# [First Reprint] **SENATE, No. 547**

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

# 212th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2006 SESSION

Sponsored by: Senator BARBARA BUONO District 18 (Middlesex)

#### **SYNOPSIS**

"New Jersey Financial Information Privacy Act."

#### **CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Senate Commerce Committee on October 12, 2006, with amendments.



AN ACT	providing	consumers	certain	privacy	protections	with
respect	to their fir	nancial infor	mation a	ind suppl	ementing Tit	le 56
of the I	Revised Sta	itutes.				

**BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "New Jersey Financial Information Privacy Act."

2. It is the intent of the Legislature in enacting this act:

'[(1)] <u>a.</u> To provide consumers with notice and a meaningful choice about how their nonpublic personal information is shared or sold by financial institutions.

- <sup>1</sup>[(2)] <u>b.</u> <sup>1</sup> To afford persons greater privacy protections than those provided in <sup>1</sup>title V of <sup>1</sup> the federal "Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act," Pub.L. 106-102 (15 U.S.C. <sup>1</sup>[s.6701 et al.] <u>s.6801 et seq.</u> <sup>1</sup>) and that this act be interpreted consistently with that purpose.
- <sup>1</sup>[(3)] <u>c.</u> <sup>1</sup> To ensure that New Jersey residents have the ability to control the disclosure of their nonpublic personal information.
- <sup>1</sup>[(4)] d. <sup>1</sup> To achieve that control for New Jersey consumers by requiring that financial institutions that want to share information with third parties and unrelated companies seek and acquire the affirmative consent of New Jersey consumers prior to sharing the information.
- <sup>1</sup>[(5)] <u>e.</u> <sup>1</sup> To adopt, to the maximum extent feasible and consistent with the purposes cited above, definitions consistent with federal law, so that, in particular, there is no change in the ability of businesses to carry out normal processes of commerce for transactions voluntarily entered into by consumers.

- 3. For the purposes of this act:
- "Affiliate" means any entity that controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with, another entity, but does not include a joint employee of the entity and the affiliate. A franchisor, including any affiliate thereof, shall be deemed an affiliate of the franchisee for purposes of this act.
- "Affinity card" means an agreement between a financial institution and an affinity partner to issue a credit card in the name of the affinity partner.
- "Affinity financial product or service" means an agreement between a financial institution and an affinity partner to issue a

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

financial product or service, other than an affinity card, on behalf of
 the affinity partner.

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"Affinity partner" means an organization or business that is not a financial institution that has entered into an agreement with a financial institution to issue an affinity card or other affinity financial product or service.

"Clear and conspicuous" means that a notice is reasonably understandable and designed to call attention to the nature and significance of the information contained in the notice.

"Consumer" means an individual resident of this State, or that individual's legal representative, who obtains or has obtained from a financial institution a financial product or service to be used primarily for personal, family, or household purposes. For purposes of this act, an individual resident of this State is someone whose last known mailing address, other than an Armed Forces Post Office or Fleet Post Office address, as shown in the records of the financial institution, is located in this State. For purposes of this act, an individual is not a consumer of a financial institution solely because they are: (1) a participant or beneficiary of an employee benefit plan that a financial institution administers or sponsors, or for which the financial institution acts as a trustee, insurer, or fiduciary; (2) covered under a group or blanket insurance policy or group annuity contract issued by the financial institution; (3) a beneficiary in a workers' compensation plan; (4) a beneficiary of a trust for which the financial institution is a trustee; or (5) a person who has designated the financial institution as trustee for a trust, provided that the financial institution provides all required notices and rights required by this act to the plan sponsor, group or blanket insurance policyholder, or group annuity contract holder.

"Control" means: (1) ownership or power to vote 25 percent or more of the outstanding shares of any class of voting security of a company, acting through one or more persons; (2) control in any manner over the election of a majority of the directors, or of individuals exercising similar functions; or (3) the power to exercise, directly or indirectly, a controlling influence over the management or policies of a company. For purposes of applying this definition to a financial institution subject to regulation by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission, a person who owns beneficially, either directly or through one or more controlled companies, more than 25 percent of the voting securities of a company is presumed to control the company, and a person who does not own more than 25 percent of the voting securities of a company is presumed not to control the company, and a presumption regarding control may be rebutted by evidence, but in the case of an investment company, the presumption shall continue until the United States Securities and Exchange Commission makes a decision to the contrary according to the procedures described in

section 2(a) (9) of the federal "Investment Company Act of 1940," 1 2 Pub.L.76-768 (15 U.S.C. s.80a-2(a)(9)).

3 "Financial institution" means any institution, the business of 4 which is engaging in financial activities as described in section 4(k) 5 of Pub.L. <sup>1</sup>[No.] <sup>1</sup> 84-511 (12 U.S.C. s.1843(k)) and doing business 6 in this State. An institution that is not significantly engaged in 7 financial activities is not a financial institution. The term "financial 8 institution" does not include: (1) an institution that is primarily 9 engaged in providing hardware, software, or interactive services, 10 provided that it does not act as a debt collector, as defined in 11 section 803 of Pub.L.95-109 (15 U.S.C. s.1692a), or engage in 12 activities for which the institution is required to acquire a charter, license or registration from a state or federal governmental banking, 13 14 insurance, or securities agency; (2) the Federal Agricultural 15 Mortgage Corporation or any entity chartered and operating under the "Farm Credit Act of 1971," Pub.L.92-181 (12 U.S.C. s.2001 et 16 17 seq.), provided that the entity does not sell or transfer nonpublic 18 personal information to a nonaffiliated third party; (3) institutions 19 chartered by Congress specifically to engage in a proposed or actual securitization, secondary market sale, including sales of servicing 20 21 rights, or similar transactions related to a transaction of the 22 consumer, as long as those institutions do not sell or transfer 23 nonpublic personal information to a nonaffiliated third party; or (4) 24 any provider of professional services, or any wholly owned affiliate 25 thereof, that is prohibited by rules of professional ethics and 26 applicable law from voluntarily disclosing confidential client 27 information without the consent of the client.

"Financial product or service" means any product or service that a financial holding company could offer by engaging in an activity that is financial in nature or incidental to a financial activity under section 4 of Pub.L.84-511 (12 U.S.C. s.1843). The term "financial product or service" includes a financial institution's evaluation or brokerage of information that the financial institution collects in connection with a request or an application from a consumer for a financial product or service.

