

LEGISLATIVE BILL 155

Approved by the Governor May 26, 2009

Introduced by Rogert, 16; Friend, 10; Howard, 9; Lautenbaugh, 18; Karpisek, 32.

FOR AN ACT relating to crimes and punishments; to amend sections 28-101, 28-518, 28-603, 28-604, 28-608, 28-611, 29-110, and 87-302, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to adopt the Public Protection Act; to change provisions relating to theft offenses, criminal impersonation, identity theft, identity fraud, forgery, bad checks, and no-account checks; to provide a statute of limitations; to create an additional deceptive trade practice under the Uniform Deceptive Trade Practices Act; to change and provide penalties; to harmonize provisions; to provide severability; and to repeal the original sections.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Section 28-101, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

28-101 Sections 28-101 to 28-1350 and sections 2 to 6, 8 to 12, and 16 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the Nebraska Criminal Code.

Sec. 2. Sections 2 to 6 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the Public Protection Act.

Sec. 3. (1) The provisions of the Public Protection Act shall be liberally construed to effectuate its remedial purposes.

(2) Nothing in the act shall supersede any provision of federal, state, or other law imposing criminal penalties or affording civil remedies in addition to those provided for in the act.

Sec. 4. For purposes of the Public Protection Act:

(1) Enterprise means any individual, sole proprietorship, partnership, corporation, trust, association, or any legal entity, union, or group of individuals associated in fact although not a legal entity, and shall include illicit as well as licit enterprises as well as other entities;

(2) Pattern of racketeering activity means a cumulative loss for one or more victims or gains for the enterprise of not less than one thousand five hundred dollars resulting from at least two acts of racketeering activity, one of which occurred after the effective date of this act and the last of which occurred within ten years, excluding any period of imprisonment, after the commission of a prior act of racketeering activity;

(3) Person means any individual or entity, as defined in section 21-2014, holding or capable of holding a legal, equitable, or beneficial interest in property;

(4) Prosecutor includes the Attorney General of the State of Nebraska, the deputy attorney general, assistant attorneys general, a county attorney, a deputy county attorney, or any person so designated by the Attorney General, a county attorney, or a court of the state to carry out the powers conferred by the act;

(5) Racketeering activity includes the commission of, criminal attempt to commit, conspiracy to commit, aiding and abetting in the commission of, aiding in the consummation of, acting as an accessory to the commission of, or the solicitation, coercion, or intimidation of another to commit or aid in the commission of any of the following:

(a) Offenses against the person which include: Murder in the first degree under section 28-303; murder in the second degree under section 28-304; manslaughter under section 28-305; assault in the first degree under section 28-308; assault in the second degree under section 28-309; assault in the third degree under section 28-310; terroristic threats under section 28-311.01; kidnapping under section 28-313; false imprisonment in the first degree under section 28-314; false imprisonment in the second degree under section 28-315; sexual assault in the first degree under section 28-319; and robbery under section 28-324;

(b) Offenses relating to controlled substances which include: To unlawfully manufacture, distribute, deliver, dispense, or possess with intent to manufacture, distribute, deliver, or dispense a controlled substance under subsection (1) of section 28-416; possession of marijuana weighing more than one pound under subsection (12) of section 28-416; possession of money used or intended to be used to facilitate a violation of subsection (1) of section 28-416 prohibited under subsection (17) of section 28-416; any violation of section 28-418; to unlawfully manufacture, distribute, deliver, or possess with intent to distribute or deliver an imitation controlled

substance under section 28-445; possession of anhydrous ammonia with the intent to manufacture methamphetamine under section 28-451; and possession of ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or phenylpropanolamine with the intent to manufacture methamphetamine under section 28-452;

(c) Offenses against property which include: Arson in the first degree under section 28-502; arson in the second degree under section 28-503; arson in the third degree under section 28-504; burglary under section 28-507; theft by unlawful taking or disposition under section 28-511; theft by shoplifting under section 28-511.01; theft by deception under section 28-512; theft by extortion under section 28-513; theft of services under section 28-515; theft by receiving stolen property under section 28-517; criminal mischief under section 28-519; and unlawfully depriving or obtaining property or services using a computer under section 28-1344;

