

AN ACT concerning State government.

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,
represented in the General Assembly:**

Section 5-87. The Whistleblower Reward and Protection Act is amended by changing Section 3 as follows:

(740 ILCS 175/3) (from Ch. 127, par. 4103)

Sec. 3. False claims.

(a) Liability for certain acts. Any person who:

(1) knowingly presents, or causes to be presented, to an officer or employee of the State or a member of the Guard a false or fraudulent claim for payment or approval;

(2) knowingly makes, uses, or causes to be made or used, a false record or statement to get a false or fraudulent claim paid or approved by the State;

(3) conspires to defraud the State by getting a false or fraudulent claim allowed or paid;

(4) has possession, custody, or control of property or money used, or to be used, by the State and, intending to defraud the State or willfully to conceal the property, delivers, or causes to be delivered, less property than the amount for which the person receives a certificate or receipt;

(5) authorized to make or deliver a document certifying receipt of property used, or to be used, by the State and, intending to defraud the State, makes or delivers the receipt without completely knowing that the information on the receipt is true;

(6) knowingly buys, or receives as a pledge of an obligation or debt, public property from an officer or employee of the State, or a member of the Guard, who lawfully may not sell or pledge the property; or

(7) knowingly makes, uses, or causes to be made or

used, a false record or statement to conceal, avoid or decrease an obligation to pay or transmit money or property to the State,
is liable to the State for a civil penalty of not less than \$5,500 ~~\$5,000~~ and not more than \$11,000 ~~\$10,000~~, plus 3 times the amount of damages which the State sustains because of the act of that person. A person violating this subsection (a) shall also be liable to the State for the costs of a civil action brought to recover any such penalty or damages.

(b) Knowing and knowingly defined. As used in this Section, the terms "knowing" and "knowingly" mean that a person, with respect to information:

- (1) has actual knowledge of the information;
- (2) acts in deliberate ignorance of the truth or falsity of the information; or
- (3) acts in reckless disregard of the truth or falsity of the information, and no proof of specific intent to defraud is required.

(c) Claim defined. As used in this Section, "claim" includes any request or demand, whether under a contract or otherwise, for money or property which is made to a contractor, grantee, or other recipient if the State provides any portion of the money or property which is requested or demanded, or if the State will reimburse such contractor, grantee, or other recipient for any portion of the money or property which is requested or demanded.

(d) Exclusion. This Section does not apply to claims, records, or statements made under the Illinois Income Tax Act.
(Source: P.A. 87-662.)

Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon becoming law.