



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 177

February Session, 2004

Substitute Senate Bill No. 139

Senate, March 23, 2004

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 substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE OWNERSHIP OF RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2004*) (a) For purposes of this
2 section:

3 (1) "Corporation" means a domestic corporation, foreign corporation
4 or United States corporation all as defined in section 51-343 of the
5 general statutes.

6 (2) "Retail store" means any store that sells at retail goods for
7 personal, family or household use.

8 (b) Any retail store that is operated by a corporation and has a retail
9 sales area of forty thousand square feet or more shall prominently
10 display a sign twenty-four inches by thirty-six inches at the entrance of
11 such retail store. The sign, which shall be in boldface type, shall state
12 (1) the name of the corporation that operates such retail store, (2) the

13 address of such corporation, and (3) the percentage of goods sold by
14 such corporation that are imported and subject to the country of origin
15 markings required pursuant to 19 CFR 134, et seq., as from time to
16 time amended. Each retail store shall update such sign annually.

17 (c) The Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Protection shall
18 adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54 of the general
19 statutes, to designate the type face and form of the signs required by
20 this section.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	October 1, 2004

GL *Joint Favorable Subst.*

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:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 05 \$	FY 06 \$
Consumer Protection, Dept.	GF - None	None	None

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill requires the commissioner to adopt regulations establishing guidelines for signs' typeface and form. The bill has no fiscal impact on the Department of Consumer Protection.

OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 139

AN ACT CONCERNING THE OWNERSHIP OF RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS**SUMMARY:**

This bill requires corporations operating retail stores with at least 40,000 square feet of sales area to prominently display a 2' by 3' sign stating (1) the corporation's name and address and (2) the percentage of goods sold by the corporation that was imported and subject to federal country of origin labeling requirements. The bill requires these stores to update their signs annually and the commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Protection to adopt regulations designating the signs' typeface and form.

The bill defines "corporation" as (1) a domestic corporation incorporated under Connecticut law, (2) a foreign corporation incorporated under the laws of any other state or foreign government, and (3) a United States corporation incorporated under the laws of the United States. It defines "retail store" as one that sells at retail goods for personal, family, or household use.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2004

BACKGROUND***Federal Country of Origin Labeling***

Federal law requires each imported article to state conspicuously, in English, its country of origin (19USCA § 1304, 19CFR Part 143).

COMMITTEE ACTION

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 11 Nay 8