"Necessary to effect, administer or enforce" means, with respect to the disclosure of information, the following:

(1) The disclosure is required, or is a usual, appropriate, or acceptable method to carry out the transaction or the 'financial' product or service business of which the transaction is a part, <sup>1</sup>[and record or service or maintain the consumer's account in the ordinary course of providing the financial product or service, ] or [to] to administer or service benefits or claims relating to the transaction or the 'financial' product or service business of which '[it] the <u>transaction</u><sup>1</sup> is a part, <sup>1</sup>or record, service or maintain the consumer's account in the ordinary course of providing the financial product or

service, <sup>1</sup> and includes the following:

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(a) Providing the consumer or the consumer's agent or broker with a confirmation, statement, or other record of the transaction, or information on the status or value of the financial product or service.

- (b) The accrual or recognition of incentives, discounts, or bonuses associated with the transaction or communications to eligible existing consumers of the financial institution regarding the availability of those incentives, discounts and bonuses that are provided by the financial institution or another party.
- (c) In the case of a financial institution that has issued a credit account bearing the name of a company primarily engaged in retail sales or a name proprietary to a company primarily engaged in retail sales, the financial institution providing the retailer with nonpublic personal information <sup>1</sup>, <sup>1</sup> as follows:
- (i) Providing the retailer, or licensees or contractors of the retailer that provide products or services in the name of the retailer and under a contract with the retailer, with the names and addresses of the consumers in whose name the account is held and a record of the purchases made using the credit account from a business establishment, including a website or catalog, bearing the brand name of the retailer.
- (ii) Where the credit account can only be used for transactions with the retailer or affiliates of that retailer that are also primarily engaged in retail sales, providing the retailer, or licensees or contractors of the retailer that provide products or services in the name of the retailer and under a contract with the retailer, with nonpublic personal information concerning the credit account, in connection with the offering or provision of the products or services of the retailer and those licensees or contractors.
- (2) The disclosure is required or is one of the lawful or appropriate methods to enforce the rights of the financial institution or of other persons engaged in carrying out the financial transaction or providing the <sup>1</sup>financial <sup>1</sup> product or service.
- (3) The disclosure is required, or is a usual, appropriate, or acceptable method for insurance underwriting or the placement of insurance products by licensed agents and brokers with authorized insurance companies at the consumer's request, for reinsurance, stop loss insurance, or excess loss insurance purposes, or for any of the following purposes as they relate to a consumer's insurance:
  - (a) Account administration.
- 41 (b) Reporting, investigating, or preventing fraud or material 42 misrepresentation.
  - (c) Processing premium payments.
    - (d) Processing insurance claims.
- 45 (e) Administering insurance benefits, including utilization 46 review activities.
  - (f) Participating in research projects.

1 (g) As otherwise required or specifically permitted by federal or 2 State law.

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- (4) The disclosure is required, or is a usual, appropriate, or acceptable method, in connection with the following:
- (a) The authorization, settlement, billing, processing, clearing, transferring, reconciling or collection of amounts charged, debited or otherwise paid using a debit, credit or other payment card, check or account number or by other payment means.
  - (b) The transfer of receivables, accounts or interests therein.
  - (c) The audit of debit, credit, or other payment information.
- (5) The disclosure is required in a transaction covered by the federal "Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act of 1974," Pub.L.93-533 (12 U.S.C. s.2601 et seq.) in order to offer settlement services prior to the close of escrow, as those services are defined in section 3 of that federal act (12 U.S.C. s.2602), provided that: (a) the nonpublic personal information is disclosed for the sole purpose of offering those settlement services; and (b) the nonpublic personal information disclosed is limited to that necessary to enable the financial institution to offer those settlement services in that transaction.

"Nonaffiliated third party" means any entity that is not an affiliate of, or related by common ownership 'to,' or affiliated by corporate control with, the financial institution, but does not include a joint employee of that institution and a third party.

"Nonpublic personal information" means 1: (1) personally identifiable financial information: '[(1)] (a)' provided by a consumer to a financial institution; '[(2)] (b)' resulting from any transaction with the consumer or <sup>1</sup>providing <sup>1</sup> any <sup>1</sup>financial product  $\underline{\text{or}}^1$  service '[performed for]  $\underline{\text{to}}^1$  the consumer; or '[(3)]  $\underline{\text{(c)}}^1$ otherwise obtained by the financial institution. <sup>1</sup> Nonpublic personal information does not include publicly available information that the financial institution has a reasonable basis to believe is lawfully made available to the general public from: (4) federal, state, or local government records; (5) widely distributed media; or (6) disclosures to the general public that are required to be made by federal, State, or local law. Nonpublic (2) The term "nonpublic personal [information shall include] information" includes<sup>1</sup> any list, description, or other grouping of consumers, and publicly available information pertaining to them, that is derived using any nonpublic personal information other than publicly available information, but shall not include any list, description, or other grouping of consumers, and publicly available information pertaining to them, that is derived without using any nonpublic <sup>1</sup>(3) The term "nonpublic personal personal information. information" shall not include publicly available information that the financial institution has a reasonable basis to believe is lawfully

made available to the general public from: (a) federal, state, or local government records; (b) widely distributed media; or (c) disclosures to the general public that are required to be made by federal, State, or local law.

"Personally identifiable financial information" means 'any information: (1) that a consumer provides to a financial institution to obtain a 'financial' product or service from the financial institution; (2) about a consumer resulting from any transaction involving a 'financial' product or service between the financial institution and a consumer; or (3) that the financial institution otherwise obtains about a consumer in connection with providing a 'financial' product or service to that consumer. '[Any personally identifiable information is financial if it was obtained by a financial institution in connection with providing a financial product or service to a consumer.]

- (4) <sup>1</sup>[Personally] <u>The term "personally</u> identifiable financial <sup>1</sup>[information] <u>information</u> " includes all of the following:
- (a) Information a consumer provides to a financial institution on an application to obtain a loan, credit card, or other financial product or service.
- (b) Account balance information, payment history, overdraft history, and credit or debit card purchase information.
- (c) The fact that an individual is or has been a consumer of a financial institution or has obtained a financial product or service from the financial institution.
- (d) Any information about a financial institution's consumer if it is disclosed in a manner that indicates that the individual is or has been the financial institution's consumer.
- (e) Any information that a consumer provides to a financial institution or that a financial institution or its agent otherwise obtains in connection with collecting on a loan or servicing a loan.
- (f) Any personally identifiable financial information collected through an Internet cookie or an information collecting device from a Web server.
  - (g) Information from a consumer report.

