

SENATE BILL No. 465

March 3, 1993, Introduced by Senators EHLERS and BOUCHARD and referred to the Committee on Technology and Energy.

A bill to regulate telephone solicitation; to prohibit certain activities; and to provide for penalties.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

- 1 Sec. 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the
- 2 "telephone solicitation act".
- 3 Sec. 2. As used in this act:
- 4 (a) "Person" means an individual, organization, group, asso-
- 5 ciation, partnership, corporation, trust, or any other legal
- 6 entity.
- 7 (b) "Telephone solicitation" means an unsolicited telephone
- 8 call initiated by a person to a residential telephone number for
- 9 the purpose of encouraging a person to purchase a product or
- 10 service or to make a financial contribution. Telephone
- 11 solicitation does not include any of the following:

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- (i) Calls made in response to a request or inquiry by the
 called party.
- 3 (ii) Calls limited to expressing ideas or opinions or solic-4 iting the expression of ideas or opinions.
- 5 (iii) Business-to-business contacts.
- 6 Sec. 3. (1) If at any time a person who receives a tele-
- 7 phone solicitation states or indicates that he or she does not
- 8 wish to be called again by the company or organization or wants
- 9 to have his or her name and individual telephone number removed
- 10 from the telephone lists used by the company or organization
- 11 making the telephone solicitation, then the company or organi-
- 12 zation shall not make any additional telephone solicitation to
- 13 that telephone number.
- 14 (2) The company or organization shall not sell or give the
- 15 called party's name and telephone number to another company or
- 16 organization.
- 17 Sec. 4. A person shall not make a telephone solicitation
- 18 which includes, in whole or in part, the use of a computer gener-
- 19 ated message.
- Sec. 5. A person shall not, in connection with a telephone
- 21 solicitation, misrepresent, mislead, or make false statements to
- 22 another person.
- Sec. 6. (1) A person who violates this act is guilty of a
- 24 civil infraction punishable by a fine of not more than
- **25** \$2,000.00.

- 1 (2) A person who is guilty of a second or subsequent offense
- 2 under this act is guilty of a civil infraction punishable by a
- 3 fine of not more than \$10,000.00.
- 4 (3) This section does not limit or restrict prosecution
- 5 under the general criminal statutes of this state.
- 6 Sec. 7. (1) An individual may bring a civil action for vio-
- 7 lation of this act for 3 times the amount of actual damages or
- 8 \$2,000.00, whichever is greater, plus court costs and reasonable
- g attorney fees.
- 10 (2) This section does not limit or restrict any other civil
- 11 remedies an individual may bring against a person who violates
- 12 this act.
- Sec. 8. This act shall take effect January 1, 1994.