

## Assembly Bill No. 1629

### CHAPTER 863

An act to amend Section 17511.1 of, and to add Section 17538.45 to, the Business and Professions Code, and to amend Section 502 of the Penal Code, relating to advertising.

[Approved by Governor September 26, 1998. Filed  
with Secretary of State September 28, 1998.]

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1629, Miller. Advertising: telephonic sellers: electronic mail.

(1) Existing law provides for the regulation of telephonic sellers, as defined. It exempts from the definition of telephonic sellers certain specified persons.

This bill would add to those persons exempt from the definition of telephonic sellers certain nonprofit corporations that have been exempt from taxation under a specified provision of the Revenue and Taxation Code for a minimum of 10 years, that have maintained their principal purpose for a minimum of 10 years, and that have been incorporated in the state for a minimum of 25 years.

(2) Existing law prohibits a person conducting business in this state from faxing unsolicited advertising material, unless certain conditions are satisfied.

This bill would also prohibit a registered user of an electronic mail service provider, as defined, from using or causing to be used the provider's equipment located in this state in violation of the provider's policy prohibiting or restricting the use of its equipment for the initiation of unsolicited electronic mail advertisements. It would also prohibit any individual, corporation, or other entity from using or causing to be used, by initiating an unsolicited electronic mail advertisement, an electronic mail service provider's equipment located in this state in violation of the provider's policy prohibiting or restricting the use of its equipment to deliver unsolicited electronic mail advertisements to its registered users. It would authorize any electronic mail service provider whose policy is violated as provided in these provisions to bring, in addition to any other action available under law, a civil action to recover damages, as specified, and would authorize the court to award reasonable attorney's fees to a prevailing party in that action.

(3) Existing law makes it a crime to knowingly and without permission tamper with, interfere with, damage, or gain unlawful access to certain computers, computer systems, and computer data.

This bill would, in addition, make it a crime to knowingly and without permission use the Internet domain name, as defined, of



another individual, corporation, or entity in connection with the sending of one or more electronic mail messages, and thereby damage or cause damage to a computer, computer system, or computer network. By creating a new crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

(4) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. Section 17511.1 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

17511.1. As used in this article, “telephonic seller” or “seller” means a person who, on his or her own behalf or through salespersons or through the use of an automatic dialing-announcing device, as defined in Section 2871 of the Public Utilities Code, causes a telephone solicitation or attempted telephone solicitation to occur which meets the criteria specified in subdivision (a), (b), (c), or (d) and who is not exempted by subdivision (e), as follows:

(a) A telephone solicitation or attempted telephone solicitation wherein the telephonic seller initiates telephonic contact with a prospective purchaser and represents or implies one or more of the following:

(1) That a prospective purchaser who buys one or more items will also receive additional or other items, whether or not of the same type as purchased, without further cost. For purposes of this subdivision, “further cost” does not include actual postage or common carrier delivery charges, if any.

(2) That a prospective purchaser will receive a prize or gift, if the person also encourages the prospective purchaser to do either of the following:

(A) Purchase or rent any goods or services.

(B) Pay any money, including, but not limited to, a delivery or handling charge.

(3) That a prospective purchaser is able to obtain any item or service at a price which the seller states or implies is below the regular price of the item or service offered. This paragraph shall not apply to retailers who, within the previous 12 months, have sold a majority of their goods or services through in-person sales at retail stores.

(4) That a prospective purchaser who buys office equipment or supplies will, because of some unusual event or imminent price



increase, be able to buy these items at prices which are below those that are usually charged or will be charged for the items.

(5) That the seller is a person other than the person he or she is.

(6) That the items for sale are manufactured or supplied by a person other than the actual manufacturer or supplier.

(7) That the seller is offering to sell the prospective purchaser any gold, silver, or other metals, including coins, diamonds, rubies, sapphires, or other stones, coal or other minerals, or any interest in oil, gas, or mineral fields, wells, or exploration sites, or any other investment opportunity of any type whatsoever.

(8) That the seller is offering to make a loan, or to arrange or assist in arranging a loan or to assist in providing information which may lead to the obtaining of a loan, unless no payment of any kind is made until the loan proceeds are disbursed to the borrower.

(9) That a prospective purchaser will receive a credit card, as defined in subdivision (a) of Section 1747.02 of the Civil Code, if the purchaser pays an up front or preapplication fee for the credit card to the telephonic seller.

(b) A solicitation or attempted solicitation which is made by telephone in response to inquiries generated by unrequested notifications sent by the seller to persons who have not previously purchased goods or services from the seller or who have not previously requested credit from the seller, to a prospective purchaser wherein the seller represents or implies to the recipient of the notification that any of the following applies to the recipient:

(1) That the recipient has in any manner been specially selected to receive the notification or the offer contained in the notification.

(2) That the recipient will receive a prize or gift if the recipient calls the seller.

(3) That if the recipient buys one or more items from the seller, the recipient will also receive additional or other items, whether or not of the same type as purchased, without further cost or at a cost which the seller states or implies is less than the regular price of such items.

