



Josh Stein, Governor

*State of North
Carolina*

GOVERNOR JOSH STEIN OBJECTIONS AND VETO MESSAGE:

Senate Bill 416: AN ACT TO ENACT THE PERSONAL PRIVACY PROTECTION ACT.

Our democracy works best when people are well-informed. This bill reduces transparency and creates more opportunity for dark money in our politics, especially relating to candidates' legal funds. Furthermore, it makes it difficult, if not impossible, for the Department of Revenue to identify and crack down on certain types of tax fraud."

Therefore, I veto the bill.



Josh Stein
Governor

The bill, having been vetoed, is returned to the Clerk of the North Carolina Senate on this the 9th day of July 2025, at 3:01 p.m. for reconsideration by that body.

RECEIVED FROM GOVERNOR

Date July 9, 2025

Time 3:01 p.m.

Signed Sarah Holland


55A, 75, and 131F of the General Statutes. Personal information provided pursuant to this exception shall only be used in connection with the specific audit, examination, review, or investigation to which the request relates and for any related proceedings. Any personal information collected shall otherwise remain subject to the provisions of G.S. 55A-18-04(a)(2), unless expressly required by law to be publicly disclosed.

"§ 55A-18-06. Penalties.

(a) A person alleging a violation of this Article may bring a civil action for appropriate injunctive relief, damages, or both. Damages awarded under this section may include one of the following, as appropriate:

(1) A sum of money not less than two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) to compensate for injury or loss caused by each violation of this Article.

(2) For an intentional violation of this Article, a sum of money not to exceed three times the sum described in subdivision (1) of this subsection.

(b) A court, in rendering a judgment in an action brought under this Article, may award all or a portion of the costs of litigation, including reasonable attorneys' fees and witness fees, to the complainant in the action if the court determines that the award is appropriate.

(c) A person who knowingly violates this Article is guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor.

"§ 55A-18-07. Severability.

If any provision of this Article or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, then the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Article that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application and, to that end, the provisions of this Article shall be severable."

SECTION 2. This act becomes effective December 1, 2025, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 30th day of June, 2025.



Phil Berger
President Pro Tempore of the Senate



Donna McDowell White
Presiding Officer of the House of Representatives

VETO



Josh Stein
Governor

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Signed Sarah Holland

Approved _____ m. this _____ day of _____