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## SENATE BILL 5132

State of Washington

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By Senators Kastama, B. Sheldon, Rasmussen, Franklin, Snyder, Prentice, Costa, Fraser, McAuliffe, Kohl-Welles, Fairley, Jacobsen, Kline, Winsley and Eide

Read first time 01/12/2001. Referred to Committee on Economic Development & Telecommunications.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to the establishment and operation of a do not
- 2 call list for commercial telephone solicitation; amending RCW
- 3 19.158.110 and 43.79A.040; adding new sections to chapter 19.158
- 4 RCW; and prescribing penalties.
- 5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 19.158.110 and 1989 c 20 s 11 are each amended to read 7 as follows:
- 8 (1) Within the first minute of the telephone call, a commercial 9 telephone solicitor or salesperson shall:
- 10 (a) Identify himself or herself, the company on whose behalf
- 11 the solicitation is being made, the property, goods, or services
- 12 being sold; and
- 13 (b) Terminate the telephone call within ten seconds if the
- 14 purchaser indicates he or she does not wish to continue the
- 15 conversation.
- 16 (2) If at any time during the telephone contact, the purchaser
- 17 states or indicates that he or she does not wish to be called

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- 1 again by the commercial telephone solicitor or wants to have his
- 2 or her name and individual telephone number removed from the
- 3 telephone lists used by the commercial telephone solicitor:
- 4 (a) The commercial telephone solicitor shall not make any
- 5 additional commercial telephone solicitation of the called party
- 6 at that telephone number within a period of at least one year; and
- 7 (b) The commercial telephone solicitor shall not sell or give
- 8 the called party's name and telephone number to another commercial
- 9 telephone solicitor: PROVIDED, That the commercial telephone
- 10 solicitor may return the list, including the called party's name
- 11 and telephone number, to the company or organization from which it
- 12 received the list.
- 13 (3) The utilities and transportation commission shall by rule
- 14 ensure that telecommunications companies inform their residential
- 15 customers of the provisions of this section and section 2 of this
- 16 <u>act</u>. The notification may be made by:
- 17 (a) Annual inserts in the billing statements mailed to
- 18 residential customers; or
- 19 (b) Conspicuous publication of the notice in the consumer
- 20 information pages of local telephone directories.
- 21 (4) If a sale or an agreement to purchase is completed, the
- 22 commercial telephone solicitor must inform the purchaser of his or
- 23 her cancellation rights as enunciated in this chapter, state the
- 24 registration number issued by the department of licensing, and
- 25 give the street address of the seller.
- 26 (5) If, at any time prior to sale or agreement to purchase, the
- 27 commercial telephone solicitor's registration number is requested
- 28 by the purchaser, it must be provided.
- 29 (6) All oral disclosures required by this section shall be made
- 30 in a clear and intelligible manner.
- 31 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 19.158
- 32 RCW to read as follows:
- 33 (1)(a) The department of licensing shall provide for the
- 34 establishment and operation of a list of telephone numbers of
- 35 persons who object to receiving commercial telephone
- 36 solicitations. The list shall be called the do not call list. The
- 37 department shall update the list quarterly, and shall provide the

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- 1 list, in written or electronic form, to commercial telephone
- 2 solicitors for a reasonable fee. The department shall determine the
- 3 fee amount.
- 4 (b) Persons wishing to have their phone numbers placed on the
- 5 list must notify the department of licensing. A listing shall be
- 6 effective for one year, after which the person may renew the
- 7 listing for successive one-year periods by notifying the
- 8 department of licensing. The department of licensing shall
- 9 determine the notification requirements.
- 10 (c) All fees collected by the department of licensing under
- 11 this section, or civil penalties collected by the attorney general
- 12 in enforcing this section, shall be deposited in the commercial
- 13 telephone solicitation list account created in section 3 of this
- 14 act, and used solely for the administration of this section.
- 15 (2) No commercial telephone solicitor may make a commercial
- 16 telephone solicitation to any telephone number more than thirty
- 17 days after the number appears on the current do not call list.
- 18 (3) The legislature finds that the practices covered by this
- 19 section are matters vitally affecting the public interest for the
- 20 purpose of applying the consumer protection act, chapter 19.86
- 21 RCW. A violation of this section is not reasonable in relation to
- 22 the development and preservation of business and is an unfair or
- 23 deceptive act in trade or commerce and an unfair method of
- 24 competition for the purpose of applying the consumer protection
- 25 act, chapter 19.86 RCW. In addition to any other penalties or
- 26 remedies available under this chapter or chapter 19.86 RCW, a
- 27 person injured by a violation of subsection (2) of this section
- 28 may bring an action for recovery of liquidated damages in the
- 29 amount of one thousand dollars per violation, plus court costs and
- 30 attorneys' fees.
- 31 (4) The director of the department of licensing may make rules,
- 32 create forms, and issue orders as necessary to carry out the
- 33 provisions of this section.
- 34 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 19.158
- 35 RCW to read as follows:
- The commercial telephone solicitation list account is created
- 37 in the custody of the state treasury. All moneys received by the

