

CHAPTER 270A

REVENUE RECAPTURE ACT

270A.03 Definitions.

270A.07 Procedure for setoff collection.

270A.03 DEFINITIONS.*[For text of subd 1, see M.S.2002]*

Subd. 2. **Claimant agency.** "Claimant agency" means any state agency, as defined by section 14.02, subdivision 2, the regents of the University of Minnesota, any district court of the state, any county, any statutory or home rule charter city presenting a claim for a municipal hospital or a public library or a municipal ambulance service, a hospital district, a private nonprofit hospital that leases its building from the county in which it is located, any public agency responsible for child support enforcement, any public agency responsible for the collection of court-ordered restitution, and any public agency established by general or special law that is responsible for the administration of a low-income housing program, and the Minnesota collection enterprise as defined in section 16D.02, subdivision 8, for the purpose of collecting the costs imposed under section 16D.11. A county may act as a claimant agency on behalf of an ambulance service licensed under chapter 144E if the ambulance service's primary service area is located at least in part within the county, but more than one county may not act as a claimant agency for a licensed ambulance service with respect to the same debt.

[For text of subs 3 and 4, see M.S.2002]

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. The term also includes the co-payment for the appointment of a district public defender imposed under section 611.17, paragraph (c). 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 support, 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 subds 6 to 8, see M.S.2002]

History: 2003 c 127 art 8 s 6; 1Sp2003 c 2 art 3 s 1; 1Sp2003 c 14 art 1 s 106; 1Sp2003 c 21 art 11 s 7

270A.07 PROCEDURE FOR SETOFF COLLECTION.

Subdivision 1. Notification requirement. (a) 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.

(b) For each setoff of a debt against a refund due, the commissioner shall charge a fee of \$15. The proceeds of fees shall be allocated by depositing \$4 of each \$15 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.

(c) For each debt for which a county acts as claimant agency on behalf of a licensed ambulance service, the county may charge the ambulance service a fee not to exceed the cost of administering the claim.

(d) 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.

Subd. 2. Setoff procedures. (a) The commissioner, upon receipt of notification, shall initiate procedures to detect any refunds otherwise payable to the debtor. When the commissioner determines that a refund is due to a debtor whose debt was submitted by a claimant agency, the commissioner shall first deduct the fee in subdivision 1, paragraph (b), and then remit the refund or the amount claimed, whichever is less, to the agency. In transferring or remitting moneys to the claimant agency, the commissioner shall provide information indicating the amount applied against each debtor's obligation and the debtor's address listed on the tax return.

(b) The commissioner shall remit to the debtor the amount of any refund due in excess of the debt submitted for setoff by the claimant agency. Notice of the amount setoff and address of the claimant agency shall accompany any disbursement to the debtor of the balance of a refund, or shall be sent to the debtor at the time of setoff if the entire refund is set off. The notice shall also advise the debtor of the right to contest the validity of the claim, other than a claim based upon child support under section 518.171, 518.54, 518.551, or chapter 518C at a hearing, subject to the restrictions in this paragraph. The debtor must assert this right by written request to the claimant agency, which request the claimant agency must receive within 45 days of the date of the notice. This right does not apply to (1) issues relating to the validity of the claim that have been previously raised at a hearing under this section or section 270A.09; (2) issues relating to the validity of the claim that were not timely raised by the debtor under section 270A.08, subdivision 2; (3) issues relating to the validity of the claim that have been previously raised at a hearing conducted under rules promulgated by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development or any public agency that is responsible for the administration of a low-income housing program, or that were not timely raised by the debtor under those rules; or (4) issues relating to the validity of the claim for which a hearing is discretionary under section 270A.09. The notice shall include an explanation of the right of the spouse who does not owe the debt to request the claimant agency to repay the spouse's portion of a joint refund.

[For text of subds 3 to 5, see M.S.2002]

History: 1Sp2003 c 1 art 2 s 80; 1Sp2003 c 21 art 11 s 8,9