

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 525**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Holden**

February 23, 2015

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An act to amend Section 7563 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to private investigators, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 525, as introduced, Holden. Private Investigators: fines.

The Private Investigator Act provides for the licensure and regulation of private investigators by the Bureau of Security and Investigative Services within the Department of Consumer Affairs and makes a violation of the licensing requirements a crime. The act authorizes the Director of Consumer Affairs to impose a civil penalty of no greater than \$500 instead of suspending or revoking a license issued under the act for the violation of specified provisions if the director determines that the imposition of the civil penalty better serves the purposes of the act.

This bill would increase that civil penalty to an amount no greater than \$1,000 instead of \$500.

This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Vote:  $\frac{2}{3}$ . Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 7563 of the Business and Professions  
2 Code is amended to read:

3 7563. The director, in lieu of suspending or revoking a license  
4 issued under this chapter for violations of Sections 7561.1, 7561.3,  
5 and 7561.4, may impose a civil penalty not to exceed ~~five hundred~~  
6 *one thousand* dollars ~~(\$500)~~ (*\$1,000*) upon a licensee, if the director  
7 determines that this action better serves the purposes of this  
8 chapter.

9 SEC. 2. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the  
10 immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within  
11 the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go into  
12 immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:

13 In order to enable the Director of Consumer Affairs to provide  
14 increased protection to consumers from unscrupulous private  
15 investigators at the earliest possible time it is necessary that this  
16 act take effect immediately.

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