"Widely distributed media" means media available to the general public and includes a telephone book, a television or radio program, a newspaper, or a website that is available to the general public on an unrestricted basis.

4. Except as provided in sections 5  ${}^{1}$ [, 8] ${}^{1}$  and  ${}^{1}$ [9]  $\underline{8}{}^{1}$  of this act, a financial institution shall not sell, share, transfer or otherwise disclose nonpublic personal information to or with any nonaffiliated third parties without the explicit prior consent of the consumer to whom the nonpublic personal information relates  ${}^{1}$ , as provided by

the consumer in an opt-in acknowledgment form, statement, or writing<sup>1</sup>.

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- 5. a. (1) [A] Except as provided in subsection b. of this section, a financial institution shall not disclose to or share a consumer's nonpublic personal information with any nonaffiliated third party, [as prohibited by section 4 of this act,] unless the financial institution has obtained an opt-in acknowledgment form, statement, or writing from the consumer that complies with paragraph (2) of this subsection [that] which authorizes the financial institution to disclose or share the nonpublic personal information. [Nothing in this section shall prohibit or otherwise apply to the disclosure of nonpublic personal information as allowed in section 9 of this act.]
- A financial institution shall not discriminate against or deny an otherwise qualified consumer a financial product or service because the consumer has not provided consent pursuant to this subsection and section 4 of this act to authorize the financial institution to disclose or share nonpublic personal information pertaining to the consumer with any nonaffiliated third party. Nothing in this '[section] subsection' shall prohibit a financial institution from denying a consumer a financial product or service if the financial institution could not provide the product or service to a consumer without the consent to disclose the consumer's nonpublic personal information required by this subsection and section 4 of this act, and the consumer has failed to provide consent. financial institution shall not be liable for failing to offer <sup>1</sup>[products and services a financial product or service to a consumer solely because that consumer has failed to provide consent pursuant to this subsection and section 4 of this act 1,1 and the financial institution could not offer the product or service without '[the] that' consent <sup>1</sup>[to disclose the consumer's nonpublic personal information required by this subsection and section 4 of this act, and the consumer has failed to provide consent ]<sup>1</sup>.
- <sup>1</sup>(b) Nothing in this <sup>1</sup>[section] <u>subsection</u> is intended to prohibit a financial institution from offering incentives or discounts to elicit a specific response <sup>1</sup>[to] <u>regarding</u> the <sup>1</sup>[notice] <u>opt-in</u> <u>acknowledgment form, statement, or writing</u> 1.
- (2) A financial institution shall utilize an opt-in <sup>1</sup>acknowledgment <sup>1</sup> form, statement, or writing to obtain consent to disclose nonpublic personal information to nonaffiliated third parties as required by this subsection and section 4 of this act. The opt-in <sup>1</sup>acknowledgment <sup>1</sup> form, statement <sup>1</sup>. <sup>1</sup> or writing shall meet all of the following criteria:

- (a) The '[opt-in]' form, statement or writing shall be a separate document, not attached to any other document ', or its contents, as required by this paragraph and paragraphs (1) or (2) of subsection c. of this section, shall be incorporated as a separate, clear and conspicuous opt-in section within a notice provided to the consumer in accordance with title V of the "Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act," Pub.L.106-102 (15 U.S.C. s.6801 et seq.) 1.
  - (b) The '[opt-in]' form, statement ',' or writing shall be dated and signed by the consumer.

- (c) The '[opt-in]' form, statement ',' or writing shall clearly and conspicuously disclose that by signing, the consumer is consenting to the disclosure to nonaffiliated third parties of nonpublic personal information pertaining to the consumer.
- (d) The '[opt-in]' form, statement, or writing shall clearly and conspicuously disclose ':' (i) that the consent will remain in effect until revoked or modified by the consumer; (ii) that the consumer may revoke the consent at any time; and (iii) the procedure for the consumer to revoke consent.
- (e) The '[opt-in]' form, statement, or writing shall clearly and conspicuously inform the consumer that ':' (i) the financial institution will maintain the document or a true and correct copy; (ii) the consumer is entitled to a copy of the document upon request; and (iii) the consumer may want to make a copy of the document for the consumer's records.
- b. (1) This '[subsection] section' shall not prohibit '[the release of] a financial institution from releasing a consumer's' nonpublic personal information '[by a financial institution with whom the consumer has a relationship]' to a nonaffiliated financial institution for purposes of jointly offering a financial product or '[financial]' service pursuant to a written agreement with the financial institution that receives the nonpublic personal information provided that all of the following requirements are met:
- (a) The financial product or service offered is a product or service of, and is provided by, at least one of the financial institutions that is a party to the written agreement.
- (b) The financial product or service is jointly offered, endorsed, or sponsored, and clearly and conspicuously identifies for the consumer the financial institutions that disclose and receive the disclosed nonpublic personal information.
- (c) The written agreement provides that the financial institution that receives '[that] the' nonpublic personal information is required to maintain the confidentiality of the information and is prohibited from disclosing or using the information other than to carry out the joint offering or servicing of '[a] the' financial product or '[financial]' service that is the subject of the written agreement.

<sup>1</sup>[(d) The financial institution that releases the nonpublic personal information has complied with subsection d. of this section and the consumer has directed that the nonpublic personal information be disclosed.

