

This bill prohibits the public posting or displaying of an individual's Social Security number under specified circumstances, prohibits the printing of an individual's Social Security number on specified cards under specified circumstances, and prohibits a person from requiring an individual to transmit the individual's Social Security number over the Internet under specified circumstances. The bill also prohibits a person from initiating the transmission of an individual's Social Security number over the Internet under specified circumstances. Violation of this act constitutes an unfair or deceptive trade practice under the Maryland Consumer Protection Act.

House Bill 56, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign Senate Bill 280.

Very truly yours,
Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.
Governor

Senate Bill No. 280

AN ACT concerning

Consumer Protection - Privacy of Social Security Numbers

FOR the purpose of prohibiting the public posting or displaying of an individual's Social Security number under certain circumstances; prohibiting the printing of an individual's Social Security number on certain cards under certain circumstances; prohibiting a person from requiring an individual to transmit the individual's Social Security number over the Internet under certain circumstances; prohibiting a person from initiating the transmission of an individual's Social Security number over the Internet under certain circumstances; prohibiting a person from requiring an individual to use the individual's Social Security number to access an Internet website under certain circumstances; prohibiting the printing of an individual's Social Security number on materials mailed; to the individual or the inclusion of an individual's Social Security number in materials electronically transmitted; or transmitted by facsimile to the individual under certain circumstances; providing for certain exceptions to the prohibitions relating to an individual's Social Security number; providing that certain provisions of this Act do not impose certain duties on an interactive computer service provider or a telecommunications provider; providing that a violation of this Act is an unfair or deceptive trade practice under the Maryland Consumer Protection Act; authorizing a person that, before prior to a certain date, used an individual's Social Security number in a manner prohibited under this Act to continue to use the individual's Social Security number under certain circumstances; defining certain terms; providing for the termination of certain provisions of this Act; providing for the application of this Act; providing for a delayed effective date; ~~making this Act an emergency measure~~; and generally relating to the privacy of Social Security numbers.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article - Commercial Law