However, this subdivision does not apply to the solicitation of sales by a catalog seller who periodically issues and delivers catalogs to potential purchasers by mail or by other means. This exception only applies if the catalog includes a written description or illustration and the sales price of each item of merchandise offered for sale, includes at least 24 full pages of written material or illustrations, is distributed in more than one state, and has an annual circulation of not less than 250,000 customers.

(c) A solicitation or attempted solicitation which is made by telephone in response to inquiries generated by advertisements on behalf of the telephonic seller wherein it is represented or implied that the seller is offering to sell to the prospective purchaser any gold, silver, or other metals, including coins, diamonds, rubies, sapphires,



or other stones, coal or other minerals, or any interest in oil, gas, or mineral fields, wells, or exploration sites, or any other investment opportunity of any type whatsoever.

(d) A solicitation or attempted solicitation which is made by telephone in response to inquiries generated by advertisements on behalf of the telephonic seller wherein it is represented or implied that the seller is offering to make a loan or to arrange or assist in arranging a loan or to assist in providing information which may lead to the obtaining of a loan, unless no payment of any kind is made until the loan proceeds are disbursed to the borrower.

(e) For purposes of this article, “telephonic seller” or “seller” does not include any of the following:

(1) A person offering or selling a security qualified under Section 25110, 25120, or 25130 of the Corporations Code or exempt from qualification under Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 25100) of Part 2 of Division 1 of Title 4 of the Corporations Code. The fact that a notice claiming an exemption under the Corporate Securities Law of 1968 is filed with the Department of Corporations does not create an exemption under this paragraph.

(2) A person licensed pursuant to Part 1 (commencing with Section 10000) of Division 4, when the solicited transaction is governed by that law.

(3) A person licensed pursuant to Chapter 9 (commencing with Section 7000) of Division 3, when the solicited transaction is governed by that law.

(4) A person licensed or certificated pursuant to Part 2 (commencing with Section 680) of Division 1 of the Insurance Code, including a person licensed pursuant to Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 1621) thereof, when the solicited transaction is governed by that law.

(5) A person offering or selling a franchise registered pursuant to Section 31110 of the Corporations Code or exempt from registration under Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 31100) of Part 2 of Division 5 of Title 4 of the Corporations Code. The fact that a notice claiming an exemption under the Franchise Investment Law is filed with the Department of Corporations does not create an exemption under this paragraph.

(6) A person soliciting the sale of a seller assisted marketing plan, as defined in Title 2.7 (commencing with Section 1812.200) of Part 4 of Division 3 of the Civil Code, who has filed with the Attorney General the documents required by Section 1812.203 of the Civil Code.

(7) A person primarily soliciting the sale of a newspaper of general circulation, as defined in Article 1 (commencing with Section 6000) of Chapter 1 of Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code, a magazine, or membership in a book or record club whose program



operates in conformity with the requirements of Section 1584.5 of the Civil Code.

(8) A person soliciting business from prospective purchasers who have previously purchased from the business enterprise for which the person is calling.

(9) A person soliciting without the intent to complete and who does not complete the sales presentation during the telephone solicitation but completes the sales presentation at a later face-to-face meeting between the solicitor and the prospective purchaser. However, if a seller, directly following a telephone solicitation, causes an individual whose primary purpose it is to go to the prospective purchaser to collect the payment or deliver any item purchased, this exemption does not apply.

(10) Any supervised financial institution or parent, subsidiary, or subsidiary of parent thereof. As used in this paragraph, “supervised financial institution” means any commercial bank, trust company, savings and loan association, credit union, industrial loan company, personal property broker, consumer finance lender, commercial finance lender, or insurer, provided that the institution is subject to supervision by an official or agency of this state or of the United States.

(11) A person soliciting the sale of a preneed funeral arrangement regulated by Article 9 (commencing with Section 7735) of Chapter 12 of Division 3.

(12) A person licensed pursuant to Chapter 19 (commencing with Section 9600) of Division 3 when acting pursuant to that licensure.

(13) A person soliciting the sale of services provided by a cable television system licensed or franchised pursuant to Section 53066 of the Government Code or any other authority.

(14) A person or an affiliate of a person whose business is regulated by the Public Utilities Commission.

(15) A person soliciting the sale of a commodity pursuant to Part 2 (commencing with Section 58601) of Division 21 of the Food and Agricultural Code, if the solicitation neither intends to, nor actually results in, a sale which costs the purchaser in excess of one hundred dollars (\$100).

(16) An issuer or subsidiary of an issuer that has a security listed on a national securities exchange or designated as a national market system security on an interdealer quotation system by the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc., if the exchange or interdealer quotation system has been certified by rule or order of the Commissioner of Corporations under subdivision (o) of Section 25100 of the Corporations Code. A subsidiary of an issuer that qualifies for exemption under this paragraph is not itself exempt unless not less than 60 percent of the voting power of its shares is owned by the qualifying issuer or issuers.



(17) A person soliciting exclusively the sale of telephone answering services to be provided by that person or that person's employer.

(18) A person soliciting a transaction regulated by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission if the person is registered or temporarily licensed for this activity with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission under the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. Sec. 1 et seq.), and the registration or license has not expired or been suspended or revoked.

