Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1	State of Arkansas	As Engrossed: S3/20/07 S3/22/07 H3/29/0	07
2	86th General Assembly	A Bill	
3	Regular Session, 2007		SENATE BILL 969
4			
5	By: Senator Altes		
6			
7			
8		For An Act To Be Entitled	
9	AN ACT	TO AMEND THE LAW REGARDING NONC	ONSENT
10	TOWING	AND RECOVERY OF VEHICLES; AND F	OR OTHER
11	PURPOSE	S.	
12			
13		Subtitle	
14	TO A	MEND THE LAW REGARDING NONCONSE	NT
15	TOWI	NG AND RECOVERY OF VEHICLES.	
16			
17			
18	BE IT ENACTED BY THE	GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF	F ARKANSAS:
19			
20	SECTION 1. Ark	ansas Code § 27-50-1202 (10), co	oncerning the definition
21	of "unattended", is amended to read as follows:		
22	(10) "Un	attended" means any vehicle left	t on public property
23	without the consent o	f an authority in charge of the	property or on or near a
24	public way without so	me person, gratuitous bailee, or	r bailee for hire in
25	possession of the veh	icle ; and <u>which:</u>	
26	(A)	Which vehicle is <u>Is</u> located w	ithin a distance of three
27	feet (3') of the trav	eled surface of the public way;	
28	<i>(B)</i>	Which vehicle is <u>Is</u> located on	n or near a public way at
29	a distance of three f	eet (3') or more of the traveled	d surface of the public
30	way for a period of t	wenty-four (24) hours or more;	
31	(C)	Which vehicle is <u>Is</u> not locate	ed on or near a public
32	way but is left for a	period of forty-eight (48) hour	rs or more;
33	(D)	Which vehicle remains <u>Remains</u>	<u>Does</u> not <u>remain</u> in the
34	custody of some respo	nsible person following an accid	dent where the operator
35	has been removed to a	hospital or is otherwise unable	e to make personal
36	arrangements for the	vehicle's care;	



1	(E) Which vehicle was Was operated to a place of	
2	apprehension by law enforcement under police power and the operator thereof	
3	removed from the vehicle and taken into police custody;	
4	(F) Which vehicle is <u>Is</u> located upon any public right of	
5	way and, due to geographic location, traffic density, or climatic conditions,	
6	creates a <u>is creating an immediate and</u> substantial hazard to the motoring	
7	public, as determined by a law enforcement officer; or	
8	(G) Which vehicle, whether on public property on or near a	
9	public way or otherwise, is <u>Is</u> subject to seizure by law enforcement under	
10	<u>either a statute,</u> the Arkansas Rules of Criminal Procedure <u>,</u> or pursuant to <u>a</u>	
11	lawful court order.	
12		
13	SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 27-50-1203(e) — (g), concerning the board's	
14	authority to promulgate rules for the towing industry, are amended to read as	
15	follows:	
16	(e)(l) The board shall promulgate rules and regulations to carry out	
17	the intent of this subchapter and shall regulate the towing industry,	
18	including:	
19	(A) Establishing reasonable licensing, insurance, and	
20	safety equipment requirements for any person engaging in nonconsent towing	
21	and related services for safety purposes under this subchapter;	
22	(B) Establishing reasonable tow truck safety requirements	
23	for any tow vehicle as defined in this subchapter;	
24	(C) Establishing a procedure to accept and investigate	
25	complaints from a consumer who claims that he or she has been overcharged for	
26	consent or nonconsent towing, recovery or storage fees;	
27	(D) Determining and sanctioning excessive or unnecessary	
28	non-consent towing fees, recovery, and storage charged to consumers;	
29	(E) Requiring all entities permitted, licensed, or	
30	regulated under this subchapter to provide itemized billing for towing or	
31	storage fees that explains how the charges were calculated; and	
32	(F) Requiring all entities permitted, licensed, or	
33	regulated under this subchapter to maintain a copy of their current maximum	
34	rate schedule posted in a conspicuous place and readily accessible to the	
35	public.	
36	(2) The promulgation and adoption of rules and regulations shall	

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in all respects be in the manner provided by the Arkansas Administrative
 Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq.

