

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 645

2 INTRODUCED BY K. SULLIVAN

3

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE MONTANA BIOMETRIC INFORMATION
5 PRIVACY ACT; PROHIBITING A PRIVATE ENTITY FROM COLLECTING, STORING, AND USING A
6 PERSON'S BIOMETRIC IDENTIFIER WITHOUT THE PERSON'S CONSENT; ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES
7 AND REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SALE, DISCLOSURE, PROTECTION, AND DISPOSAL OF BIOMETRIC
8 IDENTIFIERS; PROVIDING EXEMPTIONS; PROVIDING DEFINITIONS; ALLOWING THE ATTORNEY
9 GENERAL TO ENFORCE THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT; AND ESTABLISHING PENALTIES."

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11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

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13 NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Short title.** [Sections 1 through 7] may be cited as the "Montana Biometric
14 Information Privacy Act".

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16 NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Definitions.** For the purposes of [sections 1 through 7], the following
17 definitions apply:

18 (1) (a) "Biometric identifier" means a biologic, physical, or behavioral characteristic that identifies or
19 enables recognition of an individual, including but not limited to retina or iris scan, finger or palm print, voice
20 recognition, hand or face geometry, facial imaging, facial recognition, gait recognition, vein recognition, identifying
21 DNA information, or other biologic, physical, or behavioral identifiers when used for identification purposes.
22 Identification purposes include use in a mathematical code or algorithmic model generated by or extracted from
23 measurements of biometric identifiers.

24 (b) The term does not include the following:

25 (i) a written signature, demographic data, physical description, writing sample, or a tattoo description;

26 (ii) donated organs, tissue, blood, serum, or plasma stored on behalf of a potential recipient;

27 (iii) information captured from a patient in a health care setting or information collected and used for
28 health care treatment, including an x-ray, MRI, PET scan, mammogram, or other image of the human anatomy
29 used to diagnose, prognose, or treat an illness or other medical condition or to further validate scientific testing
30 or screening; or

1 (iv) a photograph or video, unless the photograph or video is used as a source of a biometric identifier
2 for identification purposes. A photograph or video that is used to aid a person who is blind or otherwise visually
3 impaired is not a biometric identifier for purposes of this subsection (1).

4 (2) "Collect" means to capture, purchase, or acquire a person's biometric identifier.

5 (3) "Consent" means an affirmative, opt-in process of agreement that may include but is not limited to
6 a person's signature or selecting or clicking a box.

7 (4) "Identification purposes" means the purpose of recognizing an individual or proving an individual's
8 identity.

9 (5) (a) "Private entity" means any individual, partnership, corporation, limited liability corporation,
10 association, trust, cooperative, or other group, however organized.

11 (b) The term does not include state or local government agencies, courts, or judges.

12 (6) "Retain" means to collect and store a biometric identifier in whatever form for future use as an
13 identifier of an individual.

14 (7) "Security purpose" means the purpose of preventing shoplifting, theft, or fraud.

15 (8) "Writing" means a written communication that is clear and conspicuous in plain, easily understood
16 language and may be in paper or electronic form.

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18 **NEW SECTION. Section 3. Collection and retention of biometric identifiers -- notification and**
19 **consent.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), a private entity may not collect, receive, obtain, or use a
20 person's biometric identifier unless the private entity first:

21 (a) notifies the person in writing:

22 (i) that the person's biometric identifier is being collected and the specific type of biometric identifier that
23 is being collected; and

24 (ii) of the specific purpose for which the biometric identifier will be used; and

25 (b) receives consent in writing to the collection and use of the person's biometric identifier.

26 (2) (a) Subsection (1) does not require a private entity to obtain a person's consent to collect a biometric
27 identifier from the person if the biometric identifier:

28 (i) will not be retained but be used only to determine whether the person has provided prior consent for
29 the collection of the biometric identifier;

30 (ii) is used only for a security purpose; or

1 (iii) is used to validate a bank transaction initiated by the person.

