95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2007 and 2008

HB0292

Introduced 1/19/2007, by Rep. Monique D. Davis

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

815 ILCS 205/4.2

from Ch. 17, par. 6407

Amends the Interest Act. Provides that no increase in the annual percentage rate of interest on a revolving credit arrangement for a credit card account, other than an increase due to the expiration of an introductory percentage rate of interest, may be made because of a late payment by the debtor, provided that the payment has been postmarked or entered electronically on or before the date that the payment was due. Provides that the exception for the increase in the annual percentage rate of interest on a revolving credit arrangement for a credit card account does not apply to late payments due to a check not being honored by the debtor's bank for insufficient funds.

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AN ACT concerning business.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, 3 represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The Interest Act is amended by changing Section
4.2 as follows:

6 (815 ILCS 205/4.2) (from Ch. 17, par. 6407)

7 4.2. Revolving credit; billing Sec. statements; disclosures. On a revolving credit which complies with 8 9 subparagraphs (a), (b), (b-5), (c), (d) and (e) of this Section 10 4.2, it is lawful for any bank that has its main office or, after May 31, 1997, a branch in this State, a state or federal 11 savings and loan association with its main office in this 12 State, a state or federal credit union with its main office in 13 14 this State, or a lender licensed under the Consumer Finance Act, the Consumer Installment Loan Act or the Sales Finance 15 16 Agency Act, as such Acts are now and hereafter amended, to 17 receive or contract to receive and collect interest in any amount or at any rate agreed upon by the parties to the 18 19 revolving credit arrangement. It is lawful for any other lender to receive or contract to receive and collect interest in an 20 21 amount not in excess of 1 1/2% per month of either the average 22 daily unpaid balance of the principal of the debt during the billing cycle, or of the unpaid balance of the debt on 23

approximately the same day of the billing cycle. If a lender 1 2 under a revolving credit arrangement notifies the debtor at least 30 days in advance of any lawful increase in the amount 3 or rate of interest to be charged under the revolving credit 4 5 arrangement, and the debtor, after the effective date of such notice, incurs new debt pursuant to the revolving credit 6 arrangement, the increased interest amount or rate may be 7 8 applied only to any such new debt incurred under the revolving 9 credit arrangement. For purposes of determining the balances to 10 which the increased interest rate applies, all payments and 11 other credits may be deemed to be applied to the balance 12 existing prior to the change in rate until that balance is paid in full. The face amount of the drafts, items, orders for the 13 payment of money, evidences of debt, or similar written 14 15 instruments received by the lender in connection with the 16 revolving credit, less the amounts applicable to principal from 17 time to time paid thereon by the debtor, are the unpaid balance of the debt upon which the interest is computed. If the billing 18 19 cycle is not monthly, the maximum interest rate for the billing 20 cycle is the percentage which bears the same relation to the monthly percentage provided for in the preceding sentence as 21 22 the number of days in the billing cycle bears to 30. For the 23 purposes of the foregoing computation, a "month" is deemed to be any time of 30 consecutive days. In addition to the interest 24 charge provided for, it is lawful to receive, contract for or 25 collect a charge not exceeding 25 cents for each transaction in 26

which a loan or advance is made under the revolving credit or 1 2 in lieu of this additional charge an annual fee for the 3 privilege of receiving and using the revolving credit in an amount not exceeding \$20. In addition, with respect to 4 5 revolving credit secured by an interest in real estate, it is also lawful to receive, contract for or collect fees lawfully 6 7 paid to any public officer or agency to record, file or release 8 the security, and costs and disbursements actually incurred for 9 any title insurance, title examination, abstract of title, 10 survey, appraisal, escrow fees, and fees paid to a trustee in 11 connection with a trust deed.

(a) At or before the date a bill or statement is first rendered to the debtor under a revolving credit arrangement, the lender must mail or deliver to the debtor a written description of the conditions under which a charge for interest may be made and the method, including the rate, of computing these interest charges. The rate of interest must be expressed as an annual percentage rate.