(3) After the promulgation and adoption of rules or regulations, 3 4 any proposed change to add to, amend, repeal, or change any of the rules or 5 regulations shall not have effect until reviewed and approved by the 6 Subcommittee on Administrative Rules and Regulations of the Legislative 7 Council subsequent to the time that the General Assembly next meets in 8 regular session unless a finding exists that imminent peril to the public 9 health, safety, or welfare requires immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of the rules or regulations. 10

(f)(1) The board shall have the authority to levy applicable towing business license fees not to exceed one hundred dollars (\$100) per license, and the board shall have the authority to levy an applicable tow vehicle safety permit fee not to exceed twenty-five fifty dollars (\$25.00) (\$50.00) per tow vehicle safety permit.

16 (2) Furthermore, the board shall also have the authority to
17 impose late filing fees in an amount not to exceed the original amount of the
18 license fee or safety permit fee.

19 (g)(1) The board shall have the authority to employ and discharge any 20 personnel as may be necessary to administer and enforce the provisions of 21 this subchapter and the rules and regulations promulgated hereunder.

(2) The board shall employ an investigator investigators to
investigate consumer complaints related to overcharging for consent or
nonconsent towing, recovery, or storage fees, violations of § 27-50-1101,
this subchapter, and violations of the rules promulgated by the board under
this subchapter.

27

28 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 27-50-1204(a), concerning penalties, is 29 amended to read as follows:

30 (a)(1) The owner of a vehicle or and the person who left the vehicle
31 unattended or abandoned or any owner or operator waiving an owner's
32 preference shall be liable for all reasonable costs of towing, recovery,
33 storage, and other incidental costs related to such a removal.
34 (2) If the vehicle is sold by foreclosure under § 27-50-1209,
35 the owner or operator shall be liable for such costs in excess of the
36 proceeds of the sale of the vehicle.

1		
2	SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 27-50-1204(d), concerning penalties, is	
3	amended to read as follows:	
4	(d) Any person, excluding law enforcement officers, who is determined	
5	by the board, after reasonable notice and opportunity for a fair and	
6	impartial hearing held in accordance with the Arkansas Administrative	
7	Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq., to have committed an act that is in	
8	violation of this subchapter or any rules and regulations promulgated under	
9	this subchapter, is subject to civil penalties prescribed by the board,	
10	including monetary penalties not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500) <u>five</u>	
11	thousand dollars (\$5000) or suspension or revocation of any towing license or	
12	permit, or both.	
13		
14	SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 27-50-1204, concerning penalties, is	
15	amended to add a subdivision to read as follows:	
16	(f)(1) A penalty assessed by the board shall be paid no later than	
17	fifteen (15) days after the conclusion of the appeals process under the	
18	Arkansas Administrative Procedures Act, § 25-15-201 et seq.	
19	(2) If not paid timely, a license or permit may be suspended	
20	until the penalty is paid.	
21		
22	SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 27-50-1205(1), concerning tagging by a law	
23	enforcement official, is amended to read as follows:	
24	(1) <u>(A)</u> Order immediate removal of any unattended, abandoned,	
25	disabled, or inoperative vehicle <u>:</u>	
26	<u>(i)</u> located <u>Located</u> within three feet (3') of the	
27	traveled surface of a public way <u>;</u> or	
28	<u>(ii)</u> which vehicle <u>That</u> appears to create <u>an</u>	
29	immediate and substantial hazard to the public; and	
30	<u>(B)</u> shall <u>Shall</u> log the removal order accordingly; <u>or</u>	
31		
32	SECTION 7. Arkansas Code § 27-50-1206(a) and (b), concerning the	
33	notice provided by a law enforcement officer to a licensed towing and storage	
34	firm, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:	
35	(a)(l) Any order issued by a law enforcement officer to a licensed	
36	towing and storage firm to remove and store an unattended or abandoned	

vehicle shall provide information supplied from the records of the Office of
 Motor Vehicle, Arkansas Crime Information Center records, or the motor
 vehicle records of any other state indicating the name and address of the
 last registered owner, the name and address of the holder of any recorded
 lien on the vehicle, and the vehicle identification or serial number of the
 vehicle.

7 (2) If there is evidence in the vehicle indicating that the
8 vehicle is registered in another state, the information shall be supplied
9 from the motor vehicle records of that state.

10 <u>(3)(A) If a law enforcement officer or other official issues a</u> 11 hold against the release of the vehicle, the law enforcement officer's order 12 to remove and store the vehicle shall include a written explanation for the 13 issuance of the hold.

(B) Whenever the hold on the vehicle is released, the law
enforcement officer or other official who issued the hold shall provide
written notice of the release to the towing and storage firm.

