

FILED FEB 26 1998

Rereferred To: Commerce

SENATE FILE 2352

BY COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 259)

Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_

Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the disposition of certain lost property.

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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S.F. 2352

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 556F.6A FINDER'S OPTIONS IN  
2 DISPOSING OF FOUND PROPERTY.

3 A person who finds lost goods, money, bank notes, or other  
4 property, and where the owner is unknown, may do either of the  
5 following:

6 1. Comply with the provisions of sections 556F.7 through  
7 556F.10.

8 2. Deliver the goods, money, bank notes, or other property  
9 to the sheriff of the county where such property was found, or  
10 to a local law enforcement agency of the jurisdiction where  
11 the property was found. The sheriff or local law enforcement  
12 agency shall make every reasonable effort to identify the  
13 owner of the property and return the property if the owner is  
14 located. If the owner of the property is not identified and a  
15 person does not appear to claim and prove ownership of the  
16 property within twelve months of the date the property is  
17 delivered to the sheriff or local law enforcement agency, the  
18 right to the property is irrevocably vested in the finder and  
19 the property shall be delivered to the finder.

20 EXPLANATION

21 This bill establishes an alternative option for a person to  
22 dispose of found property. The bill provides that the person  
23 may deliver the goods, money, bank notes, or other property to  
24 the sheriff of the county where such property was found, or to  
25 a local law enforcement agency of the jurisdiction where the  
26 property was found. The sheriff or local law enforcement  
27 agency is given responsibility for attempting to find the  
28 owner of the found property. If the owner is not located and  
29 no one claims the property within 12 months of the date the  
30 property is delivered to the sheriff or local law enforcement  
31 agency, the right to the property is irrevocably vested in the  
32 finder and the property shall be delivered to the finder.  
33 Currently, the finder of the property is charged with the  
34 responsibility of attempting to locate the owner and posting  
35 notice on the door of the courthouse of the county in which

1 the property was found and three other public places in the  
2 county. This option remains for the finder.

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