(d) Offenses involving fraud which include: Burning to defraud an insurer under section 28-505; forgery in the first degree under section 28-602; forgery in the second degree under section 28-603; criminal possession of a forged instrument under section 28-604; criminal possession of forgery devices under section 28-605; criminal impersonation under section 10 of this act; identity theft under section 11 of this act; identity fraud under section 12 of this act; false statement or book entry under section 28-612; tampering with a publicly exhibited contest under section 28-614; issuing a false financial statement for purposes of obtaining a financial transaction device under section 28-619; unauthorized use of a financial transaction device under section 28-620; criminal possession of a financial transaction device under section 28-621; unlawful circulation of a financial transaction device in the first degree under section 28-622; unlawful circulation of a financial transaction device in the second degree under section 28-623; criminal possession of a blank financial transaction device under section 28-624; criminal sale of a blank financial transaction device under section 28-625; criminal possession of a forgery device under section 28-626; unlawful manufacture of a financial transaction device under section 28-627; laundering of sales forms under section 28-628; unlawful acquisition of sales form processing services under section 28-629; unlawful factoring of a financial transaction device under section 28-630; and fraudulent insurance acts under section 28-631;

(e) Offenses involving governmental operations which include: Abuse of public records under section 28-911; perjury or subornation of perjury under section 28-915; bribery under section 28-917; bribery of a witness under section 28-918; tampering with a witness or informant or jury tampering under section 28-919; bribery of a juror under section 28-920; assault on an officer in the first degree under section 28-929; assault on an officer in the second degree under section 28-930; assault on an officer in the third degree under section 28-931; and assault on an officer using a motor vehicle under section 28-931.01;

(f) Offenses involving gambling which include: Promoting gambling in the first degree under section 28-1102; possession of gambling records under section 28-1105; gambling debt collection under section 28-1105.01; and possession of a gambling device under section 28-1107;

(g) Offenses relating to firearms, weapons, and explosives which include: Carrying a concealed weapon under section 28-1202; transportation or possession of machine guns, short rifles, or short shotguns under section 28-1203; unlawful possession of a revolver under section 28-1204; unlawful transfer of a firearm to a juvenile under section 28-1204.01; using a deadly weapon to commit a felony under section 28-1205; possession of a deadly weapon by a felon or a fugitive from justice under section 28-1206; possession of a defaced firearm under section 28-1207; defacing a firearm under section 28-1208; unlawful discharge of a firearm under section 28-1212.02; possession, receipt, retention, or disposition of a stolen firearm under section 28-1212.03; unlawful possession of explosive materials in the first degree under section 28-1215; unlawful possession of explosive materials in the second degree under section 28-1216; unlawful sale of explosives under section 28-1217; use of explosives without a permit under section 28-1218; obtaining an explosives permit through false representations under section 28-1219; possession of a destructive device under section 28-1220; threatening the use of explosives or placing a false bomb under section 28-1221; using explosives to commit a felony under section 28-1222; using explosives to damage or destroy property under section 28-1223; and using explosives to kill or injure any person under section 28-1224;

(h) Any violation of the Securities Act of Nebraska pursuant to section 8-1117;

(i) Any violation of the Nebraska Revenue Act of 1967 pursuant to section 77-2713;

(j) Offenses relating to public health and morals which include: Prostitution under section 28-801; pandering under section 28-802; keeping a place of prostitution under section 28-804; human trafficking or forced labor or services under section 28-831; a violation of section 28-1005; and any act relating to the visual depiction of sexually explicit conduct prohibited in the Child Pornography Prevention Act; and

(k) A violation of the Computer Crimes Act;

(6) State means the State of Nebraska or any political subdivision or any department, agency, or instrumentality thereof; and

(7) Unlawful debt means a debt of at least one thousand five hundred dollars:

(a) Incurred or contracted in gambling activity which was in violation of federal law or the law of the state or which is unenforceable under state or federal law in whole or in part as to principal or interest because of the laws relating to usury; or

(b) Which was incurred in connection with the business of gambling in violation of federal law or the law of the state or the business of lending money or a thing of value at a rate usurious under state law if the usurious rate is at least twice the enforceable rate.

Sec. 5. (1) It shall be unlawful for any person who has received any proceeds that such person knew were derived, directly or indirectly, from a pattern of racketeering activity or through collection of an unlawful debt to use or invest, whether directly or indirectly, any part of such proceeds, or the proceeds derived from the investment or use thereof, in the acquisition of any right, interest, or equity in real property or in the establishment or operation of any enterprise. A purchase of securities on the open market for purposes of investment, and without the intention of controlling or participating in the control of the issuer or of assisting another to do so, shall not be unlawful under this subsection if the securities of the issuer held by the purchaser, the members of his or her immediate family, and his or her or their accomplices in any pattern of racketeering activity or the collection of an unlawful debt after such purchase do not amount in the aggregate to one percent of the outstanding securities of any one class and do not confer, either in law or in fact, the power to elect one or more directors of the issuer.

