

The Senate Agriculture and Consumer Affairs Committee offered the following substitute to HB 656:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 10-1-393 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 unfair or deceptive practices in consumer transactions, so as to require that credit card issuers  
3 take steps to verify a consumer's change of address when a person responds by mail to an  
4 unsolicited application for credit and provides an address that is different from the address  
5 to which such solicitation was mailed; to provide an exception; to provide for related matters;  
6 to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

**SECTION 1.**

8 Code Section 10-1-393 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to unfair or  
9 deceptive practices in consumer transactions, is amended by adding a new paragraph (29.1)  
10 to read as follows:  
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12 "(29.1) With respect to any credit card issuer:

13 (A) A credit card issuer who mails an unsolicited offer or solicitation to apply for a  
14 credit card and who receives by mail a completed application in response to the  
15 solicitation which lists an address that is not substantially the same as the address on  
16 the solicitation may not issue a credit card based on that application until steps have  
17 been taken to verify the applicant's valid address to the same extent required by  
18 regulations prescribed pursuant to subsection (l) of 31 U.S.C. Section 5318. Any  
19 person who violates this paragraph commits an unlawful practice within the meaning  
20 of this Act.

21 (B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, a credit card issuer, upon  
22 receiving an application, may issue a credit card to a consumer or commercial customer  
23 with whom it already has a business relationship provided the address to which the card  
24 is mailed is a valid address based upon information in the records of the credit card  
25 issuer or its affiliates;"

**SECTION 2.**

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- 2 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.