HB 871, Engrossed 1 2006

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to telephone calling records; providing definitions; prohibiting a person from obtaining or attempting to obtain the calling record of another person by making false or fraudulent statements or providing false or fraudulent documents to a telecommunications company or by selling or offering to sell a calling record that was obtained in a fraudulent manner; providing that it is a first-degree misdemeanor to commit a first violation and a third-degree felony to commit a second or subsequent violation; providing penalties; providing that it is not a violation of the act for a law enforcement agency or telecommunications company to obtain calling records for specified purposes; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. <u>Obtaining telephone calling records by</u> fraudulent means prohibited.--

(a)

(1) As used in this section, the term:

telecommunications company of the telephone calls made or text messages sent or received by a customer of that company.

"Calling record" means a record held by a

(b) "Customer" means a person who has received telephone service from a telecommunications company.

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(c) "Law enforcement agency" has the same meaning as in s. 23.1225(1)(d), Florida Statutes.

- (d) "Telecommunications company" has the same meaning as
  in s. 364.02, Florida Statutes, except that the term includes
  VoIP service and commercial mobile radio service providers.
  - (2) It is a violation of this section for a person to:
- (a) Obtain or attempt to obtain the calling record of another person without the permission of that person by:
- 1. Making a false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation to an officer, employee, or agent of a telecommunications company;
- 2. Making a false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation to a customer of a telecommunications company; or
- 3. Providing any document to an officer, employee, or agent of a telecommunications company, knowing that the document is forged, is counterfeit, was lost or stolen, was fraudulently obtained, or contains a false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation.
- (b) Ask another person to obtain a calling record, knowing that the other person will obtain, or attempt to obtain, the calling record from the telecommunications company in any manner described in paragraph (a).
- (c) Sell or offer to sell a calling record obtained in any manner described in paragraph (a) or paragraph (b).
- (3) A person who violates this section for the first time commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, Florida Statutes. A second

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or subsequent violation constitutes a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, Florida Statutes.

- (4) It is not a violation of this section for:
- (a) A law enforcement agency to obtain a calling record in connection with the performance of the official duties of that agency in accordance with other applicable laws.
- (b) A telecommunications company, or an officer, employee, or agent of a telecommunications company, to obtain a calling record of that company in the course of:
- 1. Testing the security procedures or systems of the telecommunications company for maintaining the confidentiality of customer information;
- 2. Investigating an allegation of misconduct or negligence on the part of an officer, employee, or agent of the telecommunications company; or
- 3. Recovering a calling record that was obtained or received by another person in any manner described in subsection (2).
  - Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.