

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

Legislative Document

No. 735

S.P. 242

In Senate, March 2, 1993

**An Act to Prohibit Businesses from Requiring Social Security Numbers
in Certain Cases.**

Reference to the Committee on Banking and Insurance suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator CAREY of Kennebec.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 10 MRSA c. 208-A is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 208-A

PROTECTION OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS

§1271. Definitions

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

1. Credit card. "Credit card" means a card, plate, coupon book or other single credit device that may be used to obtain credit.

2. Customer service card. "Customer service card" means a card, plate, code or other device used by a business as a means of identifying customers who receive membership, purchasing or check-cashing privileges, or other rights or privileges by possession and use of that device.

3. Debit card. "Debit card" means a card, code, or other device, other than a check, draft, or similar paper instrument, by the use of which a person may institute an electronic fund transfer.

§1272. Prohibition

A business operating in this State may not request or require that a person applying for a credit card, debit card or customer service card from that business provide a social security number as a condition for receiving a card of this type.

§1273. Administrative enforcement

The Superintendent of the Bureau of Consumer Credit Protection may take appropriate action to insure compliance with this chapter, including without limitation: to receive and act on complaints; negotiate an assurance in writing that a violator will not engage in the same or similar conduct in the future; conduct hearings in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act and issue a cease and desist order for violation of this chapter; refer cases to the Attorney General, who may bring a civil action against a person for knowingly violating a written assurance of discontinuance. If a court finds a violation of this chapter it may assess a civil forfeiture of not more than \$1,000.

STATEMENT OF FACT

2

4 This bill makes it unlawful for a businesses to request or
6 require that a customer provide a social security number in order
 to obtain a credit card, debit card or customer service card. It
 provides for administrative and judicial enforcement.