
SENATE BILL 6039

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2012 Regular Session

By Senators Rolfes, Nelson, Chase, Fraser, Keiser, Conway, Pridemore, and Kohl-Welles

Read first time 01/09/12. Referred to Committee on Labor, Commerce & Consumer Protection.

1 AN ACT Relating to home appliance warranties; and adding a new
2 chapter to Title 19 RCW.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The definitions in this section apply
5 throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

6 (1) "Consumer" means any person who has entered into an agreement
7 or contract for the lease or purchase of a new home appliance other
8 than for purposes of resale or sublease.

9 (2) "Extended warranty" means an agreement for a specified duration
10 to perform the replacement or repair of a home appliance at no
11 additional charge or a reduced charge for the home appliance, labor, or
12 both, or to provide indemnification for the replacement or repair of
13 the home appliance, based on the occurrence of specified events.
14 "Extended warranty" does not include an agreement, otherwise meeting
15 the definition of extended warranty in this subsection, if no separate
16 charge is made for the agreement and the value of the agreement is
17 included in the sales price of the home appliance covered by the
18 agreement.

1 (3) "Home appliance" includes air conditioners, boilers,
2 compactors, dehumidifiers, dishwashers, dryers, exhaust fans, freezers,
3 furnaces, garbage disposals, humidifiers, microwave ovens, range/over
4 hoods, ranges, refrigerators, thermostats, washing machines, and water
5 heaters.

6 (4) "Life expectancy" means the number of years a home appliance is
7 expected to perform for the intended use in which it was designed and
8 when used in the usual and customary manner.

9 (5) "Manufacturer" means a company that directly manufactures,
10 produces, or assembles a home appliance in whole or substantial part,
11 but does not include contracting with or otherwise engaging another
12 person, or that person engaging another person, to develop,
13 manufacture, produce, or assemble an article or product subject to
14 section 2 of this act.

15 (6) "Repair and maintenance costs" means the cost incurred by the
16 consumer in connection with the repair or maintenance of the home
17 appliance during the average life of the home appliance.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** If a manufacturer offers an extended
19 warranty on a home appliance, the manufacturer of the home appliance at
20 the time of purchase must provide the consumer with a written statement
21 of the estimated life expectancy and estimated repair and maintenance
22 costs of the home appliance.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The legislature finds that the practices
24 covered by this chapter are matters vitally affecting the public
25 interest for the purpose of applying the consumer protection act,
26 chapter 19.86 RCW. A violation of this chapter is not reasonable in
27 relation to the development and preservation of business and is an
28 unfair or deceptive act in trade or commerce and an unfair method of
29 competition for the purpose of applying the consumer protection act,
30 chapter 19.86 RCW.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Nothing in this chapter limits the consumer
32 from pursuing other rights or remedies under any other law.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Sections 1 through 4 of this act constitute
2 a new chapter in Title 19 RCW.

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