

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

ONE ASHBURTON PLACE BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02108

(617) 727-2200 www.mass.gov/ago

Notice of Public Hearing and Comment Period

Notice is hereby given pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 2-3, that the Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General will hold a hybrid public hearing on Wednesday, December 20th, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. and accept public comment through Wednesday, December 20th at 5:00p.m. concerning the following regulatory action:

940 C.M.R. **38.00** (Promulgated Pursuant to M.G.L. c.93A, § 2(c))

This regulation defines certain unfair and deceptive acts and practices and will require the clear and conspicuous disclosure of the total price of a product being advertised to consumers, including any fees, interest, charges, or other expenses necessary to complete a transaction. This regulation also defines certain unfair and deceptive practices in automatically recurring charges and trial offers and requires clear and conspicuous disclosures concerning recurring charges, including all financial obligations a consumer may incur, and information on cancellation of those contracts.

The in-person hearing will be held on the date and time specified above in Conference Rooms B & C on the 2nd Floor of 100 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02108. To attend the hearing virtually, please visit: http://bit.ly/3QEsTBf.

Individuals who provide notice of their intent to testify will be afforded an earlier opportunity to speak. Speakers are strongly encouraged to provide notice of their intent to testify by emailing the address below with the subject line: "Regulation Hearing Comment – 940 CMR 38.00." Written comments will be accepted starting November 29th, 2023 until 5:00 p.m. on December 20th, 2023.

Email: JunkFees@Mass.gov

Postal Mail: Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General

Attn: Policy & Government Affairs Division

One Ashburton Place, 20th Floor

Boston, MA 02108

A copy of the above-listed regulations may be obtained by contacting the above address or email address or by visiting: https://www.mass.gov/info-details/attorney-generals-policy-government-affairs-division.

To request interpretive services, please submit your request at least five (5) business days prior to the public hearing.



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Small Business Impact Statement		
(As required by M.G.L. c. 30A §§ 2, 3 & 5)		
940 CMR 38.00		
Estimate of the Number of Small Businesses Impacted by the Regulation: Indeterminate at this time.		
Yes	No	Will small businesses have to create, file, or issue additional reports?
	\boxtimes	
Yes	No	Will small businesses have to implement additional recordkeeping procedures?
	\boxtimes	
Yes	No	Will small businesses have to provide additional administrative oversight?
	\boxtimes	
Yes	No	Will small businesses have to hire additional employees in order to comply with
	⊠	the proposed regulation?
Yes	No	Does compliance with the regulation require small businesses to hire other
	\boxtimes	professionals (e.g. a lawyer, accountant, engineer, etc.)?
Yes	No	Does the regulation require small businesses to purchase a product or make any
	\boxtimes	other capital investments in order to comply with the regulation?
Yes	No	Are performance standards more appropriate than design or operational
	\boxtimes	standards to accomplish the regulatory objective?
Yes	No	Do any other regulations duplicate or conflict with the proposed regulation?
	\boxtimes	
Yes	No	Does the regulation require small businesses to cooperate with audits, inspections,
	\boxtimes	or other regulatory enforcement activities?
Yes	No	Does the regulation require small businesses to provide educational services to
	\boxtimes	keep up to date with regulatory requirements?
Yes	No	Is the regulation likely to deter the formation of small businesses in
	\boxtimes	Massachusetts?
Yes	No	Is the regulation likely to encourage the formation of small businesses in
	\boxtimes	Massachusetts?
Yes	No	Does the regulation provide for less stringent compliance or reporting
	\boxtimes	requirements for small businesses?
Yes	No	Did the agency consolidate or simplify compliance or reporting requirements for
	⊠	small businesses?
Yes	No	Can performance standards for small businesses replace design or operational
	\boxtimes	standards without hindering delivery of the regulatory objective?
Yes	No	Are there alternative regulatory methods that would minimize the adverse impact
	\boxtimes	on small businesses?
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