(2) It shall be unlawful for any person through a pattern of racketeering activity or through collection of an unlawful debt to acquire or maintain, directly or indirectly, any interest in or control of any enterprise or real property.

(3) It shall be unlawful for any person employed by or associated with any enterprise to conduct or participate in, directly or indirectly, the conduct of such enterprise's affairs through a pattern of racketeering activity or collection of unlawful debt.

(4) It shall be unlawful for any person to conspire or attempt to violate any of the provisions of subsection (1), (2), or (3) of this section.

Sec. 6. (1) A person who violates section 5 of this act shall be guilty of a Class III felony; however, such person shall be guilty of a Class IB felony if the violation is based upon racketeering activity which is punishable as a Class I, IA, or IB felony.

(2) In lieu of the fine authorized by section 28-105, any person convicted of engaging in conduct in violation of section 5 of this act, through which pecuniary value was derived, or by which personal injury or property damage or other loss was caused, may be sentenced to pay a fine that does not exceed three times the gross value gained or three times the gross loss caused, whichever is greater, plus court costs and the costs of investigation and prosecution reasonably incurred. Any fine collected under this subsection shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for distribution in accordance with Article VII, section 5, of the Constitution of Nebraska.

Sec. 7. Section 28-518, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

28-518 (1) Theft constitutes a Class III felony when the value of the thing involved is over one thousand five hundred dollars.

(2) Theft constitutes a Class IV felony when the value of the thing involved is five hundred dollars or more, but not over one thousand five hundred dollars.

(3) Theft constitutes a Class I misdemeanor when the value of the thing involved is more than two hundred dollars, but less than five hundred dollars.

(4) Theft constitutes a Class II misdemeanor when the value of the thing involved is two hundred dollars or less.

(5) For any second or subsequent conviction under subsection (3) of this section, any person so offending shall be guilty of a Class IV felony.

(6) For any second conviction under subsection (4) of this section, any person so offending shall be guilty of a Class I misdemeanor, and for any third or subsequent conviction under subsection (4) of this section, the person so offending shall be guilty of a Class IV felony.

(7) Amounts taken pursuant to one scheme or course of conduct from one ~~person~~ or more persons may be aggregated in the indictment or information in determining the classification of the offense, except that amounts may not be aggregated into more than one offense.

(8) In any prosecution for theft under sections 28-509 to 28-518, value shall be an essential element of the offense that must be proved beyond a reasonable doubt.

Sec. 8. For purposes of sections 8 to 12 of this act:

(1) Personal identification document means a birth certificate, motor vehicle operator's license, state identification card, public, government, or private employment identification card, social security card, visa work permit, firearm owner's identification card, certificate issued under section 69-2404, or passport or any document made or altered in a manner that it purports to have been made on behalf of or issued to another person or by the authority of a person who did not give that authority. Personal identification document does not include a financial transaction device as defined in section 28-618;

(2) Personal identifying information means any name or number that may be used, alone or in conjunction with any other information, to identify a specific person including a person's: (a) Name; (b) date of birth; (c) address; (d) motor vehicle operator's license number or state identification card number as assigned by the State of Nebraska or another state; (e) social security number or visa work permit number; (f) public, private, or government employer, place of employment, or employment identification number; (g) maiden name of a person's mother; (h) number assigned to a person's credit card, charge card, or debit card, whether issued by a financial institution, corporation, or other business entity; (i) number assigned to a person's depository account, savings account, or brokerage account; (j) personal identification number as defined in section 8-157.01; (k) electronic identification number, address, or routing code used to access financial information; (l) digital signature; (m) telecommunications identifying information or access device; (n) unique biometric data, such as fingerprint, voice print, retina or iris image, or other unique physical representation; and (o) other number or information which can be used to access a person's financial resources; and

(3) Telecommunications identifying information or access device means a card, plate, code, account number, mobile identification number, or other telecommunications service, equipment, or instrument identifier or means of account access that alone or in conjunction with other telecommunications identifying information or another telecommunications access device may be used to: (a) Obtain money, goods, services, or any other thing of value; or (b) initiate a transfer of funds other than a transfer originated solely by a paper instrument.

Sec. 9. For purposes of sections 8 to 12 of this act:

(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, venue for the prosecution and trial of violations of sections 8 to 12 of this act may be commenced and maintained in any county in which an element of the offense occurred, including the county where a victim resides; and

(2) If a person or entity reasonably believes that he, she, or it has been the victim of a violation of sections 8 to 12 of this act, the victim may contact a local law enforcement agency which has jurisdiction over the victim's residence, place of business, or registered address. Notwithstanding that jurisdiction may lie elsewhere for investigation and prosecution of a crime of identity theft, the local law enforcement agency shall take the complaint and provide the complainant with a copy of the complaint and refer the complaint to a law enforcement agency in the appropriate jurisdiction.

