

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 738
91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Reported from the Committee on Banks and Financial Institutions, March 1, 2001, with recommendation that the House Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 738 Do Pass.

TED WEDEL, Chief Clerk

1530L.04C

AN ACT

To repeal sections 367.100, 367.215, 367.500, 367.503, 367.506, 367.509, 367.512, 367.515, 367.518, 367.521, 367.524, 367.527, 367.530 and 408.500, RSMo 2000, relating to small loans, and to enact in lieu thereof eighteen new sections relating to the same subject, with penalty provisions.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 367.100, 367.215, 367.500, 367.503, 367.506, 367.509, 367.512, 367.515, 367.518, 367.521, 367.524, 367.527, 367.530 and 408.500, RSMo 2000, are repealed and eighteen new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 367.100, 367.215, 367.500, 367.503, 367.506, 367.509, 367.512, 367.515, 367.518, 367.521, 367.524, 367.525, 367.527, 367.530, 367.531, 367.532, 408.500 and 408.510, to read as follows:

367.100. As used in sections 367.100 to 367.200:

- (1) "Consumer credit loans" shall mean loans for [the benefit of or use by an individual or individuals:
- (a) Secured by a security agreement or any other lien on tangible personal property or by the assignment of wages, salary or other compensation; or
- (b) Unsecured and whether with or without comakers, guarantors, endorsers or sureties] **personal, family or household purposes in amounts of five hundred dollars or more;**
- (2) "Director" shall mean the director of the division of finance or such agency or agencies as may exercise the powers and duties now performed by such director;
- (3) "Lender" shall mean any person engaged in the business of making consumer credit

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

11 loans. A person who makes an occasional consumer credit loan or who occasionally makes loans
12 but is not regularly engaged in the business of making consumer credit loans shall not be
13 considered a lender subject to sections 367.100 to 367.200;

14 (4) "Person" shall include individuals, partnerships, associations, trusts, corporations,
15 and any other legal entities, excepting those corporations whose powers emanate from the laws
16 of the United States and those which under other law are subject to the supervisory jurisdiction
17 of the director [of the division of finance of Missouri,] or the director of the division of credit
18 unions of Missouri;

19 (5) "Supervised business" shall mean the business of making consumer credit loans, as
20 herein defined, of money, credit, goods, or things in action.

367.215. The director of finance shall not issue a renewal license to any person or entity
2 licensed under the provisions of sections 367.100 to 367.200 unless the audit report is furnished
3 as required by section 367.210. **In lieu of the requirements of sections 367.205 to 367.215,**
4 **the licensee may post a surety bond in the amount of one hundred thousand dollars. The**
5 **bond shall be in a form satisfactory to the director and shall be issued by a bonding or**
6 **insurance company authorized to do business in the state to secure compliance with all**
7 **laws relative to consumer credit. If, in the opinion of the director, the bond shall at any**
8 **time appear to be inadequate, insecure, exhausted, or otherwise doubtful, additional bond**
9 **in a form and with surety satisfactory to the director shall be filed within fifteen days after**
10 **the director gives notice to the licensee. A licensee may, in lieu of filing any bond required**
11 **under this section, provide the director with a one hundred thousand dollar irrevocable**
12 **letter of credit, as defined in section 400.5-103, RSMo, issued by any bank, trust company,**
13 **savings and loan or credit union operating in Missouri.**

367.500. As used in sections 367.500 to [367.530] **367.533**, unless the context otherwise
2 requires, the following terms mean:

3 (1) "Borrower", [the owner of any titled personal property who pledges such property
4 to a title lender] **a person who borrows money** pursuant to a title loan agreement;

5 (2) "Capital", the assets of a person less the liabilities of that person. Assets and
6 liabilities shall be measured according to generally accepted accounting principles;

7 (3) "Certificate of title", a state-issued certificate of title or certificate of ownership for
8 personal property[, which certificate is deposited with a title lender as security for a title loan
9 pursuant to a title loan agreement];

10 (4) "Director", the director of the division of finance of the department of economic
11 development or its successor agency;

12 (5) "Person", any resident of the state of Missouri or any business entity formed under
13 Missouri law or duly qualified to do business in Missouri;

14 (6) "Pledged property", personal property, ownership of which is evidenced and
15 delineated by a [state-issued certificate of] title;

16 (7) "Title lending office" or "**title loan office**", a location at which, or premises in
17 which, a title lender regularly conducts business;

