



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 580**

February Session, 2026

Substitute Senate Bill No. 488

*Senate, April 9, 2026*

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through SEN. FLEXER of the 29th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE TREASURER'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REVISIONS TO THE UNCLAIMED PROPERTY PROGRAM AND SECOND INJURY FUND.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 3-56a of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes  
2 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
3 *1, 2026*):

4 As used in this part, unless the context otherwise requires:

5 (1) "Apparent owner" means the person whose name appears on the  
6 records of the holder as the person entitled to the property held, issued  
7 or owing by the holder, except for purposes of subdivision (8) of this  
8 section, "apparent owner" includes an agent or other representative of  
9 the apparent owner, but excludes the holder acting as the apparent  
10 owner's agent;

11 (2) "Banking organization" means any state bank and trust company,

12 national banking association or savings bank engaged in business in this  
13 state;

14 (3) "Business association" means a corporation, joint stock company,  
15 partnership, unincorporated association, joint venture, limited liability  
16 company, business trust, trust company, safe deposit company,  
17 financial organization, insurance company, person engaged in the  
18 business of operating or controlling a mutual fund, utility or other  
19 business entity consisting of one or more persons, whether or not for  
20 profit;

21 (4) "Financial organization" means any savings and loan association,  
22 credit union or investment company;

23 (5) "Funeral service contract" has the same meaning as provided in  
24 section 42-200;

25 (6) "Gift certificate" means a record evidencing a promise, made for  
26 consideration, by the seller or issuer of the record that goods or services  
27 will be provided to the owner of the record to the value shown in the  
28 record and includes, but is not limited to, a record that contains a  
29 microprocessor chip, magnetic stripe or other means for the storage of  
30 information that is prefunded and for which the value is decremented  
31 upon each use, a gift card, an electronic gift card, stored-value card or  
32 certificate, a store card, or a similar record or card, but "gift certificate"  
33 does not include prepaid calling cards regulated under section 42-370,  
34 prepaid commercial mobile radio services, as defined in 47 CFR 20.3 or  
35 general-use prepaid cards, as defined in section 42-460a;

36 (7) "Holder" means any person in possession of property subject to  
37 this part which belongs to another, or who is trustee in case of a trust, or  
38 who is indebted to another on an obligation subject to this part;

39 (8) "Indicated an interest" includes, in addition to other means set  
40 forth in this chapter, the following actions: (A) A record communicated  
41 by the apparent owner to the holder or an agent of the holder concerning  
42 the property or the account in which the property is held, (B) an oral

43 communication by the apparent owner to the holder or agent of the  
44 holder concerning the property or the account in which the property is  
45 held, where such holder or agent contemporaneously makes and  
46 preserves a record of such communication, (C) presentment of a check  
47 or other instrument of payment of a dividend, interest payment or other  
48 distribution by the apparent owner, (D) activity directed by an apparent  
49 owner in the account in which the property is held, including accessing  
50 the account or information concerning the account, or a direction by the  
51 apparent owner to increase, decrease or otherwise change the amount  
52 or type of property held in the account, (E) a deposit into, or withdrawal  
53 from, an account at a business association, a banking organization or a  
54 financial organization that is the holder or an agent of the holder of the  
55 account in which the property is held by the apparent owner, except for  
56 an automatic deposit or withdrawal previously authorized by the  
57 apparent owner or an automatic reinvestment of dividends or interest,  
58 and (F) any other action by the apparent owner which reasonably  
59 demonstrates to the holder that the apparent owner knows the property  
60 exists. "Indicated an interest" excludes any communication of an  
61 apparent owner with a person other than the holder or the holder's  
62 representative unless a record of the communication evidences the  
63 apparent owner's knowledge of a right to the property;

64 [(8)] (9) "Insurance company" means an association, corporation or  
65 fraternal or mutual benefit organization, whether or not for profit,  
66 engaged in the business of providing life endowments, annuities or  
67 insurance, including accident, burial, casualty, credit life, contract  
68 performance, dental, disability, fidelity, fire, health, hospitalization,  
69 illness, life, malpractice, marine, mortgage, surety, wage protection and  
70 workers' compensation insurance;

71 [(9)] (10) "Last-known address" means any description, code or other  
72 indication of the location of the apparent owner that identifies the state,  
73 even if such description, code or indication is insufficient for the  
74 purpose of the delivery of first-class United States mail to the apparent  
75 owner;

76 [(10)] (11) "Mineral" means gas; oil; other gaseous, liquid and solid  
77 hydrocarbons; oil shale; cement material; sand and gravel; road  
78 material; building stone; chemical raw material; gemstone; fissionable  
79 and nonfissionable ores; colloidal and other clay; steam and other  
80 geothermal resource; or any other substance defined as a mineral by the  
81 law of this state;

82 [(11)] (12) "Mineral proceeds" means amounts payable for the  
83 extraction, production or sale of minerals, or, upon the abandonment of  
84 those payments, all payments that become payable thereafter, and  
85 "mineral proceeds" includes amounts payable: (A) For the acquisition  
86 and retention of a mineral lease, including bonuses, royalties,  
87 compensatory royalties, shut-in royalties, minimum royalties and delay  
88 rentals; (B) for the extraction, production or sale of minerals, including  
89 net revenue interests, royalties, overriding royalties, extraction  
90 payments and production payments; and (C) under an agreement or  
91 option, including a joint operating agreement, unit agreement, pooling  
92 agreement and farm-out agreement;

93 [(12)] (13) "Owner" means a depositor in case of a deposit, a  
94 beneficiary in case of a trust, a creditor, claimant or payee in case of other  
95 choses in action, or any person having a legal or equitable interest in  
96 property subject to this part, or such person's legal representative;

97 [(13)] (14) "Person" means any individual, business association,  
98 estate, trust, government, governmental subdivision, agency or  
99 instrumentality, or any other legal or commercial entity;

100 [(14)] (15) "Property" means realty or personalty, tangible or  
101 intangible, and includes, but is not limited to, virtual currency;

102 [(15)] (16) "Record" means information that is inscribed on a tangible  
103 medium or that is stored in an electronic or other medium and is  
104 retrievable in perceivable form;

105 [(16)] (17) "Treasurer" means the Treasurer of the state of Connecticut;

106 [(17)] (18) "Utility" means a person who owns or operates for public

107 use any plant, equipment, real property, franchise or license for the  
108 transmission of communications or the production, storage,  
109 transmission, sale, delivery or furnishing of electricity, water, steam or  
110 gas; and

111 [(18)] (19) "Virtual currency" has the same meaning as provided in  
112 section 36a-596.