17 (b)(1) In the event that readily available records fail to disclose 18 the name of the owner or any lienholder of record, the law enforcement 19 officer or his or her agency shall notify <u>in writing</u> the towing and storage 20 firm, which <u>after receiving the notice</u> shall perform a good faith search to 21 locate documents or other evidence of ownership and lienholder information on 22 or within the unattended or abandoned vehicle.

(2) For purposes of this subsection, a "good faith search" means
that the towing and storage firm checks the unattended or abandoned property
for any type of license plate, license plate record, temporary permit,
inspection sticker, decal, or other evidence which may indicate a possible
state of registration and title.

(3) The towing and storage firm shall provide <u>in writing</u> to the
law enforcement officer or agency the results of the search and, if
appropriate, certify that a physical search of the unattended or abandoned
vehicle disclosed that no ownership documents were found and that a good
faith search was conducted.

33

34 SECTION 8. Arkansas Code § 27-50-1207(a)(2)(B), concerning owner 35 preference rights, is amended to an additional subdivision to read as 36 follows:

1	(B)(1) If a law enforcement officer fails to provide an	
2	owner of a vehicle with an owner preference in a nonemergency situation, the	
3	the owner may file a complaint with the law enforcement agency that employs	
4	the law enforcement officer, the Arkansas Towing and Recovery Board, or both.	
5	(2) Nothing in this subsection precludes a person	
6	who has been denied the right of owner preference from seeking any other	
7	legal or equitable remedy.	
8		
9	SECTION 9. Arkansas Code § 27-50-1207(c), concerning the	
10	recommendation of a towing and storage firm by a law enforcement officer, is	
11	amended to read as follows:	
12	(c) No law enforcement officer shall <u>:</u>	
13	<u>(1)</u> suggest Suggest or recommend any particular towing and	
14	storage firm to the owner, $\pm \Theta$ his or her agent, or $\pm \Theta$ any competent occupant	
15	of any disabled or inoperative vehicle except in strict compliance with his	
16	or her agency's vehicle removal policy, nor shall law enforcement officers;	
17	<u>or</u>	
18	<u>(2)</u> accept <u>Accept</u> gifts or special consideration from the owner	
19	of a towing business or anyone acting on the owner's behalf in relation to	
20	removal of vehicles as provided by this subchapter.	
21		
22	SECTION 10. Arkansas Code § 27-50-1207(e) and (f), concerning an	
23	owner's rights, is amended to read as follows:	
24	(e)(1) Should the owner or lienholder of a vehicle removed pursuant to	
25	this subchapter consider that the removal of the vehicle was not legally	
26	justified or properly subject to a law enforcement hold, the owner or	
27	lienholder may within twenty (20) <u>thirty (30)</u> days after removal or within	
28	twenty (20) <u>thirty (30)</u> days after the receipt of notification <u>of any law</u>	
29	enforcement hold from the towing and storage firm, whichever is later, seek a	
30	review to determine whether the unattended or abandoned property was	
31	wrongfully removed or withheld from the owner through the following	
32	procedures:	
33	(A) In the case of a vehicle removed by or at the	
34	direction of a state agency, by filing a petition with the Arkansas State	
35	Claims Commission;	
36	(B) In the case of a vehicle removed by or at the	

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1 direction of a county or city agency and when the county or city has 2 established an administrative review process, by filing a petition according 3 to the established administrative review process; and 4 (C) In all other cases, including when the county or city 5 has failed to establish an administrative review process, by filing a 6 petition in the circuit court in the county where the unattended or abandoned 7 vehicle is stored. 8 (2) In the case of a final decision reached through a county or

9 city administrative review, the owner or lienholder may appeal an adverse 10 ruling to the circuit court in the county where the unattended or abandoned 11 vehicle is stored.

12 (3) The petition shall name the state agency ordering the tow as 13 a respondent and when filed in circuit court shall also name the towing 14 company among the respondents <u>if the towing company still possesses the</u> 15 <u>vehicle</u>. In the case of removal originated by an agency of a political 16 subdivision of the state, the petition shall name the county, city, or town 17 as a respondent.

(4)(A) If the vehicle and its contents are subject to
impoundment or seizure by law enforcement pursuant to the Arkansas Rules of
Criminal Procedure or pursuant to an order by any court, Arkansas Rule of
Criminal Procedure 15 shall exclusively govern the release of the vehicle and
its contents to the extent applicable.

23(B) Nothing in this section shall operate to defeat the24lien held by the towing company under § 27-50-1208.

