

ASSEMBLY, No. 4551

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 22, 2022

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman ELIANA PINTOR MARIN

District 29 (Essex)

Assemblywoman ANNETTE QUIJANO

District 20 (Union)

Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

SYNOPSIS

Prohibits person experiencing coin shortage from charging consumers higher price for cash payment.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/13/2022)

1 AN ACT concerning payments by consumers and supplementing
2 P.L.1960, c.39 (C.56:8-1 et seq.).

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. a. A person experiencing a coin shortage and selling or
8 offering for sale goods or services at retail shall not charge a higher
9 price to a buyer who elects to use cash as payment in order to
10 purchase the goods or services.

11 b. A violation of this section is an unlawful practice under
12 P.L.1960, c.39 (C.56:8-1 et seq.).

13 c. As used in this section, "at retail" shall include any retail
14 transaction conducted in person and exclude any telephone, mail, or
15 Internet-based transaction.

16

17 2. This act shall take effect on the first day of the seventh
18 month next following the date of enactment.

19

20

21

STATEMENT

22

23 This bill prohibits a person experiencing a coin shortage and
24 selling or offering for sale goods or services at retail from charging
25 a higher price to a buyer who elects to use cash as payment in order
26 to purchase the goods or services. A violation of the bill is to be an
27 unlawful practice under the consumer fraud act. Under that act, an
28 unlawful practice is punishable by a monetary penalty of not more
29 than \$10,000 for a first offense and not more than \$20,000 for any
30 subsequent offense. Additionally, violations can result in cease and
31 desist orders issued by the Attorney General, the assessment of
32 punitive damages, and the awarding of treble damages and costs to
33 the injured party.