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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 712 Session of 2005

INTRODUCED BY WONDERLING, C. WILLIAMS, CORMAN, RAFFERTY, WOZNIAK, GORDNER, PILEGGI, KITCHEN, EARLL, VANCE, ERICKSON, M. WHITE, LEMMOND, FERLO, O'PAKE, RHOADES, BOSCOLA, GREENLEAF, BROWNE, THOMPSON AND STACK, JUNE 3, 2005

REFERRED TO COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY, JUNE 3, 2005

AN ACT

Providing for the notification of residents whose personal information data was or may have been disclosed due to a security system breach; and imposing penalties.

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

Section 1. Short title.

This act shall be known and may be cited as the Breach of Personal Information Notification Act.

Section 2. Definitions.

The following words and phrases when used in this act shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Breach of the security of the system." The unauthorized acquisition of computerized data that compromises the security or confidentiality of personal information maintained by the entity as part of a database of personal information regarding multiple individuals and that causes or the entity reasonably

believes has caused or will cause harm, inconvenience, loss or injury to any resident of this Commonwealth. Good faith acquisition of personal information by an employee or agent of the entity for the purposes of the entity is not a breach of the security of the system if the personal information is not used for a purpose other than the lawful purpose of the entity and is not subject to further unauthorized disclosure.

"Business." A sole proprietorship, partnership, corporation, association or other group, however organized and whether or not organized to operate at a profit, including a financial institution organized, chartered or holding a license or authorization certificate under the laws of this Commonwealth, any other state, the United States or any other country, or the parent or the subsidiary of a financial institution. The term includes an entity that destroys records.

"Encryption." The use of an algorithmic process to transform data into a form in which there is a low probability of assigning meaning without use of a confidential process or key.

"Entity." A State agency, a political subdivision of the Commonwealth or an individual or a business doing business in this Commonwealth.

"Individual." A natural person.

"Notice." May be provided by one of the following methods of notification:

(1) Written notice.

(2) Electronic notice, if the notice provided is consistent with the provisions regarding electronic records and signatures set forth in section 701 of the Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act (Public Law 106-229, 15 U.S.C. § 7001).

(3) (i) Substitute notice, if the entity demonstrates one of the following:

(A) The cost of providing notice would exceed $250,000.

(B) The affected class of subject persons to be notified exceeds 500,000.

(C) The entity does not have sufficient contact information.

(ii) Substitute notice shall consist of all of the following:

(A) E-mail notice when the entity has an e-mail address for the subject persons.

(B) Conspicuous posting of the notice on the entity's Internet website, if the entity maintains one.

(C) Notification to major Statewide media.

"Personal information."

(1) An individual's first name or first initial and last name in combination with and linked to any one or more of the following data elements, when the name and data elements are not encrypted or redacted:

(i) Social Security number.

(ii) Driver's license number or a State identification card number issued in lieu of a driver's license.

(iii) Financial account number, credit or debit card number, in combination with any required security code, access code or password that would permit access to an individual's financial account.

(2) The term does not include publicly available

information that is lawfully made available to the general public from Federal, State or local government records.

"Records." Any material, regardless of the physical form, on which information is recorded or preserved by any means, including in written or spoken words, graphically depicted, printed or electromagnetically transmitted. The term does not include publicly available directories containing information an individual has voluntarily consented to have publicly disseminated or listed, such as name, address or telephone number.

"Redact." The term includes, but is not limited to, alteration or truncation such that no more than the last four digits of a Social Security number, driver's license number, State identification card number or account number is accessible as part of the data.

"State agency." Any agency, board, commission, authority or department of the Commonwealth and the General Assembly.

Section 3. Disclosure of computerized data.

(a) General rule.--An entity that owns or licenses computerized data that includes personal information shall disclose any breach of the security of the system following discovery or notification of the breach in the security of the data to any resident of this Commonwealth whose unencrypted and unredacted personal information was or is reasonably believed to have been accessed and acquired by an unauthorized person. Except as provided in section 5 or in order to take any measures necessary to determine the scope of the breach and to restore the reasonable integrity of the data system, the disclosure shall be made in the most expedient time possible and without unreasonable delay.

(b) Encrypted information.--An entity must disclose the breach if encrypted information is accessed in an unencrypted form, if the security breach is linked to a breach of the security of the encryption or if the security breach involves a person with access to the encryption key.

Section 4. Disclosure of maintained computerized data.

An entity that maintains computerized data that includes personal information that the entity does not own shall notify the owner or licensee of the information of any breach of the security of the data immediately following discovery, if the personal information was or is reasonably believed to have been accessed and acquired by an unauthorized person.

Section 5. Exceptions.

(1) The notification required by this act may be delayed if a law enforcement agency determines that the notification will impede a criminal investigation. The notification required by this act shall be made after the law enforcement agency determines that it will not compromise the investigation or national or homeland security.

(2) The notification required by this act is not required if Federal or State authorities responsible for law enforcement are able to determine and provide in writing to the entity as soon as practical notice that the breach is unlikely to result in harm to the individuals whose personal information has been acquired and accessed.

Section 6. Preemption.

This act deals with subject matter that is of Statewide concern, and it is the intent of the General Assembly that this act shall supersede and preempt all rules, regulations, codes, statutes or ordinances of all cities, counties, municipalities

and other local agencies regarding the matters expressly set forth in this act.

Section 7. Notice exemption.

(a) Information privacy or security policy.--An entity that maintains its own notification procedures as part of an information privacy or security policy for the treatment of personal information and is otherwise consistent with the notice requirements of this act shall be deemed to be in compliance with the notification requirements of this act if it notifies subject persons in accordance with its policies in the event of a breach of security of the system.

(b) Compliance with Federal requirements.--A financial institution that complies with the notification requirements prescribed by the Federal Interagency Guidance on Response Programs for Unauthorized Access to Customer Information and Customer Notice is deemed to be in compliance with this act.

Section 8. Civil relief.

(a) General rule.--The Office of Attorney General may bring a civil action against an entity that willfully or intentionally violates this act.

(b) Additional remedies.--In addition to any other remedy provided by law, a person bringing an action under this section may:

(1) Seek injunctive relief to restrain the violator from continuing the violation.

(2) Recover actual damages arising from the violation of a failure to notify under this act.

(3) Seek both injunctive relief and recovery of damages as provided by this subsection.

Section 9. Applicability.

This act shall apply to the discovery or notification of a breach in the security of personal information data that occurs on or after the effective date of this section.

Section 10. Effective date.

This act shall take effect in 60 days.