CH 20

SB 1047/18 – FIN

By: Senator Kagan
Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2019
Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
Senate action: Adopted
Read second time: March 8, 2019
Returned to second reading: March 13, 2019
Senate action: Adopted with floor amendments
Read second time: March 13, 2019

CHAPTER ______

AN ACT concerning

Consumer Protection – Scanning or Swiping Identification Cards and Driver’s Licenses – Prohibition

FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from using a scanning device to scan or swipe an identification card or a driver’s license of an individual to obtain the personal information of the individual; prohibiting a person from retaining, selling, or transferring to another person any information collected from scanning or swiping an individual’s identification card or driver’s license under certain circumstances; making a violation of this Act an unfair or deceptive trade practice under the Maryland Consumer Protection Act and subject to certain enforcement and penalty provisions; defining a certain term; providing for the application of this Act; providing that this Act does not prohibit certain actions; and generally relating to scanning or swiping identification cards and driver’s licenses.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Commercial Law
Section 13–301
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2013 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – Commercial Law

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
Underlining indicates amendments to bill.
Strike-out indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.
SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Commercial Law

Unfair, abusive, or deceptive trade practices include any:

(1) False, falsely disparaging, or misleading oral or written statement,
visual description, or other representation of any kind which has the capacity, tendency, or
effect of deceiving or misleading consumers;

(2) Representation that:

(i) Consumer goods, consumer realty, or consumer services have a
sponsorship, approval, accessory, characteristic, ingredient, use, benefit, or quantity which
they do not have;

(ii) A merchant has a sponsorship, approval, status, affiliation, or
connection which he does not have;

(iii) Deteriorated, altered, reconditioned, reclaimed, or secondhand
consumer goods are original or new; or

(iv) Consumer goods, consumer realty, or consumer services are of a
particular standard, quality, grade, style, or model which they are not;

(3) Failure to state a material fact if the failure deceives or tends to deceive;

(4) Disparagement of the goods, realty, services, or business of another by
a false or misleading representation of a material fact;

(5) Advertisement or offer of consumer goods, consumer realty, or
consumer services:

(i) Without intent to sell, lease, or rent them as advertised or
offered; or

(ii) With intent not to supply reasonably expected public demand,
unless the advertisement or offer discloses a limitation of quantity or other qualifying
condition;
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(6) False or misleading representation of fact which concerns:

(i) The reason for or the existence or amount of a price reduction; or

(ii) A price in comparison to a price of a competitor or to one’s own price at a past or future time;

(7) Knowingly false statement that a service, replacement, or repair is needed;

(8) False statement which concerns the reason for offering or supplying consumer goods, consumer realty, or consumer services at sale or discount prices;

(9) Deception, fraud, false pretense, false premise, misrepresentation, or knowing concealment, suppression, or omission of any material fact with the intent that a consumer rely on the same in connection with:

(i) The promotion or sale of any consumer goods, consumer realty, or consumer service;

(ii) A contract or other agreement for the evaluation, perfection, marketing, brokering or promotion of an invention; or

(iii) The subsequent performance of a merchant with respect to an agreement of sale, lease, or rental;

(10) Solicitations of sales or services over the telephone without first clearly, affirmatively, and expressly stating:

(i) The solicitor’s name and the trade name of a person represented by the solicitor;

(ii) The purpose of the telephone conversation; and

(iii) The kind of merchandise, real property, intangibles, or service solicited;

(11) Use of any plan or scheme in soliciting sales or services over the telephone that misrepresents the solicitor’s true status or mission;

(12) Use of a contract related to a consumer transaction which contains a confessed judgment clause that waives the consumer’s right to assert a legal defense to an action;

(13) Use by a seller, who is in the business of selling consumer realty, of a contract related to the sale of single family residential consumer realty, including condominiums and town houses, that contains a clause limiting or precluding the buyer’s
right to obtain consequential damages as a result of the seller’s breach or cancellation of the contract;

(14) Violation of a provision of:

(i) This title;

(ii) An order of the Attorney General or agreement of a party relating to unit pricing under Title 14, Subtitle 1 of this article;

(iii) Title 14, Subtitle 2 of this article, the Maryland Consumer Debt Collection Act;

(iv) Title 14, Subtitle 3 of this article, the Maryland Door–to–Door Sales Act;

(v) Title 14, Subtitle 9 of this article, Kosher Products;

(vi) Title 14, Subtitle 10 of this article, Automotive Repair Facilities;

(vii) Section 14–1302 of this article;

(viii) Title 14, Subtitle 11 of this article, Maryland Layaway Sales Act;

(ix) Section 22–415 of the Transportation Article;

(x) Title 14, Subtitle 20 of this article;

(xi) Title 14, Subtitle 15 of this article, the Automotive Warranty Enforcement Act;

(xii) Title 14, Subtitle 21 of this article;

(xiii) Section 18–107 of the Transportation Article;

(xiv) Title 14, Subtitle 22 of this article, the Maryland Telephone Solicitations Act;