Sec. 10. Section 28-608, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

~~28-608~~ (1) A person commits the crime of criminal impersonation if he or she:

~~(a) Assumes a false identity and does an act in his or her assumed character with intent to gain a pecuniary benefit for himself, herself, or another or to deceive or harm another;~~

~~(b) (a) Pretends to be a representative of some person or organization and does an act in his or her pretended fictitious capacity with the intent to gain a pecuniary benefit for himself, herself, or another and to deceive or harm another;~~

~~(e) (b) Carries on any profession, business, or any other occupation~~

without a license, certificate, or other authorization required by law; or

~~(d) Without the authorization or permission of another and with the intent to deceive or harm another;~~

~~(i) Obtains or records personal identification documents or personal identifying information; and~~

~~(ii) Accesses or attempts to access the financial resources of another through the use of a personal identification document or personal identifying information for the purpose of obtaining credit, money, goods, services, or any other thing of value.~~

(c) Knowingly provides false personal identifying information or a false personal identification document to a court or a law enforcement officer; or

(d) Knowingly provides false personal identifying information or a false personal identification document to an employer for the purpose of obtaining employment.

(2) (a) Criminal impersonation, as described in subdivisions (1) (a) and (1) (b) of this section, is a Class III felony if the credit, money, goods, services, or other thing of value that was gained or was attempted to be gained was one thousand five hundred dollars or more. Any second or subsequent conviction under this subdivision is a Class II felony.

(b) Criminal impersonation, as described in subdivisions (1) (a) and (1) (b) of this section, is a Class IV felony if the credit, money, goods, services, or other thing of value that was gained or was attempted to be gained was five hundred dollars or more but less than one thousand five hundred dollars. Any second or subsequent conviction under this subdivision is a Class III felony.

(c) Criminal impersonation, as described in subdivisions (1) (a) and (1) (b) of this section, is a Class I misdemeanor if the credit, money, goods, services, or other thing of value that was gained or was attempted to be gained was two hundred dollars or more but less than five hundred dollars. Any second or subsequent conviction under this subdivision is a Class IV felony.

(d) Criminal impersonation, as described in subdivisions (1) (a) and (1) (b) of this section, is a Class II misdemeanor if no credit, money, goods, services, or other thing of value was gained or was attempted to be gained, or if the credit, money, goods, services, or other thing of value that was gained or was attempted to be gained was less than two hundred dollars. Any second conviction under this subdivision is a Class I misdemeanor, and any third or subsequent conviction under this subdivision is a Class IV felony.

(e) Criminal impersonation, as described in subdivision (1) (c) of this section, is a Class IV felony. Any second conviction under this subdivision is a Class III felony, and any third or subsequent conviction under this subdivision is a Class II felony.

(f) Criminal impersonation, as described in subdivision (1) (d) of this section, is a Class II misdemeanor. Any second or subsequent conviction under this subdivision is a Class I misdemeanor.

~~(e) (g) A person found guilty of violating this section may, in addition to the penalties under this subsection, be ordered to make restitution pursuant to sections 29-2280 to 29-2289.~~

~~(3) Criminal impersonation does not mean:~~

~~(a) The lawful obtaining of credit information in the course of a bona fide consumer or commercial transaction;~~

~~(b) The lawful, good faith exercise of a security interest or a right of setoff by a creditor or a financial institution; or~~

~~(c) The lawful, good faith compliance by any person when required by any warrant, levy, garnishment, attachment, court order, or other judicial or administrative order, decree, or directive.~~

~~(4) For purposes of this section:~~

~~(a) Personal identification document means a birth certificate, motor vehicle operator's license, state identification card, public, government, or private employment identification card, social security card, visa work permit, firearm owner's identification card, certificate issued under section 69-2404, or passport or any document made or altered in a manner that it purports to have been made on behalf of or issued to another person or by the authority of a person who did not give that authority. Personal identification document does not include a financial transaction device as defined in section 28-618;~~

