LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate Comm: RCS 04/02/2014 House

The Committee on Rules (Smith) recommended the following: Senate Amendment (with title amendment) Before line 13 insert: Section 1. Paragraph (q) of subsection (1) of section 626.9541, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 626.9541 Unfair methods of competition and unfair or deceptive acts or practices defined.-(1) UNFAIR METHODS OF COMPETITION AND UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTS.-The following are defined as unfair methods of competition and unfair or deceptive acts or practices:

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12 (q) Certain insurance transactions through credit card 13 facilities prohibited.-

14 1. Except as provided in subparagraph 3., no person shall 15 knowingly solicit or negotiate any insurance; seek or accept applications for insurance; issue or deliver any policy; 16 17 receive, collect, or transmit premiums, to or for an any 18 insurer; or otherwise transact insurance in this state, or 19 relative to a subject of insurance resident, located, or to be 20 performed in this state, through the arrangement or facilities 21 of a credit card facility or organization, for the purpose of 22 insuring credit card holders or prospective credit card holders. 23 The term "credit card holder" as used in this paragraph means a 24 any person who may pay the charge for purchases or other 25 transactions through the credit card facility or organization, whose credit with such facility or organization is evidenced by 26 27 a credit card identifying such person as being one whose charges 28 the credit card facility or organization will pay, and who is 29 identified as such upon the credit card either by name, account 30 number, symbol, insignia, or any other method or device of 31 identification. This subparagraph does not apply as to health 32 insurance or to credit life, credit disability, or credit 33 property insurance.

2. <u>If Whenever</u> any person does or performs in this state any of the acts in violation of subparagraph 1. for or on behalf of <u>an any</u> insurer or credit card facility, such insurer or credit card facility shall be <u>deemed held</u> to be doing business in this state and, if an insurer, shall be subject to the same state, county, and municipal taxes as insurers that have been legally qualified and admitted to do business in this state by



agents or otherwise are subject, the same to be assessed and 41 42 collected against such insurers; and such person so doing or performing any of such acts is shall be personally liable for 43 44 all such taxes.

3. A licensed agent or insurer may solicit or negotiate any 45 insurance; seek or accept applications for insurance; issue or 46 deliver any policy; receive, collect, or transmit premiums, to 47 or for an any insurer; or otherwise transact insurance in this 48 49 state, or relative to a subject of insurance resident, located, 50 or to be performed in this state, through the arrangement or 51 facilities of a credit card facility or organization, for the 52 purpose of insuring credit card holders or prospective credit 53 card holders if:

a. The insurance or policy which is the subject of the transaction is noncancelable by any person other than the named 55 56 insured, the policyholder, or the insurer;

b. Any refund of unearned premium is made directly to the credit card holder by mail or electronic transfer; and

c. The credit card transaction is authorized by the signature of the credit card holder or other person authorized to sign on the credit card account.

63 The conditions enumerated in sub-subparagraphs a.-c. do not 64 apply to health insurance or to credit life, credit disability, 65 or credit property insurance; and sub-subparagraph c. does not 66 apply to property and casualty insurance if so long as the 67 transaction is authorized by the insured.

4. No person may use or disclose information resulting from 68 the use of a credit card in conjunction with the purchase of 69

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Florida Senate - 2014 Bill No. CS for SB 1344



insurance <u>if</u>, when such information is to the advantage of <u>the</u> such credit card facility or an insurance agent, or is to the detriment of the insured or any other insurance agent; except that this provision does not prohibit a credit card facility from using or disclosing such information in <u>a</u> any judicial proceeding or consistent with applicable law on credit reporting.

77 5. No Such insurance may not shall be sold through a credit 78 card facility in conjunction with membership in any automobile 79 club. The term "automobile club" means a legal entity that 80 which, in consideration of dues, assessments, or periodic 81 payments of money, promises its members or subscribers to assist 82 them in matters relating to the ownership, operation, use, or 83 maintenance of a motor vehicle; however, the term definition of 84 automobile clubs does not include persons, associations, or 85 corporations that which are organized and operated solely for the purpose of conducting, sponsoring, or sanctioning motor 86 87 vehicle races, exhibitions, or contests upon racetracks, or upon 88 race courses established and marked as such for the duration of such particular event. The words "motor vehicle" used herein 89 90 shall be the same as defined in chapter 320.

Section 2. Subsections (1), (2), and (3) of section 627.7283, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

627.7283 Cancellation; return of premium.-

94 (1) If the insured cancels a policy of motor vehicle
95 insurance, the insurer must mail <u>or electronically transfer</u> the
96 unearned portion of any premium paid within 30 days after the
97 effective date of the policy cancellation or receipt of notice
98 or request for cancellation, whichever is later. This

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99 requirement applies to a cancellation initiated by an insured 100 for any reason. (2) If an insurer cancels a policy of motor vehicle 101 102 insurance, the insurer must mail or electronically transfer the 103 unearned premium portion of any premium within 15 days after the effective date of the policy cancellation. 104 105 (3) If the unearned premium is not mailed or electronically 106 transferred within the applicable period, the insurer must pay to the insured 8 percent interest on the amount due. If the 107 108 unearned premium is not mailed or electronically transferred 109 within 45 days after the applicable period, the insured may 110 bring an action against the insurer pursuant to s. 624.155. 111 112 113 And the title is amended as follows: 114 Delete line 2 115 and insert: 116 An act relating to insurance; amending s. 626.9541, 117 F.S.; revising provisions for unfair methods of 118 competition and unfair or deceptive acts relating to 119 conducting certain insurance transactions through 120 credit card facilities; amending s. 627.7283, F.S.; 121 allowing the electronic transfer of unearned premiums 122 under specified circumstances;