

# **One Hundred Second Legislature - Second Session - 2012**

## **Introducer's Statement of Intent**

**LB1127**

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**Chairperson: Senator Brad Ashford**

**Committee: Judiciary**

**Date of Hearing: February 16, 2012**

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

Legislative Bill 1127 seeks to provide alternative sentencing for check fraud offenders. It would allow, as a possible condition of probation, a requirement that such offender not be an account holder of any account in which the funds are accessed by check or draft for the term of his or her probation. The funds in such an account may be accessed by debit card without violating the conditions of such person's probation.

This would allow in appropriate situations, a non-violent offender to continue working and contributing to society as they pay restitution for their crime, and at the same time remove their ability, while on probation, to repeat their crime. This will provide opportunities to reduce costs to the state for incarceration, while increasing the possibility that they will be able to repay what was stolen.

Moreover, this follows a slight shift in judicial and correctional philosophy to an approach that looks for areas where we can change sentencing for non-violent offenders to lower prison populations and costs to the state, along with maintaining intact families and productive citizens.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Senator Mark Christensen**