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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2012

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A N A C T

RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW--GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS --
UNFAIR SALES PRACTICES - CONSUMER EMPOWERMENT AND IDENTITY THEFT
PREVENTION ACT

Introduced By: Representative Robert B. Jacquard

Date Introduced: February 02, 2012

Referred To: House Corporations

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 2. Section 6-13-17 of the General Laws in Chapter 6-13 entitled "Unfair Sales
2 Practices" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **6-13-17. Requiring consumers to furnish social security numbers.** -- (a) Unless
4 otherwise required by federal law, no person shall require that a consumer of goods or services
5 disclose all or part of a social security number incident to the sale of consumer goods or services;
6 provided, however, that:

7 (1) Insurance companies and institutions licensed by the state or federal government for
8 financial services may require applicants for those services to disclose their social security
9 number;

10 ~~(2) Social security numbers may be required for the providing and billing of health care~~
11 ~~or pharmaceutical related services, including the issuance of identification cards and account~~
12 ~~numbers for users of health care or pharmaceutical related services; and~~

13 ~~(3)~~ (2) Disclosure may be required of a consumer as a condition of applying for a credit
14 card for the purchase of goods or services.

15 (b) Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor,
16 and upon conviction, shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars (\$500).

17 (c) In any civil action alleging a violation of this section, the court may award damages,
18 reasonable attorney's fees, and costs to a prevailing consumer, and afford injunctive relief against

1 any person or business that commits or proposes to commit a violation of this section.

2 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW--GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS --
UNFAIR SALES PRACTICES - CONSUMER EMPOWERMENT AND IDENTITY THEFT
PREVENTION ACT

1 This act would provide that social security numbers may not be required for the providing
2 and billing of health care or pharmaceutical-related services, including the issuance of
3 identification cards and account numbers.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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