AN ACT to create 145.12 (5) of the statutes; relating to: the assessment of forfeitures by the Department of Commerce for violating certain licensing requirements for persons engaged in plumbing activities and granting rule-making authority.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 145.12 (5) of the statutes is created to read:

145.12 (5) (a) In lieu of any other penalty under this section, the department may directly assess a forfeiture by issuing an order against any person who violates s. 145.06. The department may not assess a forfeiture exceeding $2,000 for each violation.

(b) The department shall promulgate rules specifying the procedures governing the assessment of forfeitures under this subsection including the following:
1. The procedure for issuing an order for an alleged violation.
2. The amount of a forfeiture that the department may assess for an alleged violation, subject to the limit under par. (a).
3. The procedure for contesting an order issued for an alleged violation.
4. The procedure for contesting the assessment of a forfeiture for an alleged violation.

(c) The department shall remit all forfeitures paid under this subsection to the secretary of administration for deposit in the school fund.

(d) All forfeitures that are not paid as required under this subsection shall accrue interest at the rate of 12 percent per year.

(e) The attorney general may bring an action in the name of the state to collect any forfeiture imposed, or interest accrued, under this subsection if the forfeiture or interest has not been paid after the exhaustion of all administrative and judicial reviews.

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* Section 991.11, WISCONSIN STATUTES 2003−04: Effective date of acts. “Every act and every portion of an act enacted by the legislature over the governor’s partial veto which does not expressly prescribe the time when it takes effect shall take effect on the day after its date of publication as designated” by the secretary of state [the date of publication may not be more than 10 working days after the date of enactment].