(f)(1) Upon the filing of the petition, the owner or lienholder may have the unattended or abandoned vehicle and contents released upon posting with the commission, with the court, or with the city or county clerk or other person designated by a political subdivision, as the case may be, a cash or surety bond equal to the amount of the charges for the towing and storage to ensure the payment of such charges in the event that he or she does not prevail.

32 (2)(A) Upon the posting of the bond and the payment of the 33 applicable fees, the administrative decision maker, commission, or court, as 34 the case may be, shall issue an order notifying the towing company and the 35 respondent agency of the posting of the bond.

36

(B) Upon <u>service of</u> receipt of the order, the towing

1	company shall release the stored property.	
2	(3) At the time of release, after reasonable inspection, the	
3	owner or the lienholder shall give a receipt to the towing and storage firm	
4	reciting any claim for known loss or damage to the unattended or abandoned	
5	property or the contents thereof.	
6		
7	SECTION 11. Arkansas Code § 27-50-1208 is amended to read as follows:	
8	27-50-1208. Possessory lien and notice to owners and lienholders.	
9	(a) <u>(l)</u> The towing and storage firm shall have a first priority	
10	possessory lien on the vehicle and its contents for all reasonable charges	
11	for towing, recovery, and storage for which the owner is liable.	
12	(2)(A) A possessory lien under this section attaches to not only	
13	the vehicle and its contents, but also any trailer attached to the vehicle at	
14	the time it is towed, and any contents of such trailer including, but not	
15	limited to, other vehicles or boats.	
16	(B) A lien under this section shall not extend to the	
17	following items, without limitation:	
18	(i) personal or legal documents;	
19	<u>(ii) medications;</u>	
20	(iii) child restraint seating;	
21	(iv) wallets or purses and the contents of such;	
22	(v) prescription eyeglasses;	
23	(vi) prosthetics;	
24	(vii) cell phones;	
25	(viii) photographs; and	
26	(ix) books.	
27	(C) The items described in subdivision (a)(2)(B) of this	
28	section shall be released without charge by the towing and storage firm to	
29	the owner or operator of the motor vehicle or his or her duly authorized	
30	representative.	
31	(b) The lien shall be perfected by:	
32	(1) Maintaining possession;	
33	(2) Mailing notice to the owner or owners and lienholders as	
34	shown on the data provided by the law enforcement agency involved as	
35	prescribed by this subchapter; or	
36	(3) In the case of a vehicle removed pursuant to § 27-50-1101,	

1 giving notice to the last known registered owner or owners and lienholders as 2 provided from the records of the: 3 (A) Office of Motor Vehicle; 4 (B) Arkansas Crime Information Center; or 5 (C) If known, motor vehicle records of any other state 6 where the vehicle's registration indicates the name and address of the last 7 registered owner and the name and address of the holder of any recorded lien, 8 if any, on the vehicle. 9 (c)(1) The notice shall be mandatory and by certified mail, return 10 receipt requested. 11 (2) The notice shall be posted not sooner than two (2) business 12 days but within eight (8) business days after the date that the towing and storage firm receives the vehicle. 13 14 (d)(1) If within forty-eight (48) hours the ownership and lienholder 15 information has not been received from the law enforcement agency requesting 16 the removal of a vehicle pursuant to this subchapter, the towing and storage 17 firm shall obtain information concerning the last known registered owner or 18 owners and lienholders as provided from the records of the: 19 (A) office Office of Motor Vehicle; 20 (B) Arkansas Crime Information Center; or 21 (C) If known, motor vehicle records of any other state 22 where the vehicle's registration indicates the name and address of the last 23 registered owner and the name and address of the holder of any recorded lien, 24 if any, on the vehicle. 25 (2)(A) For the purpose of notices required by this section, if 26 the data records of the office Office of Motor Vehicle or the office of motor 27 vehicles for the state where the vehicle is registered, if known, do not 28 contain any information as to the last known registered owner or owners and lienholders, notice by publication one (1) time in one (1) newspaper of 29 30 general circulation in the county where the vehicle was found unattended, abandoned, or improperly parked is sufficient notice under this section. 31 32 The notice by publication may contain multiple (B) 33 listings of vehicles, shall be published within the time requirements 34 prescribed for notice by certified mail, and shall have the same contents 35 required for a notice by certified mail. 36 (e) The notice shall contain the following information:

1 (1) The year, make, model, and vehicle identification number of 2 the vehicle towed: 3 (2) The name, address, and telephone number of the storage 4 facility; 5 That the vehicle is in the possession of that towing and (3) 6 storage firm under police order, describing the general circumstances of any 7 law enforcement or other official hold on the vehicle; 8 (4) That towing, storage, and administrative costs are accruing 9 as a legal liability of the owner; 10 (5) That the towing and storage firm claims a first priority 11 possessory lien on the vehicle and its contents for all such charges; 12 (6) That unless claimed within forty-five (45) days, the vehicle and its contents will be dismantled, destroyed, or sold at public sale to the 13 14 highest bidder; 15 (7) That the failure to exercise their right to reclaim the 16 vehicle and its contents within the time prescribed by this section 17 constitutes a waiver by the owners and lienholders of all right, title, and interest in the vehicle and its contents and constitutes their consent to the 18 19 sale, dismantling, or destruction of the vehicle and its contents; (8) That the owner or lienholder may retake possession at any 20 time during business hours by appearing, proving ownership, and releasing the 21 22 law enforcement or other official hold, if any, and by paying all charges or 23 by other written arrangement between the owner or lienholder and the towing 24 and storage firm; 25 (9) That should the owner consider that the original taking was 26 not legally justified, he or she has a right for twenty thirty (20) thirty 27 (30) days to contest the original taking as defined by § 27-50-1207; and 28 (10) That the owner or operator or his or her authorized representative may recover without charge possession of any item described in 29 30 subdivision (a)(2)(B) of this section by providing within forty-five (45) days to the towing and storage firm proof that the claimant is the registered 31 32 owner of the vehicle or has been authorized by the registered owner of the 33 vehicle to take possession of the items; and 34 (11) Notices to owners of vehicles deemed abandoned on the premises of automobile repair facilities pursuant to § 27-50-1101 shall also 35 36 advise that the automobile repair person holds an absolute lien on the

1 vehicle pursuant to § 18-45-201 et seq.

2 (f) Nothing in this section is to preclude the owner, lienholder, or 3 agent from making alternative arrangements within the two-day to eight-day 4 period with the towing and storage firm, waiving his or her rights to the 5 notice requirement.

6 (g) When any vehicle reclaimed from the towing and storage firm by a 7 lienholder contains contents not subject to the lienholder's interest, the 8 lienholder shall be accountable to the owner of the contents in the same 9 manner as the lienholder would in any other case of repossession of a 10 vehicle, and the towing and recovery firm releasing the vehicle and its 11 contents shall be relieved from all responsibility for the contents.

(h)(1) Any towing and storage firm that in good faith follows the procedures of this subchapter or the provisions of § 27-50-1101 shall not be subject to claims of unlawful detainer or conversion for vehicles or their contents for merely maintaining property pursuant to the possessory lien as provided by this subchapter.

17 (2) Any challenge to the removal <u>and holding</u> of an unattended or
18 abandoned vehicle as provided by this subchapter shall be controlled
19 exclusively by the provisions of § 27-50-1207.

20 (3) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit
21 liability of the towing and storage firm for any other act or omission
22 otherwise actionable under statutory or common law.

23

25

24

SECTION 12. Arkansas Code § 27-50-1209 is amended to read as follows: 27-50-1209. Foreclosure of liens.

(a)(1) The failure of the owner or lienholder to exercise his, her, or its right to reclaim the vehicle and its contents within the time provided in this subchapter forty-five (45) days of the posting or publication of notice to owners and lienholders constitutes a waiver by the owner or lienholder of all right, title, and interest in the vehicle and its contents.

31 (2) If a law enforcement official or other official refuses to 32 release any hold on the vehicle or its contents, the owner or lienholder has 33 an additional twenty (20) days to reclaim the vehicle and its contents after 34 the date when the hold is released.

35 (3) (A) The owner or lienholder may challenge any law enforcement
 36 official hold or other official hold under the procedures in § 27-50-1207(e).