18 (8) "Title lender", a person [who has] qualified to [engage in the business of making]
19 **make** title loans pursuant to sections 367.500 to [367.530 and] **367.533** who maintains at least
20 one title lending office within [the boundaries of] the state of Missouri, which office is open for
21 the conduct of business not less than thirty hours per week, excluding legal holidays;

22 (9) "Title loan agreement", a written agreement between a borrower and a title lender in
23 a form which complies with the requirements of sections 367.500 to [367.530] **367.533**. The
24 title lender shall [retain physical possession of the certificate of title for the entire length of the
25 title loan agreement and for all renewals or extensions thereof, except to the extent necessary to]
26 perfect [the title lender's] **its** lien pursuant to sections 301.600 to 301.660, RSMo, but [shall]
27 **need** not [be required to] retain physical possession of the titled personal property at any time].
28 The money advanced to the borrower under a title loan agreement shall not be considered a debt
29 of the borrower for any purpose and the borrower shall have no personal liability under a title
30 loan agreement]; and

31 (10) "[Title] **Titled** personal property", any personal property **excluding property**
32 **qualified to be a personal dwelling** the ownership of which is evidenced [and delineated] by
33 a [state-issued] certificate of title.

367.503. 1. The [division of finance] **director** shall [have responsibility to] administer
2 and regulate [the provisions of] sections 367.500 to [367.530] **367.533**. The director, deputy
3 director, other assistants and examiners, and all special agents and other employees shall keep
4 all information [obtained from persons applying for a certificate of registration as a title lender
5 and from all persons licensed as a title lender confidential and shall not disclose such information
6 unless required by law or judicial order] **concerning title lenders confidential as required by**
7 **sections 361.070 and 361.080, RSMo.**

8 2. No employee of the division of finance shall have any ownership or interest in any
9 **title loan** business [entity engaged in the business of title loans,] or receive directly or indirectly
10 any payment or gratuity from any such entity.

11 3. [In enacting rules affecting the business of title lending,] The director shall [not limit
12 the number of title lending certificates of registration that may be issued, but shall only] issue
13 as many [certificates of registration] **title loan licenses** as may be applied for by qualified
14 applicants.

15 4. No rule or portion of a rule promulgated pursuant to the authority of sections 367.500
16 to [367.530] **367.533** shall become effective unless it has been promulgated pursuant to the

17 provisions of chapter 536, RSMo.

367.506. 1. [It is unlawful for] Any person [to act] **who acts** as a title lender [unless
2 such person has first registered and received] **without** a [certificate of registration from the
3 division of finance to conduct such business in the manner and form provided pursuant to this
4 act. Violators of the registration requirement are] **title loan license is** subject to both civil and
5 criminal penalties.

6 2. All title loan agreements entered into by a person who acts in violation of the
7 [registration] **licensing** requirements [provided in] **of** sections 367.500 to [367.530] **367.533**, and
8 all title pledges accepted by such person, shall be null and void. Any borrower who enters into
9 a title loan agreement with a person who acts in violation of the provisions of sections 367.500
10 to [367.530] **367.533** shall not be bound by [the terms of] such agreement, and such borrower's
11 only liability [to such person] shall be for the return of the principal [sum borrowed plus interest
12 at the rate set by statute for interest on judgments].

13 3. The attorney general may initiate a civil action against any person [required to
14 maintain a certificate of registration as a title lender] who acts as a title lender without [first
15 obtaining such certificate] **a title loan license**. Such action shall be commenced in the circuit
16 court for any county [in which such person engaged in title lending. For purposes of this section,
17 such county shall mean any county] in which the person executed any title loan agreement and
18 any county in which any of the pledged **titled personal** property is normally kept. The civil
19 penalty for title lending without [first obtaining] a [certificate of registration] **title loan license**
20 shall be [a fine of] not less than one thousand dollars and not more than five thousand dollars for
21 each day that a person acts in violation of the [registration] **licensing** requirement. If the
22 violation of the [registration] **licensing** requirement is intentional or knowing, the person shall
23 be barred from applying for a [certificate of registration as a title lender] **title loan license** for
24 a period of five years from the date of the last violation.

25 4. A first offense violation of the [registration] **licensing** requirement pursuant to this
26 section shall be a class C misdemeanor. Second and subsequent offenses shall be class A
27 misdemeanors. For purposes of jurisdiction and venue, the crime of unlawful title lending shall
28 be deemed to have occurred in both the county in which an unlawful title loan agreement was
29 executed and the county in which the pledged property is normally kept.

