

duties of the unit; authorizing the Unit to adopt certain regulations at the direction of the Attorney General; defining certain terms; and generally relating to electronic transactions protection.

BY adding to

Article – State Government

Section 6-201 through 6-203, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 2. Electronic Transactions Protection Act”

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1999 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

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

Article – State Government

SUBTITLE 2. ELECTRONIC TRANSACTIONS PROTECTION ACT.

6-201.

IN THIS SUBTITLE, “ELECTRONIC TRANSACTIONS” MEANS THE USE OF, ACCESS TO, OR COMMUNICATION INVOLVING THE INTERNET, WORLD WIDE WEB, OR WIRELESS OR SIMILAR TECHNOLOGIES.

6-202.

(A) THERE IS AN ELECTRONIC TRANSACTION EDUCATION, ADVOCACY, AND MEDIATION UNIT IN THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

(B) THE PURPOSE OF THE UNIT IS TO PROTECT THE PRIVACY OF INDIVIDUALS’ PERSONAL INFORMATION AND TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC FROM UNLAWFUL CONDUCT OR PRACTICES IN ELECTRONIC TRANSACTIONS.

(C) THE UNIT SHALL:

(1) RECEIVE COMPLAINTS CONCERNING:

(I) ANY PERSONS OBTAINING, COMPILING, MAINTAINING, USING, DISCLOSING, OR DISPOSING OF PERSONAL INFORMATION IN A MANNER THAT MAY BE POTENTIALLY UNLAWFUL OR VIOLATE A STATED PRIVACY POLICY RELATING TO THAT INDIVIDUAL; AND

(II) UNLAWFUL CONDUCT OR PRACTICES IN ELECTRONIC TRANSACTIONS;

(2) PROVIDE INFORMATION AND ADVICE TO THE PUBLIC ON EFFECTIVE WAYS OF HANDLING COMPLAINTS THAT INVOLVE VIOLATIONS OF:

(I) PRIVACY RELATED LAWS, INCLUDING IDENTITY THEFT AND IDENTITY FRAUD; OR

(II) UNLAWFUL CONDUCT OR PRACTICES IN ELECTRONIC TRANSACTIONS;