

HB 523 -- NO-CALL LIST

SPONSOR: Roden

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on General Laws by a vote of 9 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 7 to 1.

The bill changes the penalty provisions for knowingly violating the law relating to the no-call list. The bill creates a \$2,500 to \$5,000 civil penalty for the first violation, a \$5,000 to \$10,000 penalty upon a finding of a second violation, and a \$7,500 to \$15,000 penalty upon a finding of a third violation. However, the bill specifies that there shall be a limit to the total amount of civil penalties a defendant has to pay for violations that occurred within a one month period. The bill also states that whenever the Attorney General is successful in any proceeding it initiates against a violator of the no-call list law, the court may also award restitution of up to \$100 per person for individuals who reported the violations.

This bill is similar to HB 1915 (2018).

PROponents: Supporters say that the bill will enhance penalties for violation of the no-call list and encourage greater enforcement by encouraging the reporting of violations with the restitution provisions for individuals.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Roden.

OPponents: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.