113 Sec. 2. Section 3-58a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
114 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

115 (a) Unclaimed funds held and owing by an insurance company shall  
116 be presumed abandoned if a person other than the insured or annuitant  
117 is entitled to the funds and no address of such person is known to the  
118 company. If it is not definite and certain from the records of the  
119 company what person is entitled to the funds, it is presumed that the  
120 last-known address of the person entitled to the funds is the same as the  
121 last-known address of the insured or annuitant according to the records  
122 of the company.

123 (b) As used in this section, "unclaimed funds" means all moneys held  
124 and owing by any insurance company unclaimed and unpaid for more  
125 than three years after the moneys became due and payable as  
126 established from the records of a life insurance company under any life  
127 or endowment insurance policy or annuity contract which has matured  
128 or terminated or after the moneys became due and payable as  
129 established from the records of any other insurance company. A life  
130 insurance policy not matured by actual proof of the death of the insured  
131 is deemed to be matured and the proceeds thereof are deemed to be due  
132 and payable if such policy was in force when the insured attained the  
133 limiting age under the mortality table on which the reserve is based,  
134 unless the person appearing entitled thereto has within the preceding  
135 three years (1) assigned, readjusted or paid premiums on the policy, or  
136 subjected the policy to loan, or (2) corresponded in writing with the  
137 insurance company concerning the policy. Moneys otherwise payable  
138 according to the records of the company are deemed due and payable  
139 although the policy or contract has not been surrendered as required.

140 The application of an automatic premium loan provision or other  
141 nonforfeiture provision contained in an insurance policy does not  
142 prevent the policy from being deemed matured or terminated for  
143 purposes of this section if the insured has died or the insured or a  
144 beneficiary of the policy have otherwise become entitled to the proceeds  
145 thereof before the depletion of the cash surrender value of a policy  
146 subject to such provisions.

147 Sec. 3. Subsection (c) of section 3-61b of the 2026 supplement to the  
148 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
149 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

150 (c) Not later than March first of each year, the holder shall obtain from  
151 the funeral service establishment a list of all properties held by such  
152 holder pursuant to a funeral service contract that meets any of the  
153 following: (1) [that] The funeral service contract was entered into  
154 seventy-five years or more ago, (2) [for which] the funeral service  
155 establishment has received affirmative notification of the death of the  
156 beneficiary of such contract, or (3) [for which] the beneficiary of such  
157 contract has reached the age of one hundred ten years.

158 Sec. 4. Section 3-65a of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is  
159 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
160 *2026*):

161 (a) Between July first and September thirtieth, inclusive, of the  
162 calendar year in which a presumption of abandonment is to take effect,  
163 if the owner's claim is not barred by law, the holder shall notify the  
164 owner thereof and take reasonable steps to prevent abandonment from  
165 being presumed. Such notice shall be provided, at a minimum, by (1)  
166 first-class mail directed to the owner's last-known address, if such  
167 address is sufficient for the purpose of the delivery of first-class United  
168 States mail and the cumulative value of all property belonging to the  
169 owner is fifty dollars or greater, and (2) electronic mail directed to the  
170 owner's last-known electronic mail address, regardless of the value of  
171 the property, if a holder has received an owner's consent for the  
172 electronic delivery of any notices that are required by law. Such notice

173 shall inform the owner that evidence of interest must be indicated as  
174 required by this part or such property will be transferred to the  
175 Treasurer and will be subject to escheat to the state. If the property  
176 presumed abandoned is a security, virtual currency or tangible property  
177 from a safe deposit box, the holder's notice shall indicate that such  
178 property may be liquidated either prior to or following its reporting to  
179 the Treasurer and that after such liquidation will be limited to the  
180 proceeds of such liquidation. Nothing in this subsection shall be  
181 construed to require an owner to consent to the electronic delivery of  
182 notices for communications regarding unclaimed property.

183 (b) Not later than March thirty-first following the close of the  
184 calendar year in which property is presumed abandoned, the holder  
185 shall pay or deliver such property to the Treasurer and file, on forms  
186 that the Treasurer shall provide, a report of unclaimed property. Each  
187 report shall be verified and shall include: (1) The name, if known, last-  
188 known physical and electronic mail address, if any, and last-known  
189 telephone number, if any, of each person appearing to be the owner of  
190 such property; (2) in case of unclaimed funds of an insurance company,  
191 the full name of the insured or annuitant and beneficiary and his or her  
192 last-known address appearing on the insurance company's records; (3)  
193 the nature and identifying number, if any, or description of the property  
194 and the amount appearing from the records to be due; (4) the date when  
195 the property became payable, demandable or returnable and the date of  
196 the last transaction with the owner with respect to the property; (5) if  
197 the holder is a successor to other holders, or if the holder has changed  
198 the holder's name, all prior known names and addresses of each holder  
199 of the property; and (6) such other information as the Treasurer may  
200 require.