~~(b) Personal identifying information means any name or number that may be used, alone or in conjunction with any other information, to identify a specific person including a person's: (i) Name; (ii) date of birth; (iii) address; (iv) motor vehicle operator's license number or state identification card number as assigned by the State of Nebraska or another state; (v) social security number or visa work permit number; (vi) public, private,~~

or government employer, place of employment, or employment identification number; (vii) maiden name of a person's mother; (viii) number assigned to a person's credit card, charge card, or debit card, whether issued by a financial institution, corporation, or other business entity; (ix) number assigned to a person's depository account, savings account, or brokerage account; (x) personal identification number as defined in section 8-157.01; (xi) electronic identification number, address, or routing code used to access financial information; (xii) digital signature; (xiii) telecommunications identifying information or access device; (xiv) unique biometric data, such as fingerprint, voice print, retina or iris image, or other unique physical representation; and (xv) other number or information which can be used to access a person's financial resources; and

(c) Telecommunications identifying information or access device means a card, plate, code, account number, mobile identification number, or other telecommunications service, equipment, or instrument identifier or means of account access that alone or in conjunction with other telecommunications identifying information or another telecommunications access device may be used to: (i) Obtain money, goods, services, or any other thing of value; or (ii) initiate a transfer of funds other than a transfer originated solely by a paper instrument.

Sec. 11. (1) A person commits the crime of identity theft if he or she knowingly takes, purchases, manufactures, records, possesses, or uses any personal identifying information or entity identifying information of another person or entity without the consent of that other person or entity or creates personal identifying information for a fictional person or entity, with the intent to obtain or use the other person's or entity's identity for any unlawful purpose or to cause loss to a person or entity whether or not the person or entity actually suffers any economic loss as a result of the offense, or with the intent to obtain or continue employment or with the intent to gain a pecuniary benefit for himself, herself, or another.

(2) Identity theft is not:

(a) The lawful obtaining of credit information in the course of a bona fide consumer or commercial transaction;

(b) The lawful, good faith exercise of a security interest or a right of setoff by a creditor or a financial institution;

(c) The lawful, good faith compliance by any person when required by any warrant, levy, garnishment, attachment, court order, or other judicial or administrative order, decree, or directive; or

(d) The investigative activities of law enforcement.

(3)(a) Identity theft is a Class III felony if the credit, money, goods, services, or other thing of value that was gained or was attempted to be gained was one thousand five hundred dollars or more. Any second or subsequent conviction under this subdivision is a Class II felony.

(b) Identity theft is a Class IV felony if the credit, money, goods, services, or other thing of value that was gained or was attempted to be gained was five hundred dollars or more but less than one thousand five hundred dollars. Any second or subsequent conviction under this subdivision is a Class III felony.

(c) Identity theft is a Class I misdemeanor if the credit, money, goods, services, or other thing of value that was gained or was attempted to be gained was two hundred dollars or more but less than five hundred dollars. Any second or subsequent conviction under this subdivision is a Class IV felony.

(d) Identity theft is a Class II misdemeanor if no credit, money, goods, services, or other thing of value was gained or was attempted to be gained, or if the credit, money, goods, services, or other thing of value that was gained or was attempted to be gained was less than two hundred dollars. Any second conviction under this subdivision is a Class I misdemeanor, and any third or subsequent conviction under this subdivision is a Class IV felony.

(e) A person found guilty of violating this section may, in addition to the penalties under this subsection, be ordered to make restitution pursuant to sections 29-2280 to 29-2289.

Sec. 12. (1) A person commits the crime of identity fraud if he or she without lawful authority:

(a) Makes, counterfeits, alters, or mutilates any personal identification document with the intent to deceive another; or

(b) Willfully and knowingly obtains, possesses, uses, sells or furnishes or attempts to obtain, possess, or furnish to another person for any purpose of deception a personal identification document.

(2)(a) Identity fraud is a Class I misdemeanor. Any second or subsequent conviction under this subdivision is a Class IV felony.

(b) A person found guilty of violating this section may, in addition

to the penalties under this subsection, be ordered to make restitution pursuant to sections 29-2280 to 29-2289.

Sec. 13. Section 28-603, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

28-603 (1) Whoever, with intent to deceive or harm, falsely makes, completes, endorses, alters, or utters any written instrument which is or purports to be, or which is calculated to become or to represent if completed, a written instrument which does or may evidence, create, transfer, terminate, or otherwise affect a legal right, interest, obligation, or status, commits forgery in the second degree.

(2) Forgery in the second degree is a Class III felony when the face value, or purported face value, or the amount of any proceeds wrongfully procured or intended to be procured by the use of such instrument, is one thousand dollars or more.

(3) Forgery in the second degree is a Class IV felony when the face value, or purported face value, or the amount of any proceeds wrongfully procured or intended to be procured by the use of such instrument, exceeds three hundred dollars but is less than one thousand dollars.

(4) Forgery in the second degree is a Class I misdemeanor when the face value, or purported face value, or the amount of any proceeds wrongfully procured or intended to be procured by the use of such instrument, is three hundred dollars or less.

