

# General Law Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No.:** SB-974

AN ACT CONCERNING AUTOMATIC KIOSKS FOR CONSUMER

**Title:** ELECTRONICS.

**Vote Date:** 3/02/2023

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable Substitute

**PH Date:** 2/16/2023

**File No.:** 115

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## **SPONSORS OF BILL:**

General Law Committee

## **REASONS FOR BILL:**

This bill sets requirements regarding automated kiosks for consumer electronics in this state. It states that any person operating an automated kiosk for consumer electronics in Connecticut, in a fashion not satisfying such requirements shall be guilty of a class D misdemeanor. It also specified that automated kiosks for consumer electronics are not junk yards, recycling facilities or recycling centers. It specifies that persons operating automated kiosks for consumer electronics are not junk dealers, pawnbrokers, or secondhand dealers. The substitute language, as defined in section 1 of this act: "pawnbroker" as a person other than an operator of an automated kiosk for consumer electronics, the definition of "junk dealer" does not mean any person who operates an automated kiosk for consumer electronics and "junk yard" does not mean an automated kiosk for consumer electronics.

## **RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:**

None expressed

## **NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:**

**Sean Flaherty, Associate General Counsel for Regulatory Operation. ECOATM, LLC.**

This legislation clarifies language regarding the ability to responsibly recycle used consumer electronics in multiple kiosk locations, thus extending the life span of such items or the means of disposal more effectively. ecoATM has operated these automated kiosks since 2009. There are presently 5,800 active kiosk locations in all 50 states. They partner with such businesses as Walmart, Krogers, Westfield, Dollar General and Albertsons. Through these

alliances, they have been able to collect over 37 million devices, often extending the lifespan of them or, at the very least, keeping them out of landfills.

The language in this bill clarifies the means and methods of collecting consumer electronics and ecoATM asks that the language remove "immediately in (Section 1(c)) and Section 1(d). A response to all requests from state and local law enforcement in a reasonable time frame, due to logistics, would solve this issue. Also, the term "submits" in Section 1(d) is not precise and they feel the word "sell" be substituted in it's stead.

ecoATM recommends that Sections 2 through 4 be stricken as they are duplicative of Sections 1(f)(1) and (2) and may cause unnecessary confusion.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

No opposition expressed.

**Reported by: Kathleen Zabel**

**Date: March 7, 2023**