



Legislation Summary: Electronic Privacy Protections

An Act establishing the Massachusetts Information Privacy and Security Act

Initial bill number: HB60/ SB227

Sponsors: Sen. Barry Finegold and Rep. Daniel Carey

What the bill does, why LWVMA supports or opposes it, and the League position relative to this bill.

The Electronic Privacy Act would protect the sensitive personal information generated from the use of your phone and the internet — including the content of your emails and texts, records about your GPS location, and any information you store online. It would require law enforcement to get a warrant before obtaining personal information from a phone or internet company, or using an interception device known as a Stingray to trick a phone into divulging information directly.

The League of Women Voters believes in the individual liberties guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States. The League is convinced that individual rights now protected by the Constitution should not be weakened or abridged. This technology is used without prior knowledge or consent and is not revealed in trial discovery processes.

LWVUS Impact on Issues, p. 55