HOUSE BILL No. 2004

By Representative Rhiley

12-27

AN ACT concerning consumer protection; relating to the Kansas no-call act; prohibiting conveyances of telephone numbers to out-of-state entities; prohibiting the transmission of inaccurate caller-ID information for financial gain; restricting use of automatic dialing-announcing devices; amending K.S.A. 2018 Supp. 50-670 and repealing the existing section.

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 2018 Supp. 50-670 is hereby amended to read as follows: 50-670. (a) As used in this section and K.S.A. 50-670a, and amendments thereto:

- (1) "Consumer telephone call" means a call made by a telephone solicitor to the residence or mobile telephone number of a consumer for the purpose of soliciting a sale of any property or services to the person called, or for the purpose of soliciting an extension of credit for property or services to the person called, or for the purpose of obtaining information that will or may be used for the direct solicitation of a sale of property or services to the person called or an extension of credit for such purposes.
- (2) "Mobile telephone number" means a telephone number associated with a wireless telecommunications service as defined in K.S.A. 2018 Supp. 12-5363, and amendments thereto.
- (3) "Unsolicited consumer telephone call" means a consumer telephone call other than a call made:
- (A) In response to an express request or with the express written agreement of the person called;
- (B) primarily in connection with an existing debt or contract, payment or performance of which has not been completed at the time of such call; or
- (C) to any person with whom the telephone solicitor or the telephone solicitor's predecessor in interest has an established business relationship, unless the consumer has objected to such consumer telephone calls and requested that the telephone solicitor cease making consumer telephone calls. The telephone solicitor shall honor any such request for five years from the date of such request.
- (4) "Telephone solicitor" means any natural person, firm, organization, partnership, association or corporation who makes or causes

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 to be made a consumer telephone call, including, but not limited to, calls made by use of automatic dialing-announcing device.

- (5) "Automatic dialing-announcing device" means any user terminal equipment which that:
- (A) When connected to a telephone line or network that facilitates the transmission of telephone messages or two-way video or voice messages, can dial or call, with or without manual assistance, telephone numbers which that have been stored or programmed in the device or are produced or selected by a random or sequential number generator; or
- (B) when connected to a telephone line or network that facilitates the transmission of telephone messages or two-way video or voice messages, can disseminate a recorded message to the telephone number called, either with or without manual assistance.
- (6) "Negative response" means a statement from a consumer indicating the consumer does not wish to listen to the sales presentation or participate in the solicitation presented in the consumer telephone call.
- (7) "Established business relationship" means a prior or existing relationship formed by a voluntary two-way communication between a person or entity and consumer with or without an exchange of consideration, on a basis of an application, purchase or transaction by the consumer, within the 18 months immediately preceding the date of the consumer telephone call, regarding products or services offered by such person or entity, which relationship has not been previously terminated by either party.
- (b) Any telephone solicitor who makes an unsolicited consumer telephone call shall:
 - (1) Identify themselves:
 - (2) identify the business on whose behalf such person is soliciting;
- (3) identify the purpose of the call immediately upon making contact by telephone with the person who is the object of the telephone solicitation;
- (4) promptly discontinue the solicitation if the person being solicited gives a negative response at any time during the consumer telephone call;
- (5) hang up the phone, or in the case of an automatic dialing-announcing device operator, disconnect the automatic dialing-announcing device from the telephone line within 25 seconds of the termination of the call by the person being called; and
- (6) ensure a live operator or an automated dialing-announcing device shall answer the line within five seconds of the beginning of the call. If answered by automated dialing-announcing device, the message provided shall include only the information required in subsection (b)(1) and (2), but shall not contain any unsolicited advertisement.
 - (c) No person or entity shall use an automatic dialing-announcing

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device to make calls to the residence or mobile telephone number of a person unless:

- (1) (A) The person being called has knowingly or voluntarily requested, consented to, permitted or authorized receipt of such calls;
- (B) when contact is made using such device, any artificial or prerecorded message to be disseminated by such device shall be immediately preceded by a live operator who shall obtain the person's consent before the message is delivered;
- (C) such device is used to make calls that are primarily in connection with an existing debt or contract, payment or performance of which has not been completed at the time of such call; or
- (D) such device is used to call persons who have an established business relationship with the person or entity initiating such call, including, but not limited to, utility service providers, telecommunications service providers, internet service providers and television service providers; and
- (2) the person being called receives such telephone call after 9:00 a.m. and before 8:00 p.m..
- (d) No person or entity shall use an automatic dialing-announcing device to make calls to any of the following:
- (1) A hospital, an ambulatory surgical center or a recuperation center, as such terms are defined in K.S.A. 65-425, and amendments thereto;
- (2) an ambulance service or an emergency medical service facility, as such terms are defined in K.S.A. 65-6112, and amendments thereto;
- (3) a mental health center, as defined in K.S.A. 65-4432, and amendments thereto;
- (4) a psychiatric hospital, as defined in K.S.A. 65-5601, and amendments thereto:
- (5) a state institution for people with intellectual disability, as defined in K.S.A. 65-5601, and amendments thereto;
 - (6) a law enforcement agency; or
 - (7) a city, county, township or other public or private fire department.
- (e)(e) A telephone solicitor shall not withhold the display of the telephone solicitor's telephone number from a caller identification service when that number is being used for telemarketing purposes.
- $\frac{(d)}{f}$ A telephone solicitor shall not transmit any written information by facsimile machine or computer to a consumer after the consumer requests orally or in writing that such transmissions cease.
- (e)(g) A telephone solicitor shall not obtain by use of any professional delivery, courier or other pickup service receipt or possession of a consumer's payment unless the goods are delivered with the opportunity to inspect before any payment is collected.

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(h) (1) No person or entity shall sell, rent or convey any interest in a telephone number to any out-of-state person or entity unless such telephone number is listed or available from directory assistance to the general public so that a member of the general public could determine the source of the telephone number by contacting their telecommunications provider.

- (2) The provisions of paragraph (1) shall not apply if such telephone number is:
- (A) Used to provide access to tone-controlled devices for which restricted access to the numbering resource is justified for security or functional purposes;
 - (B) used for any authorized activity of a law enforcement agency; or
 - (C) required to be unlisted by court order.
- (i) (1) No person or entity shall, in connection with any telecommunications service or IP-enabled voice service, cause any caller identification service to knowingly transmit misleading or inaccurate caller identification information with the intent to defraud, cause harm or wrongfully obtain anything of value.
- (2) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prevent or restrict any person or entity from blocking the capability of any caller identification service to transmit caller identification information.
 - (3) The provisions of paragraph (1) shall not apply:
 - (A) To any authorized activity of a law enforcement agency; or
- (B) when a court order specifically authorizes the use of caller identification manipulation.
- (f)(j) Except as provided in subsection (h), local exchange carriers and telecommunications carriers shall not be responsible for the enforcement of the provisions of this section.
 - $\frac{(g)}{(k)}$ Any violation of this section is an unconscionable act or practice under the Kansas consumer protection act.
- $\frac{\text{(h)}(l)}{l}$ This section shall be part of and supplemental to the Kansas consumer protection act.
- Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2018 Supp. 50-670 is hereby repealed.
- Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.