
Wisconsin Legislative Council

AMENDMENT MEMO



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2019 Senate Bill 132

Senate Amendment 1

2019 SENATE BILL 132

2019 Senate Bill 132 prohibits “spoofing” by telephone solicitors and by members of the general public. Under the bill, a telephone solicitor may not block a caller identification record or knowingly transmit a misleading or inaccurate caller identification record. A person who is not a telephone solicitor may not knowingly transmit a misleading or inaccurate caller identification record with the intent to defraud, cause harm, or wrongfully obtain anything of value.

The bill’s provisions regarding spoofing do not apply to law enforcement activities or to actions undertaken pursuant to a court order. Violations incur a forfeiture of not less than \$100 or more than \$10,000 for each violation.

The bill also allows a telecommunications service provider to block the transmission of a phone call (except a call to 911) under any of the following circumstances: (1) the customer to which the originating number is assigned has requested that calls purporting to originate from that number be blocked; (2) the call purports to be from an invalid or unassigned telephone number; (3) the call purports to be from a telephone number that is allocated to the provider who wishes to block the call and the provider confirms the number is not being used; or (4) the call purports to be from a telephone number that is allocated to a different provider and the provider who wishes to block the call confirms that the number is not used.

SENATE AMENDMENT 1

Senate Amendment 1 removes from the bill the provisions that allow a telecommunications service provider to block the transmission of a telephone call under certain circumstances and inserts a nonstatutory provision stating that Wisconsin recognizes that telecommunications service providers have the ability, under federal law and regulation, to block calls under the same circumstances as were addressed in the bill.

BILL HISTORY

Senator Kooyenga offered Senate Amendment 1 on June 19, 2019. On January 14, 2020, the Senate Committee on Government Operations, Technology, and Consumer Protection recommended adoption of the amendment and passage of the bill, as amended, on votes of Ayes, 5; Noes, 0.

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