income of \$8,800 or less;
- (2) for a debtor with one dependent, an income of \$11,270 or less;
- (3) for a debtor with two dependents, an income of \$13,330 or less;
- (4) for a debtor with three dependents, an income of \$15,120 or less;
- (5) for a debtor with four dependents, an income of \$15,950 or less; and
- (6) for a debtor with five or more dependents, an income of \$16,630 or less.

The income amounts in this subdivision shall be adjusted for inflation for debts incurred in calendar years 2001 and thereafter. The dollar amount of each income level that applied to debts incurred in the prior year shall be increased in the same manner as provided in section 1(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended through December 31, 2000, except that for the purposes of this subdivision the percentage increase shall be determined from the year starting September 1, 1999, and ending August 31, 2000, as the base year for adjusting for inflation for debts incurred after December 31, 2000.

Debt also includes an agreement to pay a MinnesotaCare premium, regardless of the dollar amount of the premium authorized under section 256L.15, subdivision 1a.

[For text of subd 6, see M.S.2000]

Subd. 7. **Refund.** "Refund" means an individual income tax refund or political contribution refund, pursuant to chapter 290, or a property tax credit or refund, pursuant to chapter 290A, or a sustainable forest tax payment to a claimant under chapter 290C.

For purposes of this chapter, lottery prizes, as set forth in section 349A.08, subdivision 8, and amounts granted to persons by the legislature on the recommendation of the joint senate-house of representatives subcommittee on claims shall be treated as refunds.

In the case of a joint property tax refund payable to spouses under chapter 290A, the refund shall be considered as belonging to each spouse in the proportion of the total refund that equals each spouse's proportion of the total income determined under section 290A.03, subdivision 3. In the case of a joint income tax refund under chapter 289A, the refund shall be considered as belonging to each spouse in the proportion of the total refund that equals each spouse's proportion of the total taxable income determined under section 290.01, subdivision 29. The commissioner shall remit the entire refund to the claimant agency, which shall, upon the request of the spouse who does not owe the debt, determine the amount of the refund belonging to that spouse and refund the amount to that spouse. For court fines, fees, and surcharges and court-ordered restitution under section 611A.04, subdivision 2, the notice provided by the commissioner of revenue under section 270A.07, subdivision 2, paragraph (b), serves as the appropriate legal notice to the spouse who does not owe the debt.

[For text of subd 8, see M.S.2000]

History: *1Sp2001 c 5 art 7 s 8; art 8 s 4*

270A.07 PROCEDURE FOR SETOFF COLLECTION.

Subdivision 1. **Notification requirement.** Any claimant agency, seeking collection of a debt through setoff against a refund due, shall submit to the commissioner information indicating the amount of each debt and information identifying the debtor, as required by section 270A.04, subdivision 3.

For each setoff of a debt against a refund due, the commissioner shall charge a fee of \$10. The proceeds of fees shall be allocated by depositing \$2.55 of each \$10 fee collected into a department of revenue recapture revolving fund and depositing the remaining balance into the general fund. The sums deposited into the revolving fund are appropriated to the commissioner for the purpose of administering the Revenue Recapture Act.

The claimant agency shall notify the commissioner when a debt has been satisfied or reduced by at least \$200 within 30 days after satisfaction or reduction.

[For text of subs 2 to 5, see M.S.2000]

History: *1Sp2001 c 10 art 2 s 72*

270A.11 DATA PRIVACY.

Private and confidential data on individuals may be exchanged among the department, the taxpayer's rights advocate, the attorney general, the claimant agency, and the debtor as necessary to accomplish and effectuate the intent of sections 270A.01 to 270A.12, as provided by section 13.05, subdivision 4, clause (b). The department may disclose to the claimant agency only the debtor's name, address, social security number and the amount of the refund, and in the case of a joint return, the name of the debtor's spouse. Any person employed by, or formerly employed by, a claimant agency who discloses any such information for any other purpose, shall be subject to the civil and criminal penalties of section 270B.18. Data collected by the department from claimant agencies relating to claims filed under this chapter are private data on individuals.

History: *1Sp2001 c 5 art 7 s 9*