367.509. 1. [To be eligible for] A [registration certificate as a title lender, an] **title loan**
2 **license** applicant must [be either a natural person resident in the state of Missouri or a business
3 entity formed under the laws of the state of Missouri or a business entity qualified to conduct
4 business in the state of Missouri, and] have and maintain capital of at least seventy-five thousand
5 dollars at all times.

6 2. The **license** application [for a certificate of registration] shall be in writing, under oath

7 and in the form prescribed by the director. The application shall contain the name of the
8 applicant[;], date of formation if a business entity[;], the address of each title loan office operated
9 or sought to be operated[;], the name and [resident] **residential** address of the owner [or],
10 partners [or], [if a corporation or association, of the] directors, trustees and principal officers[;],
11 and such other pertinent information as the director may require. **A corporate surety bond in**
12 **the principal sum of twenty thousand dollars per location shall accompany each license**
13 **application. The bond shall be in a form satisfactory to the director and shall be issued by**
14 **a bonding company or insurance company authorized to do business in this state in order**
15 **to ensure the faithful performance of the obligations of the applicant and the applicant's**
16 **agents and subagents in connection with title loan activities. An applicant or licensee may,**
17 **in lieu of filing any bond required pursuant to this section, provide the director with an**
18 **irrevocable letter of credit as defined in section 400.5-103, RSMo, in the amount of twenty**
19 **thousand dollars per location, issued by any bank, trust company, savings and loan or**
20 **credit union operating in Missouri in a form acceptable to the director.**

21 3. Every person [that has not previously been issued a certificate of registration pursuant
22 to this section to engage in the business of title lending shall, at the time of] applying for [such
23 certificate,] **a title loan license shall** pay [the sum of] one thousand dollars as an investigation
24 fee[, which fee shall be used to cover the costs of investigating the application]. [A registered
25 title lender may apply] **Applicants** for [a certificate of registration for] additional title lending
26 [office locations, and] **licenses shall**[, at the time of making such application] pay [the sum of]
27 one thousand dollars **per additional location** as an investigation fee[, which fee shall be used
28 to cover the costs of investigating the title lender's additional title lending office location]. [In
29 addition to the investigative fees required pursuant to this section,] The lender shall, beginning
30 with the first **license** renewal [of said certificate], pay annually to the director a fee of one
31 thousand dollars for each **licensed** location [for which a certificate of registration has been
32 issued].

33 4. Each [certificate] **license** shall specify the location of the [specific] title loan office
34 [to which it applies] and shall be conspicuously displayed therein. Before any title lending office
35 [location] may [be changed or moved by the lender] **relocate**, the director shall approve such
36 [change of location by endorsing the certificate or] **relocation by** mailing the licensee a new
37 [certificate] **license** to that effect, without charge.

38 5. Upon the filing of the application, and the payment of the fee, by a person eligible to
39 apply for a title [lender's certificate] **loan license**, the director shall issue a [certificate to the
40 applicant] **license** to engage in the title loan business [under and] in accordance with [the
41 provisions of] sections 367.500 to [367.530 for a period which shall expire the last day of
42 December next following the date of its issuance] **367.533. The licensing year shall commence**

43 **on January first and end the following December thirty-first.** Each [certificate] **license** shall
44 be uniquely numbered and shall not be transferable or assignable. Renewal [certificates] **licenses**
45 shall be effective for a period of one year.

367.512. 1. [Any licensed title lender may engage in the business of making loans
2 secured by a certificate of title as provided in sections 367.500 to 367.530.

3 2.] Every title loan, **and each extension or renewal of such title loan**, shall be [reduced
4 to] **in** writing [in a title loan agreement. Each title loan agreement], **signed by the borrower**
5 **and** shall provide [as follows and shall include the following terms] **that**:

6 (1) The title lender agrees to make a loan [of money] to the borrower, and the borrower
7 agrees to give the title lender a security interest in unencumbered titled personal property [owned
8 by the borrower];

9 (2) **Whether** the borrower consents to the title lender keeping possession of the
10 certificate of title;

11 (3) The borrower shall have the [exclusive] right to redeem the certificate of title by
12 repaying the loan [of money] in full and by complying with the title loan agreement **which may**
13 **be** for [an] **any** agreed period of time [but in any case] not less than thirty days;

