(Senate Bill 541)

AN ACT concerning

Portable Electronics Insurance – Required Notices – Method of Mailing

FOR the purpose of altering the method of mailing that an insurer or vendor is required to use when the insurer or vendor sends to a policyholder or covered customer certain notices about a termination or any other change in the terms and conditions of a policy of portable electronics insurance; and generally relating to required notices about portable electronics insurance.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments, Article – Insurance Section 19–903(a) and (h)(1) Annotated Code of Maryland (2011 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Article – Insurance Section 19–903(h)(2) Annotated Code of Maryland (2011 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Insurance

19–903.

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law and except as otherwise provided in this section, an insurer may not terminate or otherwise change the terms and conditions of a policy of portable electronics insurance unless the insurer provides the policyholder and covered customers with at least 60 days' notice.

(h) (1) Whenever notice is required in accordance with this section, the notice shall be in writing and sent by mail or electronic means as specified in this subsection.

(2) (i) Unless notice by electronic means is authorized under paragraph (3) or (4) of this subsection, notice under this section shall be provided by [a first-class] mail [tracking method] in accordance with subparagraphs (ii) and (iii) of this paragraph.

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(ii) Notice shall be mailed to the vendor at the vendor's last known mailing address on file with the insurer.

(iii) Notice shall be mailed to a covered customer at the covered customer's last known mailing address on file with the insurer or vendor.

(iv) The insurer or vendor responsible for mailing the notice under this section shall maintain proof of mailing.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2016.

Approved by the Governor, April 12, 2016.