(b) If during any billing cycle any debit or credit entry is made to a debtor's revolving credit account, and if at the end of that billing cycle there is an unpaid balance owing to the lender from the debtor, the lender must give to the debtor the following information within a reasonable time after the end of the billing cycle:

(i) the unpaid balance at the beginning of the billingcycle;

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1 (ii) the date and amount of all loans or advances made 2 during the billing cycle, which information may be supplied 3 by enclosing a copy of the drafts, items, orders for the 4 payment of money, evidences of debt or similar written 5 instruments presented to the lender during the billing 6 cycle;

7 (iii) the payments by the debtor to the lender and any
8 other credits to the debtor during the billing cycle;

9 (iv) the amount of interest and other charges, if any,
10 charged to the debtor's account during the billing cycle;

(v) the amount which must be currently paid by the debtor and the date on which that amount must be paid in order to avoid delinquency;

14 (vi) the total amount remaining unpaid at the end of 15 the billing cycle and the right of the debtor to prepay 16 that amount in full without penalty; and

17 (vii) information required by (iv), (v) and (vi) must 18 be set forth in type of equal size and equal 19 conspicuousness.

20 <u>(b-5) In the case of any credit card account under a</u> 21 <u>revolving credit arrangement containing a universal default</u> 22 <u>provision, no increase in the annual percentage rate of</u> 23 <u>interest, other than an increase due to the expiration of any</u> 24 <u>introductory percentage rate of interest, applicable to the</u> 25 <u>account or any portion of an outstanding balance on the account</u> 26 <u>may be made to a credit card account because of a late payment,</u>

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provided that the payment has been postmarked or entered electronically on or before the date that the payment was due. This subsection (b-5) shall not apply to late payments that occur due to a check not being honored for insufficient funds by the debtor's bank.

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6 (c) The revolving credit arrangement may provide for the 7 payment by the debtor and receipt by the lender of all costs 8 and disbursements, including reasonable attorney's fees, 9 incurred by the lender in legal proceedings to collect or 10 enforce the debt in the event of delinquency by the debtor or 11 in the event of a breach of any obligation of the debtor under 12 the arrangement.

(d) The lender under a revolving credit arrangement may 13 provide credit life insurance or credit accident and health 14 15 insurance, or both, with respect to the debtor and may charge 16 the debtor therefor. Credit life insurance and credit accident 17 and health insurance, and any charge therefor made to the debtor, shall comply with Article IX 1/2 of the Illinois 18 Insurance Code, as now or hereafter amended, and all lawful 19 requirements of the Director of Insurance related thereto. This 20 insurance is in force with respect to each loan or advance made 21 22 under a revolving credit arrangement as soon as the loan or 23 advance is made. The purchase of this insurance from an agent, broker or insurer specified by the lender may not be a 24 25 condition precedent to the revolving credit arrangement or to 26 the making of any loan or advance thereunder.

1 (e) Whenever interest is contracted for or received under 2 this Section, no amount in addition to the charges authorized 3 by this Act may be directly or indirectly charged, contracted 4 for or received whether as interest, service charges, costs of 5 investigations or enforcements or otherwise.

6 (f) The lender under a revolving credit arrangement must compute at year end the total amount charged to the debtor's 7 8 account during the year, including service charges, finance 9 charges, late charges and any other charges authorized by this 10 Act, and upon request must furnish such information to the 11 debtor within 30 days after the end of the year, or if the 12 account has been terminated during such year, may give such 13 requested information within 30 days after such termination. The lender shall annually inform the debtor of his right to 14 15 obtain such information.

16 (g) A lender who complies with the federal Truth in Lending 17 Act, amendments thereto, and any regulations issued or which 18 may be issued thereunder, shall be deemed to be in compliance 19 with the provisions of subparagraphs (a) and (b) of this 20 Section.

Section 4.2 to 21 (h) Anything in this the contrary 22 notwithstanding, if the Congress of the United States or any 23 federal agency authorizes any class of lenders to enter, within limitations, into a revolving credit arrangement secured by a 24 25 mortgage or deed of trust on residential real property, any person, firm, corporation or other entity, not otherwise 26

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prohibited by the Congress of the United States or any federal agency from entering into revolving credit arrangements secured by a mortgage or deed of trust on residential real property, may enter into such arrangements within the same limitations.

6 (Source: P.A. 89-208, eff. 9-29-95.)