
By: **Delegates Bobo, Frush, Hurson, Hubbard, Morhaim, Nathan-Pulliam,
and Oaks**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2000

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Telephones - Caller Identification Services - Prohibition**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting certain telephone companies from offering certain
4 customers the option of not displaying the customer's telephone number on the
5 telephone instrument of the called party; exempting certain customers;
6 providing that a violation of this Act is a misdemeanor subject to certain
7 penalties; and generally relating to telephone companies and caller
8 identification services.

9 BY adding to

10 Article - Public Utility Companies

11 Section 8-205

12 Annotated Code of Maryland

13 (1998 Volume and 1999 Supplement)

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

16 **Article - Public Utility Companies**

17 8-205.

18 (A) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO A TELEPHONE COMPANY THAT OFFERS
19 TELEPHONE CALLER IDENTIFICATION SERVICES IN THE STATE.

20 (B) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, A
21 TELEPHONE COMPANY MAY NOT OFFER A NONRESIDENTIAL OR COMMERCIAL
22 CUSTOMER THE OPTION OF NOT DISPLAYING THE NONRESIDENTIAL OR
23 COMMERCIAL CUSTOMER'S TELEPHONE NUMBER ON THE TELEPHONE INSTRUMENT
24 OF THE CALLED PARTY.

25 (C) A TELEPHONE COMPANY MAY OFFER A NONRESIDENTIAL OR
26 COMMERCIAL CUSTOMER THE OPTION OF NOT DISPLAYING THE NONRESIDENTIAL
27 OR COMMERCIAL CUSTOMER'S TELEPHONE NUMBER ON THE TELEPHONE

1 INSTRUMENT OF THE CALLED PARTY IF THE NONRESIDENTIAL OR COMMERCIAL
2 CUSTOMER:

3 (1) IS A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIM'S SERVICE PROGRAM;

4 (2) IS A BATTERED WOMEN'S SHELTER OR OTHER ORGANIZATION THAT
5 PROVIDES A SAFE HAVEN FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE; OR

6 (3) HAS THE CONSENT OF THE CALLED PARTY.

7 (D) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR
8 AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO A FINE:

9 (1) NOT EXCEEDING \$1,000 FOR THE FIRST OFFENSE; AND

10 (2) NOT EXCEEDING \$5,000 FOR EACH SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
12 October 1, 2000.