14 (4) The title lender shall renew the title loan agreement [for additional thirty-day periods]
15 upon the borrower's **written** request and the payment by the borrower of any interest [and fees]
16 due at the time of such renewal[.]. However, upon the third renewal of [the] **any** title loan
17 agreement, and [each] **any** subsequent renewal [thereafter], the borrower shall reduce the
18 principal [amount of the loan] by ten percent [of the original amount of the loan] until such loan
19 is paid in full;

20 (5) When the [certificate of title is redeemed] **loan is satisfied**, the title lender shall
21 release its [security interest in the titled personal property] **lien** and return the [personal property
22 certificate of] title to the borrower;

23 (6) [Upon failure of the borrower to redeem the certificate of title at the end of the
24 original thirty-day agreement period, or at the end of any agreed-upon thirty-day renewal or
25 renewals thereof, the borrower shall deliver the titled personal property to the title lender at the
26 location specified in the agreement, which location shall be no more than fifteen miles from the
27 title lender's office where the title loan agreement was executed;

28 (7) If the borrower [fails to deliver the titled personal property to the title lender]
29 **defaults**, the title lender shall be allowed to take possession of the titled personal property **after**
30 **compliance with chapter 400, RSMo, sections 408.551 to 408.557, RSMo, and sections**
31 **408.560 to 408.562, RSMo**;

32 [(8)] (7) Upon obtaining possession of the titled personal property **in accordance with**
33 **chapter 400, RSMo, sections 408.551 to 408.557, RSMo, and sections 408.560 to 408.562,**

34 **RSMo**, the title lender shall be authorized to sell the titled personal property **in accordance with**
35 **chapter 400, RSMo, sections 408.551 to 408.557, RSMo, and sections 408.560 to 408.562,**
36 **RSMo**, and to convey to the buyer thereof good title thereto[, subject to the waiting periods
37 provided for in section 367.521; and

38 (9) A borrower who does not redeem a pledged certificate of title shall have no personal
39 liability to the title lender to repay principal, interest or expenses incurred in connection with the
40 title loan, and that the title lender shall look solely to the titled personal property for satisfaction
41 of the amounts owed under the title loan agreement].

42 [3.] **2.** Any borrower who obtains a title loan [from a title lender] under false pretenses
43 by hiding or not disclosing the existence of a valid prior lien or security interest affecting the
44 titled personal property, shall be personally liable to the title lender for the full amount stated in
45 the title loan agreement.

367.515. [1. The maximum rate of interest that a title lender shall contract for and
2 receive for making and carrying any title loan authorized by sections 367.500 to 367.530 shall
3 not exceed one and one-half percent per month on the amount of such loans. Title lenders may
4 charge, contract for, and receive a fee, which shall not be deemed interest, to defray the ordinary
5 cost of operations. Such fee may include the title lenders cost for investigating the title, appraisal
6 of the titled personal property, insuring the titled personal property while in the possession of the
7 borrower, documenting and recording the transactions, perfecting a security interest in the titled
8 personal property, storage of titled personal property in the possession of the title lender and for
9 all other services and costs of the lender associated with such transactions. A pro rata portion
10 of the foregoing fee shall be fully earned, due and owing each day that the title loan agreement
11 remains unpaid after maturity. Such interest and fees shall be deemed to be earned, due and
12 owing as of the date of the title loan agreement and on the date of any subsequent renewal
13 thereof.

14 2.] A title lender [may assess and collect a repossession charge if the borrower fails to
15 deliver the titled personal property pursuant to the terms of the title loan agreement. This charge
16 shall equal the actual expense incurred by the title lender to repossess the titled personal
17 property, including attorney's fees, but shall be no greater than five hundred dollars for any single
18 article of titled personal property] **shall contract for and receive simple interest and fees in**
19 **accordance with sections 408.100 and 408.140, RSMo.**

367.518. 1. Each title loan agreement shall disclose the following:

2 (1) All disclosures required [to be made under] **by the federal Truth in Lending Act and**
3 **regulation Z;**

4 (2) That the transaction is a loan secured by the pledge of titled personal property **and,**
5 **in at least 10-point bold type, that nonpayment of the loan may result in loss of the**

6 **borrower's vehicle or other titled personal property;**

7 (3) The [identity of the parties to the agreement, including the] name, business address,
8 telephone number and certificate number of the title lender, and the name[, resident] **and**
9 **residential** address [and identification] of the borrower;

10 (4) The monthly interest rate to be charged;

11 (5) [The allowable fees and expenses to be charged to the borrower upon redemption of
12 the certificate of title;

