

7296

I N S E N A T E

March 29, 2010

Introduced by Sen. PERALTA -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Consumer Protection

AN ACT to amend the general business law, in relation to prohibiting an additional fee or rate to be charged in certain circumstances

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. The general business law is amended by adding a new section
2 399-zzz to read as follows:
3 S 399-ZZZ. PROHIBITION OF CERTAIN FEE CHARGES. 1. SUBJECT TO FEDERAL
4 LAW AND REGULATION, NO PERSON, PARTNERSHIP, CORPORATION, ASSOCIATION OR
5 OTHER BUSINESS ENTITY SHALL CHARGE A CONSUMER AN ADDITIONAL RATE OR FEE
6 OR A DIFFERENTIAL IN THE RATE OR FEE ASSOCIATED WITH PAYMENT ON AN
7 ACCOUNT WHEN THE CONSUMER CHOOSES TO PAY BY UNITED STATES MAIL OR
8 RECEIVE A PAPER BILLING STATEMENT. THIS SUBDIVISION SHALL NOT BE
9 CONSTRUED TO PROHIBIT A PERSON, PARTNERSHIP, CORPORATION, ASSOCIATION OR
10 OTHER BUSINESS ENTITY FROM OFFERING CONSUMERS A CREDIT OR OTHER INCEN-
11 TIVE TO ELECT A SPECIFIC PAYMENT OR BILLING OPTION.
12 2. EVERY VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE DEEMED A DECEPTIVE ACT AND
13 PRACTICE SUBJECT TO ENFORCEMENT UNDER ARTICLE TWENTY-TWO-A OF THIS CHAP-
14 TER.
15 3. NOTHING IN THIS SECTION SHALL BE CONSTRUED TO RESTRICT ANY RIGHT
16 WHICH ANY PERSON MAY HAVE UNDER ANY OTHER STATUTE OR THE COMMON LAW.
17 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[] is old law to be omitted.

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