

56:8-2.22

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA 56:8-2.22 (Consumer protection - certain additional rights)

LAWS 1982 CHAPTER 98

Bill No. A234

Sponsor(s) Costa and others

Date Introduced Pre-filed

Committee: Assembly Commerce and Industry

Senate Labor, Industry and Professions

Amended during passage Yes ~~No~~ Amendments during passage denoted by asterisks

Date of Passage: Assembly May 3, 1982

Senate June 21, 1982

Date of approval July 28, 1982

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement Yes ~~No~~ (Below)

Committee Statement: Assembly Yes ~~No~~

Senate Yes ~~No~~

Fiscal Note ~~Yes~~ No

Veto Message ~~Yes~~ No

Message on signing ~~Yes~~ No

Following were printed:

Reports ~~Yes~~ No

Hearings ~~Yes~~ No

Sponsors' statement:

This bill makes it an unlawful practice under the "Consumer Fraud Act" for the person to have a consumer sign any document or contract in connection with a sale of merchandise unless he provides a copy of that document or contract to the consumer. Orders placed through the mail by the consumer for merchandise are excluded from coverage under the bill.

6/22/81

PP 12 1980

7-28-82

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ASSEMBLY, No. 234

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1982 SESSION

By Assemblywoman COSTA, Assemblymen VILLANE, BENNETT,
HARDWICK, ROCCO, KERN, EDWARDS and BAER

A SUPPLEMENT to "An act concerning consumer fraud, its prevention, and providing penalties thereof," approved June 9, 1960 (P.L. 1960, c. 39; C. 56:8-1 et seq.).

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

1 1. It shall be an unlawful practice for a person in connection
2 with a sale of merchandise to require or request the consumer
3 to sign any document as evidence or acknowledgment of the sale
4 transaction, of the existence of the sales contract, or of the dis-
5 charge by the person of any obligation to the consumer specified in
6 or arising out of the transaction or contract, unless he shall at the
7 same time provide the consumer with a full and accurate copy of
8 the document so presented for signature but this section shall not
9 be applicable to orders placed through the mail by the consumer
10 **for** merchandise.

Matter printed in italics *thus* is new matter.

Matter enclosed in asterisks or stars has been adopted as follows:

***—Assembly committee amendment adopted March 15, 1982.**

ASSEMBLY COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 234

with Assembly committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 15, 1982

The Assembly Commerce and Industry Committee favorably reports this bill to make it a violation of the "Consumer Fraud Act" for a seller of merchandise to request or require a consumer to sign any acknowledgement or contract of sale without giving the consumer a full and accurate copy of the acknowledgment or contract.

This bill is intended to encourage good business practices and fair commercial dealing by ensuring that both parties to a sales transaction are alert to their respective rights and are able to maintain adequate records as a basis for enforcing those rights.

There are currently statutory and regulatory requirements that duplicate copies of agreements be given to consumers for car repairs and home improvement contracts as well as for most financing and credit agreements.

SENATE LABOR, INDUSTRY AND PROFESSIONS
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO
ASSEMBLY, No. 234
[OFFICIAL COPY REPRINT]

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 14, 1982

This bill makes it an unlawful practice for any merchant in connection with a sale of merchandise to have a customer sign any document or contract in regard thereto unless the merchant provides a copy of that document or contract to the customer. Orders for merchandise placed through the mail by the consumer are excluded from coverage under the bill.

This bill supplements the "Consumer Fraud Act." The Division of Consumer Affairs would enforce the provisions of the bill and the penalties and other sanctions of the "Consumer Fraud Act" would apply.