13 (6) The date on which the borrower's exclusive right to redeem the pledged certificate
14 of title pursuant to section 367.521 expires] **A statement which shall be in at least 10-point**
15 **bold type, separately acknowledged by the signature of the borrower and reading as**
16 **follows: You may cancel this loan without any costs by returning the full principal amount**
17 **to the lender by the close of the lender's next full business day;**

18 [(7)] (6) The location where the titled personal property [is to] **may** be delivered if the
19 [certificate of title] **loan** is not [redeemed] **paid** and the hours such location is open for receiving
20 such deliveries; and

21 [(8)] (7) Any additional disclosures deemed necessary by the [division of finance]
22 **director** or required pursuant to sections 400.9-101 to 400.9-508, RSMo.

23 2. The division of finance is directed to [promulgate] **draft** a form [of disclosure] to be
24 used in title loan [agreements] **transactions**. Use of [the] **this** form [promulgated by the division
25 of finance] is not mandatory[,]; however, use of such form, properly completed, shall satisfy the
26 disclosure provisions of this section.

367.521. 1. [Except as otherwise provided in sections 367.500 to 367.530,] The borrower
2 shall be entitled to redeem the [certificate of title upon] **security** by timely satisfaction of [all
3 outstanding obligations agreed to in] the **terms of the** title loan agreement. Upon expiration or
4 default of a title loan agreement [and of the renewal or renewals of the agreement, if any, the title
5 lender shall retain possession of the certificate of title for at least twenty days. If the borrower
6 fails to redeem the certificate of title before the lapse of the twenty-day holding period, the
7 pledgor shall thereby forfeit all right, title and interest in and to the titled personal property to the
8 title lender, who shall thereby acquire an absolute right of title to the titled personal property, and
9 the title lender shall have the sole right and authority to sell or dispose of the pledged property
10 pursuant to sections 400.9-101 to 400.9-508, RSMo.

11 2. The title lender has, upon default by the pledgor of any obligation pursuant to the title
12 loan agreement, the right to take possession of the titled personal property.

13 3. In taking possession, the title pledge lender or the lender's agent may proceed without
14 judicial process if this can be done without breach of the peace; or, if necessary, may proceed by
15 action to obtain judicial process. Any repossession conducted without the knowledge and

16 cooperation of the owner shall comply with the requirements of subsection 12 of section
17 304.155, RSMo.

18 4. If the title lender takes possession of the titled personal property, either personally or
19 through its agent, at any time during the twenty-day holding period provided herein, the title
20 lender shall retain possession, either personally or through its agent, of the titled personal
21 property until the expiration of the twenty-day holding period.

22 5. If during the twenty-day holding period, the borrower redeems the certificate of title
23 by paying all outstanding principal, interest, and other fees stated in the title pledge agreement,
24 and, if applicable, repossession fees and storage fees, the borrower shall be given possession of
25 the certificate of title and the titled personal property, without further charge.

26 6. If the borrower fails to redeem the titled personal property during the twenty-day
27 holding period, the borrower shall thereby forfeit all right, title, and interest in and to the titled
28 personal property and certificate of title, to the title lender, who shall thereby acquire an absolute
29 right of title and ownership to the titled personal property. The title lender shall then have the
30 sole right and authority to sell or dispose of the unredeemed titled personal property.

31 7. If the borrower loses the title pledge agreement or other evidence of the transaction,
32 the borrower shall not thereby forfeit the right to redeem the pledged property, but may promptly,
33 before the lapse of the redemption date, make affidavit for such loss, describing the pledged
34 property, which affidavit shall, in all respects, replace and be substituted for the lost evidence
35 of the transaction], **the title lender may proceed against the collateral pursuant to chapter**
36 **400, RSMo, and with sections 408.551 to 408.557, RSMo, and sections 408.560 to 408.562,**
37 **RSMo.**

367.524. 1. Every title lender shall keep a consecutively numbered record of each [and
2 every] title loan agreement executed, which number shall be placed on the corresponding title
3 loan agreement itself. Such record shall include the following:

4 (1) A clear and accurate description of the titled personal property, including its vehicle
5 identification or serial number, license plate number, [if applicable,] year, make, model, type,
6 and color;

7 (2) The date of the title loan agreement;

8 (3) The amount of the loan [made pursuant to the title loan agreement];

9 (4) The date of maturity of the loan; and

10 (5) The name, [race, sex, height,] date of birth, Social Security number, [resident]
11 **residential** address, and the type [and unique identification number] of [the] photo identification
12 of the borrower.

