

5414--A

2013-2014 Regular Sessions

I N   A S S E M B L Y

February 26, 2013

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Introduced by M. of A. DINOWITZ, KEARNS, ROBINSON, MILLER, GALEF, ORTIZ, MAISEL -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. ARROYO, BOYLAND, BRAUNSTEIN, BRENNAN, DUPREY, GLICK, GOTTFRIED, HIKIND, JACOBS, V. LOPEZ, PERRY, SCARBOROUGH, SCHIMEL -- read once and referred to the Committee on Consumer Affairs and Protection -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the general business law, in relation to prohibiting the use of social media websites for the purposes of collecting debts

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

1     Section 1. Subdivision 10 of section 601 of the general business law,  
2     as added by chapter 342 of the laws of 2011, is amended and a new subdi-  
3     vision 11 is added to read as follows:  
4     10. If such principal creditor or agent sends more than fifty informa-  
5     tion subpoenas per month, fail to keep complete records concerning all  
6     information subpoenas sent by such principal creditor or agent. Such  
7     records shall be maintained for five years. Contemporaneous records  
8     shall be kept that set forth with specificity the grounds for such prin-  
9     cipal creditor or agent's reasonable belief, which must be certified and  
10    accompany each information subpoena pursuant to rule fifty-two hundred  
11    twenty-four of the civil practice law and rules, that the party receiv-  
12    ing the subpoena has in its possession information about the debtor that  
13    will assist the creditor in collecting his or her judgement. In addition  
14    to any other penalty that [my] MAY be imposed, failure to maintain  
15    records in accordance with this subdivision shall subject such principal  
16    creditor or agent to a civil penalty of not more than fifty dollars per  
17    subpoena, up to a maximum of five thousand dollars per violation, in an  
18    action brought by the attorney general[.]; OR  
19    11. USE A WEBSITE OTHER THAN A WEBSITE OWNED AND OPERATED BY THE PRIN-  
20    CIPAL CREDITOR OR ANY AFFILIATE, SUBSIDIARY, OR PARENT OF SUCH PRINCIPAL  
21    CREDITOR LOCATED ON THE INTERNET, AS THAT TERM IS DEFINED IN SECTION ONE

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

LBD08508-02-3

1 HUNDRED FORTY-SEVEN OF THIS CHAPTER, TO UTILIZE ONLINE CONTACT INFORMA-  
2 TION AS A MEANS TO COLLECT ON A CONSUMER CLAIM FROM A DEBTOR. FOR  
3 PURPOSES OF THIS SUBDIVISION, "ONLINE CONTACT INFORMATION" MEANS AN  
4 E-MAIL ADDRESS OR ANOTHER ONLINE IDENTIFIER THAT PERMITS DIRECT CONTACT  
5 WITH A PERSON.

6 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.