(5) For the purpose of determining the class of penalty for forgery in the second degree, the face values, or purported face values, or the amounts of any proceeds wrongfully procured or intended to be procured by the use of more than one such instrument, may be aggregated in the indictment or information if such instruments were part of the same scheme or course of conduct which took place within a sixty-day period and within one county. Such values or amounts shall not be aggregated into more than one offense.

Sec. 14. Section 28-604, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

28-604 (1) Whoever, with knowledge that it is forged and with intent to deceive or harm, possesses any forged instrument covered by section 28-602 or 28-603 commits criminal possession of a forged instrument.

(2) Criminal possession of a forged instrument prohibited by section 28-602 is a Class IV felony.

(3) Criminal possession of a forged instrument prohibited by section 28-603, the amount or value of which is one thousand dollars or more, is a Class IV felony.

(4) Criminal possession of a forged instrument prohibited by section 28-603, the amount or value of which is more than three hundred dollars but less than one thousand dollars, is a Class I misdemeanor.

(5) Criminal possession of a forged instrument prohibited by section 28-603, the amount or value of which is three hundred dollars or less, is a Class II misdemeanor.

(6) For the purpose of determining the class of penalty for criminal possession of a forged instrument prohibited by section 28-603, the amounts or values of more than one such forged instrument may be aggregated in the indictment or information if such forged instruments were part of the same scheme or course of conduct which took place within a sixty-day period and within one county. Such amounts or values shall not be aggregated into more than one offense.

Sec. 15. Section 28-611, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

28-611 (1) Whoever obtains property, services, or present value of any kind by issuing or passing a check, draft, assignment of funds, or similar signed order for the payment of money, ~~knowing that he or she has no account with the drawee at the time the check, draft, assignment of funds, or order is issued or, if he or she has an account,~~ knowing that he or she does not have sufficient funds in or credit with the drawee for the payment of the check, draft, assignment of funds, or order in full upon presentation, commits the offense of issuing a bad check. Issuing a bad check is:

(a) A Class III felony if the amount of the check, draft, assignment of funds, or order is one thousand five hundred dollars or more;

(b) A Class IV felony if the amount of the check, draft, assignment of funds, or order is five hundred dollars or more, but less than one thousand five hundred dollars;

(c) A Class I misdemeanor if the amount of the check, draft, assignment of funds, or order is ~~one~~ two hundred dollars or more, but less than five hundred dollars; and

(d) A Class II misdemeanor if the amount of the check, draft, assignment of funds, or order is less than ~~one~~ two hundred dollars.

~~(2)~~ The aggregate amount of any series of checks, drafts, assignments, or orders issued or passed within a sixty-day period in one county may be used in determining the classification of the offense pursuant to this subsection (1) of this section, except that checks, drafts, assignments, or orders may not be aggregated into more than one offense.

~~(2)~~ (3) For any second or subsequent offense under subdivision (1) (c) or (1) (d) of this section, any person so offending shall be guilty of a Class IV felony.

~~(3)~~ (4) Whoever otherwise issues or passes a check, draft, assignment of funds, or similar signed order for the payment of money, knowing that he or she has no account with the drawee at the time the check, draft, assignment of funds, or order is issued or, if he or she has an account, knowing that he or she does not have sufficient funds in or credit with the drawee for the payment of the check, draft, assignment of funds, or order in full upon its presentation, shall be guilty of a Class II misdemeanor.

~~(4)~~ (5) Any person in violation of this section who makes voluntary restitution to the injured party for the value of the check, draft, assignment of funds, or order shall also pay ten dollars to the injured party and any reasonable handling fee imposed on the injured party by a financial institution.

~~(5)~~ (6) In any prosecution when for issuing a bad check, the person issuing the check, draft, assignment of funds, or order has an account with the drawee, he or she shall be presumed to have known that he or she did not have sufficient funds in or credit with the drawee for the payment of the check, draft, assignment of funds, or order in full upon presentation if, within thirty days after issuance of the check, draft, assignment of funds, or order, he or she was notified that the drawee refused payment for lack of funds and he or she failed within ten days after such notice to make the check, draft, assignment of funds, or order good or, in the absence of such notice, he or she failed to make the check, draft, assignment of funds, or order good within ten days after notice that such check, draft, assignment of funds, or order has been returned to the depositor was sent to him or her by the county attorney or his or her deputy, by United States mail addressed to such person at his or her last-known address. Upon request of the depositor and the payment of ten dollars for each check, draft, assignment of funds, or order, the county attorney or his or her deputy shall be required to mail notice to the person issuing the check, draft, assignment of funds, or order as provided in this subsection. The ten-dollar payment shall be payable to the county treasurer and credited to the county general fund. No such payment shall be collected from any county office to which such a check, draft, assignment of funds, or order is issued in the course of the official duties of the office.

