

1 **UTAH CONSUMER SALES PRACTICES ACT AMENDMENTS**

2 2024 GENERAL SESSION

3 STATE OF UTAH

4 **Chief Sponsor: James Cobb**

5 Senate Sponsor: Kirk A. Cullimore

6

LONG TITLE

7 **General Description:**

8 This bill amends provisions of the Utah Consumer Sales Practices Act relating to class
9 action lawsuits.

10 **Highlighted Provisions:**

11 This bill:

- 12 ▶ clarifies provisions relating to targeted solicitations involving financial information;
- 13 ▶ requires that a court provide notice to the enforcing authority 60 days before a
- 14 hearing related to a filed offer of settlement in a class action lawsuit;
- 15 ▶ allows the enforcing authority to intervene in the class action for the limited purpose
- 16 of objecting to the offer of settlement; and
- 17 ▶ increases the time period in which the enforcing authority may intervene as an
- 18 interested party in a class action.

19 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

20 None

21 **Other Special Clauses:**

22 None

23 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

24 AMENDS:

25 **13-11-4.1**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2020, Chapter 173

26 **13-11-21**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2010, Chapter 324



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

Section 1. Section **13-11-4.1** is amended to read:

13-11-4.1. Targeted solicitations involving financial information -- Restrictions.

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Account holder" means a person for whom a personal account is held by a financial institution.

(b) "Financial institution" means:

(i) a state or federally chartered:

(A) bank;

(B) savings and loan association;

(C) savings bank;

(D) industrial bank; or

(E) credit union;

(ii) any other institution under the jurisdiction of the commissioner of Financial Institutions as described in Title 7, Financial Institutions Act; or

(iii) a person who:

(A) is subject to Title 61, Chapter 2c, Utah Residential Mortgage Practices and Licensing Act; and

(B) engages in the business of residential mortgage loans as defined in Section [61-2c-102](#).

(c) (i) "Specific account information" means information that is:

(A) relative to the account of an account holder, in addition to the name of the account holder; and

(B) not provided by the financial institution that holds the account holder's account to the person offering a targeted solicitation.

(ii) "Specific account information" includes:

(A) a loan number;

(B) a loan amount; or

(C) any other specific account or loan information.

(d) "Targeted solicitation" means any written or oral advertisement or solicitation for

59 products or services that:

60 (i) is addressed to an account holder;

61 (ii) contains specific account information;

62 (iii) is offered by a supplier that is not sponsored by or affiliated with the financial
63 institution that holds the account holder's account; and

64 (iv) is not authorized by the financial institution that holds the account holder's
65 account.

66 (2) (a) A supplier who is not the financial institution of an account holder may not
67 represent, directly or indirectly, that the supplier is the financial institution of the account
68 holder.

69 (b) If a presiding officer or court determines appropriate after considering other
70 relevant factors, the following actions by a supplier who is not the financial institution of an
71 account holder establish a presumption that the supplier is representing that the supplier is the
72 financial institution of the account holder in violation of Subsection (2)(a):

73 (i) the use or reference to the name, trade name, or trademark of the financial
74 institution of the account holder, when sending a targeted solicitation, unless the supplier has
75 written authorization from the financial institution;

76 (ii) the placement of specific account information on the outside of an envelope, visible
77 through the envelope window, or on a postcard, when sending a [~~target~~] targeted solicitation by
78 direct mail; or

79 (iii) the placement of specific account information in the subject line, when sending a
80 targeted solicitation by email.

81 (3) (a) A targeted solicitation, if offered in writing, shall include a clear and
82 conspicuous statement in bold type on the front page of the document containing:

83 (i) the name, address, and telephone number of the supplier offering the targeted
84 solicitation; and

85 (ii) a statement indicating that the supplier offering the targeted solicitation is not
86 sponsored by or affiliated with the financial institution that holds the account 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) at the time
89 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
96 not accepted within a reasonable time by a plaintiff class representative, the defendant may file
97 an affidavit reciting the rejection.

98 (ii) The court may determine that the offer has enough merit to present to the members
99 of the class. If [it] the court so determines, [it] the court shall order a hearing to determine
100 whether the offer should be approved.

101 (iii) [~~It shall give the best notice of the hearing that is practicable under the~~
102 ~~circumstances, including~~] The court shall provide at least 60 days advance notice of the
103 hearing:

104 (A) to the enforcing authority; and

105 (B) [~~to~~] to the extent practicable, to each member who can be identified through
106 reasonable effort.

107 (iv) The notice described in Subsection (1)(a)(iii) shall specify the terms of the offer
108 and a reasonable period within which members of the class who request it are entitled to be
109 included in the class.

110 (v) The statute of limitations for those who are excluded pursuant to this [~~Subsection~~
111 ~~(v)~~] Subsection (1)(a)(v) is tolled for the period the class action has been pending, plus an
112 additional year. Within 60 days of receipt of the notice required by this Subsection (1)(a), the
113 enforcing authority may intervene in the class action for the limited purpose of objecting to the
114 offer of settlement.

115 (b) If a member who has previously lost an opportunity to be excluded from the class is
116 excluded at his request in response to notice of the offer of settlement during the period
117 specified under Subsection (1)(a), he may not thereafter participate in a class action for
118 damages respecting the same consumer transaction, unless the court later disapproves the offer
119 of settlement or approves a settlement materially different from that proposed in the original
120 offer of settlement. After the expiration of the period of limitations, a member of the class is

121 not entitled to be excluded from it.

122 (c) If the court later approves the offer of settlement, including changes, if any,
123 required by the court in the interest of a just settlement of the action, it shall enter judgment,
124 which is binding on all persons who are then members of the class. If the court disapproves the
125 offer or approves a settlement materially different from that proposed in the original offer,
126 notice shall be given to a person who was excluded from the action at his request in response to
127 notice of the offer under Subsection (1)(a), and he is entitled to rejoin the class and, in the case
128 of the approval, participate in the settlement.

129 (2) On the commencement of a class action under Section 13-11-19, the class
130 representative shall mail by certified mail with return receipt requested or personally serve a
131 copy of the complaint on the enforcing authority. Within [~~30~~] 180 days after the receipt of a
132 copy of the complaint, but not thereafter, the enforcing authority may intervene in the class
133 action for purposes of participation as an interested party in litigation of the class action.

134 Section 3. **Effective date.**

135 This bill takes effect on May 1, 2024.