DIGEST

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HB 359 Engrossed

2021 Regular Session

Hollis

Abstract: Allows the commissioner of the Office of Financial Institutions and the state attorney general to enforce provisions of solicitation law against violators.

<u>Present law</u> prohibits a solicitor from using a lender's name, trade name, service mark, or trademark in a solicitation for the offering of services or products to a consumer unless certain conditions are met.

Proposed law retains present law.

<u>Proposed law</u> allows the commissioner of the Office of Financial Institutions to use the enforcement powers granted to him in <u>present law</u> against a violating solicitor.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that a violation of <u>present law</u> is considered a violation of the false advertising provisions of <u>present law</u> and allows the state attorney general to enforce the appropriate penalties provided in present law.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that the commissioner is not required to prove actual damages when seeking to enjoin a solicitor from unlawfully using a name, trade name, trademark, service mark, or loan information, and provides that irreparable harm is to be presumed.

<u>Proposed law</u> allows the commissioner to be awarded costs and reasonable attorney fees if he prevails against a solicitor in violation of <u>proposed law</u>.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires any action arising out of a violation of <u>proposed law</u> to be brought in the 19th Judicial District Court.

(Adds R.S. 6:412.1(I) and (J))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Commerce to the original bill:

- 1. Allow the commissioner to enjoin unlawful use of certain information without being required to prove actual damages, and provides that irreparable harm is to be presumed.
- 2. Allow the commissioner to recover costs and reasonable attorney fees if he prevails in

an action against a solicitor who violates <u>proposed law</u>.

Require an action arising out of <u>proposed law</u> to be brought in the 19th Judicial District Court.

3.