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Legislative Document

No. 580

S.P. 261

In Senate, February 25, 2025

An Act to Protect Maine Consumers by Prohibiting Fees Charged for Receiving Paper Statements from Financial Institutions and Credit Card Issuers

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on February 19, 2025. Referred to the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed.

DAREK M. GRANT Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BAILEY of York. Cosponsored by Representative GRIFFIN of Levant and

Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, INGWERSEN of York, LIBBY of Cumberland, MOORE of Washington, Representatives: ARFORD of Brunswick, SHAGOURY of Hallowell.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 9-A MRSA §8-512 is enacted to read:

§8-512. Fees associated with paper billing statements prohibited

- 1. Fees prohibited. A card issuer who has issued a credit card may not charge a cardholder an additional fee associated with a credit card account when the cardholder chooses to receive a paper account statement. This subsection may not be construed to prohibit a card issuer who has issued a credit card from offering a cardholder a credit or other incentive to elect a specific method for receipt of an account statement.
- **2. Violation.** Any violation of this section by a card issuer who has issued a credit card is subject to enforcement under section 8-505.
- 3. Rights under other statute or common law. This section may not be construed to restrict any right that a person may have under any other statute or the common law.

Sec. 2. 9-B MRSA §245 is enacted to read:

§245. Fees associated with paper billing statements prohibited

- 1. Fees prohibited. A financial institution authorized to do business in this State or a credit union authorized to do business in this State may not charge a customer an additional fee associated with an account when the customer chooses to receive a paper account statement. This subsection may not be construed to prohibit a financial institution authorized to do business in this State or a credit union authorized to do business in this State from offering a customer a credit or other incentive to elect a specific method for receipt of an account statement.
- **2. Violation.** Any violation of this section by a financial institution authorized to do business in this State or a credit union authorized to do business in this State is an anticompetitive or deceptive practice under this chapter and subject to the remedies provided in this chapter in addition to such other remedies as may otherwise be provided by law.
- 3. Rights under other statute or common law. This section may not be construed to restrict any right that a person may have under any other statute or the common law.

SUMMARY

This bill prohibits a financial institution or credit union authorized to do business in this State from charging an additional fee when a customer chooses to receive a paper account statement. The bill does not prohibit a financial institution or credit union from offering a customer an incentive to elect a specific method for receipt of an account statement.

The bill prohibits a credit card issuer from charging an additional fee when a cardholder chooses to receive a paper account statement. The bill does not prohibit a credit card issuer from offering an incentive to elect a specific method for receipt of an account statement.