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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

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A N A C T

RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS

Introduced By: Senators Lawson, Quezada, Cano, DiMario, Valverde, Seveney, and Euer

Date Introduced: May 07, 2021

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Chapter 6-13 of the General Laws entitled "Unfair Sales Practices" is hereby  
2 amended by adding thereto the following section:

3           **6-13-17.1. Social Security and personal information online protection.**

4           (a) Any person or entity who collects a social security number, driver's license number, a  
5 state identification card number, a credit or debit card number, a passport number, an alien  
6 registration number, and/or a health insurance identification number in the course of business shall  
7 be required to create a privacy protection policy which shall be published or publicly displayed.  
8 For purposes of this section, "publicly displayed" includes, but is not limited to, posting on an  
9 Internet webpage. Such policy shall:

10           (1) Protect the confidentiality of this personal information;

11           (2) Prohibit unlawful disclosure of this personal information; and

12           (3) Limit access to this personal information.

13           (b) Any person or entity that violates the provisions of this section shall be subject to a civil  
14 penalty of five hundred dollars (\$500) for each violation; provided, such civil penalty shall not  
15 exceed five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) for any single event.

16           (c) Any civil penalties received pursuant to this section shall be a restricted receipt for  
17 public education.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
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1           This act would require all persons or entities collecting social security and other personal  
2 identification numbers to create and publicly display a privacy protection policy. Violations of this  
3 requirement would incur a civil penalty of five-hundred dollars (\$500).

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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