## 93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

## 2003 and 2004

Introduced 2/6/2004, by Edward D. Maloney

## SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

220 ILCS 5/4-601 new 815 ILCS 505/10d new

Amends the Public Utilities Act and the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act. Provides that, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Illinois Commerce Commission and its staff shall work cooperatively with law enforcement authorities, including the Attorney General and State's Attorneys, in their enforcement of consumer protection laws, including the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act, provide any materials or documents requested by the Attorney General or a State's Attorney pertaining to the enforcement of consumer protection laws, and, upon written request, forward any complaints regarding alleged violations of any consumer protection law to the Attorney General and the appropriate State's Attorney. Provides that all remedies and authority granted to the Attorney General or the State's Attorneys by the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act shall be available even though the matter is also subject to the Public Utilities Act. Provides that the Public Utilities Act and the Illinois Commerce Commission's rules do not preclude any action that may be available by law, and that the remedies for violations of the Public Utilities Act and its rules are not intended to replace other remedies that may be imposed by the courts for violation of other consumer protection laws and are in addition to, and not in substitution for, other available remedies.

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FISCAL NOTE ACT MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

SB2907

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AN ACT concerning consumer protection.

## 2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, 3 represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The Public Utilities Act is amended by adding
Section 4-601 as follows:

6 (220 ILCS 5/4-601 new)

7 Sec. 4-601. Consumer protection laws.

8 <u>(a) The General Assembly finds that consumer protection is</u> 9 <u>vital to the health, safety, and welfare of Illinois consumers.</u> 10 <u>(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the</u>

11 Commission and its staff shall:

12 <u>(1) work cooperatively with law enforcement</u> 13 <u>authorities, including the Attorney General and State's</u> 14 <u>Attorneys, in their enforcement of consumer protection</u> 15 <u>laws, including the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business</u> 16 <u>Practices Act;</u>

17 (2) provide any materials or documents requested by the
 18 Attorney General or a State's Attorney pertaining to the
 19 enforcement of consumer protection laws; and

20 (3) upon written request, forward any complaints
 21 regarding alleged violations of any consumer protection
 22 law to the Attorney General and the State's Attorney of the
 23 appropriate county or counties.

(c) All remedies and authority granted to the Attorney 24 General or the State's Attorney of any county by the Consumer 25 26 Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act shall be available notwithstanding the matter also being subject to this Act. This 27 28 Act and the Commission's rules do not preclude any action that may be available by law. The remedies for violations of this 29 30 Act and its rules are not intended to replace other remedies that may be imposed by the courts for violation of other 31 consumer protection laws and are in addition to, and not in 32

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substitution for, other available remedies.

- Section 10. The Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business
  Practices Act is amended by adding Section 10d as follows:
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(815 ILCS 505/10d new)

5Sec. 10d. Public Utilities Act; Illinois Commerce6Commission.

7 (a) The General Assembly finds that consumer protection is
8 vital to the health, safety, and welfare of Illinois consumers.
9 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the
10 Illinois Commerce Commission and its staff shall:

11 <u>(1) work cooperatively with law enforcement</u> 12 <u>authorities, including the Attorney General and State's</u> 13 <u>Attorneys, in their enforcement of consumer protection</u> 14 <u>laws, including this Act;</u>

15 (2) provide any materials or documents requested by the
 16 Attorney General or a State's Attorney pertaining to the
 17 enforcement of consumer protection laws; and

18 <u>(3) upon written request, forward any complaints</u> 19 <u>regarding alleged violations of any consumer protection</u> 20 <u>law to the Attorney General and the State's Attorney of the</u> 21 <u>appropriate county or counties.</u>

(c) All remedies and authority granted to the Attorney 22 General or the State's Attorney of any county by this Act shall 23 be available notwithstanding the matter also being subject to 24 25 the Public Utilities Act. The Public Utilities Act and the Illinois Commerce Commission's rules do not preclude any action 26 that may be available by law. The remedies for violations of 27 the Public Utilities Act and its rules are not intended to 28 29 replace other remedies that may be imposed by the courts for violation of other consumer protection laws and are in addition 30 31 to, and not in substitution for, other available remedies.