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## OLR Bill Analysis

### sHB 5089

#### ***AN ACT PROHIBITING TELEMARKETERS FROM TRANSMITTING INACCURATE OR MISLEADING CALLER IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION.***

#### **SUMMARY:**

This bill prohibits telephone solicitors from intentionally transmitting inaccurate or misleading caller identification information. A violation of the bill is an unfair or deceptive trade practice. In addition, violators are subject to a fine of up to \$11,000.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2012

#### **BACKGROUND**

##### ***Connecticut Unfair Trade Practices Act (CUTPA)***

The law prohibits businesses from engaging in unfair and deceptive acts or practices. CUTPA allows the Department of Consumer Protection commissioner to issue regulations defining what constitutes an unfair trade practice, investigate complaints, issue cease and desist orders, order restitution in cases involving less than \$5,000, enter into consent agreements, ask the attorney general to seek injunctive relief, and accept voluntary statements of compliance. It also allows individuals to sue. Courts may issue restraining orders; award actual and punitive damages, costs, and reasonable attorneys fees; and impose civil penalties of up to \$5,000 for willful violations and \$25,000 for violation of a restraining order.

#### **COMMITTEE ACTION**

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 17 Nay 0 (03/13/2012)