FIRST REGULAR SESSION HOUSE BILL NO. 444

100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE DOGAN.

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 513, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to asset forfeiture.

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

Section A. Chapter 513, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be 2 known as section 513.655, to read as follows:

513.655. 1. No law enforcement agency or prosecuting authority shall enter into an agreement to transfer or refer seized property to a federal agency directly, indirectly, 2 by adoption, through an intergovernmental joint task force, or by any other means for the 3 purposes of forfeiture litigation unless the seized property includes United States currency 4 5 in excess of one hundred thousand dollars. 6 2. All law enforcement agencies shall refer seized property to the appropriate 7 prosecuting authority for forfeiture litigation unless the seized property includes United States currency in excess of one hundred thousand dollars. If seized property includes 8 9 United States currency in excess of one hundred thousand dollars, the law enforcement

10 agency shall refer or transfer the seized property to either a:

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- (1) Federal agency for forfeiture litigation under federal law; or
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(1) Federal agency for forfeiture inigation under federal law; or

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(2) Local or state agency for forfeiture litigation under state law.

3. Nothing in subsection 1 or 2 of this section shall be construed to restrict a law enforcement agency from collaborating with a federal agency through an intergovernmental joint task force to seize contraband or property that the law enforcement agency has probable cause to believe is the proceeds or instrument of a crime.

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EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

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