STATE OF NEW YORK

1558--C

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 10, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. ROSENTHAL, GLICK, BORES, SEAWRIGHT, GRIFFIN, SIMON -- 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 -- recommitted to the Committee on Consumer Affairs and Protection in accordance with Assembly Rule 3, sec. 2 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee -- again reported from said committee with amendments, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the general business law, in relation to requiring retailers to post warning signs of the tracking of customers through electronic devices that track, monitor, and collect biometric information on customers

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. The general business law is amended by adding a new section 390-f to read as follows:

§ 390-f. Posting of warning signs by retailers tracking customers through electronic devices and collecting biometric information of customers. 1. Any retailer that tracks a customer by use of the customer's cell phone, a store-installed camera or any other electronic device while the customer is in their establishment shall conspicuously post a warning sign at each entrance indicating that such retailer performs such tracking. Such warning sign shall be written in plain language and also provide information for customers who wish to opt out of the tracking and collection of data, if applicable.

2. Any retailer that collects, retains, converts, stores or shares biometric information of customers shall conspicuously post a warning sign at each entrance indicating that such retailer collects biometric information. Such warning sign shall be written in plain language and describe the type of biometric information being collected and how such

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

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information is used by the retailer. Such warning sign shall also provide information for customers who wish to opt out of the collection of biometric information, if applicable.

3. The warning signs described by subdivisions one and two of this section may be posted together as one warning sign at each entrance of the establishment so long as the requirements set out in subdivisions one and two of this section are met.

4. Any retailer that violates this section shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more than one hundred dollars for the first violation, not more than two hundred fifty dollars for the second violation, and not more than five hundred dollars for each violation thereafter. The provisions of subdivision one of this section may be enforced concurrently by the director of a municipal consumer affairs office, or by the town attorney, city corporation counsel, or other lawful designee of a municipality or local government, and all moneys collected thereunder shall be retained by such municipality or local government.

5. The provisions of this section shall not apply to cameras and other technology solely intended for video surveillance to ensure the security of a store.

6. For purposes of this section, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(a) "Electronic device" shall mean any cell phone as defined by paragraph (b) of this subdivision, personal digital assistant, handheld device with mobile data access, laptop computer, pager, broadband personal communication device, two-way messaging device, electronic game, or portable computing device, or any other electronic device when used to input, write, send, receive, or read text for present or future communication.

(b) "Cell phone" shall mean the device used by subscribers and other users of wireless telephone service to access such service.

(c) "Wireless telephone service" shall mean any two-way real time voice telecommunications service that is interconnected to a public switched telephone network and is provided by a commercial mobile radio service.

(d) "Biometric information" means any measurable physical, physiological or behavioral characteristic that is attributable to a person, including, but not limited to facial characteristics, fingerprint characteristics, hand characteristics, eye characteristics, vocal characteristics, and any other characteristics that can be used to identify a person including, but not limited to: fingerprints; handprints; retina and iris patterns; DNA sequence; voice; gait; and facial geometry.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall have become a law.