1	(B) However, the provisions of § 27-50-1207(f) pertaining	
2	to release of the vehicle do not apply when the owner or lienholder	
3	challenges a law enforcement official hold or other official hold.	
4	(b)(1) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, the	
5	towing and storage firm, municipality, or county that holds a perfected	
6	possessory lien on any vehicle and its contents not redeemed by its owner or	
7	security lienholder within the forty five (45) days <u>time frame</u> provided by	
8	this subchapter <u>section</u> shall sell the vehicle and its contents at a	
9	nonjudicial public sale for cash.	
10	(2) The sale shall not occur later than ninety (90) days after	
11	perfection of the lien <u>or forty-five (45) days after the release of any law</u>	
12	enforcement hold or other official hold, whichever is later.	
13	(c) A vehicle that is held by a municipality or county on a storage	
14	lot owned and operated by the municipality or county may defer the public	
15	sale and make use of the vehicle for law enforcement purposes if:	
16	(1) The municipality or county complies with the notice	
17	provisions of § 27-50-1208;	
18	(2) Forty-five (45) days have expired <u>The time frame</u> as provided	
19	under subdivision (b)(l) subsection (a) of this section <u>has expired</u> ; and	
20	(3) The municipality or county enacts an ordinance that:	
21	(A) Declares the municipality's or the county's policy	
22	regarding the deferral for law enforcement purposes;	
23	(B) Charges a specific municipal or county official with	
24	the responsibilities of:	
25	(i) Identifying the vehicles to be used by the	
26	municipality or county; and	
27	(ii)(a) Declaring a future date to publicly sell the	
28	vehicle pursuant to § 27-50-1210.	
29	(b) The date of the sale shall be a maximum of	
30	six (6) months from <u>following</u> the passage of the forty-five (45) days	
31	required time frame for an owner or lienholder to reclaim a vehicle under	
32	subdivision (b)(l) subsection (a) of this section or as soon as is	
33	practicable if circumstances arise that prevent the sale on the declared sale	
34	date; and	
35	(C) Requires that the official ensure that the public sale	
36	proceed on the sale date declared in the ordinance.	

1 (d)(1) The towing and storage firm, municipality, or county shall 2 obtain written verification that the Arkansas Crime Information Center 3 records do not list the vehicle as having been reported stolen. 4 (2) The verification shall be on a form prescribed by the 5 center, the Office of Motor Vehicle, a municipal police department, a county 6 sheriff's department, or the Department of Arkansas State Police. 7 (3) When the verification provided by this subsection is sought 8 directly from the center by the towing and storage firm, the center may 9 charge a fee, not to exceed ten dollars (\$10.00) per vehicle verification. 10 (e)(1) Notice of the sale shall be sent at least fifteen (15) days 11 before the date of the sale by certified mail, no return receipt requested, 12 to the registered owner and lienholder, if any. (2) If the data records of the Office of Motor Vehicle or the 13 office of motor vehicles for the state where the vehicle is registered do not 14 15 contain any information as to the last known registered owner or owners or 16 lienholders, the notice required under subdivision (e)(1) of this section is 17 not required. (3) Nothing in this subsection removes the requirement of notice 18 of sale by publication under subsection (f) of this section. 19 In addition to the notice by mail, notice of the sale shall be 20 (f) published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county at least one 21 22 (1) time at least ten (10) days prior to the sale. 23 24 SECTION 13. Arkansas Code § 27-50-1210(b)(1), concerning a nonjudicial sale, is amended to read as follows: 25 26 Should the sale produce the same or less than the sum of all (b) 27 charges: 28 (1) Ownership At the election of the possessory lienholder, the 29 sale of the vehicle may be cancelled and ownership of the vehicle and its 30 contents shall thereupon vest in the possessory lienholder as purchaser free of all liens of any nature; and 31 The possessory lienholder shall have a valid claim against 32 (2) 33 the owner for the full amount of the charges, including the costs of the sale 34 and including a reasonable charge for processing the paperwork, less the sale 35 price of the vehicle and its contents. 36

1	SECTION 14. Arkansas Code § 27-50-1213 is amended to read as follows:
2	27-50-1213. Limitation on removing from the state.
3	(a) A towing or wrecker service <u>licensed in a state other than</u>
4	<u>Arkansas</u> shall only remove a vehicle that was involved in a <u>motor vehicle</u>
5	<u>accident</u> collision in the State of Arkansas from the site of the collision
6	accident to another state if the state in which the towing or wrecker service
7	is licensed extends the same privilege to a towing or wrecker service that is
8	licensed in Arkansas and operating in the other state.
9	(b) For the purpose of determining whether a state permits Arkansas-
10	licensed wreckers and Arkansas-licensed towing vehicles to remove a vehicle
11	that was involved in an accident in that state, any limitation imposed by a
12	county, parish, city, or other political subdivision of that state is deemed
13	an action of that state.
14	(c)(1) This section applies only to the initial removal of a vehicle
15	from the site of an accident to a point of storage or repair.
16	(2) This section does not apply to the secondary towing of a
17	vehicle after an investigation of a motor vehicle accident is completed.
18	(d) When towing a vehicle in this state, a towing or wrecker service
19	licensed in a state other than Arkansas must comply with the provisions of
20	this subchapter and § 27-35-112.
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22	/s/ Altes
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