

**Subject** Landlord screening; credit reporting compliance

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## Summary

This bill prohibits landlords from engaging in certain activities while attempting to collect debt from tenants, including:

- communicating misleading or deceptive information;
- engaging in certain types of intimidation;
- using obscene language;
- telling a tenant that not paying the debt is a crime or could result in imprisonment;
- threatening to take property or wages if the action would be illegal;
- commencing a legal action before the time allowed under statute;
- communicating about the debt outside the time period allowed under the federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act;
- communicating about the debt to the debtor's employer or another person without their permission;
- holding themselves out as an attorney when they are not licensed to practice law;
- publishing information about the debt failing to issue a receipt for payment; or
- holding themselves out as a government agency if they are not a government agency.

The attorney general's office may enforce this provision consistent with the attorney general's enforcement abilities under Minnesota Statutes, section 8.31.

This section would be effective the day following final enactment.