2432

## 2013-2014 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

January 17, 2013

Introduced by Sens. KLEIN, MAZIARZ -- 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 fee charges for payment of an account regardless of the method of payment

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

Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 399-zzz of the general business law, as added by chapter 556 of the laws of 2010, is amended to read as follows:

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- 1. (A) Subject to federal law and regulation, no person, partnership, corporation, association or other business entity shall charge a consumer an additional rate or fee or a differential in the rate or fee associated with payment on an account:
- (I) when the consumer chooses to [pay by United States mail or] receive a paper billing statement; OR
- 10 (II) WHETHER SUCH PAYMENT IS MADE BY MAIL, ELECTRONIC TRANSFER, TELE-11 PHONE AUTHORIZATION, OR OTHER MEANS, UNLESS SUCH PAYMENT INVOLVES AN 12 EXPEDITED SERVICE BY A SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PERSON, PARTNER-13 SHIP, CORPORATION, ASSOCIATION OR OTHER BUSINESS ENTITY.
- 14 (B) This subdivision shall not be construed to prohibit a person, 15 partnership, corporation, association or other business entity from 16 offering consumers a credit or other incentive to elect a specific 17 payment or billing option.
- 18 S 2. This act shall take effect on the first of January next succeed-19 ing the date on which it shall have become a law.

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

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