HOUSE BILL No. 4559

March 13, 1991, Introduced by Rep. Ciaramitaro and referred to the Committee on Consumers.

A bill to regulate contracts for physical fitness services; and to prescribe remedies.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

- 1 Sec. 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the
- 2 "physical fitness services contract act".
- 3 Sec. 3. As used in this act:
- 4 (a) "Customer" means a person who contracts for the use of 5 physical fitness services.
- 6 (b) "Person" means an individual, group, organization, asso-
- 7 ciation, partnership, corporation, trust, or other legal entity.
- 8 (c) "Physical fitness services" means services or facilities
- 9 that are purported primarily to assist customers in physical
- 10 exercise, in weight control, or in body or figure development,
- 11 including, but not limited to, a fitness center, studio, salon,
- 12 spa class or club, and athletic or sports club.

01606'91 * LBO

- (d) "Provider" means a person that provides physical fitness2 services and enters into prepaid or credit contracts for physical
- 3 fitness services of 1 month in duration or longer.
- 4 Sec. 5. (1) Every prepaid or credit contract for physical
- 5 fitness services of 1 month in duration or longer shall conform
- 6 to all of the following requirements:
- 7 (a) The contract shall be in writing and include an attach-
- 8 ment stating the total assets, total debt, and number of years
- 9 the provider has been engaged in business as a provider. A copy
- 10 shall be given to the customer at the time of signing.
- (b) In addition to any right to cancel otherwise provided by
- 12 law, the contract may be canceled by the customer within 3 days
- 13 after its execution upon the customer's sending a written letter
- 14 or notice of cancellation to the provider before midnight of the
- 15 third business day after the contract is signed by the customer.
- 16 The notice shall be hand delivered to the provider or sent by
- 17 first-class mail to the address provided in the contract. Notice
- 18 of cancellation is given when deposited in a mailbox with postage
- 19 prepaid or when it is hand delivered. Within 45 days of receipt
- 20 of the written notice or letter of cancellation, the provider
- 21 shall return any payments made by the customer in connection with
- 22 the contract.
- (c) The contract shall contain a provision in the following
- 24 language:
- 25 "Customer Right to Cancel Within 3 Days After Execution of
- 26 Contract

- 1 The customer may cancel this contract by sending written
- 2 notice of cancellation to (name of provider) before midnight of
- 3 the third business day after the contract is signed by the
- 4 customer. The notice shall be hand delivered to the provider or
- 5 sent by first-class mail to the address provided in the contract
- 6 and is considered given when hand delivered or mailed.
- Within 45 days of receipt of the written notice of cancella-
- 8 tion, (name of provider) shall return any payments made by the
- 9 customer in connection with the contract."
- (d) The following notice shall appear in the contract in
- 11 10-point boldfaced type:
- Notice
- "WE ARE REQUIRED BY STATE LAW TO GIVE YOU THIS NOTICE. BE
- 14 AWARE THAT YOU ARE PAYING FOR FUTURE SERVICES AND MAY BE RISKING
- 15 LOSS OF YOUR MONEY IF THIS BUSINESS CLOSES. WE ARE REQUIRED TO
- 16 PROVIDE YOU WITH OUR TOTAL ASSETS, TOTAL DEBT, AND THE NUMBER OF
- 17 YEARS WE HAVE BEEN IN OPERATION. THAT INFORMATION IS ATTACHED."
- 18 (2) A contract for physical fitness services that does not
- 19 comply with this act is voidable by the customer.