

Are You Afraid Creditors Will Garnish Your Bank Account?

You May Be Able To Protect Your Funds!

If you have income from the following sources, directly deposited into your bank account, a new law can stop those funds from being taken by creditors:

-  Payments from the Social Security Administration, including SSI and SSD;
-  Public assistance payments from the state or a state agency;
-  Unemployment compensation payments;
-  Payments from a public or private retirement plan;
-  Veterans benefit payments from the Veterans Benefits Administration;
-  Workers' compensation payments;
-  Black lung benefits payments from the US Department of Labor.

If you get one or more of the above benefits, you should tell your bank or credit union by filling out and giving the bank or credit union an **“Affidavit Notifying Financial Institution of Funds Not Subject to Garnishment.”** Your bank or credit union, or legal aid office can give you a copy of the Affidavit you need. The Affidavit is also available at www.oregonlawhelp.org. Your financial institution must protect these kinds of funds if they have been direct deposited and can be reasonably identified, even if they do not have your Affidavit on file.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Information is available for free on a number of legal issues at www.oregonlawhelp.org. You may also wish to contact your local legal aid program, consult a bankruptcy attorney, or speak to a private attorney. If you want to hire a private attorney you may contact the Oregon State Bar Lawyer Referral Service at (800) 452-7636. You may also call the Public Benefits Hotline at (800) 520-5292.