201 (c) A holder may submit a request to the Treasurer to report and  
202 deliver property prior to the period required under subsection (b) of this  
203 section if the holder has identified circumstances that make it likely such  
204 property will become abandoned and subject to the custody of the state  
205 under this chapter, notwithstanding the passage of time and provision  
206 of notice. Any such request shall include an affidavit by a duly

207 authorized officer of the holder describing the efforts made to provide  
208 notice to the rightful owner, affirming that such notice was completed  
209 at least six months prior to the date of the affidavit, and that the holder  
210 has not received a communication from the owner that indicated an  
211 interest in such property. The Treasurer may, in the Treasurer's  
212 discretion, consent in writing to such request for early reporting and  
213 delivery.

214 [(c)] (d) Verification, if made by a partnership, shall be executed by a  
215 partner; if made by an unincorporated association or private  
216 corporation, by an officer; and if made by a public corporation, by its  
217 chief fiscal officer.

218 [(d)] (e) (1) The Treasurer shall keep a permanent record of all reports  
219 submitted to the Treasurer pursuant to this section.

220 (2) A holder shall retain the following records for at least ten years  
221 after the date any report was filed under this section or the last date a  
222 timely report was due to be filed, unless a shorter retention period is  
223 provided by the Treasurer: (A) The information required to be included  
224 in the report, (B) the date, place and nature of the circumstances that  
225 gave rise to the property right, and (C) any documentation concerning  
226 items considered for reporting that were not ultimately determined to  
227 represent unclaimed property, for verification of whether the holder has  
228 complied with its reporting obligation under this section.

229 [(e)] (f) Except for claims paid under section 3-67a and except as  
230 provided in subsection (e) of section 3-70a, as amended by this act, no  
231 owner shall be entitled to any interest, income or other increment which  
232 may accrue to property presumed abandoned from and after the date of  
233 payment or delivery to the Treasurer.

234 [(f)] (g) The Treasurer may decline to receive any property the value  
235 of which is less than the cost of giving notice or holding sale, or may  
236 postpone taking possession until a sufficient sum accumulates.

237 [(g)] (h) The Treasurer, or any officer or agency designated by the

238 Treasurer, may examine any person on oath or affirmation, or the  
239 records of any person or any agent of the person including, but not  
240 limited to, a dividend disbursement agent or transfer agent of a business  
241 association, banking organization or insurance company that is the  
242 holder of property presumed abandoned to determine whether the  
243 person or agent has complied with this part. The Treasurer may conduct  
244 the examination even if the person or agent believes the person or agent  
245 is not in possession of any property that must be paid, delivered or  
246 reported under this part. The Treasurer may bring an action in a court  
247 of appropriate jurisdiction to enforce the provisions of this part.

248 [(h)] (i) A record of the issuance of a check, draft or similar instrument  
249 is prima facie evidence of the obligation represented by the check, draft  
250 or similar instrument. In claiming property from a holder who is also  
251 the issuer, the Treasurer's burden of proof as to the existence and  
252 amount of the property and its abandonment is satisfied by showing  
253 issuance of the instrument and passage of the requisite period of  
254 abandonment. Defenses of payment, satisfaction, discharge and want of  
255 consideration are affirmative defenses that shall be established by the  
256 holder.

257 [(i)] (j) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b) of this  
258 section, the holder of personal property presumed abandoned pursuant  
259 to subdivision (5) of subsection (a) of section 3-57a or section 3-57b shall  
260 (1) sell such property and pay the proceeds arising from such sale,  
261 excluding any charges that may lawfully be withheld, to the Treasurer,  
262 unless such property consists of military medals, in which case such  
263 property shall not be sold, and (2) provide the Treasurer with records  
264 deemed appropriate by the Treasurer of property so presumed  
265 abandoned. The holder shall complete the sale of such property and  
266 deliver the net proceeds to the Treasurer not later than thirty days after  
267 filing the report required under subsection (b) of this section. A holder  
268 of tangible, personal property may contract with a third party to store  
269 and sell such property and to pay the proceeds arising from such sale,  
270 excluding any charges that may be lawfully withheld, to the Treasurer,  
271 provided the third party holds a surety bond or other form of insurance

272 coverage with respect to such activities. Any holder who sells property  
273 pursuant to subsection (a) of section 3-57a or section 3-57b and remits  
274 the excess proceeds to the Treasurer or who transmits tangible, personal  
275 property to a bonded or insured third party for such purposes, shall not  
276 be responsible for any claims related to the sale or transmission of the  
277 property or proceeds to the Treasurer. If the Treasurer exempts any such  
278 property from being remitted or sold pursuant to this subsection,  
279 whether by regulations or guidelines, the holder of such property may  
280 dispose of such property in any manner such holder deems appropriate  
281 and such holder shall not be responsible for any claims related to the  
282 disposition of such property or any claims to the property itself. For  
283 purposes of the sale of personal property presumed abandoned under  
284 subdivision (5) of subsection (a) of section 3-57a or section 3-57b, charges  
285 that may lawfully be withheld include costs of storage, appraisal,  
286 advertising and sales commissions as well as lawful charges owing  
287 under the contract governing the safe deposit box rental.

288 [(j)] (k) In the event military medals are presumed abandoned  
289 pursuant to subdivision (5) of subsection (a) of section 3-57a, a banking  
290 or financial organization shall transmit such medals to the Department  
291 of Veterans Affairs in accordance with procedures established by the  
292 Treasurer. The Treasurer and Commissioner of Veterans Affairs shall  
293 enter into a memorandum of understanding concerning the handling of  
294 such medals and the Department of Veterans Affairs shall hold such  
295 medals in custody pursuant to such memorandum. The Treasurer may  
296 make any information obtained pursuant to this section, including any  
297 photograph or other visual depiction of a military medal but excluding  
298 Social Security numbers, available to the public to facilitate the  
299 identification of the original owner of such medal or such owner's heirs  
300 or beneficiaries.

