

HCS SCS SB 1116 -- NO-CALL LIST

SPONSOR: Stoll (Pearce)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Communications, Energy and Technology by a vote of 20 to 0.

This substitute expands the database of telephone numbers maintained by the Attorney General known as the No-Call List to include the cell phone numbers of business and residential subscribers who ask that their numbers be placed on the list. Currently, only residential subscribers who have telephone service provided by a local exchange company are included.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2005, FY 2006, and FY 2007.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill will bring the state in line with the federal no-call list. This is good for consumers with cell phones who generally pay for receiving calls. The Attorney General's Office has received many inquiries since the No-Call List first started from customers with cell phones. Currently, it is not possible to add cell phone numbers to the list, and the bill would change this so that the state could provide a much needed service to its citizens.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Stoll; and Office of Attorney General.

OPPOSERS: Those who oppose the bill say that it is already illegal to make a telemarketing call that results in a cost to the recipient. It is possible to place a cell phone number on the No-Call List because when registering for the list individuals are required to disclose if the number is a cell phone or a land line. It is also permissible to register more than one residential phone number. The bill makes it more difficult for legitimate telemarketers to do their job.

Testifying against the bill were Sprint PCS; and Direct Marketing Association.

Alice Hurley, Legislative Analyst