13 2. The title lender shall [make a good and useable] photocopy [of] the photo
14 identification of the borrower or shall take an instant photograph of the borrower, [which] **and**

15 **shall attach such** photocopy or photograph [shall be attached] to the lender's copy of the title
16 loan agreement **and all renewals.**

17 3. The borrower shall sign the title loan agreement and shall be provided with a copy of
18 such agreement. The title lender, or the lender's employee or agent shall also sign the title loan
19 agreement. **The title lender shall provide each customer with and retain a photocopy of the**
20 **pledged title at the time the note is signed.**

21 4. The title lender shall keep the numbered records and copies of its title loan
22 agreements, **including a copy of the notice required pursuant to subsection 1 of section**
23 **367.525**, for a period of no less than two years from the date of the closing of the last transaction
24 reflected therein. [The date of the last transaction, as used in this subsection, means in the case
25 where a borrower redeemed the pledged certificate of title, the date of such redemption, and in
26 the case where a borrower does not redeem the pledged certificate of title, the date on which the
27 title lender sells the titled personal property.] A title lender who ceases engaging in the business
28 of making title loans shall keep these records for [a period of no less than] **at least** two years
29 from the date the lender ceased engaging in the business. **A title lender must notify the**
30 **director to request an examination at least ten days before ceasing business.**

31 5. The records required [to be maintained] by this section shall be made available for
32 inspection by any employee of the division of finance upon request during ordinary business
33 hours without warrant or court order.

367.525. 1. Before accepting a title loan application, the lender shall provide the
2 **borrower the following notice in at least 10-point bold type and receipt thereof shall be**
3 **acknowledged by signature of the borrower:**

4 (Name of Lender)

5

6 **NOTICE TO BORROWER**

7

8 **(1.) Your automobile title will be pledged as security for the loan. If the loan is not repaid**
9 **in full, including all finance charges, you may lose your automobile.**

10

11 **(2.) This lender offers short term loans. Please read and understand the terms of the loan**
12 **agreement before signing.**

13

14 **I have read the above "NOTICE TO BORROWER" and I understand that if I do not**
15 **repay this loan that I may lose my automobile.**

16

17 _____

18 **Borrower**

19

20 _____

21

22 **Date**

23 **2. If the loan is secured by titled personal property other than an automobile, the**
24 **lender shall either provide a form with the proper word describing the security or else shall**
25 **strike the word "automobile" from the three places it appears, write or print in the type**
26 **of titled personal property serving as security and have the customer initial all three places.**

27 **3. The title lender shall post in a conspicuous location in each licensed office, in at**
28 **least 14-point bold type the maximum rates that such title lender is currently charging on**
29 **any loans made and the statement:**

30 **NOTICE:**

31 **Borrowing from this lender places your automobile at risk. If this loan is not repaid**
32 **in full, including all finance charges, you may lose your automobile.**

33 **This lender offers short term loans. Please read and understand the terms of the**
34 **loan agreement before signing.**

35 **3. When making or negotiating loans, the title lender shall take into consideration**
36 **in determining the size and duration of a loan contract the financial ability of the borrower**
37 **to reasonably repay the loan in the time and manner specified in the loan contract.**

367.527. 1. A title lender shall not:

2 (1) Accept a pledge from a person under eighteen years of age[,] or from anyone who
3 appears to be intoxicated;

4 (2) [Make any agreement giving the title lender any recourse against the borrower other
5 than the title lender's right to take possession of the titled personal property and certificate of title
6 upon the borrower's default or failure to redeem, sell or otherwise dispose of the titled personal
7 property in accordance with provisions of this act, except as otherwise expressly permitted in
8 sections 367.500 to 367.530];

9 (3) Enter into a title agreement in which the amount of money loaned in consideration
10 of the pledge of any single certificate of title] **make a loan which** exceeds five thousand dollars;

11 [(4)] **(3)** Accept any waiver[, in writing or otherwise,] of any right or protection
12 [accorded] of a borrower [pursuant to sections 367.500 to 367.530];

13 [(5)] **(4)** Fail to exercise reasonable care to protect from loss or damage certificates of
14 title or titled personal property in the physical possession of the title lender;

15 [(6)] **(5)** Purchase titled personal property in the operation of its business;

16 [(7)] **(6)** Enter into a title loan agreement unless the borrower presents clear title [to titled

17 personal property] at the time that the loan is made [and such title is retained in the physical
18 possession of the title pledge lender; or];

19 [(8)] (7) Knowingly violate any provision of sections 367.500 to [367.530] **367.533** or
20 any rule promulgated [pursuant to authority granted by this act] **thereunder;**

21 **(8) Violate any provision of sections 408.551 to 408.557, RSMo, and sections 408.560**
22 **to 408.562, RSMo; or**

23 **(9) Store repossessed titled personal property at a location more than fifteen miles**
24 **from the office where the title loan agreement was executed.**

25 2. If a title lender enters into a transaction contrary to this section, [any lien obtained by
26 the title lender] **the loan and the lien** shall be void.