- (e) Notwithstanding this section, until January 1, 2007, a financial institution may disclose nonpublic personal information to a nonaffiliated financial institution pursuant to a preexisting contract with the nonaffiliated financial institution, for purposes of offering a financial product or service, if that contract was entered into on or before January 1, 2006. Beginning on January 1, 2007, no nonpublic personal information may be disclosed pursuant to that contract unless all the requirements of this subsection are met. ]¹
- (2) <sup>1</sup>[Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit a financial institution from disclosing or sharing nonpublic personal information as otherwise specifically permitted by this section.] This section shall not prohibit a financial institution from releasing a consumer's nonpublic personal information to an affinity partner.<sup>1</sup>
- (3) <sup>1</sup>[A financial institution shall not discriminate against or deny an otherwise qualified consumer a financial product or service because the consumer has directed that nonpublic personal information pertaining to them not be disclosed. Nothing in this section is intended to prohibit a financial institution from offering incentives or discounts to elicit a specific response to the notice set forth in this section. Nothing in this <u>latinglation</u> This section shall <u>not</u> prohibit the disclosure of nonpublic personal information as <u>latinglation</u> set forth in section <u>latinglation</u> set forth in section <u>latinglation</u> set forth in this section <u>latinglation</u> set forth in this section <u>latinglatinglation</u> set forth in this section <u>latinglation</u> set forth in <u>latinglation</u> set
- c. <sup>1</sup>[Nothing in this section shall restrict or prohibit the sharing of nonpublic personal information: between a financial institution and its wholly owned financial institution subsidiaries; among financial institutions that are each wholly owned by the same financial institution; among financial institutions that are wholly owned by the same holding company; or among the insurance and management entities of a single insurance holding company system consisting of one or more reciprocal insurance exchanges which has a single corporation or its wholly owned subsidiaries providing management services to the reciprocal insurance exchanges, provided that in each case all of the following requirements are met:
- (1) The financial institution disclosing the nonpublic personal information and the financial institution receiving it are regulated by the same functional regulator; provided, however, that for purposes of this paragraph, financial institutions regulated by the federal Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the federal Office of Thrift Supervision, National Credit Union Administration, or a state regulator of depository institutions shall be deemed to be regulated by the same functional regulator; financial institutions regulated by the United States Securities and Exchange

- Commission, the United States Department of Labor, or a state securities regulator shall be deemed to be regulated by the same functional regulator; and insurers admitted in this State to transact insurance and licensed to write insurance policies shall be deemed
- to be in compliance with this subsection.

  (2) The financial institution disclosing the nonpublic personal information and the financial institution receiving it are both
- 9 this paragraph, "same line of business" shall represent not more

principally engaged in the same line of business. For purposes of

- than one of the following:
  - (a) Insurance;

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- (b) Banking; or
- (c) Securities.
- (3) The financial institution disclosing the nonpublic personal information and the financial institution receiving it share a common brand, excluding a brand consisting solely of a graphic element or symbol, within their trademark, service mark or trade name, which is used to identify the source of the products and services provided.
- A wholly owned subsidiary shall include a subsidiary wholly owned directly or indirectly in a chain of wholly owned subsidiaries.
- d.  $I^1$ A financial institution shall <sup>1</sup>[be conclusively 23 (1) presumed to have satisfied the notice requirements of subsections 24 25 a. and b. of this section if it uses the opt-in form set forth in paragraph (2) of this subsection. The provide an opt-in 26 <sup>1</sup>acknowledgment <sup>1</sup> form <sup>1</sup>, statement, or writing to a consumer, 27 28 either using the model text and format<sup>1</sup> set forth in paragraph (2) <sup>1</sup>of this subsection, and additionally complying, as otherwise 29 30 appropriate, with subparagraphs (a) to (k), inclusive, of this 31 paragraph, or a form that complies not using the model text and 32 format of paragraph (2) of this subsection, but fully complying<sup>1</sup> 33 with subparagraphs (a) to (k), inclusive, of this paragraph <sup>1</sup> shall be sent by the financial institution to the consumer], so that [a] 34 the consumer may make a decision and provide direction to the 35 financial institution regarding the sharing of '[their] the 36 <u>consumer's</u><sup>1</sup> nonpublic personal information. 37 <sup>1</sup>The financial institution shall be conclusively presumed to have satisfied the 38 notice requirements of subsection a. of this section if it uses the 39 40 model text and format set forth in paragraph (2) of this subsection, 41 and additionally complies, as otherwise appropriate, with subparagraphs (a) to (k), inclusive, of this paragraph. If Ia the 42 institution use the 1 43 financial does not an<sup>1</sup> <sup>1</sup>acknowledgment <sup>1</sup> form <sup>1</sup>, statement, or writing with the model text 44

and format set forth in paragraph (2) of this subsection, the

- financial institution shall use a form 1, statement, or writing 1 that 1 2 meets all of the following requirements:
- The form 1, statement, or writing uses the same title 3
- ("IMPORTANT PRIVACY CHOICE FOR CONSUMERS") and the 4
- header, if applicable, as follows: "Allow Information Sharing With 5
- Other Companies We Do Business With To Provide Financial 6
- 7 Products And Services."
- (b) The titles and headers in the form 1, statement, or writing 1 8 9 are clearly and conspicuously displayed, and no text '[in the form]' is smaller than '[12-point] 10-point' type. 10
- (c) The form 1, statement, or writing 1 is a separate document, 11 except as '[provided in] otherwise permitted by subparagraph (a) 12 of paragraph (2) of subsection a. of this section and or section 13 14 7 of this act.
- (d) The choice <sup>1</sup>[pursuant to subsection a. and b. of this section 15 and section 8 of this act, if applicable, provided in the form are] 16 provided in the form, statement, or writing to explicitly permit the 17 18 disclosure of nonpublic personal information is tated separately and may be selected by checking a box. 19
- The form 1, statement, or writing 1 is designed to call 20 21 attention to the nature and significance of the information in the 22 document.
- 23 (f) The form <sup>1</sup>, statement, or writing <sup>1</sup> presents information in clear and concise sentences, paragraphs, and sections. 24
- (g) The form <sup>1</sup>, statement, or writing uses short explanatory 25 26 sentences which average between 15 and 20 words or bullet lists 27 whenever possible.
- (h) The form <sup>1</sup>, statement, or writing <sup>1</sup> avoids multiple negatives, 28 29 legal terminology, and highly technical terminology whenever 30
- 31 (i) The form <sup>1</sup>, statement, or writing <sup>1</sup> avoids explanations that are imprecise and readily subject to different interpretations. 32
- 33 (j) The form <sup>1</sup>, statement, or writing <sup>1</sup> provides wide margins, ample line spacing and uses boldface or italics for key words. 34
- (k) The form <sup>1</sup>, statement, or writing <sup>1</sup> is not more than one page 35
- 1, or one page per language, if the document is provided in more 36 37
- than one language, or the document's contents, as required by this
- 38 act, shall be not more than one page, or one page per language, if 39 instead incorporated pursuant to subparagraph (a) of paragraph (2)
- 40 of subsection a. of this section as a separate, clear and conspicuous
- opt-in section within a notice provided to the consumer in 41
- 42 accordance with title V of the "Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act,"
- Pub.L.106-102 (15 U.S.C. s.6801 et seq.)<sup>1</sup>. 43
- 44 The form is provided to consumers in English and <sup>1</sup> (1) 45 Spanish. ] 1

