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## Abstract:

The Belgian Law of 17 June 1997 on Judicial Composition has thoroughly modified the legal framework for the treatment and recovery of enterprises facing (financial) difficulties. In balancing creditor interests and the interests of the enterprise, the new legal framework seems to attach a growing importance to the need to preserve economic substance of the enterprise.

This paper examines the legal consequences of the new legal regime from the angle of mainly crditor protection. The analysis shows that in more than one respect the apparaently clear and unequivocal provisions of the law hide fundamental interpretation issues. The emerging case law on the new law reflects these difficulties.

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