
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6990

AN ACT CONCERNING THE SEIZURE AND FORFEITURE OF DIGITAL WALLETS AND VIRTUAL CURRENCY.

SUMMARY

This bill explicitly includes digital wallets and virtual currency in the property subject to the state's laws on (1) seizing property associated with a criminal arrest or under a search warrant and (2) forfeiting property related to illegally selling controlled substances, money laundering, or committing certain identity theft crimes.

For purposes of these laws, the bill specifies that a "digital wallet" is an electronic or digital functionality that (1) stores consumer account or payment credentials (e.g., in encrypted or tokenized form) and (2) transmits, routes, or otherwise processes the credentials in a consumer payment transaction. "Virtual currency" is generally a digital unit (1) used as a medium of exchange or form of digitally stored value or (2) incorporated into payment system technology. It includes digital units of exchange that have a centralized repository or administrator, are decentralized without a centralized repository or administrator, or may be created or obtained by computing or manufacturing.

The bill makes associated conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025

COMMITTEE ACTION

Banking Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 13 Nay 0 (03/11/2025)