

SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 1556

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 27, 2022

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 1556 (1R).

Under the bill, language in the consumer fraud act on prohibited commercial practices is expanded to include commercial practices that are unconscionable or abusive. Also, the bill adds language to declare that in an action brought by the Attorney General, any commercial practice that violates State or federal law is conclusively presumed to be an unlawful practice under the consumer fraud act. In addition, the bill also adds language regarding the notice of private lawsuits based on violations of the consumer fraud act. Notice is to be sent electronically to a dedicated address established by the Office of the Attorney General, and requires certain legal filings to be sent as part of the notice. The bill stipulates notice is to be sent to the Attorney General within 24 hours of filing rather than 10 days, as is required under current law.

As reported by the committee, Assembly Bill No. 1556 (1R) is identical to Senate Bill No. 901 (1R) which was also reported by the committee on this date.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This bill is not certified as requiring a fiscal note.