~~(6)~~ (7) Any person convicted of violating this section may, in addition to a fine or imprisonment, be ordered to make restitution to the party injured for the value of the check, draft, assignment of funds, or order and to pay ten dollars to the injured party and any reasonable handling fee imposed on the injured party by a financial institution. If the court, in addition to sentencing any person to imprisonment under this section, also enters an order of restitution, the time permitted to make such restitution shall not be concurrent with the sentence of imprisonment.

~~(7)~~ (8) The fact that restitution to the party injured has been made and that ten dollars and any reasonable handling fee imposed on the injured party by a financial institution have been paid to the injured party shall be a mitigating factor in the imposition of punishment for any violation of this section.

Sec. 16. (1) Whoever issues or passes a check, draft, assignment of funds, or similar signed order for the payment of money, knowing that he or she has no account with the drawee at the time the check, draft, assignment of funds, or order is issued, commits the offense of issuing a no-account check. Issuing a no-account check is:

(a) A Class III felony if the amount of the check, draft, assignment of funds, or order is one thousand five hundred dollars or more;

(b) A Class IV felony if the amount of the check, draft, assignment of funds, or order is five hundred dollars or more, but less than one thousand five hundred dollars;

(c) A Class I misdemeanor if the amount of the check, draft, assignment of funds, or order is two hundred dollars or more, but less than five hundred dollars; and

(d) A Class II misdemeanor if the amount of the check, draft, assignment of funds, or order is less than two hundred dollars.

(2) The aggregate amount of any series of checks, drafts, assignments, or orders issued or passed within a sixty-day period in one

county may be used in determining the classification of the offense pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, except that checks, drafts, assignments, or orders may not be aggregated into more than one offense.

(3) For any second or subsequent offense under this section, any person so offending shall be guilty of:

(a) A Class III felony if the amount of the check, draft, assignment of funds, or order is five hundred dollars or more; and

(b) A Class IV felony if the amount of the check, draft, assignment of funds, or order is less than five hundred dollars.

Sec. 17. Section 29-110, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

29-110 (1) Except as otherwise provided by law, no person shall be prosecuted for any felony unless the indictment is found by a grand jury within three years next after the offense has been done or committed or unless a complaint for the same is filed before the magistrate within three years next after the offense has been done or committed and a warrant for the arrest of the defendant has been issued.

(2) Except as otherwise provided by law, no person shall be prosecuted, tried, or punished for any misdemeanor or other indictable offense below the grade of felony or for any fine or forfeiture under any penal statute unless the suit, information, or indictment for such offense is instituted or found within one year and six months from the time of committing the offense or incurring the fine or forfeiture or within one year for any offense the punishment of which is restricted by a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars and to imprisonment not exceeding three months.

(3) Except as otherwise provided by law, no person shall be prosecuted for kidnapping under section 28-313, false imprisonment under section 28-314 or 28-315, child abuse under section 28-707, pandering under section 28-802, debauching a minor under section 28-805, or an offense under section 28-813, 28-813.01, or 28-1463.03 when the victim is under sixteen years of age at the time of the offense (a) unless the indictment for such offense is found by a grand jury within seven years next after the offense has been committed or within seven years next after the victim's sixteenth birthday, whichever is later, or (b) unless a complaint for such offense is filed before the magistrate within seven years next after the offense has been committed or within seven years next after the victim's sixteenth birthday, whichever is later, and a warrant for the arrest of the defendant has been issued.

(4) No person shall be prosecuted for a violation of the Securities Act of Nebraska under section 8-1117 unless the indictment for such offense is found by a grand jury within five years next after the offense has been done or committed or unless a complaint for such offense is filed before the magistrate within five years next after the offense has been done or committed and a warrant for the arrest of the defendant has been issued.

(5) No person shall be prosecuted for criminal impersonation under section 10 of this act, identity theft under section 11 of this act, or identity fraud under section 12 of this act unless the indictment for such offense is found by a grand jury within five years next after the offense has been done or committed or unless a complaint for such offense is filed before the magistrate within five years next after the offense has been done or committed and a warrant for the arrest of the defendant has been issued.

~~(5)~~ (6) There shall not be any time limitations for prosecution or punishment for treason, murder, arson, forgery, sexual assault in the first or second degree under section 28-319 or 28-320, sexual assault of a child in the second or third degree under section 28-320.01, or sexual assault of a child in the first degree under section 28-319.01; nor shall there be any time limitations for prosecution or punishment for sexual assault in the third degree under section 28-320 when the victim is under sixteen years of age at the time of the offense.

