

## CHAPTER 440

## (House Bill 14)

AN ACT concerning

**Information Technology and Consumer Privacy Electronic Transactions  
Protection Act of 2001**

FOR the purpose of ~~prohibiting a merchant from collecting or maintaining records of personal information of an individual unless the merchant provides the individual with a certain notice and the individual affirmatively consents to the collection or maintenance under certain circumstances; prohibiting a merchant from selling or distributing records of personal information of an individual unless the merchant gives the individual a certain notification, the individual affirmatively consents to the sale or distribution, and the merchant provides the individual with a certain method to revoke consent under certain circumstances;~~ establishing an On-line Consumer Advocacy Electronic Transaction Education, Advocacy, and Mediation Unit in the Division of Consumer Protection in the Office of the Attorney General; specifying the purpose and the duties of the Unit; authorizing the Division Unit to adopt certain regulations at the direction of the Attorney General; defining certain terms; providing that a violation of this Act is an unfair or deceptive trade practice under the Maryland Consumer Protection Act; defining certain terms; establishing a Task Force to Study Privacy Issues Related to Information Technology; specifying the membership of the Task Force; providing for the chairman and staff of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to complete a comprehensive study of State laws and policies concerning the collection, distribution, and privacy of personal information by technological means by units of State government and private entities, and to make certain recommendations; requiring the Task Force to submit a certain report to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of a certain section of this Act; and generally relating to information technology and consumer privacy electronic transactions protection.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article ~~Commercial Law~~

Section ~~13-301~~

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2000 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article ~~Commercial Law~~

Section ~~14-2001 through 14-2007, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle  
"Subtitle 20. Electronic Commerce Consumer Privacy Protection Act"~~

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2000 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

BY adding to