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sHB-5314

AN ACT CONCERNING CONSUMER AGREEMENTS AND
CONSUMER BILLS.

AMENDMENT

LCO No.: 9949

File Copy No.: 152

House Calendar No.: 118

Senate Calendar No.: 538

OFA Fiscal Note

Potential Cost

The amendment strikes the underlying bill and its associated fiscal impact, resulting in the impact described below.

Sections 1-2 set limitations on using automatic renewal and continuous service provisions in consumer agreements and allows the Department of Consumer Protection to adopt regulations to implement these provisions resulting in no fiscal impact to the state.

Sections 3-4 make a variety of changes addressing video services and how they are regulated including (1) prohibiting the charging of fees beyond cost for disconnection service, (2) creating a variety of regulations around holding companies not engaged in interstate commerce, and (3) granting the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) greater oversight over video services as a utility. The amendment charges PURA with holding hearings for any acquisition of a holding company by another corporation and empowers PURA greater oversight of mergers between such companies. This creates a potential cost to the extent that PURA is required to investigate and make additional rulings over video services and telecommunications companies.

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