(xv) Title 14, Subtitle 23 of this article, the Automotive Crash Parts Act;

(xvi) Title 10, Subtitle 6 of the Real Property Article;

(xvii) Title 14, Subtitle 25 of this article, the Hearing Aid Sales Act;

(xviii) Title 14, Subtitle 26 of this article, the Maryland Door–to–Door Solicitations Act;
(xix) Title 14, Subtitle 31 of this article, the Maryland Household Goods Movers Act;

(xx) Title 14, Subtitle 32 of this article, the Maryland Telephone Consumer Protection Act;

(xxi) Title 14, Subtitle 34 of this article, the Social Security Number Privacy Act;

(xxii) Title 14, Subtitle 37 of this article, the Online Child Safety Act;

(xxiii) Section 14–1319, § 14–1320, or § 14–1322 of this article;

(xxiv) Section 7–304 of the Criminal Law Article;

(xxv) Title 7, Subtitle 3 of the Real Property Article, the Protection of Homeowners in Foreclosure Act;

(xxvi) Title 6, Subtitle 13 of the Environment Article;

(xxvii) Section 7–405(e)(2)(ii) of the Health Occupations Article;

(xxviii) Title 12, Subtitle 10 of the Financial Institutions Article;

(xxix) Title 19, Subtitle 7 of the Business Regulation Article;

( xxx) Section 15–311.3 of the Transportation Article;

( xxxi) Section 14–1326 of this article;

( xxxii) the federal Military Lending Act; [or]

( xxxiii) the federal Servicemembers Civil Relief Act; or

(XXXIV) SECTION 14–1327 OF THIS ARTICLE; OR

(15) Act or omission that relates to a residential building and that is chargeable as a misdemeanor under or otherwise violates a provision of the Energy Conservation Building Standards Act, Title 7, Subtitle 4 of the Public Utilities Article.

14–1327.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, “SCANNING DEVICE” MEANS A BAR CODE SCANNER, A MAGNETIC STRIPE READER, OR ANY OTHER DEVICE OR COMBINATION OF DEVICES THAT IS CAPABLE OF DECRYPTING, IN AN ELECTRONICALLY READABLE FORMAT,
THE INFORMATION ELECTRONICALLY ENCODED IN A BAR CODE OR MAGNETIC STRIPE.

(B) (1) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO A PERSON WHO USES A SCANNING DEVICE TO SCAN OR SWIPE AN INDIVIDUAL’S IDENTIFICATION CARD OR DRIVER’S LICENSE TO:

(i) Verify the authenticity of the identification card or driver’s license;

(ii) Verify the age or identity of the individual who possesses the identification card or driver’s license;

(iii) Record, retain, or transmit information as required by law;

(iv) Transmit the name and identification card number or driver’s license number of an individual to a check service company:

1. For the purpose of approving, effecting, administering, or enforcing negotiable instruments, electronic funds transfers, or other similar methods of payment; or

2. To prevent fraud or other criminal activity;

or

(v) Prevent fraud or other criminal activity if:

1. The individual returns an item or requests a refund or exchange for an item purchased from the person;

2. The person uses a fraud prevention service company or system; and

3. The information collected or retained is limited to the individual’s name, address, and date of birth, and the number and issuing state of the individual’s identification card or driver’s license.

(2) THIS SECTION DOES NOT PROHIBIT A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER FROM USING A SCANNING DEVICE TO SCAN OR SWIPE AN INDIVIDUAL’S IDENTIFICATION CARD OR DRIVER’S LICENSE TO RECORD, RETAIN, OR TRANSMIT INFORMATION IF THE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER IS ACTING WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE OFFICER’S OFFICIAL DUTIES.
(3) This section does not apply to a depository institution that uses a scanning device to scan or swipe an individual’s identification card or driver’s license in connection with:

   (I) A deposit account opened or to be opened by the individual at the depository institution; or
   
   (II) A loan made or to be made to the individual or held or serviced by the depository institution; or

   (III) Another service or product requested by the individual from the depository institution.

(4) This section does not prohibit a person, for a legitimate business purpose, from:

   (I) Scanning only the name and address fields of an individual’s identification card or driver’s license and retaining the information collected to fill in fields on forms used by the person for the convenience of the person’s customers; or

   (II) Photocopying the identification card or driver’s license of an individual and retaining the photographic copy.

(c) A person may not:

   (1) Use a scanning device to scan or swipe an identification card or a driver’s license of an individual to obtain personal information of the individual;

   (2) Retain any information collected from scanning or swiping an individual’s identification card or driver’s license; or

   (3) Sell or transfer to another person any information collected from scanning or swiping an individual’s identification card or driver’s license except as required by law.

(d) A violation of this section is:

   (1) An unfair or deceptive trade practice within the meaning of Title 13 of this article; and
Subject to the enforcement and penalty provisions contained in Title 13 of this article.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2019.

Approved:
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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.