- (2) (a) None of the instructional items appearing in brackets in the opt-in <sup>1</sup>acknowledgment <sup>1</sup> form <sup>1</sup>, statement, or writing <sup>1</sup> set forth in this paragraph shall appear in the '[opt-in]' form ', statement, or writing provided to the consumer, as those items are for explanation purposes only. If a financial institution does not disclose or share nonpublic personal information as described in a header of the form ', statement, or writing', the financial institution may omit the applicable header '[or headers]', and the accompanying information and box, in the form 1, statement, or writing it provides pursuant to this paragraph. In The An opt-in <sup>1</sup>acknowledgment <sup>1</sup> form <sup>1</sup>[with those] , statement, or writing which utilizes the model text and format as presented in this paragraph, regardless of the number of omissions 1,1 shall be conclusively presumed to satisfy the notice requirements of <sup>1</sup>[this paragraph] subsection a. of this section<sup>1</sup>.
  - (b) If a financial institution '[uses], instead of using an opt-in acknowledgment form '[other than], statement, or writing which utilizes the model text and format of that set forth in this paragraph, uses an opt-in acknowledgment form, statement, or writing which complies with subparagraphs (a) to (k), inclusive, of paragraph (1) of this subsection, the financial institution may submit that [opt-in form] document to its functional regulator for approval, which approval shall create a rebuttable presumption that the opt-in acknowledgment form statement, or writing complies with the notice requirements of this section.
  - (c) A financial institution shall not be in violation of this section solely because it includes in the opt-in 'acknowledgment' form ', statement, or writing' one or more brief examples or explanations of the purpose, or context, within which information will be shared, as long as those examples meet the clarity and readability standards set forth in paragraph (1) of this subsection.
  - (d) The outside of the envelope in which the opt-in 'acknowledgment' form ', statement, or writing' is sent to the consumer shall clearly state in 16-point boldface type "IMPORTANT PRIVACY CHOICE," except that a financial institution sending the '[form] document' to a consumer in the same envelope as a bill, account statement, or application requested by the consumer does not have to include the wording "IMPORTANT PRIVACY CHOICE" on that envelope.

#### **Important Privacy Choice for Consumers**

1 You New Jersey law requires that we not share your personal financial information, except under limited circumstances.

45 <u>However</u>, you<sup>1</sup> have the right to <sup>1</sup>[control] <u>choose</u> whether we

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1	<sup>1</sup> can more broadly <sup>1</sup> share some of your personal <sup>1</sup> financial <sup>1</sup>
2	information. Please read the following information carefully before
3	you make your choice below.
4	
5	Your Rights
6	
7	You have the right to <sup>1</sup> [restrict] permit, or "opt-in" to, <sup>1</sup> the sharing
8	of personal '[and]' financial information with 'certain' outside
9	companies that we do business with (non-affiliated third '[party]
10	parties <sup>1</sup> ). Nothing in this opt-in form prohibits the sharing of
11	information <sup>1</sup> permitted by law or otherwise <sup>1</sup> necessary for us to
12	follow the law 1,1 or to give you the best service on your accounts
13	with us. This includes sending you information about some other
14	products or services.
15	
16	Your Choice
17	
18	Information Sharing With Other Companies <sup>1</sup> With Which <sup>1</sup> We
19	Do Business <sup>1</sup> [With To Provide Financial Products and
20	Services] <sup>1</sup> : Unless you say "Yes," we may not share <sup>1</sup> your <sup>1</sup>
21	personal '[and]' financial information '[about you]' with outside
22	companies 'with which' we contract 'with to provide financial
23	products and services to you], except as permitted by law or as
24	otherwise necessary for us to follow the law <sup>1</sup> .
25	- <del>-</del>
26	() YES, You may share 'my' personal '[and]' financial
27	information with outside companies [we] with which you
28	contract <sup>1</sup> [with to provide financial products and services] <sup>1</sup> .
29	
30	
31	
32	[Time Sensitive] Your Method of Reply
33	
34	You may make your '[privacy]' choice 'to permit the sharing of
35	your personal financial information <sup>1</sup> at any time. Your choice <sup>1</sup> to
36	permit information sharing marked here will remain unless you
37	state otherwise.
38	
39	Name:
40	Account or Policy Number(s): [to be filled in by consumer]
41	
42	Signature:
43	
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- <sup>1</sup>(3)<sup>1</sup> The <sup>1</sup>opt-in acknowledgment <sup>1</sup> form <sup>1</sup>, statement, or writing <sup>1</sup> shall be <sup>1</sup>[sent] provided to the consumer <sup>1</sup> in one or more of the following ways:
- <sup>1</sup>[(i)] (a) With a bill, other statement of account, or application requested by the consumer <sup>1</sup>[, in which case the information required by Title V of the "Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act," Pub.L 106-102 (15 U.S.C. s.6801 et seq.) may also be included in the same envelope] <sup>1</sup>.
- <sup>1</sup>[(ii)] (b)<sup>1</sup> As a separate notice <sup>1</sup>[or with the information required by Title V of the "Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act," Pub.L 106-102 (15 U.S.C. s.6801 et seq.) and including only information] among materials sent to the consumer <sup>1</sup> related <sup>1</sup>only <sup>1</sup> to privacy.
- <sup>1</sup>[(iii)] (c)<sup>1</sup> With any other mailing, in which case <sup>1</sup>[it] the form, statement, or writing <sup>1</sup> shall be the first page of the mailing.
- <sup>1</sup>(d) As a separate, clear and conspicuous opt-in section, containing all of the document's contents, as required by this act, incorporated into a notice provided to the consumer in accordance with title V of the "Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act," Pub.L 106-102 (15 U.S.C. s.6801 et seq.).
- <sup>1</sup>[(3)] (4)<sup>1</sup> When a consumer directs that nonpublic personal information may be disclosed, that direction shall remain in effect until otherwise stated by the consumer. <sup>1</sup>[A financial institution that has not provided a consumer with annual notice pursuant to this section shall provide the consumer with a form that meets the requirements of this subsection.
- (4) If a (5) A financial institution shall provide a consumer with an opt-in acknowledgment form, statement, or writing meeting the requirements of this section at least annually, except when the financial institution does not have a continuing relationship with la the consumer other than the initial transaction in which the product or service is provided, then no annual disclosure requirement exists pursuant to this section paragraph as long as the that financial institution provides the consumer with the opt-in acknowledgment form required by this section, statement, or writing at the time of the initial transaction. As used in this section, "annually" means at least once in any period of 12 consecutive months during which that relationship exists. The

