7610

## 2015-2016 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

May 20, 2015

Introduced by M. of A. DINOWITZ -- read once and referred to the Committee on Consumer Affairs and Protection

AN ACT to amend the general business law, in relation to prohibiting fees on gift cards and gift certificates

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

Section 1. Subdivisions 3 and 5 of section 396-i of the general business law, as amended by chapter 507 of the laws of 2004, are amended to read as follows:

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- 3. The terms and conditions of a gift certificate store credit shall be clearly and conspicuously stated thereon. Terms and conditions shall include the expiration date, [whether any fees are assessed against the balance of the gift certificate, and whether a fee will be charged for] AND PROCEDURE FOR the replacement of a gift certificate that is lost, stolen, or destroyed. Additional terms and conditions including, but not be limited to, policies related to refunds, warranties, changes in terms and conditions, assignment and waiver shall be conspicuously printed:

  (a) on the gift certificate; or (b) on an envelope or packaging containing the gift certificate, provided that a toll free telephone number to access the additional terms and conditions is printed on the gift certificate; or (c) on an accompanying printed document, provided that a toll free telephone number to access the additional terms and conditions is printed on the gift certificate.
  - 5. (a) No [retroactive] fees shall be assessed against a gift certificate.
  - (b) No monthly service fees may be assessed against the balance of a gift certificate [prior to the thirteenth month of dormancy].
- (c) For the purposes of this subdivision, "dormancy" shall mean nonuse of a gift certificate. Use of a gift certificate shall include, but not be limited to, adding value, or purchases.
- 25 S 2. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall 26 have become a law.

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

LBD10404-01-5