A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIERS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I:

SECTION 1. Chapter 269, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"§269- Telecommunications carriers; residential or personal lines; blocked calls. (a) Every telecommunications carrier shall automatically block any call made to a residential phone line or a personal mobile phone line of a customer domiciled in this State if the telephone number of the caller does not belong to:

(1) A provider of ambulance, police, fire, and other emergency services in this State, whether the provider is a governmental agency or under contract with a governmental agency;

(2) A governmental agency of this State or any of its counties, or the federal government;

(3) A financial institution licensed under chapter 412;
(4) A business entity registered with the department of commerce and consumer affairs to do business in this State;

(5) A professional entity licensed by the department of commerce and consumer affairs, the department of health, the judiciary, or a county, to offer professional services in this State or a county, if the professional entity is licensed by a county;

(6) An organization that is exempt from federal taxation under section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and domiciled in this State; or

(7) A residential phone line or personal mobile phone line that is verified as being associated with the account of a customer of a telecommunications carrier registered to do business in or outside of this State.

(b) The carrier shall unblock a call made to a customer from a telephone number that would otherwise be blocked pursuant to subsection (a); provided that the customer provides the carrier with a written notice of specific telephone numbers that the customer elects to unblock.
(c) The carrier shall block a call made to a customer from a telephone number that would otherwise be unblocked pursuant to subsection (a); provided that the customer provides the carrier with a written notice of specific telephone numbers that the customer elects to block; provided that this subsection shall not apply to calls made from an entity described under subsection (a)(1) and (2)."

SECTION 2. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

INTRODUCED BY:

(JAN 22, 2019)
Report Title:
Telecommunications Carriers; Blocked Calls

Description:
Requires telecommunications carriers to block calls to residential phone lines and personal mobile phone lines made from telephone numbers that do not match any of the telephone numbers of certain excepted entities as a means to curb scam calls.

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