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## UTAH CONSUMER SALES PRACTICES ACT AMENDMENTS

## 2024 GENERAL SESSION STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: James Cobb** 

Senate Sponsor: Kirk A. Cullimore

2 LONG TITLE

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## **4 General Description:**

5 This bill amends provisions of the Utah Consumer Sales Practices Act relating to class

6 action lawsuits.

## **7 Highlighted Provisions:**

- 8 This bill:
- 9 clarifies provisions relating to targeted solicitations involving financial information;
- requires that a court provide notice to the enforcing authority 60 days before a hearing
- related to a filed offer of settlement in a class action lawsuit;
- 12 allows the enforcing authority to intervene in the class action for the limited purpose of
- objecting to the offer of settlement; and
- increases the time period in which the enforcing authority may intervene as an interested
- 15 party in a class action.
- 16 Money Appropriated in this Bill:
- 17 None
- 18 Other Special Clauses:
- 19 This bill provides revisor instructions.
- 20 Utah Code Sections Affected:
- 21 AMENDS:
- 22 **13-11-4.1**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2020, Chapter 173
- 23 **13-11-21**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2010, Chapter 324
- 24 ENACTS:
- 25 **13-11-21.1**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

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28	Section 1. Section 13-11-4.1 is amended to read:
29	13-11-4.1 . Targeted solicitations involving financial information Restrictions.
30	(1) As used in this section:
31	(a) "Account holder" means a person for whom a personal account is held by a financial
32	institution.
33	(b) "Financial institution" means:
34	(i) a state or federally chartered:
35	(A) bank;
36	(B) savings and loan association;
37	(C) savings bank;
38	(D) industrial bank; or
39	(E) credit union;
40	(ii) any other institution under the jurisdiction of the commissioner of Financial
41	Institutions as described in Title 7, Financial Institutions Act; or
42	(iii) a person who:
43	(A) is subject to Title 61, Chapter 2c, Utah Residential Mortgage Practices and
44	Licensing Act; and
45	(B) engages in the business of residential mortgage loans as defined in Section
46	61-2c-102.
47	(c) (i) "Specific account information" means information that is:
48	(A) relative to the account of an account holder, in addition to the name of the
49	account holder; and
50	(B) not provided by the financial institution that holds the account holder's
51	account to the person offering a targeted solicitation.
52	(ii) "Specific account information" includes:
53	(A) a loan number;
54	(B) a loan amount; or
55	(C) any other specific account or loan information.
56	(d) "Targeted solicitation" means any written or oral advertisement or solicitation for
57	products or services that:
58	(i) is addressed to an account holder;
59	(ii) contains specific account information;
60	(iii) is offered by a supplier that is not sponsored by or affiliated with the financial
61	institution that holds the account holder's account; and

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62	(iv) is not authorized by the financial institution that holds the account holder's
63	account.
64	(2) (a) A supplier who is not the financial institution of an account holder may not
65	represent, directly or indirectly, that the supplier is the financial institution of the
66	account holder.
67	(b) If a presiding officer or court determines appropriate after considering other relevant
68	factors, the following actions by a supplier who is not the financial institution of an
69	account holder establish a presumption that the supplier is representing that the
70	supplier is the financial institution of the account holder in violation of Subsection
71	(2)(a):
72	(i) the use or reference to the name, trade name, or trademark of the financial
73	institution of the account holder, when sending a targeted solicitation, unless the
74	supplier has written authorization from the financial institution;
75	(ii) the placement of specific account information on the outside of an envelope,
76	visible through the envelope window, or on a postcard, when sending a [target]
77	targeted solicitation by direct mail; or
78	(iii) the placement of specific account information in the subject line, when sending a
79	targeted solicitation by email.
80	(3) (a) A targeted solicitation, if offered in writing, shall include a clear and conspicuous
81	statement in bold type on the front page of the document containing:
82	(i) the name, address, and telephone number of the supplier offering the targeted
83	solicitation; and
84	(ii) a statement indicating that the supplier offering the targeted solicitation is not
85	sponsored by or affiliated with the financial institution that holds the account
86	holder's account.
87	(b) If the targeted solicitation is offered orally, the supplier offering the targeted
88	solicitation shall verbally communicate the statement described in Subsection (3)(a)
89	at the time the oral solicitation is offered to the account holder.
90	(4) A supplier who violates this section commits a deceptive act or practice under
91	Subsection 13-11-4(1).
92	Section 2. Section 13-11-21 is amended to read:
93	13-11-21 . Settlement of class action Complaint in class action delivered to
94	enforcing authority.
95	(1) (a) (i) A defendant in a class action may file a written offer of settlement. If it is

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not accepted within a reasonable time by a plaintiff class representative, the defendant may file an affidavit reciting the rejection.

- (ii) The court may determine that the offer has enough merit to present to the members of the class. If [it] the court so determines, [it] the court shall order a hearing to determine whether the offer should be approved.
- (iii) [It shall give the best notice of the hearing that is practicable under the eircumstances, including] The court shall provide at least 60 days advance notice of the hearing:
  - (A) to the enforcing authority; and

- (B) [to] to the extent practicable, to each member who can be identified through reasonable effort.
- (iv) The notice described in Subsection (1)(a)(iii) shall specify the terms of the offer and a reasonable period within which members of the class who request it are entitled to be included in the class.
- (v) The statute of limitations for those who are excluded pursuant to this [Subsection (1)] Subsection (1)(a)(v) is tolled for the period the class action has been pending, plus an additional year. Within 60 days of receipt of the notice required by this Subsection (1)(a), the enforcing authority may intervene in the class action for the limited purpose of objecting to the offer of settlement.
- (b) If a member who has previously lost an opportunity to be excluded from the class is excluded at his request in response to notice of the offer of settlement during the period specified under Subsection (1)(a), he may not thereafter participate in a class action for damages respecting the same consumer transaction, unless the court later disapproves the offer of settlement or approves a settlement materially different from that proposed in the original offer of settlement. After the expiration of the period of limitations, a member of the class is not entitled to be excluded from it.
- (c) If the court later approves the offer of settlement, including changes, if any, required by the court in the interest of a just settlement of the action, it shall enter judgment, which is binding on all persons who are then members of the class. If the court disapproves the offer or approves a settlement materially different from that proposed in the original offer, notice shall be given to a person who was excluded from the action at his request in response to notice of the offer under Subsection (1)(a), and he is entitled to rejoin the class and, in the case of the approval, participate in the settlement.

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130	(2) On the commencement of a class action under Section 13-11-19, the class representative
131	shall mail by certified mail with return receipt requested or personally serve a copy of
132	the complaint on the enforcing authority. Within [30] $\underline{180}$ days after the receipt of a
133	copy of the complaint, but not thereafter, the enforcing authority may intervene in the
134	class action for purposes of participation as an interested party in litigation of the class
135	action.
136	Section 3. Section 13-11-21.1 is enacted to read:
137	13-11-21.1 . Retrospective Operation.
138	The provisions of this bill apply to any claim for which a court has not issued a
139	final, unappealable judgment or order as of May 1, 2024.
140	Section 4. Effective date.
141	This bill takes effect on May 1, 2024.
142	Section 5. Revisor instructions.
143	The Legislature intends that the reference to "this bill" in Section 13-11-21.1 be
144	replaced with the bill's designated chapter number in the Laws of Utah.