301 Sec. 5. Section 3-66a of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is  
302 amended by adding subsection (d) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

303 (NEW) (d) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, personal  
304 information of owners contained in the records of the Treasurer,

305 including those derived from holder reports and records, shall not be  
306 disclosed or made available for public inspection under the Freedom of  
307 Information Act, as defined in section 1-200, and shall only be disclosed  
308 for purposes directly connected with the administration of this chapter  
309 by the Treasurer or the Treasurer's agents. For purposes of this section,  
310 "personal information" means information that identifies or reasonably  
311 can be used to identify a person, including the name in conjunction with  
312 (1) the Social Security number or other government issued number or  
313 identifier, (2) date of birth, (3) date of death, (4) home or physical  
314 address or other contact information, (5) Internet provider address, (6)  
315 account number, or (7) abandoned property value.

316 Sec. 6. Section 3-70a of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is  
317 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
318 *2026*):

319 (a) Any person claiming an interest in property surrendered to the  
320 Treasurer under the provisions of this part may claim such property, or  
321 the proceeds from the sale thereof, at any time thereafter. Any person  
322 claiming an interest in such property shall file a certified claim with the  
323 Treasurer, setting forth the facts upon which such party claims to be  
324 entitled to recover such property. The Treasurer shall prescribe the form  
325 that such a verified claim shall take.

326 (b) The Treasurer shall consider each claim not later than ninety days  
327 after it is filed. The Treasurer may hold hearings on any claim and may  
328 refer any claim to the Office of the Claims Commissioner, which shall  
329 hold hearings thereon and promptly return the Claims Commissioner's  
330 recommendations for the payment or rejection thereof. The Treasurer  
331 shall deliver the Treasurer's decision in writing on each claim heard,  
332 with a finding of fact and a statement of the reasons for the Treasurer's  
333 decision. Any person aggrieved by a decision of the Treasurer may  
334 appeal therefrom in accordance with the provisions of section 4-183,  
335 except venue for such appeal shall be in the judicial district of New  
336 Britain.

337 (c) (1) (A) No agreement entered into prior to January 1, 2023, to

338 locate property shall be valid if: (i) Such agreement is entered into (I)  
339 within two years after the date a report of unclaimed property is  
340 required to be filed under section 3-65a, as amended by this act, or (II)  
341 between the date such a report is required to be filed under said section  
342 and the date it is filed under said section, whichever period is longer;  
343 (ii) such agreement is entered into within two years after the date of  
344 posting of the notice required by section 3-66a, as amended by this act;  
345 or (iii) pursuant to such agreement, any person undertakes to locate  
346 property included in a report of unclaimed property that is required to  
347 be filed under section 3-65a, as amended by this act, for a fee or other  
348 compensation exceeding ten per cent of the value of the recoverable  
349 property.

350 (B) No agreement entered into on or after January 1, 2023, to locate  
351 property shall be valid if: (i) Such agreement is entered into (I) within  
352 two years after the date a report of unclaimed property is required to be  
353 filed under section 3-65a, as amended by this act, or (II) between the date  
354 such a report is required to be filed under said section and the date it is  
355 filed under said section, whichever period is longer; or (ii) pursuant to  
356 such agreement, any person undertakes to locate property included in a  
357 report of unclaimed property that is required to be filed under section  
358 3-65a, as amended by this act, for a fee or other compensation exceeding  
359 ten per cent of the value of the recoverable property.

360 (2) (A) In addition to the requirements set forth in subparagraph (B)  
361 of subdivision (1) of this subsection, an agreement entered into prior to  
362 January 1, 2025, to locate property shall be valid only if it is in writing,  
363 is signed by the owner and discloses the nature and value of the  
364 property, and the owner's share after the fee or compensation has been  
365 subtracted is clearly stipulated.

366 (B) In addition to the requirements set forth in subparagraph (B) of  
367 subdivision (1) of this subsection, an agreement entered into on or after  
368 January 1, 2025, to locate property shall be valid only if such agreement  
369 is in writing, is signed by the owner and clearly and conspicuously  
370 discloses (i) the nature and value of the property, (ii) the owner's share

371 after the fee or compensation has been subtracted from such value, and  
372 (iii) that the owner may file a claim directly with the Treasurer at no cost  
373 and the method through which such claim may be filed.

374 (3) Any solicitation made to locate unclaimed property shall clearly  
375 and conspicuously disclose in a written statement that (A) any  
376 individual may search for and file a claim for such property directly  
377 with the Treasurer at no cost, and (B) the method through which such  
378 claim may be filed.

379 (4) Any claim for unclaimed property filed with the Treasurer  
380 pursuant to an agreement or solicitation under this subsection, shall  
381 include an unredacted version of any such agreement or solicitation to  
382 permit the Treasurer to determine whether such agreement or  
383 solicitation complies with the requirements of this subsection.

384 (5) The Treasurer may withhold payment of a claim for unclaimed  
385 property to anyone other than the owner (A) for failure to comply with  
386 the requirements of subdivision (4) of this subsection, or (B) if the  
387 Treasurer determines that the solicitation or agreement to locate  
388 unclaimed property does not comply with any other requirement of this  
389 section.

390 (6) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent an owner  
391 from asserting, at any time, that an agreement to locate or to otherwise  
392 obtain an interest in unclaimed property is based upon excessive or  
393 unjust consideration.

394 (d) The Treasurer shall pay each claim allowed without deduction for  
395 costs of notices or sale or for service charges. The Treasurer shall notify  
396 the Commissioner of Revenue Services of the payment of claims of five  
397 hundred dollars or more to the domiciliary administrator or executor of  
398 a deceased owner.

399 (e) In the case of any claim allowed under this section for property,  
400 funds or money delivered to the Treasurer pursuant to subdivision (1)  
401 or (2) of subsection (a) of section 3-57a, the Treasurer shall pay such

402 claim with interest as follows: For each calendar year or portion thereof  
403 that the property, funds or money has been paid or delivered to the  
404 Treasurer, the Treasurer shall pay interest at a rate that is not less than  
405 the deposit index, as determined under section 36a-26, for such year.  
406 Such interest shall accrue from the date of payment or delivery of the  
407 property, funds or money to the Treasurer until the date of payment or  
408 delivery of the property, funds or money to the claimant.

