

94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY State of Illinois 2005 and 2006 SB0578

Introduced 2/18/2005, by Sen. John J. Cullerton

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

815 ILCS 505/1

from Ch. 121 1/2, par. 261

Amends the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act. Makes a technical change in a Section concerning definitions.

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1 AN ACT concerning business.

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

- Section 5. The Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business
 Practices Act is amended by changing Section 1 as follows:
- 6 (815 ILCS 505/1) (from Ch. 121 1/2, par. 261)
- 7 Sec. 1. (a) The The term "advertisement" includes the by publication, dissemination, solicitation 8 circulation to induce directly or indirectly any person to 9 enter into any obligation or acquire any title or interest in 10 any merchandise and includes every work device to disguise any 11 form of business solicitation by using such terms as "renewal", 12 "invoice", "bill", "statement", or "reminder", to create an 13 14 impression of existing obligation when there is none, or other 15 language to mislead any person in relation to any sought after commercial transaction; 16
 - (b) The term "merchandise" includes any objects, wares, goods, commodities, intangibles, real estate situated outside the State of Illinois, or services;
 - (c) The term "person" includes any natural person or his legal representative, partnership, corporation (domestic and foreign), company, trust, business entity or association, and any agent, employee, salesman, partner, officer, director, member, stockholder, associate, trustee or cestui que trust thereof;
- 26 (d) The term "sale" includes any sale, offer for sale, or 27 attempt to sell any merchandise for cash or on credit.
- (e) The term "consumer" means any person who purchases or contracts for the purchase of merchandise not for resale in the ordinary course of his trade or business but for his use or that of a member of his household.
- 32 (f) The terms "trade" and "commerce" mean the advertising,

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- offering for sale, sale, or distribution of any services and any property, tangible or intangible, real, personal or mixed, and any other article, commodity, or thing of value wherever situated, and shall include any trade or commerce directly or indirectly affecting the people of this State.
 - (g) The term "pyramid sales scheme" includes any plan or operation whereby a person in exchange for money or other thing of value acquires the opportunity to receive a benefit or thing of value, which is primarily based upon the inducement of additional persons, by himself or others, regardless of number, to participate in the same plan or operation and is not primarily contingent on the volume or quantity of goods, services, or other property sold or distributed or to be sold or distributed to persons for purposes of resale to consumers. For purposes of this subsection, "money or other thing of value" shall not include payments made for sales demonstration equipment and materials furnished on a nonprofit basis for use in making sales and not for resale.
- 19 (Source: P.A. 83-808.)