



General Assembly

January Session, 2015

Raised Bill No. 6811

LCO No. 3930



Referred to Committee on GENERAL LAW

Introduced by:
(GL)

AN ACT CONCERNING CASH REFUNDS FOR GIFT CARD BALANCES.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) (a) For the purposes of
2 this section, "gift card" means a record evidencing a promise, made for
3 consideration, by the seller or issuer of the record that goods or
4 services will be provided to the owner of the record to the value shown
5 in the record and includes, but is not limited to, a record that contains
6 a microprocessor chip, magnetic stripe or other means for the storage
7 of information, that is prefunded and for which the value is
8 decremented upon each use, an electronic gift card, stored-value card
9 or certificate, a store card or a similar record or card. "Gift card" does
10 not include: (1) A general-use prepaid card, as defined in 12 CFR
11 1005.20(a)(3), as from time to time amended, (2) a gift certificate
12 donated or sold below face value by a retailer to a charitable
13 organization or nonprofit community organization, (3) a linked
14 prepaid card, as defined in section 42-460a of the general statutes, (4) a
15 card or certificate issued by a retailer pursuant to an awards, loyalty or
16 promotional program for which no money or other item of monetary

17 value was exchanged, (5) a gift certificate or card sold below face value
18 by a retailer, (6) a gift certificate or card sold by a retailer that does not
19 have a retail establishment in this state, or (7) a gift certificate that is
20 issued only on paper.

21 (b) If a person uses a gift card to purchase goods or services and the
22 balance on the gift card is less than ten dollars after such purchase, the
23 person accepting the gift card as payment, if requested by the
24 purchaser, shall provide the purchaser with a cash refund equal to the
25 value of the remaining balance on the gift card after the purchase.

26 (c) Any person who violates the provisions of subsection (b) of this
27 section shall be fined one hundred dollars for a first offense, two
28 hundred dollars for a second offense and two hundred fifty dollars for
29 each subsequent offense.

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| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | October 1, 2015 | New section |

Statement of Purpose:

To allow a gift card holder to obtain a cash refund of the gift card balance if such balance is less than ten dollars after a purchase is made with the card.

[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.]