financial institution may define the 12-consecutive-month period, but shall apply it to the consumer on a consistent basis.

\*[(5)] (6)¹ A financial institution with assets in excess of \$25,000,000 shall include a self-addressed first class business reply return envelope with the ¹[notice] opt-in acknowledgment form, statement, or writing¹. A financial institution with assets of up to and including \$25,000,000 shall include a self-addressed return envelope with the ¹[notice] opt-in acknowledgment form, statement, or writing¹. In lieu of the first class business reply return envelope required by this paragraph, a financial institution may offer a self-addressed return envelope with the ¹[notice] document¹ and at least two alternative cost-free means for consumers to communicate their privacy choices, such as calling a toll-free number, sending a facsimile to a toll-free telephone number, or using electronic means.

A financial institution shall clearly and conspicuously disclose in the '[form] document' required by this '[subsection] section' the information necessary to direct a consumer on how to communicate their choices, including the toll-free or facsimile number or website address that may be used, if those means of communication are offered by the financial institution.

<sup>1</sup>[(6)] (7)<sup>1</sup> A financial institution may provide a joint <sup>1</sup>[notice] opt-in acknowledgment form, statement, or writing <sup>1</sup> from it or other financial institutions, as identified in the <sup>1</sup>[notice] document <sup>1</sup>, so long as the <sup>1</sup>[notice] document <sup>1</sup> is accurate with respect to the financial institution and other financial institutions.

<sup>1</sup>[e.] <u>d.</u><sup>1</sup> Nothing in this act shall prohibit a financial institution from marketing its own products and services or the products and services of nonaffiliated third parties to customers of the financial institution so long as: (1) nonpublic personal information is not disclosed in connection with the delivery of the applicable marketing materials to those customers except as permitted by section  ${}^{1}[9] \underline{8}{}^{1}$  of this act; and (2) in cases in which the applicable nonaffiliated third party may extrapolate nonpublic personal information about the consumer responding to those marketing materials, the applicable nonaffiliated third party has signed a contract with the financial institution under the terms of which: (a) the nonaffiliated third party is prohibited from using that information for any purpose other than the purpose for which it was provided, as set forth in the contract; and (b) the financial institution has the right by audit, inspections, or other means to verify the nonaffiliated third party's compliance with that contract.

6. Except as otherwise provided in this act, an entity that receives nonpublic personal information from a financial institution as permitted under this act shall not disclose this information to any

other entity, unless the disclosure would be lawful if made directly to the other entity by the financial institution. An entity that receives nonpublic personal information pursuant to any exception set forth in section  ${}^{1}[9] \underline{8}{}^{1}$  of this act shall not use or disclose the information except in the ordinary course of business to carry out the activity covered by the exception under which the information was received <sup>1</sup>, and to protect the confidentiality or security of the entity's records pertaining to the consumer, the financial service or product, or the transaction thereon, to protect against or prevent actual or potential fraud, identity theft, unauthorized transactions, claims or other liability, for required institutional risk control and for resolving customer disputes or inquiries<sup>1</sup>.

- 7. a. Nothing in this act shall require a financial institution to provide <sup>1</sup>[a written notice] an opt-in <sup>1</sup>acknowledgment form, statement, or writing to a consumer pursuant to section 5 of this act if the financial institution does not disclose nonpublic personal information to any nonaffiliated third party, except as allowed in this act.
- b. ¹[A notice] An opt-in acknowledgment form, statement, or writing¹ provided to a member of a household pursuant to section 5 of this act shall be considered ¹[notice] an opt-in acknowledgment form, statement, or writing¹ to all members of that household unless that household contains another individual who also has a separate account with the financial institution.
- c. (1) Any requirement pursuant to this act to send <sup>1</sup>[a written notice] an opt-in acknowledgment form, statement, or writing <sup>1</sup> to a consumer may be fulfilled by electronic means if the following requirements are met:
- (a) The 'Inotice document', and the manner in which it is sent, meets all of the requirements for notices 'or documents' that are required by law to be in writing, as set forth in section 101 of the federal "Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act," Pub.L.106-229 (15 U.S.C. s.7001).
- (b) All other requirements applicable to the '[notice] opt-in acknowledgment form, statement, or writing' are met, including, but not limited to, requirements concerning content, timing, form and delivery. '[An electronic notice] However, any electronic document' sent pursuant to this '[section] subsection' is not required to include a return envelope.
- 41 (c) The '[notice] document' is delivered to the consumer in a 42 form the consumer may keep.
- 43 (2) A \*Inotice I document that is made available to a consumer, 44 and is not delivered to the consumer, does not satisfy the 45 requirements of paragraph (1) of this subsection.

(3) Any electronic consumer reply to an electronic <sup>1</sup>[notice] document <sup>1</sup> sent pursuant to this subsection is effective. A <sup>1</sup>[person] financial institution <sup>1</sup> that electronically sends a <sup>1</sup>[notice] document <sup>1</sup> required by this <sup>1</sup>[section] subsection <sup>1</sup> to a consumer may not by contract, or otherwise, eliminate the effectiveness of the consumer's electronic reply.

