ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2017 COMMITTEE STATEMENT LB306

Hearing Date: Tuesday January 31, 2017

Committee On: Banking, Commerce and Insurance

Introducer: Lindstrom

One Liner: Change provisions relating to the scope of coverage of and notice required under the Portable

Electronics Insurance Act

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:

Advanced to General File

Vote Results:

Aye: 8 Senators Baker, Brewer, Craighead, Kolterman, Lindstrom, McCollister,

Schumacher, Williams

Nay:

Absent:

Present Not Voting:

Verbal Testimony:

Proponents:Representing:Senator Brett LindstromIntroducerPaul FassbenderAsurion

Opponents: Representing:

Neutral: Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

This bill amends sections 44-8502 and 44-8508 of the Portable Electronics Insurance Act. This act provides a regulatory framework for the offering and sale of insurance covering portable electronic devices such as cell phones and smart phones. Available coverage protects against loss, theft, damage, or other applicable perils. The act provides for issuance by the Director of Insurance of a limited lines insurance license that allows employees or authorized representatives of a vendor to offer coverage under a policy of portable electronics insurance to customers at each location at which the vendor engages in portable electronics transactions.

The bill would amend section 44-8502 to update the definition of "portable electronics."

The new definition would be "any nonstationary electronic equipment and its accessories capable of communications or data processing or utility including, but not limited to, a laptop, a tablet, a wearable computer, a personal communications device such as a cellular or mobile telephone, a hand-held smart phone, a media player, an e-reader, a personal digital assistant, devices used for data collection, global positioning, or monitoring, and other devices that may or may not incorporate wireless transmitters and receivers."

The current definition is "a device that is personal, self-contained, easily carried by an individual, and battery-operated and includes devices used for electronic communication, viewing, listening, recording, computing, or global positioning."

Section 2 would amend section 44-8508 to provide that an insurer may terminate or change the terms and conditions of

a policy of portable electronics insurance upon providing the vendor and enrolled customers at least "thirty" days instead of "sixty" days notice. This section currently provides that if notice is required, it shall be in writing and may be mailed or delivered to a vendor or enrollee or notice shall be in electronic form. The bill would provide that disclosure of notice in electronic form to the enrolled customer shall be provided within thirty days after the purchase of the portable electronics.	
	Brett Lindstrom, Chairperson