

## ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEE ON CORPORATIONS, AUTHORITIES AND COMMISSIONS; ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PROTECTION

## **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

<u>SUBJECT</u>: Robocalls, spoofing and nuisance calls.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the hearing is to examine actions to combat robocalls and

spoofing.

September 6, 2019 10:00 AM Assembly Hearing Room 250 Broadway, Room 1923, 19th Floor New York, NY

## **ORAL TESTIMONY WILL BE BY INVITATION ONLY**

While the annoyance and burden of unwanted spoofing and robocalls continues to affect phone consumers, various initiatives are proceeding in an effort to minimize these nuisances. Regulatory and enforcement steps have been taken to address these concerns. For example, the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) expects major telecommunications corporations to by year's end implement call authentication technology known as Signature-based Handling of Asserted Information Using toKENs and Secure Telephone Identity Revisited and (SHAKEN/STIR). Additionally in 2019, three major U.S. telecommunication corporations have begun to deploy the exchange of call authentication information between their networks based on the SHAKEN/STIR framework. In August 2019, New York State Attorney General Letitia James announced that a coalition of Attorneys General from all 50 states and the District of Columbia would be partnering with telecommunications corporations to develop guidelines to make it easier to prosecute those responsible for deceptive acts and practices regarding spoofing and robocalls. Furthermore, the New York State Department of State has sought a legislative remedy to this issue that would require any provider of telephone dialing services to register all New York State caller ID phone numbers broadcast to New York State residents prior to their use. The Department also seeks to add electronic messaging texts to the definition of telemarketing, increase civil penalties, and add accomplice liability language to the law.

The Committees seek testimony on new technologies and whether potential legislation would be effective in decreasing the number of robocalls and spoofed calls.

This hearing is an opportunity for the Assembly Committee on Corporations, Authorities, and Commissions, and the Committee on Consumer Affairs and Protection to assess industry technology, including SHAKEN/STIR; explore whether there are potential legislative remedies regarding robocalls and spoofing; and examine the fiscal impact that these unwanted calls are having on the state. The Committees will explore how to improve the safety and reliability of communication networks by better identifying legitimate callers and enhancing consumer satisfaction.

Persons invited to present testimony to the Committees for the above hearing should complete and return the enclosed reply form as soon as possible. It is important that the reply form be fully completed and returned so that persons may be notified in the event of emergency postponement or cancellation.

Fifteen copies of any prepared testimony should be submitted at the hearing registration desk. The Committees would appreciate advance receipt of prepared statements.

In order to meet the needs of those who may have a disability, the Assembly, in accordance with its policy of non-discrimination on the basis of disability, as well as the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), has made its facilities and services available to all individuals with disabilities. For individuals with disabilities, accommodations will be provided, upon reasonable request, to afford such individuals access and admission to Assembly facilities and activities.

Amy Paulin
Chair
Committee on Corporations,
Authorities and Commissions

Michael DenDekker
Chair
Committee on Consumer Affairs
and Protection

## **PUBLIC HEARING REPLY FORM**

Persons invited to present testimony at the public hearing are requested to complete this reply form <u>as soon as possible</u> and mail or fax it to:

Theophilus Alexander
Committee Assistant
Assembly Committee on Corporations, Authorities and Commissions
NYS State Capitol Building
Room 513
Albany, New York 12224
Phone: (518) 455-4857

Fax: (518) 455-7250

	I plan to attend the public hearing on Robocalls, spoofing and nuisance calls to be held by the Assembly Standing Committee on Corporations, Authorities, and Commission and the Assembly Standing Committee on Consumer Affairs and Protection.
	I have been invited to make a public statement at the hearing. I will answer an questions that may arise. I will provide 15 copies of my prepared statement.
	I would like to be added to the Committees' mailing list for notices and reports.
	I would like to be removed from the Committees' mailing list.
	I will require assistance and/or handicapped accessibility information. Please specify the type of assistance required:
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