

ASSEMBLY, No. 4913

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 5, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman RONALD S. DANCER

District 12 (Burlington, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean)

SYNOPSIS

Directs BPU to undertake public awareness campaign concerning telecommunications carriers, including mobile and Voice over Internet Protocol service providers, and disclosure of customer information.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning telecommunications carriers and customer
2 information and supplementing Title 48 of the Revised Statutes.

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

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7 1. As used in P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
8 Legislature as this bill):

9 “Board” means the Board of Public Utilities.

10 “Customer proprietary network information” shall have the same
11 meaning as provided in subsection (h) of section 222 of the
12 Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. c.222(h)).

13 “Telecommunications carrier” means a telephone company
14 regulated as a public utility under Title 48 of the Revised Statutes,
15 an interexchange telecommunications carrier and a local exchange
16 telecommunications company as those terms are defined in section
17 2 of P.L.1991, c.428 (C.48:2-21.17), a provider of VoIP service as
18 that term is defined in section 3 of P.L.2007, c.195 (C.48:17-34), or
19 a mobile telecommunications company as that term is defined in
20 section 1 of P.L.2004, c.48 (C.52:17C-17), and that conducts
21 business in the State.

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23 2. a. The Board of Public Utilities, in consultation with the
24 Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public
25 Safety, shall develop and undertake a public awareness campaign to
26 promote awareness among State residents about the disclosure of
27 customer proprietary network information by a telecommunications
28 carrier. The campaign may incorporate print and electronic media.

29 b. The public awareness campaign shall include, but not be
30 limited to, the following:

31 (1) a comprehensive summary of State and federal law
32 concerning the disclosure of customer proprietary network
33 information by a telecommunications carrier;

34 (2) the circumstances under which a telecommunications carrier
35 may disclose customer proprietary network information; and

36 (3) information on accessing and understanding the privacy
37 policies of a telecommunications carrier.

38 c. The board shall make available electronically on its website
39 information about State and federal law concerning the disclosure
40 of customer proprietary network information by a
41 telecommunications carrier.

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43 3. The board shall develop and adopt regulations, pursuant to
44 the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et
45 seq.), requiring telecommunications carriers, except Voice over
46 Internet Protocol service providers, to conspicuously display a
47 summary of the carrier's privacy policy on the periodic bill of each
48 customer and to conspicuously display the carrier's privacy policy

A4913 DANCER

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- 1 in 10-point bold-faced type in customer contracts for
- 2 telecommunications service.

1 4. This act shall take effect on the 60th day after the date of
2 enactment.

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STATEMENT

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7 This bill directs the Board of Public Utilities (BPU), in
8 consultation with the Division of Consumer Affairs in the
9 Department of Law and Public Safety, to develop a public
10 awareness campaign to promote awareness among State residents
11 about the disclosure of customer proprietary network information by
12 telecommunications carriers. The campaign may include print and
13 electronic media.

14 The public awareness campaign that the BPU is directed to
15 develop includes, but is not limited to, the following information: 1)
16 a comprehensive summary of State and federal law concerning the
17 disclosure of customer proprietary network information by
18 telecommunications carriers; 2) the circumstances under which a
19 telecommunications carrier may disclose customer proprietary
20 network information; and 3) information on accessing and
21 understanding the privacy policies of telecommunications carriers.

22 This bill directs the board to make available electronically on its
23 website information about State and federal law concerning the
24 disclosure of customer proprietary network information by
25 telecommunications carriers.

26 This bill also directs the BPU to develop regulations requiring
27 telecommunications carriers, except Voice over Internet Protocol
28 (VoIP) service providers, to conspicuously display a summary of
29 the carrier's privacy policy on the monthly bill of each customer
30 and to conspicuously display the carrier's privacy policy in 10-point
31 bold-faced type in customer contracts for telecommunications
32 service.

33 In this bill, "customer proprietary network information" is
34 defined the same as is provided in federal law and
35 "telecommunications carrier" is defined as a telephone company
36 regulated as a public utility under Title 48 of the Revised Statutes,
37 an interexchange telecommunications carrier and a local exchange
38 telecommunications company, a VoIP service provider, or a mobile
39 telecommunications carrier as those terms are defined in State law
40 and that conducts business in the State.