- <sup>1</sup>[8. a. When a financial institution and an affinity partner have an agreement to issue an affinity card, the financial institution shall be permitted to disclose to the affinity partner in whose name the card is issued only the following information pertaining to the financial institution's customers who are in receipt of the affinity card: (1) name, address, telephone number and electronic mail address; and (2) a record of purchases made using the affinity card in a business establishment, including a website, bearing the brand name of the affinity partner.
- b. When a financial institution and an affinity partner have an agreement to issue an affinity financial product or service, the financial institution shall be permitted to disclose to the affinity partner only the following information pertaining to the financial institution's customers who obtained the affinity financial product or service: name, address, telephone number and electronic mail address.
- c. The disclosures specified in subsections a. and b. of this section shall be permitted only if the following requirements are met:
- (1) The financial institution has provided the consumer a notice meeting the requirements of section 5 of this act, and the consumer has consented to the disclosure of nonpublic personal information. A response to a notice meeting the requirements of section 5 of this act directing the financial institution to disclose nonpublic personal information to a nonaffiliated financial institution shall be deemed a direction to the financial institution to disclose nonpublic personal information to an affinity partner, unless the form containing the notice provides the consumer with a separate choice for disclosure to affinity partners.
- (2) The financial institution has a contractual agreement with the affinity partner that requires the affinity partner to maintain the confidentiality of the nonpublic personal information and prohibits affinity partners from using the information for any purposes other than verifying membership, verifying the consumer's contact information or offering the affinity partner's own products or services to the consumer.
- (3) The customer list is not disclosed in any way that reveals or permits extrapolation of any additional nonpublic personal information about any customer on the list.

- (4) If the affinity partner sends any message to any electronic mail addresses obtained pursuant to this section, the message shall include at least both of the following:
  - (a) The identity of the sender of the message.
  - (b) A cost-free means for the recipient to notify the sender not to electronically mail any further message to the recipient.
  - d. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the disclosure of nonpublic personal information pursuant to section 9 of this act.
  - e. This section shall not apply to credit cards issued in the name of an entity primarily engaged in retail sales or a name proprietary to a company primarily engaged in retail sales. ]

- ${}^{1}$ [9.]  $\underline{8}^{1}$  a. This section shall not apply to information that is not personally identifiable to a particular person.
- b. Notwithstanding sections 4 <sup>1</sup>[,] <u>and</u> <sup>1</sup> 5 <sup>1</sup>[, 7, and 8] <sup>1</sup> of this act, a financial institution may release nonpublic personal information under the following circumstances:
- (1) The nonpublic personal information is necessary to effect, administer, or enforce a transaction requested or authorized by the consumer, or in connection with servicing or processing a financial product or service requested or authorized by the consumer, or in connection with maintaining or servicing the consumer's account with the financial institution, or with another entity as part of a private label credit card program or other extension of credit on behalf of that entity, or in connection with a proposed or actual securitization or secondary market sale, including sales of servicing rights, or similar transactions related to a transaction of the consumer.
- (2) The nonpublic personal information is released with the consent of or at the direction of the consumer.
  - (3) The nonpublic personal information is released:
- (a) To protect the confidentiality or security of the financial institution's records pertaining to the consumer, the 'financial product or' service '[or product]', or the transaction '[therein] thereon'.
- (b) To protect against or prevent actual or potential fraud, identity theft, unauthorized transactions, claims or other liability.
- (c) For required institutional risk control or for resolving customer disputes or inquiries.
- (d) To persons holding a legal or beneficial interest relating to the consumer, including for purposes of debt collection.
- (e) To persons acting in a fiduciary or representative capacity on behalf of the consumer.
- 44 (4) The nonpublic personal information is released to provide 45 information to insurance rate advisory organizations, guaranty 46 funds or agencies, applicable rating agencies of the financial 47 institution, persons assessing the institution's compliance with

industry standards, and the institution's attorneys, accountants and 2 auditors.

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- (5) The nonpublic personal information is released to the extent specifically required or specifically permitted under other provisions of law and in accordance with the federal "Right to Financial Privacy Act of 1978," Pub.L. 95-630 (12 U.S.C. s.3401 et seq.), to law enforcement agencies, including a federal functional regulator, the Secretary of the Treasury with respect to subchapter II of Chapter 53 of Title 31 of the United States Code (31 U.S.C. s.5311 et seq.), and '[Chapter] chapter' 2 of '[Title] title' I of Pub.L. 91-508 (12 U.S.C. s.1951 et seq.), the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance or other state insurance regulators, the Federal Trade Commission, self-regulatory organizations or for an investigation on a matter related to public safety.
  - (6) The nonpublic personal information is released in connection with a proposed or actual sale, merger, transfer, or exchange of all or a portion of a business or operating unit if the disclosure of nonpublic personal information concerns solely consumers of the business or unit.
  - (7) The nonpublic personal information is released to comply with federal, State, or local laws, rules, and other applicable legal requirements; to comply with a properly authorized civil, criminal, administrative, or regulatory investigation or subpoena or summons by federal, State, or local authorities; or to respond to judicial process or government regulatory authorities having jurisdiction over the financial institution for examination, compliance, or other purposes as authorized by law.
  - The nonpublic personal information is released to a nonaffiliated third party in order for the nonaffiliated third party to perform business or professional services, such as printing, mailing services, data processing or analysis, or customer surveys, on behalf of the financial institution, provided that all of the following requirements are met:
  - (a) The services to be performed by the nonaffiliated third party could lawfully be performed by the financial institution.
  - (b) There is a written contract between the nonaffiliated third party and the financial institution that prohibits the nonaffiliated third party from disclosing or using the nonpublic personal information other than to carry out the purpose for which the financial institution disclosed the information, as set forth in the written contract.
- The nonpublic personal information provided to the nonaffiliated third party is limited to that which is necessary for the nonaffiliated third party to perform the services contracted for on behalf of the financial institution.

(d) The financial institution does not receive any payment from or through the nonaffiliated third party in connection with, or as a result of, the release of the nonpublic personal information.

