

subtitle, may cause an investigation to be made as to the existence of the alleged violation. If the Commissioner determines that a violation exists:

(1) The Commissioner is authorized to endeavor to resolve any issue involved under said violation by informal methods of mediation and conciliation.

(2) The IN ADDITION TO THE CRIMINAL PENALTIES PROVIDED FOR IN PARAGRAPH (F)(1) OF THIS SECTION, THE Commissioner may institute, with the written consent of the employee, action on behalf of such employee in any court of competent jurisdiction in the subdivision in which the violation occurred, to collect any moneys unlawfully withheld. IF THE COURT FINDS THAT THE EMPLOYER WITHHELD WAGES IN VIOLATION OF THIS SUBTITLE AND NOT AS A RESULT OF A BONA FIDE DISPUTE, THE COURT SHALL MAY AWARD THE EMPLOYEE UP TO 3 TIMES THE AMOUNT OF WAGES UNLAWFULLY WITHHELD.

(3) The Attorney General is authorized to prosecute all civil cases arising hereunder which are referred to him by the Commissioner.

(4) Any wages found to be unlawfully withheld and recovered from an employer shall be paid to the employee entitled thereto without cost to the employee.

(5) The Commissioner shall not be required to pay filing fees or costs of any nature in connection with any action or proceeding under this section.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1983.

Approved May 31, 1983.

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CHAPTER 554

(Senate Bill 796)

AN ACT concerning

Execution on Judgment - Property Appraisal

FOR the purpose of providing that the sheriff shall appraise property which may be subject to execution at the time of levy; ~~and providing that unless certain conditions are met, or unless the debtor elects to exempt cash in lieu of property, the property shall be exempt from execution~~ providing that the debtor may exempt property or cash of a certain value under certain circumstances; providing that