

HB

212

Alaska State Legislature



House of Representatives House Judiciary Committee

SPONSOR STATEMENT FOR HB 212

DATE: April 30, 1999
TO: Suzi Lowell
Chief Clerk
FROM: Representative Pete Kott, Chair
Subject: HB 212

The litigation surrounding anti-Trust and Unfair Trade Practices as well as the Consumer Protection Act are long, and often arduous matters, which require a high amount of discretion and sensitivity. This bill reinforces the confidential nature of such cases by prohibiting certain public disclosures during, and even after, an investigation. Due to the highly complex and controversial nature of anti-Trust litigation, we urge your support on HB 212.

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MEMORANDUM

April 30, 1999

SUBJECT: Sectional Summary of HB 212 (Work Order 21-LS0893A)

TO: Representative Pete Kott
Attn: Cory

FROM: *TB*
Theresa Bannister
Legislative Counsel

You have requested a sectional summary of the above-described bill. As a preliminary matter, note that a sectional summary of a bill should not be considered an authoritative interpretation of the bill and the bill itself is the best statement of its contents.

Section 1. Amends the confidentiality section of the state's Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Act. Prohibits the attorney general from making the name of persons alleged to have committed unlawful trade practices public after an investigation as well as during an investigation. Adds investigation records and intelligence information of the attorney general that are created in the course of an investigation to the records that are not considered public records available for public inspection or copying. Establishes that the investigation and intelligence information are not considered public records during or after the investigation.

Section 2. Adds a new section to the article on monopolies and restraint of trade. The article provides that investigation records obtained or created by the attorney general during an investigation are not considered public records during or after the investigation. Allows the attorney general to issue public statements warning the public about present or future violations of the article.

If I may be of further assistance, please advise.

TLB:glc
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