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- (9) The nonpublic personal information is released to identify or locate missing and abducted children, witnesses, criminals and fugitives, parties to lawsuits, parents delinquent in child support payments, organ and bone marrow donors, pension fund beneficiaries, and missing heirs.
- (10) The nonpublic personal information is released to a real estate appraiser licensed or certified by the State for submission to central data repositories and the nonpublic personal information is compiled strictly to complete other real estate appraisals and is not used for any other purpose.
- insurance producer licensed pursuant to the "New Jersey Insurance Producer Licensing Act of 2001," P.L.2001, c.210 (C.17:22A-26 et seq.), in the line of title insurance, in connection with the issuance of a title insurance commitment or policy, or the closing of a transaction involving real property in this State. This exemption is intended to apply to real estate transactions in addition to the real estate exemptions provided for disclosures required in a transaction covered by the federal "Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act of 1974," Pub.L.93-533 (12 U.S.C. s.2601 et seq.), pursuant to the definition of "necessary to effect, administer or enforce" in section 3 of this act and the reference to this term under paragraph (1) of subsection b. of this section.
  - (12)<sup>1</sup> The nonpublic personal information is released as required by the federal "International Money Laundering Abatement and Financial Anti-Terrorism Act of 2001," Pub.L. 107-56 (31 U.S.C. s.5311 et al.).
  - <sup>1</sup>[(12)] (13)<sup>1</sup> The nonpublic personal information is released either to a consumer reporting agency pursuant to the federal "Fair Credit Reporting Act," Pub.L. 91-508 (15 U.S.C. s.1681 et seq.) or from a consumer report reported by a consumer reporting agency.
- '[(13)] (14)¹ The nonpublic personal information is released in connection with a written agreement between a consumer and a broker-dealer registered under the federal "Securities Exchange Act of 1934," Pub.L. 73-291 (15 U.S.C. s.78a et al.) or an investment adviser registered under the federal "Investment Advisers Act of 1940," Pub.L. 76-768 (15 U.S.C. s.80b-1 et seq.) to provide investment management services, portfolio advisory services, or financial planning and the nonpublic personal information is released for the sole purpose of providing the products and services covered by that agreement.
- c. Nothing in this section is intended to change existing law relating to access by law enforcement agencies to information held by financial institutions.

- 1 [10.] 9.1 a. The provisions of this section shall not apply to any person or entity that meets the requirements of paragraph (1) or (2) of this subsection. However, when nonpublic personal information is shared by a person or entity meeting the requirements of paragraph (1) or (2) with a nonaffiliated third party, this section shall apply.
  - (1) The person or entity is licensed in either of the following categories and is acting within the scope of the respective license or certificate:
    - (a) As an insurance producer, or as an investment adviser.

- (b) Is licensed to sell securities by the National Association of Securities Dealers.
- (2) The person or entity meets the requirements in paragraph (1) and has a written contractual agreement with another person or entity described in paragraph (1) and the contract clearly and explicitly includes the following:
- (a) The rights and obligations between the licensees arising out of the business relationship relating to insurance or securities transactions;
- (b) An explicit limitation on the use of nonpublic personal information about a consumer to transactions authorized by the contract and permitted pursuant to this act; and
- (c) A requirement that transactions specified in the contract fall within the scope of activities permitted by the licenses of the parties.
- b. The restrictions on disclosure and use of nonpublic personal information and the requirement for notification and disclosure shall not limit the ability of insurance producers and brokers to respond to written, telephone or electronic requests from consumers seeking price quotes on insurance products and services or to obtain competitive quotes to renew an existing insurance contract, provided that any nonpublic personal information disclosed pursuant to this subsection shall not be used or disclosed except in the ordinary course of business in order to obtain those quotes.
- c. (1) The disclosure or sharing of nonpublic personal information from an insurer or its affiliates to an exclusive agent or broker whose contractual or employment relationship requires that the agent offer only the insurer's policies for sale or financial products or services authorized by the insurer, or whose contractual or employment relationship with an insurer gives the insurer the right of first refusal for all policies of insurance by the agent, and who may not share nonpublic personal information with any insurer other than the insurer with whom the agent has a contractual or employment relationship as described above, is not a violation of this section, provided that the agent may not disclose nonpublic personal information to any party except as permitted by this section. An insurer shall not disclose or share nonpublic personal

- information with exclusive agents merely because information is maintained in common information systems or databases, and exclusive agents of the insurer have access to those common information systems or databases, provided that where a consumer has exercised his or her rights to prohibit disclosure pursuant to this section, nonpublic personal information is not further disclosed or used by an exclusive agent except as permitted by this section.
  - (2) Nothing in this subsection is intended to affect the sharing of information as allowed in subsection a. or subsection b. of this section.

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- 1[11.] 10.1 a. An entity that negligently discloses or shares nonpublic personal information in violation of this act shall be liable, irrespective of the amount of damages suffered by the consumer as a result of that violation, for a civil penalty not to exceed \$2,500 per violation. However, if the disclosure or sharing results in the release of nonpublic personal information of more than one individual, the total civil penalty awarded pursuant to this subsection shall not exceed \$500,000.
- b. An entity that knowingly and willfully obtains, discloses, shares, or uses nonpublic personal information in violation of this act shall be liable for a civil penalty not to exceed \$5,000 per individual violation, irrespective of the amount of damages suffered by the consumer as a result of that violation.
- c. In determining the penalty to be assessed pursuant to a violation of this act, the court shall take into account the following factors:
  - (1) The total assets and net worth of the violating entity.
  - (2) The nature and seriousness of the violation.
- (3) The persistence of the violation, including any attempts to correct the situation leading to the violation.
  - (4) The length of time over which the violation occurred.
  - (5) The number of times the entity has violated this act.
- (6) The harm caused to consumers by the violation.
- (7) The level of proceeds derived from the violation.
- (8) The impact of possible penalties on the overall fiscal solvency of the violating entity.
- d. In the event a violation of this act results in the identity theft of a consumer as defined in N.J.S.2C:21-17, the civil penalties set forth in this act shall be doubled.
- e. The civil penalties provided for in this section shall be exclusively assessed and recovered in a civil action brought in a summary proceeding pursuant to the "Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999," P.L.1999, c.274 (C.2A:58-10 et seq.) by the Attorney General or the functional regulator with jurisdiction over regulation of the financial institution.

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1	<sup>1</sup> [12.] 11. Nothing in this act shall be construed as altering or
2	annulling the authority of any department or agency of the State to
3	regulate any financial institution subject to its jurisdiction.
4	
5	<sup>1</sup> [13.] <u>12.</u> The Commissioner of Banking and Insurance shall
6	promulgate regulations pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure
7	Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) necessary to effectuate
8	the provisions of this act.
9	
10	<sup>1</sup> [14.] 13. This act shall take effect on the 180th day after the
11	date of enactment.