102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2021 and 2022

SB0056

Introduced 1/29/2021, by Sen. Terri Bryant

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

740 ILCS 14/20

Amends the Biometric Information Privacy Act. Provides that an action for a violation of the Act shall be commenced within one year after the cause of action accrued if the aggrieved person provides a private entity 30 days' written notice identifying the specific provisions of the Act the aggrieved person alleges have been or are being violated. Provides that if, within the 30 days, the private entity actually cures the noticed violation and provides the aggrieved person an express written statement that the violation has been cured and that no further violations shall occur, no action for individual statutory damages or class-wide statutory damages may be initiated against the private entity. Provides that a prevailing party may recover actual damages for a negligent violation of the Act (instead of "liquidated damages of \$1,000 or actual damages, whichever is greater"). Provides that a prevailing party against a private entity that willfully (instead of intentionally or recklessly) violates the Act may recover actual damages plus liquidated damages up to the amount of actual damages (instead of "liquidated damages of \$5,000 or actual damages, whichever is greater").

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1 AN ACT concerning civil law.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, 3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The Biometric Information Privacy Act is 5 amended by changing Section 20 as follows:

6 (740 ILCS 14/20)

7 Sec. 20. Right of action. Any person aggrieved by a violation of this Act shall have a right of action in a State 8 9 circuit court or as a supplemental claim in federal district court against an offending party, which shall be commenced 10 within one year after the cause of action accrued if, prior to 11 12 initiating any action against a private entity, the aggrieved person provides a private entity 30 days' written notice 13 14 identifying the specific provisions of this Act the aggrieved person alleges have been or are being violated. If, within the 15 30 days, the private entity actually cures the noticed 16 17 violation and provides the aggrieved person an express written statement that the violation has been cured and that no 18 further violations shall occur, no action for individual 19 statutory damages or class-wide statutory damages may be 20 21 initiated against the private entity. If a private entity 22 continues to violate this Act in breach of the express written statement provided to the aggrieved person under this Section, 23

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the aggrieved person may initiate an action against the private entity to enforce the written statement and may pursue statutory damages for each breach of the express written statement and any other violation that postdates the written statement. A prevailing party in any such action may recover for each violation:

7 (1) against a private entity that negligently violates
8 a provision of this Act, liquidated damages of \$1,000 or
9 actual damages, whichever is greater;

10 (2) against a private entity that <u>willfully</u> 11 <u>intentionally or recklessly</u> violates a provision of this 12 Act, <u>actual damages plus</u> liquidated damages <u>up to the</u> 13 <u>amount of actual damages</u> of \$5,000 or actual damages, 14 whichever is greater;

(3) reasonable attorneys' fees and costs, including
 expert witness fees and other litigation expenses; and

17 (4) other relief, including an injunction, as the
18 State or federal court may deem appropriate.

19 (Source: P.A. 95-994, eff. 10-3-08.)

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