

By the Committee on Commerce and Tourism; and Senator Grimsley

577-01937-18

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to telephone solicitation; creating s.
3 365.176, F.S.; providing a short title; defining
4 terms; authorizing telecommunication providers to
5 block certain calls; prohibiting the blocking of
6 certain calls; authorizing telecommunication providers
7 to rely upon caller identification service information
8 to determine originating numbers for the purpose of
9 blocking such calls; providing an effective date.

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11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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13 Section 1. Section 365.176, Florida Statutes, is created to
14 read:

15 365.176 Florida Call-Blocking Act.-

16 (1) This section may be cited as the "Florida Call-Blocking
17 Act."

18 (2) As used in this section, the term:

19 (a) "Caller identification service" means a service that
20 allows a telephone subscriber to have the telephone number and,
21 if available, the name of the calling party transmitted
22 contemporaneously with the telephone call and displayed on a
23 device in or connected to the subscriber's telephone.

24 (b) "Pooling administrator" means the Thousands-Block
25 Pooling Administrator as identified in 47 C.F.R. s. 52.20.

26 (c) "Provider" means a telecommunications company that
27 provides voice communications services to customers in this
28 state.

29 (3) Consistent with authorization provided by federal law

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30 and rules of the Federal Communications Commission or its
31 successors, providers operating in this state may block calls in
32 the following manner:

33 (a) Providers may block a voice call when the subscriber to
34 which the originating number is assigned has requested that
35 calls purporting to originate from that number be blocked
36 because the number is used for inbound calls only.

37 (b) Providers may block calls originating from the
38 following numbers:

39 1. A number that is not a valid North American Numbering
40 Plan number;

41 2. A valid North American Numbering Plan number that is not
42 allocated to a provider by the North American Numbering Plan
43 Administrator or the pooling administrator; and

44 3. A valid North American Numbering Plan number that is
45 allocated to a provider by the North American Numbering Plan
46 Administrator or pooling administrator, but is unused, so long
47 as the provider blocking the calls is the allocatee of the
48 number and confirms that the number is unused or has obtained
49 verification from the allocatee that the number is unused at the
50 time of the blocking.

51
52 Providers may not block a voice call pursuant to subparagraph 1.
53 or subparagraph 2. if the call is an emergency call placed to
54 911.

55 (4) For purposes of blocking calls from certain originating
56 numbers as authorized in this section, a provider may rely on
57 caller identification service information to determine the
58 originating number.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.