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REPRESENTATIVE MIKE CHENAULT SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE DISTRICT 34

SPONSOR STATEMENT HOUSE BILL 93

"An Act relating to unwanted telephone solicitations on a cellular or mobile telephone and making those calls to cellular or mobile telephones registered with the do not call registry violations of the Alaska Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Act."

House Bill 93 adds a cellular or mobile telephone to the definition of telephone solicitation as defined under AS 45.50.475(g). In essence, this bill adds to state statute, cell or mobile phones to the unlawful, unwanted telephone advertisements and solicitations section.

The Federal Trade Commission, which has oversight over the Do Not Call Registry, opened this service in June 2003. The service allows a consumer to register their telephone or cellular or mobile telephones should that consumer wish to limit telemarketing calls.

The state statute does not recognize cell or mobile phones under the definition of prohibited activity as it relates to telephone solicitation. House Bill 93 revises the definition to put our statutes more in line with federal guidelines and makes it clear that Alaskan consumers have protection from unwanted telemarketing calls.