



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 336

January Session, 2015

Substitute Senate Bill No. 629

Senate, March 31, 2015

The Committee on General Law reported through SEN. LEONE of the 27th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT REQUIRING KILL SWITCHES FOR SMARTPHONES.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2016*) (a) As used in this section,
2 "smartphone" means a cellular mobile telephone or other mobile voice
3 communications handset device that includes all of the following
4 features: (1) A mobile operating system, (2) the capability to utilize
5 mobile software applications, access and browse the Internet, utilize
6 text messaging, utilize digital voice service and send and receive
7 electronic mail, (3) wireless network connectivity, and (4) the
8 capability of operating on a long-term evolution network or on any
9 successor wireless data network communication standard.

10 (b) Each new model of a smartphone offered for retail sale in this
11 state on or after July 1, 2016, shall include software or hardware, or a
12 combination of both, that once initiated and successfully
13 communicated by an authorized user, render inoperable, the essential
14 features of the smartphone to an unauthorized user.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2016	New section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In section 1(a), "radio" was changed to "mobile" for statutory consistency.

GL *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None***Explanation***

The bill results in no fiscal impact to the state as manufacturers currently plan to have all smartphones manufactured and sold in this state after July 1, 2016, meet the bill's requirements.

The Out Years***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 629*****AN ACT REQUIRING KILL SWITCHES FOR SMARTPHONES.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires, beginning July 1, 2016, each new smartphone model offered for retail sale in Connecticut to include specific software or hardware, or a combination of both, to prevent unauthorized use. Once initiated and successfully communicated by an authorized user, this software or hardware must render the smartphone's essential features inoperable to an unauthorized user.

Under the bill, a "smartphone" is a cellular mobile telephone or other mobile voice communications handset device with certain mandatory features. The features must include

1. a mobile operating system;
2. the capability to (a) utilize mobile software applications, (b) access and browse the Internet, (c) utilize text messaging and digital voice service, and (d) send and receive e-mail;
3. wireless network connectivity; and
4. the capability of operating on a long-term evolution network or on any successor wireless data network communication standard.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2016

COMMITTEE ACTION

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 10 Nay 8 (03/12/2015)