

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1181 Session of
1975

INTRODUCED BY WRIGHT, O'BRIEN, GOODMAN, LEHR, L. E. SMITH AND
BURNS, APRIL 30, 1975

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION, MAY 5, 1975

AN ACT

1 Requiring the affixing of a nameplate listing energy consumption
2 information and a paper tag indicating average annual
3 operating cost of certain electrical appliances before they
4 are sold or offered for sale and providing penalties.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. As used in this act:

8 "Casual sale" means an isolated sale of an electrical
9 appliance by a person who is not regularly engaged in the
10 business of making such sales and where such appliance was
11 obtained by the person making the sale for his own use.

12 "Electrical appliance" means any commercial mechanism which
13 is operated by electric current in or about the home, including
14 but not limited to, cooking equipment, heating devices,
15 refrigeration, air conditioners, electric fans, clocks, radios,
16 toasters, irons, television sets, vacuum cleaners, washing
17 machines, driers, dishwashers, and coffee pots.

18 Section 2. (a) No person shall manufacture, sell, attempt to
19 sell or offer for sale, whether it be by retail, wholesale or by

1 auction, any electrical appliance unless there is permanently
2 affixed thereto a nameplate which shall have at least the
3 following information, printed in clearly legible type:

4 (1) The name and address of the manufacturer.

5 (2) The country of manufacture.

6 (3) The model number.

7 (4) The required operating voltage.

8 (5) The amperage and wattage used at the voltage.

9 (b) The information required by this section may be molded,
10 cast or impressed into the external surface of the body, shell
11 or base of the electrical appliance.

12 Section 3. No person shall manufacture, sell, attempt to
13 sell or offer for sale, whether it be by retail, wholesale or by
14 auction, any electrical appliance to which is not affixed
15 thereto a tag bearing the following in clearly legible type:

16 "The cost of operating this appliance over its lifetime
17 should be considered in making the best purchase. Electrical
18 costs vary, but, based on 4¢ per kilowatt an hour, average use
19 of this appliance at maximum setting will cost \$..... per
20 year. Your wise use of this appliance can reduce this cost." The
21 manufacturer shall be responsible for determining the cost and
22 may employ the services of any outside agency approved by the
23 Department of Justice for said purpose.

24 Section 4. Any advertisement of the sale of electrical
25 appliances shall contain the information required pursuant to
26 sections 2 and 3 with the exception of the model number
27 requirement in section 2(a)(3).

28 Section 5. (a) Whenever it shall appear to the Attorney
29 General or his designee that a person has engaged in, is
30 engaging in or is about to engage in any practice in violation

1 of this act he may seek and obtain an injunction prohibiting the
2 person from continuing those practices or engaging therein or
3 doing any acts in furtherance thereof.

4 (b) The provisions of this act shall not apply to casual
5 sales.

6 Section 6. Any person who violates this act shall be
7 sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 for the first offense and \$250
8 for any subsequent offense.

9 Section 7. The Department of Justice may make rules and
10 regulations to carry out the purposes of this act.

11 Section 8. This act shall take effect in six months.