

HB 890 -- Class Action Lawsuits

Sponsor: Byrd

This bill requires class action lawsuits for unlawful merchandising practices to have a minimum of 10 named plaintiffs and contains provisions for the payment of attorney fees in cases where the proposed settlement provides for a recovery of coupons to a class member. The court must approve attorney fees and can approve a proposed coupon settlement only after conducting a hearing to determine whether the settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate. The court may require the distribution of a portion of the value of some of the unclaimed coupons to governmental or charitable organizations.