

**PRELIMINARY** STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

Senate Committee on Judiciary

**REVENUE: No revenue impact**

**FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued**

**SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO:**

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**Action:**

**Vote:**

**Yeas:**

**Nays:**

**Exc.:**

**Prepared By:** Channa Newell, Counsel

**Meeting Dates:** 5/06

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Prohibits person from soliciting, requesting, or inducing another to provide personal information by representing person is third party. Excludes official duties of law enforcement and lawful investigations. Makes violation unlawful trade practice enforceable by Attorney General. Declares emergency; effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** “Phishing” is a method of obtaining another’s personal information by posing as a legitimate company or business and requesting personal information. Phishing can come in the form of fraudulent websites, emails claiming to be from a legitimate company seeking to verify the person’s credentials, and by other means. In 2013, tech industry analysts estimate that there were nearly 450,000 phishing attacks worldwide with estimated losses of over \$5.9 billion. The US is the target of over 60% of phishing attacks.

House Bill 2377 makes phishing an unlawful trade practice actionable by the Attorney General.