

HCS HB 1915 -- CONSUMER PROTECTION (Roden)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Standing Committee on General Laws

This bill prohibits the sale of Native American arts and crafts, and other goods represented as being Native American made, unless the arts and crafts are made by citizens or members of federally recognized Native American tribes. Any merchant who knowingly violates this provision shall be subject to a fine up to \$200 and 90 days in prison.

The bill changes the penalty provisions for knowingly violating the law relating to the no-call list. The bill creates a \$2,500 to \$5,000 civil penalty for the first violation, a \$5,000 to \$10,000 penalty upon a finding of a second violation, and a \$7,500 to \$15,000 penalty upon a finding of a third violation. However, the bill specifies that there shall be a limit to the total amount of civil penalties a defendant has to pay for violations that occurred within a one month period. The bill also states that whenever the Attorney General is successful in any proceeding it initiates against a violator of the no-call list law, the court may also award restitution of up to \$100 per person for individuals who reported the violations.