

Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 1706

An act relating to privacy; prohibiting merchants from directly observing or using video cameras or other visual surveillance equipment to observe customers in dressing rooms, fitting rooms, changing rooms, or rest rooms; defining the term "merchant"; providing penalties; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. (1) It is unlawful for any merchant to directly observe or make use of video cameras or other visual surveillance devices to observe or record customers in the merchant's dressing room, fitting room, changing room, or rest room when such room provides a reasonable expectation of privacy. As used in this subsection, the term "merchant" means an owner or operator, or the agent, consignee, employee, lessee, or officer of an owner or operator, of any premises or apparatus used for retail purchase or sale of any merchandise.

(2) Any merchant who violates subsection (1) is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in section 775.082 or section 775.083, Florida Statutes.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1999.

Approved by the Governor June 8, 1999.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 8, 1999.