



## Senate

General Assembly

February Session, 2002

**File No. 120**

Senate Bill No. 500

*Senate, March 25, 2002*

The Committee on General Law reported through SEN. COLAPIETRO of the 31st Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

### **AN ACT CONCERNING ELECTRONIC PRICING EXEMPTIONS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 21a-79 of the general statutes, as  
2 amended by section 1 of public act 01-73, is repealed and the following  
3 is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2002*):

4 (c) (1) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may adopt  
5 regulations in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 concerning  
6 the marking of prices and use of universal product coding on each unit  
7 of a consumer commodity.

8 (2) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may adopt  
9 regulations in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54  
10 designating not more than [ten] twelve consumer commodities that  
11 need not be marked in accordance with subdivision (1) of subsection  
12 (b) of this section and specifying the method of providing adequate  
13 disclosure to consumers to insure that the electronic pricing of the

14 designated consumer commodities is accurate. The commissioner may  
15 establish by regulation methods to protect consumers against  
16 electronic pricing errors of such designated consumer commodities  
17 and to insure that the electronic prices of such designated consumer  
18 commodities are accurate. Among the methods that the commissioner  
19 may consider are conditions similar to those set forth in subdivision (4)  
20 of subsection (b) of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2002</i>

**GL**      *Joint Favorable*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

---

***OFA Fiscal Note***

***State Impact:*** None

***Municipal Impact:*** None

***Explanation***

Since this bill makes it discretionary for the Commissioner of Consumer Protection to promulgate regulations, should he elect to do so, such regulations can be promulgated by staff with no need for additional resources.

**OLR Bill Analysis**

SB 500

***AN ACT CONCERNING ELECTRONIC PRICING EXEMPTIONS*****SUMMARY:**

This bill increases from 10 to 12 the number of items that the consumer protection commissioner may, by regulation, exempt from the item pricing law. By law, stores that use Universal Product Coding (bar scanner) system to total a customer's purchases must mark each item with its price. The law also establishes other exemptions, such as for stores equipped with an approved electronic shelf labeling systems.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2002

**BACKGROUND*****Exempt Items***

State regulations exempt canned cat food; milk; powdered gelatin and pudding dessert mixes; canned tuna fish; fresh shell eggs; ice cream in one-half gallon, quart, and pint sizes; frozen concentrated juices and fruit drinks; toilet tissue packaged in single rolls; baby food packaged in glass jars; and individually packed candy and chewing gum offered for sale at the checkout (Conn. Agencies Reg. Sec. 21a-79-5). The law also exempts alcoholic beverages and carbonated soft drinks (CGS Sec. 21a-79).

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 17      Nay 0