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- 1 department under section 2 of this act or civil penalties
- 2 collected by the attorney general in enforcing section 2 of this
- 3 act shall be deposited in the commercial telephone solicitation
- 4 list account and used solely for the administration of section 2
- 5 of this act. Only the director of the department of licensing or
- 6 the director's designee may authorize expenditures from the
- 7 account. The account is subject to allotment procedures under
- 8 chapter 43.88 RCW, but no appropriation is required for
- 9 expenditures.
- 10 **Sec. 4.** RCW 43.79A.040 and 2000 c 79 s 45 are each amended to read
- 11 as follows:
- 12 (1) Money in the treasurer's trust fund may be deposited,
- 13 invested, and reinvested by the state treasurer in accordance with
- 14 RCW 43.84.080 in the same manner and to the same extent as if the
- 15 money were in the state treasury.
- 16 (2) All income received from investment of the treasurer's
- 17 trust fund shall be set aside in an account in the treasury trust
- 18 fund to be known as the investment income account.
- 19 (3) The investment income account may be utilized for the
- 20 payment of purchased banking services on behalf of treasurer's
- 21 trust funds including, but not limited to, depository,
- 22 safekeeping, and disbursement functions for the state treasurer or
- 23 affected state agencies. The investment income account is subject
- 24 in all respects to chapter 43.88 RCW, but no appropriation is
- 25 required for payments to financial institutions. Payments shall
- 26 occur prior to distribution of earnings set forth in subsection
- 27 (4) of this section.
- 28 (4)(a) Monthly, the state treasurer shall distribute the
- 29 earnings credited to the investment income account to the state
- 30 general fund except under (b) and (c) of this subsection.
- 31 (b) The following accounts and funds shall receive their
- 32 proportionate share of earnings based upon each account's or
- 33 fund's average daily balance for the period: The Washington
- 34 advanced college tuition payment program account, the agricultural
- 35 local fund, the American Indian scholarship endowment fund, the
- 36 basic health plan self-insurance reserve account, the commercial
- 37 <u>telephone solicitation list account</u>, the Washington international

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- 1 exchange scholarship endowment fund, the developmental
- 2 disabilities endowment trust fund, the energy account, the fair
- 3 fund, the game farm alternative account, the grain inspection
- 4 revolving fund, the juvenile accountability incentive account, the
- 5 rural rehabilitation account, the stadium and exhibition center
- 6 account, the youth athletic facility ((grant)) account, the self-
- 7 insurance revolving fund, the sulfur dioxide abatement account,
- 8 and the children's trust fund. However, the earnings to be
- 9 distributed shall first be reduced by the allocation to the state
- 10 treasurer's service fund pursuant to RCW 43.08.190.
- 11 (c) The following accounts and funds shall receive eighty
- 12 percent of their proportionate share of earnings based upon each
- 13 account's or fund's average daily balance for the period: The
- 14 advanced right of way revolving fund, the advanced environmental
- 15 mitigation revolving account, the federal narcotics asset
- 16 forfeitures account, the high occupancy vehicle account, the local
- 17 rail service assistance account, and the miscellaneous
- 18 transportation programs account.
- 19 (5) In conformance with Article II, section 37 of the state
- 20 Constitution, no trust accounts or funds shall be allocated
- 21 earnings without the specific affirmative directive of this
- 22 section.

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