409 (f) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,  
410 where the amount of a property reported or transferred to the Treasurer  
411 under this part is at least ten dollars and less than two thousand five  
412 hundred dollars, the Treasurer shall pay such amount to an individual  
413 if the Treasurer has determined (1) that such individual is the sole owner  
414 of such property, and (2) to the Treasurer's satisfaction, the current  
415 address of such individual.

416 (g) The Treasurer may make direct payment to one or more claimants,  
417 without such claimant having been granted a decree to transfer personal  
418 property, been issued a current fiduciary certificate, or secured any  
419 other similar document, for any solely owned unclaimed property of a  
420 deceased owner valued at less than five hundred dollars in the  
421 aggregate at the time of the claim, subject to the following conditions:

422 (1) If no affidavit in lieu of administration or similar petition has been  
423 filed in a Probate Court or more than one year has passed since the last  
424 decree to transfer personal property or any other similar document has  
425 been issued, upon a claimant furnishing a certified claim and a sworn  
426 affidavit under penalty of perjury showing entitlement to such  
427 property. Such affidavit shall be in a form prescribed by the Treasurer  
428 and shall include, at a minimum, (A) the claimant's affirmation that the  
429 claimant is the sole heir, or (B) attestation from all of the other heirs with  
430 a valid claim to the property confirming the rightful distribution of the  
431 property under the law.

432 (2) If a fiduciary of a decedent estate has been appointed by a Probate  
433 Court, but the decedent's estate was closed more than one year prior to  
434 the discovery of the relevant unclaimed property, upon a claimant's

435 furnishing of a certified claim and a sworn affidavit under penalty of  
436 perjury showing entitlement to such property. Such affidavit shall be in  
437 a form prescribed by the Treasurer and shall include, at a minimum (A)  
438 the claimant's affirmation that the claimant is the previously appointed  
439 fiduciary and that the claimant shall distribute the funds as required by  
440 law; or (B) attestations from any rightful heir or beneficiary consistent  
441 with the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection.

442 (3) The payment of the amount due under this section shall constitute  
443 a full acquittance and release of the state for the amount paid. Any  
444 claimant paid by the Treasurer in good faith shall be answerable  
445 concerning such payment to anyone prejudiced by an improper  
446 distribution or payment. Except as provided in this subsection, nothing  
447 in this section shall be construed to modify or eliminate any of a  
448 claimant's responsibilities under any other state or federal law,  
449 including, but not limited to, any obligations under title 45a.

450 (h) In the case of a military medal that escheated pursuant to section  
451 3-65a, as amended by this act, for which more than one person may have  
452 the right to file a claim, the Treasurer may transmit the medal to the  
453 claimant that the Treasurer deems appropriate after the Treasurer has  
454 made a reasonable effort to identify and contact all known potential  
455 rightful owners.

456 [(h)] (i) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this  
457 section, where the sole owner of the abandoned property is reported as  
458 the office of the Secretary of the State, State Comptroller, Attorney  
459 General or State Treasurer or a department within the executive branch,  
460 as listed in section 4-38c, the Treasurer may submit a report to the Office  
461 of Policy and Management identifying the value of each property  
462 escheated and the applicable office or department that is the reported  
463 owner. Unless the Office of Policy and Management directs otherwise,  
464 the property shall escheat to the state, in accordance with this part, three  
465 months following the submission of such report and the Treasurer shall  
466 reclassify such property as property of the state instead of unclaimed  
467 property.

468 [(i)] (j) The Treasurer may establish a program that permits the owner  
469 of a claim allowed under this section for property, funds or money to  
470 donate such claim in its entirety to a charitable cause. The Treasurer  
471 shall select one or more of the following to be the recipient of donated  
472 payments under this subsection: (1) The organ transplant account  
473 established in section 17b-288, (2) the AIDS research education account  
474 established in section 19a-32a, (3) the endangered species, natural area  
475 preserves and watchable wildlife account established in section 22a-27l,  
476 (4) the breast cancer research and education account established in  
477 section 19a-32b, (5) the safety net services account established in section  
478 17b-112f, (6) the Connecticut Baby Bond Trust established in section 3-  
479 36b, (7) the mental health community investment account established in  
480 section 17a-451g, or (8) the Military Relief Fund established in section  
481 27-100a. An owner's election to donate an allowed claim payment shall  
482 be irrevocable and remittance of the donation shall be considered full  
483 payment of the allowed claim. The Treasurer shall prescribe the form  
484 that such donation election shall take.

485 Sec. 7. Section 49-60 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
486 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

487 (a) Each jeweler, watchmaker, silversmith or television and radio  
488 service dealer who alters, repairs or does any work on any article of  
489 personal property at the request of the owner or legal possessor of the  
490 property has a lien upon and may retain the possession of the article  
491 until the charges for the alteration, repairing or work have been paid.

492 (b) If the debt remains unpaid for more than six months, any such  
493 jeweler, watchmaker, silversmith or television and radio service dealer  
494 may sell the article at public or private sale, and the proceeds, after first  
495 paying the expense of such sale, shall be applied in payment of the debt,  
496 the balance, if any, to be presumed abandoned and paid [, in trust for  
497 the debtor,] within ten days to the [State] Treasurer in accordance with  
498 the provisions of subsection (c) of this section. No such sale shall be held  
499 until after thirty days' notice to the owner or legal possessor has been  
500 given by registered or certified mail at his last-known address, stating

501 the time and place of sale. If the owner's or possessor's address is  
502 unknown, or if such registered or certified mail notice is returned,  
503 further notice shall be given by advertising the time and place of the sale  
504 in a newspaper having a substantial circulation in the locality where the  
505 sale is to take place at least thirty days in advance of the sale. No such  
506 article the value of which is more than one hundred dollars, may be sold  
507 as [hereinbefore] provided in this subsection, unless the charges against  
508 the same equal at least one-third the value of the article.