~~(6)~~ (7) The time limitations prescribed in this section shall include all inchoate offenses pursuant to the Nebraska Criminal Code and compounding a felony pursuant to section 28-301.

~~(7)~~ (8) The time limitations prescribed in this section shall not extend to any person fleeing from justice.

~~(8)~~ (9) When any suit, information, or indictment for any crime or misdemeanor is limited by any statute to be brought or exhibited within any other time than is limited by this section, then the suit, information, or indictment shall be brought or exhibited within the time limited by such statute.

~~(9)~~ (10) If any suit, information, or indictment is quashed or the proceedings set aside or reversed on writ of error, the time during the pendency of such suit, information, or indictment so quashed, set aside, or

reversed shall not be reckoned within this statute so as to bar any new suit, information, or indictment for the same offense.

~~(10)~~ (11) The changes made to this section by Laws 2004, LB 943, shall apply to offenses committed prior to April 16, 2004, for which the statute of limitations has not expired as of such date and to offenses committed on or after such date.

~~(11)~~ (12) The changes made to this section by Laws 2005, LB 713, shall apply to offenses committed prior to September 4, 2005, for which the statute of limitations has not expired as of such date and to offenses committed on or after such date.

Sec. 18. Section 87-302, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

87-302 (a) A person engages in a deceptive trade practice when, in the course of his or her business, vocation, or occupation, he or she:

- (1) Passes off goods or services as those of another;
- (2) Causes likelihood of confusion or of misunderstanding as to the source, sponsorship, approval, or certification of goods or services;
- (3) Causes likelihood of confusion or of misunderstanding as to affiliation, connection, or association with, or certification by, another;
- (4) Uses deceptive representations or designations of geographic origin in connection with goods or services;
- (5) Represents that goods or services have sponsorship, approval, characteristics, ingredients, uses, benefits, or quantities that they do not have or that a person has a sponsorship, approval, status, affiliation, or connection that he or she does not have;
- (6) Represents that goods are original or new if they are deteriorated, altered, reconditioned, reclaimed, used, or secondhand, except that sellers may repair damage to and make adjustments on or replace parts of otherwise new goods in an effort to place such goods in compliance with factory specifications;
- (7) Represents that goods or services are of a particular standard, quality, or grade, or that goods are of a particular style or model, if they are of another;
- (8) Disparages the goods, services, or business of another by false or misleading representation of fact;
- (9) Advertises goods or services with intent not to sell them as advertised or advertises the price in any manner calculated or tending to mislead or in any way deceive a person;
- (10) Advertises goods or services with intent not to supply reasonably expectable public demand, unless the advertisement discloses a limitation of quantity;
- (11) Makes false or misleading statements of fact concerning the reasons for, existence of, or amounts of price reductions;
- (12) Uses or promotes the use of a chain distributor scheme in connection with the solicitation of business or personal investments from members of the public;
- (13) With respect to a sale or lease to a natural person of goods or services purchased or leased primarily for personal, family, household, or agricultural purposes, uses or employs any referral or chain referral sales technique, plan, arrangement, or agreement;
- (14) Knowingly makes a false or misleading statement in a privacy policy, published on the Internet or otherwise distributed or published, regarding the use of personal information submitted by members of the public;
- (15) Uses any scheme or device to defraud by means of:
 - (i) Obtaining money or property by knowingly false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises; or
 - (ii) Selling, distributing, supplying, furnishing, or procuring any property for the purpose of furthering such scheme;
- (16) Offers an unsolicited check, through the mail or by other means, to promote goods or services if the cashing or depositing of the check obligates the endorser or payee identified on the check to pay for goods or services. This subdivision does not apply to an extension of credit or an offer to lend money;
- (17) Mails or causes to be sent an unsolicited billing statement, invoice, or other document that appears to obligate the consumer to make a payment for services or merchandise he or she did not order; or
- (18) Violates any provision of the Nebraska Foreclosure Protection Act.

(b) In order to prevail in an action under the Uniform Deceptive Trade Practices Act, a complainant need not prove competition between the parties.

(c) This section does not affect unfair trade practices otherwise

actionable at common law or under other statutes of this state.

Sec. 19. If any section in this act or any part of any section is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the declaration shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of the remaining portions.

Sec. 20. Original sections 28-101, 28-518, 28-603, 28-604, 28-608, 28-611, 29-110, and 87-302, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, are repealed.