367.530. 1. Every [person engaged in the business of title lending] **title lender** shall
2 [provide] **maintain** a [safe] **fireproof** place for the [keeping of the] pledged certificates of title
3 and a **safe place** for [the keeping of] pledged property delivered to **or repossessed by** the title
4 lender [pursuant to the terms of any title loan agreement].

5 2. Every [person engaged in the business of title lending] **title lender** shall maintain
6 premises liability insurance in an amount of not less than one million dollars per occurrence for
7 the benefit of customers and employees [who visit or work at the title lending office], which
8 insurance shall provide coverage for, among other risks, injuries caused by the criminal acts of
9 third parties.

10 3. A [person engaged in the business of title lending] **title lender** shall **not** be [immune
11 from liability] **liable** for any loss or injury occasioned or caused by the use of pledged property
12 unless the pledged property is actually in the **title lender's** possession [of the title pledge lender].

13 4. A [person engaged in the business of title lending] **title lender** shall be strictly liable
14 to the borrower for any loss to pledged property in the **title lender's** possession [of the title
15 lender, but only if the borrower makes a redemption of the pledged property prior to the
16 expiration of the twenty-day holding period provided in section 367.521].

367.531. The provisions of sections 408.552 to 408.557, RSMo, and sections 408.560
2 **to 408.562, RSMo, are applicable to all transactions pursuant to sections 367.500 to**
3 **367.533.**

367.532. 1. Any title lender which fails, refuses or neglects to comply with sections
2 **367.500 to 367.533, sections 408.551 to 408.557, RSMo, sections 408.560 to 408.562, RSMo,**
3 **or any laws relating to title loans or commits any criminal act may have its license**
4 **suspended or revoked by order of the director after a hearing before said director on an**
5 **order of the director to show cause why such order of suspension or revocation should not**
6 **be entered specifying the grounds therefor which shall be served on the title lender at least**
7 **ten days prior to the hearing.**

8 **2. Whenever it shall appear to the director that any title lender is failing, refusing**
9 **or neglecting to make a good faith effort to comply with the provisions of sections 367.500**
10 **to 367.533, or any laws relating to consumer loans, the director may issue an order to cease**
11 **and desist which order may be enforceable by a civil penalty of not more than one**
12 **thousand dollars per day for each day that the neglect, failure or refusal shall continue.**
13 **The penalty shall be assessed and collected by the director. In determining the amount of**
14 **the penalty, the director shall take into account the appropriateness of the penalty with**
15 **respect to the gravity of the violation, the history of previous violations, and such other**
16 **matters as justice may require.**

 408.500. 1. Lenders [exclusively], **other than banks, trust companies, credit unions,**
2 **savings banks and savings and loan companies,** in the business of making unsecured loans
3 [under] of five hundred dollars [and who are not otherwise registered under this chapter shall be
4 registered with] **or less shall obtain a license from** the director of the division of finance [upon
5 the payment of]. An annual [registration] **license fee of three hundred dollars per location shall**
6 **be required.** The license year shall commence on January first each year and the license fee may
7 be prorated for expired months. [Such lenders shall not charge, contract for or receive on such
8 loans interest or any fee of any type or kind whatsoever which exceed the approved rate as
9 provided in this subsection. Lenders shall file a rate schedule with the director who, upon
10 review, shall approve rates comparable with those lawfully charged in the marketplace for
11 similar loans. In determining marketplace interest rates, the director shall consider the
12 appropriateness of rate requests made by lenders and rates allowed on similar loans in the states
13 contiguous to Missouri. If the director takes no action upon a filed rate schedule within thirty
14 days of receipt, then it shall be deemed approved as filed. The director, on January first and July
15 first of each year, shall consider the filing of new interest rate schedules to reflect changes in the
16 marketplace. The director may promulgate rules regarding the computation and payment of
17 interest, contract statements, payment receipts and advertising for loans made under the
18 provisions of this section.] The provisions of this section shall not apply to pawnbroker loans
19 [and small], **consumer credit** loans as authorized under chapter 367, RSMo, **nor to a check**
20 **accepted and deposited or cashed by the payee business on the same or the following**
21 **business day. The disclosures required by the federal Truth in Lending Act and regulation**
22 **Z shall be provided on any loan, renewal or extension made pursuant to this section and**
23 **the loan, renewal or extension documents shall be signed by the borrower.**

