

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

A N A C T

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

Introduced By: Senators Lawson, Murray, DiMario, Valverde, Burke, Quezada, Euer,  
and Kallman

Date Introduced: January 25, 2022

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 6-13 of the General Laws entitled "Unfair Sales Practices" is hereby  
2 amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **6-13-17.1. Social Security and personal information online protection.**

4 (a) Any person or entity who collects a social security number, driver's license number, a  
5 state identification card number, a credit or debit card number, a passport number, an alien  
6 registration number, and/or a health insurance identification number in the course of business shall  
7 be required to create a privacy protection policy which shall be published or publicly displayed.  
8 For purposes of this section, "publicly displayed" includes, but is not limited to, posting on an  
9 Internet webpage. Such policy shall:

10 (1) Protect the confidentiality of this personal information;

11 (2) Prohibit unlawful disclosure of this personal information; and

12 (3) Limit access to this personal information.

13 (b) Any person or entity that violates the provisions of this section shall be subject to a civil  
14 penalty of five hundred dollars (\$500) for each violation; provided, such civil penalty shall not  
15 exceed five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) for any single event.

16 (c) Any civil penalties received pursuant to this section shall be deposited in a restricted  
17 receipt account for public education.

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

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

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- 1           This act would require all persons or entities collecting social security and other personal  
2 identification numbers to create and publicly display a privacy protection policy. Violations of this  
3 requirement would incur a civil penalty of five-hundred dollars (\$500).  
4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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