

2011 -- S 0501

LC01724

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

A N A C T

RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW--GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS --  
UNFAIR SALES PRACTICES

Introduced By: Senator Michael J. Pinga

Date Introduced: March 10, 2011

Referred To: Senate Corporations

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 6-13-17 of the General Laws in Chapter 6-13 entitled "Unfair Sales  
2 Practices" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **6-13-17. Requiring consumers to furnish social security numbers.** -- (a) Unless  
4 otherwise required by federal law, no person shall require that a consumer of goods or services  
5 disclose a social security number incident to the sale of consumer goods or services; provided,  
6 however, that:

7 (1) Insurance companies and institutions licensed by the state or federal government for  
8 financial services may require applicants for those services to disclose their social security  
9 number;

10 ~~(2) Social security numbers may be required for the providing and billing of health care~~  
11 ~~or pharmaceutical related services, including the issuance of identification cards and account~~  
12 ~~numbers for users of health care or pharmaceutical related services; and~~

13 ~~(3)~~(2) Disclosure may be required of a consumer as a condition of applying for a credit  
14 card for the purchase of goods or services.

15 (b) Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor,  
16 and upon conviction, shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars (\$500).

17 (c) In any civil action alleging a violation of this section, the court may award damages,  
18 reasonable attorney's fees, and costs to a prevailing consumer, and afford injunctive relief against

1 any person or business that commits or proposes to commit a violation of this section.

2 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

=====  
LC01724  
=====

EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW--GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS --  
UNFAIR SALES PRACTICES

\*\*\*

1           This act would provide that social security numbers may not be required for the providing  
2 and billing of health care or pharmaceutical-related services, including the issuance of  
3 identification cards and account numbers.

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

=====  
LC01724  
=====