509 (c) Upon the completion of a sale under this section, such jeweler,  
510 watchmaker, silversmith or television and radio service dealer shall pay  
511 or deliver such property to the Treasurer, pursuant to part III of chapter  
512 32, and file on a form prescribed by the Treasurer, a report of unclaimed  
513 property as provided in section 3-65a, as amended by this act. Any  
514 notice to the owner or legal possessor in accordance with subsection (b)  
515 of this section shall satisfy the notification requirements set forth in  
516 subsection (a) of section 3-65a, as amended by this act.

517 Sec. 8. Subsection (a) of section 31-310 of the general statutes is  
518 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
519 *2026*):

520 (a) (1) For the purposes of this chapter, the average weekly wage shall  
521 be ascertained by dividing the total wages received by the injured  
522 employee from the employer in whose service the employee is injured  
523 during the fifty-two calendar weeks immediately preceding the week  
524 during which the employee was injured, by the number of calendar  
525 weeks during which, or any portion of which, the employee was  
526 actually employed by the employer, but, in making the computation,  
527 absence for seven consecutive calendar days, although not in the same  
528 calendar week, shall be considered as absence for a calendar week.  
529 When the employment commenced otherwise than at the beginning of  
530 a calendar week, that calendar week and wages earned during that week  
531 shall be excluded in making the computation. When the period of  
532 employment immediately preceding the injury is computed to be less  
533 than a net period of two calendar weeks, the employee's weekly wage

534 shall be considered to be equivalent to the average weekly wage  
535 prevailing in the same or similar employment in the same locality at the  
536 date of the injury except that, when the employer has agreed to pay a  
537 certain hourly wage to the employee, the hourly wage so agreed upon  
538 shall be the hourly wage for the injured employee and the employee's  
539 average weekly wage shall be computed by multiplying the hourly  
540 wage by the regular number of hours that is permitted each week in  
541 accordance with the agreement.

542       (2) For the purpose of determining the amount of compensation to be  
543 paid in the case of a minor under the age of eighteen who has sustained  
544 an injury entitling the employee to compensation for total or partial  
545 incapacity for a period of fifty-two or more weeks, or to specific  
546 indemnity for any injury under the provisions of section 31-308, the  
547 administrative law judge may add fifty per cent to the employee's  
548 average weekly wage, except in the case of a minor under the age of  
549 sixteen, the administrative law judge may add one hundred per cent to  
550 the minor's average weekly wage. When the injured employee is a  
551 trainee or apprentice receiving a subsistence allowance from the United  
552 States because of war service, the allowance shall be added to the injured  
553 employee's actual earnings in determining the average weekly wage.  
554 Where the injured employee has worked for more than one employer as  
555 of the date of the injury and the average weekly wage received from the  
556 employer in whose employ the injured employee was injured, as  
557 determined under the provisions of this section, are insufficient to  
558 obtain the maximum weekly compensation rate from the employer  
559 under section 31-309, prevailing as of the date of the injury, the injured  
560 employee's average weekly wages shall be calculated upon the basis of  
561 wages earned from all such employers in the period of concurrent  
562 employment not in excess of fifty-two weeks prior to the date of the  
563 injury, but the employer in whose employ the injury occurred shall be  
564 liable for all medical and hospital costs and a portion of the  
565 compensation rate equal to seventy-five per cent of the average weekly  
566 wage paid by the employer to the injured employee, after such earnings  
567 have been reduced by any deduction for federal or state taxes, or both,  
568 and for the federal Insurance Contribution Act made from such

569 employee's total wages received from such employer during the period  
570 of calculation of such average weekly wage, but not less than an amount  
571 equal to the minimum compensation rate prevailing as of the date of the  
572 injury. The remaining portion of the applicable compensation rate shall  
573 be paid from the Second Injury Fund upon submission to the Treasurer  
574 by the employer or the employer's insurer of such vouchers and  
575 information as the Treasurer may require.

576 (3) For purposes of this subsection, the Second Injury Fund shall not  
577 be deemed an employer or an insurer for any claim brought on behalf  
578 of an insolvent insurer and shall be exempt from liability, unless such  
579 claim is brought not later than thirty days after a determination of such  
580 insurer's bankruptcy.

581 (4) No claim for payment of retroactive benefits may be made to the  
582 Second Injury Fund more than two years from the date on which the  
583 employer or its insurer paid such benefits in accordance with this  
584 subsection, but in no event shall such claim for payment of retroactive  
585 benefits cover a period exceeding three years. In cases which involve  
586 concurrent employment and in which there is a claim against a third  
587 party, the injured employee or the employer in whose employ the injury  
588 was sustained or the employer's insurer shall advise the custodian of the  
589 Second Injury Fund if there is a third party claim, and the employee,  
590 employer or employer's insurer shall pursue its subrogation rights as  
591 provided for in section 31-293 and shall include in its claim all  
592 compensation paid by the Second Injury Fund and shall reimburse the  
593 Second Injury Fund for all payments made for compensation in the  
594 event of a recovery against the third party.

