

ASSEMBLY CONSUMER AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1545

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 20, 2023

The Assembly Consumer Affairs Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 1545.

As amended and reported by the committee, the amended bill requires a telemarketer, within 30 seconds of making a telemarketing sales call, to provide the customer the name and telephone number of the person on whose behalf the call is being made. A violation of the bill's provisions is to constitute a disorderly persons offense, in addition to other penalties as already prescribed by current law.

The amended bill also requires the mailing address of a telemarketer and any business on whose behalf the telemarketer is telemarketing to be disclosed on any website owned or operated by the telemarketer and on any subsequent written communication to customers.

The prohibition on unsolicited sales calls and the requirement to disclose certain telemarketer information required in this amended bill do not apply to telemarketing sales calls when a customer contacts the telemarketer via phone call or website and affirmatively requests a follow-up telemarketing sales call or other contact from the telemarketer.

This bill was prefiled for introduction in the 2022-2023 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

As amended and reported by the committee, Assembly Bill No. 1545 is identical to Senate Bill No. 921 (1R), which also was reported by the committee on this date.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amended the bill to clarify that in addition to a disorderly persons offense, a party in violation of the bill will incur other penalties as provided by law.