



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1299

PRINTER'S NO. 1876

PRIME SPONSOR: Ciresi

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2024/25	FY 2025/26
General Fund	\$0	See Fiscal Impact

SUMMARY:

Requires companies to provide automatic renewal notification and allows subscribers to cancel subscription services online if they initially subscribed over the internet.

ANALYSIS:

House Bill 1299 amends Act 387 of 1968 (Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Act) by defining “*Clear and conspicuous*” and “*Consumer*.” In addition, the legislation requires entities that provide either automatic renewal offers, continuous service offers for goods or services to consumers to do the following:

- Provide a consumer with renewal terms that include a clear and conspicuous explanation of price and changes thereof, cancellation policy, and steps to cancel a subscription
- Provide renewal offers in a clear and conspicuous manner
- Allow a subscriber who renews automatically online to cancel online
- Provide subscribers with a notice of change of terms that is both clear and visible and provides information on how to cancel the goods or services
- Prohibit the intentional misrepresentation of the terms of renewal or continuous service offers

Furthermore, the provisions of this legislation do not apply to the following:

- entities who are subject to Act 87 of 1989 (Health Club Act)
- entities or their affiliates who are regulated by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), or Pennsylvania Utility Commission (PUC)
- contracts which are subject to Title 66 (Public Utilities) Chapter 22 (relating to natural gas competition) or Chapter 28 (relating to restructuring of electric utility industry)
- an entity regulated by the Insurance Department

This legislation would take effect in 180 days upon enactment.

FISCAL IMPACT:

According to the Office of Attorney General (OAG), enactment of this legislation would have *de minimis* fiscal impact on commonwealth funds. The OAG can enforce the provisions of the legislation with their current resources.

Any fiscal impact would depend on the collection of fines based on violations of the Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Act, related to the changes contained within this bill.

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House Appropriations Committee (D)

DATE: July 8, 2025

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.