595 Sec. 9. Subsection (b) of section 31-354 of the general statutes is  
596 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
597 *2026*):

598 (b) The State Treasurer shall establish within the Second Injury Fund  
599 [three accounts to be known as the operating account, the settlement  
600 account and the finance account which accounts shall be held separate  
601 and apart from each other. The operating account shall cover the costs

602 and expenses to the state of operating the Second Injury Fund. The  
 603 settlement account shall cover actual disbursement of the settled claims  
 604 whether by one-time full payments or by payments over a period of  
 605 time. The finance account shall contain such funds and be operated in  
 606 the manner provided in section 31-354b] such accounts or Short-Term  
 607 Investment Funds as necessary to operate the Second Injury Fund.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2026	3-56a
Sec. 2	July 1, 2026	3-58a
Sec. 3	July 1, 2026	3-61b(c)
Sec. 4	July 1, 2026	3-65a
Sec. 5	July 1, 2026	3-66a(d)
Sec. 6	July 1, 2026	3-70a
Sec. 7	July 1, 2026	49-60
Sec. 8	July 1, 2026	31-310(a)
Sec. 9	July 1, 2026	31-354(b)

**Statement of Legislative Commissioners:**

In Section 1(8)(C), "by the apparent owner" was added for clarity, and in Section 1(8)(E), "that is the holder or an agent of the holder of the account in which the property is held by the apparent owner" was added for clarity.

**GAE**      *Joint Favorable Substitute*

---

*The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.*

---

## **OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** See Below

**Municipal Impact:** None

### **Explanation**

The bill makes various revisions to unclaimed property laws and the Second Injury Fund resulting in the fiscal impact described below.

**Section 1** outlines certain actions that show apparent owners are aware of their property. To the extent this results in property no longer being considered abandoned and therefore escheatable to the state, there is a potential revenue loss to the state that depends on the amounts of such property.

**Section 2** specifies that automatic premium loan provisions or other nonforfeiture provisions do not prevent insurance policies from being deemed terminated. This results in a potential revenue gain to the state to the extent this leads to an increase in escheats to the state.

**Section 6** removes the requirement that the Treasurer automatically pay abandoned property claims of less than \$10. This results in potential revenue gain to the state by precluding these payments, and it also results in potential savings in administrative costs.

**Section 7** subjects certain properties sold by specified craftspersons to the state's unclaimed property laws. This results in potential revenue gain to the state, which depends on unclaimed property amounts.

**Section 8** limits the Second Injury Fund's reimbursement liability to a maximum of three years of benefits. This results in potential savings

to the fund to the extent claims seeking reimbursement for periods longer than three years would be limited.

The bill also makes technical and conforming changes that do not result in any fiscal impact to the state.

***The Out Years***

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future.

---

**OLR Bill Analysis****SB 488****AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE TREASURER'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REVISIONS TO THE UNCLAIMED PROPERTY PROGRAM AND SECOND INJURY FUND.****SUMMARY**

This bill amends provisions regarding the Second Injury Fund (SIF), including providing flexibility for the accounts the treasurer must maintain and limiting SIF's liability for reimbursing employers and insurers in certain circumstances (§§ 8 & 9). It also makes several unrelated changes to the state's unclaimed property laws, including:

1. establishing various ways in which someone, including their agent or representative, may show their interest in their property so it is not presumed abandoned (§ 1);
2. specifying when certain insurance policy provisions may trigger an abandonment presumption (§ 2);
3. creating procedures for property holders to give unclaimed property to the treasurer early (§ 4);
4. exempting certain unclaimed property owner personal information the treasurer has from the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (§ 5);
5. removing a requirement to automatically distribute certain unclaimed property valued at less than \$10 (§ 6);
6. specifying additional procedures for returning unclaimed military medals (§ 6); and
7. subjecting certain funds held by certain craftspeople (for example, jewelers) to the state's unclaimed property laws (§ 7).

The bill also makes technical and conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

### **§ 1 — APPARENT OWNERS AND INDICATORS OF INTEREST**

The state's unclaimed property laws generally require holders of an apparent owner's unclaimed property to turn the property over to the treasurer if the owner has not indicated an interest in the property in a specified amount of time.

The bill defines "indicated an interest" to explicitly outline certain actions, in addition to any other means outlined in the state's unclaimed property laws, that show the apparent owner is aware of the property. Specifically, the bill includes:

1. the owner communicating a record about the property or the account where it is held to the holder or holder's agent;
2. the owner orally communicating with the holder or the holder's agent about the property or the related account, and the holder or it's agent making and saving a contemporaneous record of the communication;
3. presenting a check or other instrument paying a divided, interest payment, or other distribution;
4. activity directed by the owner in the account where the property is held (for example, accessing the account or directing a change to the amount or type of property held there);
5. depositing or withdrawing funds, if the holder is a business association or banking or financial organization, excluding previously authorized automated deposits, withdrawals, or reinvestments of dividends or interest; and
6. any other action by the owner reasonably demonstrating to the holder that the owner knows the property exists.

Under the bill, any communication from the owner to someone other than the holder or holder's representative does not indicate the owner's interest in the property unless a record proves that the owner knew of his or her right to the property.

Additionally, the bill specifies that an owner also indicates an interest in property if his or her agent or other representative takes the actions described above or other actions allowed under the existing unclaimed property laws. Under the bill, the property holder cannot act as the owner's agent for these purposes.

## **§ 2 — INSURANCE POLICIES**

By law, unclaimed funds held by an insurance company for more than three years are presumed abandoned if a person other than the insured or annuitant is owed the money and the company does not have that person's address. The three-year timeline generally starts when the money became due and payable under any matured or terminated life or endowment insurance policy or annuity contract.

The bill specifies that an automatic premium loan provision or other non-forfeiture provision in an insurance policy does not prevent the policy from being deemed matured or terminated if (1) the insured died or (2) the insured or a beneficiary have become entitled to the proceeds before the depletion of the policy's cash surrender value.

## **§ 4 — EARLY UNCLAIMED PROPERTY REPORTING**

By law, before property is presumed abandoned, the holder of the property must notify the property owner that the owner must indicate his or her interest in the property or it will be transferred to the treasurer and subject to escheat to the state. Existing law also requires property holders, by the March 31 after the end of the calendar year in which property is presumed abandoned, to deliver it to the treasurer and prepare an unclaimed property report that includes, among other things, the name and physical address of the property's apparent owner.

