

ASSEMBLY, No. 3987

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 215th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED APRIL 4, 2013

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman SEAN T. KEAN

District 30 (Monmouth and Ocean)

Assemblywoman HOLLY SCHEPISI

District 39 (Bergen and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman Handlin, Assemblymen C.A.Brown and Amodeo

SYNOPSIS

Requires parental consent for the sale of video games containing mature and adult content to minors.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT regulating the sale of certain video games and
2 supplementing P.L.1960, c.39 (C.56:8-1 et seq.).
3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*
6

7 1. a. It shall be an unlawful practice for any person engaged in
8 the business of selling video games to sell any video game with an
9 Entertainment Software Rating Board rating of “mature” or “adults
10 only” to a person less than 18 years of age without parental consent.

11 b. For the purpose of this section, “parental consent” means that
12 the purchaser’s parent or guardian is present during the sale
13 transaction and affirmatively indicates permission for the sale to
14 proceed, verbally or in writing.
15

16 2. This act shall take effect on the first day of the seventh month
17 following enactment.
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20 STATEMENT

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22 This bill would require parental consent for the sale of any video
23 game with an Entertainment Software Rating Board rating of
24 “mature” or “adults only” to a person less than 18 years of age. For
25 the purposes of the bill, “parental consent” would mean that the
26 purchaser’s parent or guardian would have to be present during the
27 sale and affirmatively indicate permission for the sale to proceed,
28 verbally or in writing.

29 The bill specifies that a violation would be an unlawful practice.
30 An unlawful practice under the Consumer Fraud Act is punishable
31 by a monetary penalty of not more than \$10,000 for a first offense
32 and not more than \$20,000 for any subsequent offense. In addition,
33 a violation can result in cease and desist orders issued by the
34 Attorney General, the assessment of punitive damages and the
35 awarding of treble damages and costs to the injured.