2 (b) Regardless of whether the private entity is required to obtain the person's consent to collect a
3 biometric identifier as provided in subsection (1), the private entity shall comply with the provisions of [sections
4 1 through 7] if the private entity discloses, sells, transfers, distributes, licenses, or changes the use of the
5 collected biometric identifier.

6 (3) If a biometric identifier is collected and stored for a security purpose by a person's employer, the
7 purpose for the collection is presumed to expire upon the termination of the person's employment.

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9 **NEW SECTION. Section 4. Sale and disclosure of biometric identifier.** A private entity that has
10 collected, received, obtained, or is using a person's biometric identifier may not disclose, sell, transfer, distribute,
11 license, or change the purpose of use of a person's biometric identifier unless:

12 (1) the private entity:

13 (a) notifies the person in writing:

14 (i) that the person's biometric identifier is being transferred or the purpose of use has changed; and

15 (ii) of the specific purpose for which the biometric identifier will be used; and

16 (b) receives consent of the person in writing;

17 (2) the disclosure completes a financial transaction requested or authorized by the person;

18 (3) the disclosure is required by state or federal law; or

19 (4) the disclosure is required pursuant to a valid warrant or subpoena issued by a court of competent
20 jurisdiction.

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22 **NEW SECTION. Section 5. Protection and disposal of biometric identifiers.** (1) A private entity that
23 has collected, received, obtained, or is using a person's biometric identifier shall store, transmit, and protect from
24 disclosure the biometric identifier in a manner that is the same as or more protective than the manner in which
25 the private entity stores, transmits, and protects other confidential, sensitive, and personally identifying
26 information.

27 (2) Unless prohibited by other law or court order, a private entity in possession of a person's biometric
28 identifier shall permanently delete, destroy, or remove the person's biometric identifier within 6 months after the
29 initial purpose for collecting or obtaining the identifier is satisfied or fulfilled or the term or duration for the
30 collection and storage of the biometric identifier has ended.

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2 **NEW SECTION. Section 6. Exemptions.** [Sections 1 through 7] do not apply:
3 (1) to law enforcement purposes when conducted by a government agency, including the identification
4 of perpetrators, missing persons, trafficking victims, or human remains;
5 (2) to purposes authorized and conducted pursuant to state or federal law;
6 (3) to the retention of voices for quality assurance purposes;
7 (4) to third-party data storage providers or data transmitters, including internet service providers or
8 mobile carriers, who provide for the storage or transmittal of data only; or
9 (5) if a person's biometric identifier is captured and stored within the person's own mobile device,
10 computer device, or home security device where biometric identifiers are captured and stored locally within the
11 device and the biometric identifiers do not transmit away from the device using the internet or other network.
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13 **NEW SECTION. Section 7. Enforcement -- penalty -- right to cure.** (1) (a) Whenever the attorney
14 general has reason to believe that a person or private entity has violated the provisions of [sections 1 through
15 7] and that proceeding would be in the public interest, the department of justice may bring an action in the name
16 of the state or on behalf of persons residing in the state against the person or private entity to restrain by
17 temporary or permanent injunction or temporary restraining order the use of the unlawful method, act, or practice
18 upon giving appropriate notice to that person or private entity pursuant to 30-14-111(2).

19 (b) A person or private entity is in violation of [sections 1 through 7] if it fails to cure any alleged breach
20 of [sections 1 through 7] within 30 days after receiving notice of alleged noncompliance.

21 (2) The provisions of 30-14-111(3) and (4) and 30-14-112 through 30-14-115 apply to [sections 1 through
22 7].

23 (3) A violation of [sections 1 through 7] is a violation of 30-14-103, and the penalties for a violation of
24 [sections 1 through 7] are as provided in 30-14-142.
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26 **NEW SECTION. Section 8. Codification instruction.** [Sections 1 through 7] are intended to be codified
27 as an integral part of Title 30, and the provisions of Title 30 apply to [sections 1 through 7].
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29 **NEW SECTION. Section 9. Severability.** If a part of [this act] is invalid, all valid parts that are severable
30 from the invalid part remain in effect. If a part of [this act] is invalid in one or more of its applications, the part

1 remains in effect in all valid applications that are severable from the invalid applications.

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