24 **2. Entities making loans pursuant to this section shall contract for and receive**
25 **simple interest and fees in accordance with sections 408.100 and 408.140.** Any contract
26 evidencing any fee or charge of any kind whatsoever, except for bona fide clerical errors, in
27 [excess of the rate established under] **violation of** this section shall be void. Any person, firm

28 or corporation who receives or imposes a fee or charge in [excess of the rate established under]
29 **violation of** this section shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

30 3. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, cost of collection expenses, which
31 include court costs and reasonable attorneys fees, awarded by the court in suit to recover on a bad
32 check or breach of contract shall not be considered as a fee or charge for purposes [pursuant to]
33 **of** this section.

34 **4. Lenders licensed pursuant to this section shall conspicuously post in the lobby**
35 **of the office, in at least 14-point bold type, the maximum annual percentage rates such**
36 **licensee is currently charging and the statement:**

37 **NOTICE:**

38 **This lender offers short term loans. Please read and understand the terms of the**
39 **loan agreement before signing.**

40 **5. The lender shall provide the borrower with a notice in substantially the following**
41 **form set forth in at least 10-point bold type, and receipt thereof shall be acknowledged by**
42 **signature of the borrower:**

43 **(1) This lender offers short term loans. Please read and understand the terms of**
44 **the loan agreement before signing.**

45 **(2) You may cancel this loan without costs by returning the full principal balance**
46 **to the lender by the close of the lender's next full business day.**

47 **6. The lender shall renew the loan upon the borrower's written request and the**
48 **payment of any interest and fees due at the time of such renewal; however, upon the fifth**
49 **renewal of the loan agreement, and each subsequent renewal thereafter, the borrower shall**
50 **reduce the principal amount of the loan by ten percent of the original amount of the loan**
51 **until such loan is paid in full.**

52 **7. When making or negotiating loans, a licensee shall consider the financial ability**
53 **of the borrower to reasonably repay the loan in the time and manner specified in the loan**
54 **contract. All records shall be retained at least two years.**

55 **8. A licensee who ceases business pursuant to this section must notify the director**
56 **to request an examination of all records within ten business days prior to cessation. All**
57 **records must be retained at least two years.**

58 **9. Any lender licensed pursuant to this section who fails, refuses or neglects to**
59 **comply with the provisions of this section, or any laws relating to consumer loans or**
60 **commits any criminal act may have its license suspended or revoked by the director of**
61 **finance after a hearing before the director on an order of the director to show cause why**
62 **such order of suspension or revocation should not be entered specifying the grounds**
63 **therefor which shall be served on the licensee at least ten days prior to the hearing.**

64 **10. Whenever it shall appear to the director that any lender licensed pursuant to**
65 **this section is failing, refusing or neglecting to make a good faith effort to comply with the**
66 **provisions of this section, or any laws relating to consumer loans, the director may issue**
67 **an order to cease and desist which order may be enforceable by a civil penalty of not more**
68 **than one thousand dollars per day for each day that the neglect, failure or refusal shall**
69 **continue. The penalty shall be assessed and collected by the director. In determining the**
70 **amount of the penalty, the director shall take into account the appropriateness of the**
71 **penalty with respect to the gravity of the violation, the history of previous violations, and**
72 **such other matters as justice may require.**

408.510. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the phrase "consumer
2 **installment loans" means secured or unsecured loans of any amount and payable in not less**
3 **than four substantially equal installments over a period of not less than one hundred**
4 **twenty days. The phrase "consumer installment lender" means a person licensed to make**
5 **consumer installment loans. A consumer installment lender shall be licensed in the same**
6 **manner and upon the same terms as a lender making consumer credit loans. Such**
7 **consumer installment lenders shall contract for and receive interest and fees in accordance**
8 **with sections 408.100 and 408.140. Consumer installment lenders shall be subject to the**
9 **provisions of sections 408.551 to 408.562.**