The bill allows property holders to request to report and deliver unclaimed property to the treasurer early. The holder may do so if they

believe the property will likely become unclaimed property, regardless of the passage of time or any notice the holder provides. The holder must also give the treasurer an affidavit from an authorized officer (1) describing the efforts to notify the owner, (2) affirming notice was provided at least six months before the affidavit's creation, and (3) affirming the owner has not received communication from the owner indicating an interest in the property.

The treasurer, in his discretion, may consent in writing to the request.

### **§ 5 — FOIA EXEMPTION FOR PERSONAL INFORMATION OF UNCLAIMED PROPERTY OWNERS**

Except as otherwise provided under the unclaimed property law, the bill makes certain personal information of owners contained in the treasurer's records confidential and exempt from disclosure under FOIA, including information provided in property holders' records and reports. The bill limits the disclosure of this information to purposes directly connected to the administration of the laws on the treasurer's powers and duties, by the treasurer or his agents .

Under the bill, "personal information" is information that identifies or reasonably can be used to identify someone, including their name together with their (1) Social Security number, (2) other government ID number, (3) date of birth or death, (4) home or physical address, (5) other contact information, (6) internet provider address, (7) account number, or (8) abandoned property value.

By law, the treasurer must maintain a public database of unclaimed property information including the names and addresses of unclaimed property owners, the amount and description of unclaimed property he holds, and any other information he requires.

### **§ 6 — AUTOMATIC RETURNS TO PROPERTY OWNERS**

Under current law, the treasurer must automatically pay abandoned property claims valued at less than \$2,500 to individuals if he (1) has determined the individual is the property's sole owner and (2) is satisfied he has this person's current address. The bill removes this

requirement for property less than \$10.

## **§ 6 — MILITARY MEDALS**

By law, military medals held by banking or financial organizations that are presumed abandoned must be given to the state Department of Veteran Affairs commissioner as outlined in the treasurer's procedures. The treasurer and commissioner must establish a memorandum of understanding for handling and holding these medals, and the treasurer may try to identify the original owner or the owner's heirs or beneficiaries.

If more than one person has a claim for a medal described above, and the treasurer has made reasonable efforts to identify and contact all known potential rightful owners, the bill allows the treasurer to give the medal to the claimant he deems appropriate.

## **§ 7 — JEWELERS, WATCHMAKERS, SILVERSMITHS, AND TELEVISION AND RADIO SERVICE DEALERS**

By law, a jeweler, watchmaker, silversmith, or television or radio service dealer (craftsperson) who does work on personal property at the owner's or legal possessor's request has a lien on the property and may hold it until they are paid for the work. Under certain circumstances, current law allows them to sell the property to repay any debt owed and sale costs, and then give, in trust for the debtor, the remaining balance to the treasurer.

Instead, the bill specifically subjects these balances to the state's unclaimed property laws and requires the craftsperson, after completing the sale, to file an unclaimed property report when they give the funds to the treasurer.

Under current law and the bill, if a debt to a craftsperson remains unpaid for more than six months, the craftsperson may sell the item, pay any sale expenses and the owed debt, and give the remaining balance to the treasurer within 10 days. If the item is worth more than \$100, the craftsperson may only sell it if the debt equals at least one-third of the property's value.

Before the sale, the craftsperson must provide 30 days' notice to the owner or legal possessor (1) by sending notice about the sale's time and place by registered or certified mail to the person's last-known address or (2) if his or her address is unknown or the mail is returned, by advertising the sale in a newspaper with substantial circulation where the sale is taking place. Under the bill, these procedures satisfy the unclaimed property program's notice requirements under state law.

## **§§ 8 & 9 — SECOND INJURY FUND**

### ***SIF Accounts (§ 9)***

The Second Injury Fund (SIF) is a state-run workers' compensation fund financed by state employers and operated by the state treasurer. Among other things, the fund pays or contributes to workers' compensation benefits for workers with pre-existing disabilities who are reinjured (second injuries), whose employers are uninsured, or who worked more than one job when injured. The fund was closed to second injuries that occurred on or after July 1, 1995.

Under current law, the treasurer must operate three accounts within the SIF including (1) an operating account for paying SIF operations; (2) a settlement account for covering disbursed claims; and (3) a finance account to, among other things, pay certain claims, provide cash advances, and cover certain administrative costs. Instead, the bill conforms the law to existing practice by generally authorizing the treasurer to operate whatever accounts or short-term investment funds he deems necessary for SIF's operation.

### ***SIF Liability (§ 8)***

The law allows employers and insurers to transfer liability for certain workers' compensation claims to SIF and request reimbursement for certain benefits they already paid out. For example, if an employee works multiple jobs and is injured, a self-insured company where the employee was injured may pay out benefits to cover lost wages for all the employee's jobs, not just lost wages from the company itself.

By law, employers' insurers or self-insured employers may apply to

SIF for reimbursement of the portion of benefits paid out to cover lost wages from these other jobs. The law specifies that SIF may only reimburse an insurer or employer within two years from when they paid the benefits to the employee.

Under current practice, SIF may be required to reimburse a benefit payment that includes benefits owed from before the two year deadline. For example, if an insurer underpaid benefits to an employee for 10 years and makes a one-time lump sum payment to make the employee whole. The bill limits the amount insurers or employers may be reimbursed from SIF to a three-year period (making the insurer or employer, instead of SIF, liable for seven of the 10 years of underpaid benefits in the example above).

**BACKGROUND**

***Related Bills***

sSB 215, favorably reported by the Banking Committee, changes the criteria under which inactive checking and savings accounts held by banks doing business in Connecticut are presumed abandoned.

SB 460, reported favorably by the Government Administration and Elections Committee, requires the treasurer to study whether gift certificates should be considered abandoned property.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 18 Nay 0 (03/20/2026)