



General Assembly

January Session, 2009

**Raised Bill No. 6642**

LCO No. 4505

\*04505\_\_\_\_\_JUD\*

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

Introduced by:  
(JUD)

**AN ACT CONCERNING SOLICITATION OF CLIENTS, PATIENTS OR CUSTOMERS.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) (a) For the purposes of  
2 this section:

3 (1) "Provider" means an attorney, a health care professional, an  
4 owner or operator of a health care practice or facility, any person who  
5 creates the impression that he or she or his or her practice or facility  
6 can provide legal or health care services or any person employed or  
7 acting on behalf of any of the aforementioned persons;

8 (2) "Public media" means telephone directories, professional  
9 directories, newspapers and other periodicals, radio and television,  
10 billboards and mail or electronically transmitted written  
11 communications that do not involve in-person contact with a specific  
12 prospective client, patient or customer, except that "public media" does  
13 not include contact or mailings within forty days of an accident to any  
14 person who has been involved in a motor vehicle accident or contact or  
15 mailings to any person who has suffered a personal injury or whose

16 relative has suffered a wrongful death unless the accident or disaster  
17 occurred more than forty days prior to the communication; and

18 (3) "Runner" means a person who, for a pecuniary benefit, procures  
19 or attempts to procure a client, patient or customer at the direction of,  
20 request of or in cooperation with a provider whose purpose is to seek  
21 to obtain benefits under a contract of insurance or assert a claim  
22 against an insured or an insurance carrier for providing services to the  
23 client, patient or customer, or to obtain benefits under or assert a claim  
24 against a state or federal health care benefits program or prescription  
25 drug assistance program, except that "runner" does not include a  
26 person who procures or attempts to procure clients, patients or  
27 customers for a provider through public media or a person who refers  
28 clients, patients or customers to a provider as otherwise authorized by  
29 law.

30 (b) A person who knowingly acts as a runner or uses, solicits,  
31 directs, hires or employs another person to act as a runner shall be  
32 fined not more than five thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than  
33 one year or both.

34 (c) The provisions of subsection (b) of this section shall not apply to  
35 the referral of persons by an attorney or health care professional to  
36 another attorney or health care professional or referrals between  
37 attorneys or between health care professionals.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2009	New section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To prohibit a person, for pecuniary benefit, procuring or attempting to procure a client, patient or customer at the direction of an attorney, health care professional or owner or operator of a health care practice or facility for the purpose of obtaining benefits under or asserting a

claim against an insured, an insurance carrier or health care benefits or prescription drug program.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*