Bill Summary 1st Session of the 60th Legislature

Bill No.: SB 996
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Author: Sen. Jech
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Bill Analysis

SB 996 authorizes a museum to acquire title to undocumented property held by the museum for a period of 7 years. The measure directs the museum to publish a notice in a newspaper that describes the item, describes the date or approximate date the item was acquired, describes the intent of the museum to acquire title to the item, and shows the address and contact information of the museum representative. Such notice shall be published for a period of 90 days, the museum shall publish a second notice.

The measure also authorizes the museum to acquire title to loaned property if, after a period of 2 years following the expiration of the loan, the museum attempts to contact owner and does not receive a response. Following the 2-year period, the museum shall attempt to contact the owner by certified mail. If the owner still does not respond after 30 days, the museum shall publish notice in a newspaper. If the owner still does not claim the item, the museum shall acquire title to the item. The owner may bring action against the museum within a 2-year period following the museum's acquisition.

The measure authorizes the museum to dispose of property on loan to the museum without a lender's permission if certain conditions are met. If the property is disposed, the museum shall have a lien on the property and on the proceeds from any disposition of the property for the costs incurred by the museum.

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