
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 89 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY GREENLEAF, COSTA, MENSCH, FARNESE, RAFFERTY AND
HUGHES, JANUARY 20, 2017

REFERRED TO COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY, JANUARY 20, 2017

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 29, 2006 (P.L.281, No.60), entitled "An
2 act relating to confidentiality of Social Security numbers;
3 and making a related repeal," further providing for privacy
4 of Social Security numbers.

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

7 Section 1. Section 1(a) and (c) of the act of June 29, 2006
8 (P.L.281, No.60), referred to as the Privacy of Social Security
9 Numbers Law, are amended to read:

10 Section 1. Privacy of Social Security numbers.

11 (a) General rule.--A person or entity or State agency or
12 political subdivision shall not do any of the following:

13 (1) Publicly post or publicly display in any manner an
14 individual's Social Security number. "Publicly post" or
15 "publicly display" means to intentionally communicate or
16 otherwise make available to the general public.

17 (2) Print an individual's Social Security number on any
18 card required for the individual to access products or
19 services provided by the person, entity or State agency or

1 political subdivision.

2 (3) Require an individual to transmit his or her Social
3 Security number over the Internet unless the connection is
4 secure or the Social Security number is encrypted.

5 (4) Require an individual to use his or her Social
6 Security number to access an Internet website unless a
7 password or unique personal identification number or other
8 authentication device is also required to access the website.

9 (5) Print an individual's Social Security number on any
10 materials that are mailed to the individual unless Federal or
11 State law requires the Social Security number to be on the
12 document to be mailed. Notwithstanding this provision, Social
13 Security numbers may be included in applications and forms
14 sent by mail, including documents sent as part of an
15 application or enrollment process or to establish, amend or
16 terminate an account, contract or policy or to confirm the
17 accuracy of the Social Security number. A Social Security
18 number that is permitted to be mailed under this section may
19 not be printed, in whole or in part, on a postcard or other
20 mailer not requiring an envelope, or visible on the envelope
21 or without the envelope having been opened.

22 (6) Disclose in any manner, except to the agency issuing
23 the license, the Social Security number of an individual who
24 applies for a recreational license. For the purposes of this
25 paragraph, a "recreational license" means a license issued
26 pursuant to 30 Pa.C.S. (relating to fish) or 34 Pa.C.S.
27 (relating to game).

28 (7) Refuse any service, privilege or right to an
29 individual wholly or partly in a business transaction because
30 the individual refuses to disclose or furnish the Social

1 Security number of the individual.

2 * * *

3 (c) [Exception] Exceptions.--

4 (1) A person or entity, not including a State agency or
5 political subdivision, that has used, prior to the effective
6 date of this section, an individual's Social Security number
7 in a manner inconsistent with subsection (a) may continue
8 using that individual's Social Security number in that manner
9 on or after the effective date of this section if all of the
10 following conditions are met:

11 (i) The use of the Social Security number is
12 continuous. If the use is stopped for any reason,
13 subsection (a) shall apply.

14 (ii) The individual is provided an annual
15 disclosure, commencing in the year after the effective
16 date of this section, that informs the individual that he
17 or she has the right to stop the use of his or her Social
18 Security number in a manner prohibited by subsection (a).

19 (2) An individual who receives an annual disclosure
20 under paragraph (1) has the right to stop the use of his or
21 her Social Security number in a manner prohibited by
22 subsection (a) and must exercise that right by submitting a
23 written request to the person or entity. The person or entity
24 shall discontinue use of the individual's Social Security
25 number within 30 days of the receipt of the request. There
26 shall be no fee or charge for complying with the request. A
27 person or entity shall not deny services to an individual
28 because the individual makes a written request pursuant to
29 this subsection.

30 (3) Subsection (a) does not apply if:

1 (i) The Social Security account number is requested
2 for purposes of employment, including in the course of
3 the administration of a claim, benefit or procedure
4 related to the individual's employment by the person,
5 including the individual's termination from employment,
6 retirement from employment, injury suffered during the
7 course of employment or to check on an unemployment
8 insurance claim of the individual.

9 (ii) The Social Security account number is requested
10 for purposes of tax compliance.

11 (4) For purposes of this subsection, the phrase
12 "purposes of employment" does not include any activity
13 associated with submitting or reviewing an application for
14 employment or any other activity that occurs prior to an
15 offer of employment being made by an employer to an
16 individual.

17 * * *

18 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.