(19) A person who sells coins or bullion at a price which is not more than 25 percent more than the price at which the seller is concurrently buying the same coins or bullion, if: (A) the seller has had a retail location in California from which he or she has been selling coins or bullion to the public in person for at least three years; (B) the telephonic solicitations are not the person's primary business and sales made telephonically make up less than 20 percent of the person's total retail sales; and (C) the person claiming an exemption pursuant to this subdivision complies with Section 17511.3, as applicable, and subdivision (p) of Section 17511.4.

(20) A person licensed pursuant to Chapter 14 (commencing with Section 1800) of Division 1 of the Financial Code to receive money for transmittal to foreign countries if the license has not expired or been suspended or revoked.

(21) A person licensed as a residential mortgage lender or servicer pursuant to Division 20 (commencing with Section 50000) of the Financial Code, when acting under the authority of that license.

(22) A corporation that meets all of the following conditions:

(A) It has been exempt from taxation under Section 23701e of the Revenue and Taxation Code for a minimum of 10 years.

(B) It has maintained its principal purpose for a minimum of 10 years.

(C) It has been incorporated in the state for a minimum of 25 years.

(f) In any civil proceeding alleging a violation of this article, the burden of proving an exemption or an exception from a definition is upon the person claiming it, and in any criminal proceeding alleging a violation of this article, the burden of producing evidence to support a defense based upon an exemption or an exception from a definition is upon the person claiming it.

(g) Compliance with this article does not satisfy nor substitute for any requirements for license, registration, or regulation mandated by other laws.

SEC. 2. Section 17538.45 is added to the Business and Professions Code, to read:

17538.45. (a) For purposes of this section, the following words have the following meanings:



(1) “Electronic mail advertisement” means any electronic mail message, the principal purpose of which is to promote, directly or indirectly, the sale or other distribution of goods or services to the recipient.

(2) “Unsolicited electronic mail advertisement” means any electronic mail advertisement that meets both of the following requirements:

(A) It is addressed to a recipient with whom the initiator does not have an existing business or personal relationship.

(B) It is not sent at the request of or with the express consent of the recipient.

(3) “Electronic mail service provider” means any business or organization qualified to do business in California that provides registered users the ability to send or receive electronic mail through equipment located in this state and that is an intermediary in sending or receiving electronic mail.

(4) “Initiation” of an unsolicited electronic mail advertisement refers to the action by the initial sender of the electronic mail advertisement. It does not refer to the actions of any intervening electronic mail service provider that may handle or retransmit the electronic message.

(5) “Registered user” means any individual, corporation, or other entity that maintains an electronic mail address with an electronic mail service provider.

(b) No registered user of an electronic mail service provider shall use or cause to be used that electronic mail service provider’s equipment located in this state in violation of that electronic mail service provider’s policy prohibiting or restricting the use of its service or equipment for the initiation of unsolicited electronic mail advertisements.

(c) No individual, corporation, or other entity shall use or cause to be used, by initiating an unsolicited electronic mail advertisement, an electronic mail service provider’s equipment located in this state in violation of that electronic mail service provider’s policy prohibiting or restricting the use of its equipment to deliver unsolicited electronic mail advertisements to its registered users.

(d) An electronic mail service provider shall not be required to create a policy prohibiting or restricting the use of its equipment for the initiation or delivery of unsolicited electronic mail advertisements.

(e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit or restrict the rights of an electronic mail service provider under Section 230(c)(1) of Title 47 of the United States Code, or any decision of an electronic mail service provider to permit or to restrict access to or use of its system, or any exercise of its editorial function.

(f) (1) In addition to any other action available under law, any electronic mail service provider whose policy on unsolicited



electronic mail advertisements is violated as provided in this section may bring a civil action to recover the actual monetary loss suffered by that provider by reason of that violation, or liquidated damages of fifty dollars (\$50) for each electronic mail message initiated or delivered in violation of this section, up to a maximum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) per day, whichever amount is greater.

(2) In any action brought pursuant to paragraph (1), the court may award reasonable attorney's fees to a prevailing party.

(3) (A) In any action brought pursuant to paragraph (1), the electronic mail service provider shall be required to establish as an element of its cause of action that prior to the alleged violation, the defendant had actual notice of both of the following:

(i) The electronic mail service provider's policy on unsolicited electronic mail advertising.

(ii) The fact that the defendant's unsolicited electronic mail advertisements would use or cause to be used the electronic mail service provider's equipment located in this state.

(B) In this regard, the Legislature finds that with rapid advances in Internet technology, and electronic mail technology in particular, Internet service providers are already experimenting with embedding policy statements directly into the software running on the computers used to provide electronic mail services in a manner that displays the policy statements every time an electronic mail delivery is requested. While the state of the technology does not support such a finding at present, the Legislature believes that, in a given case at some future date, a showing that notice was supplied via electronic means between the sending and receiving computers could be held to constitute actual notice to the sender for purposes of this paragraph.

(4) A violation of this section shall not be subject to Section 17534.

SEC. 3. Section 502 of the Penal Code is amended to read:

502. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature in enacting this section to expand the degree of protection afforded to individuals, businesses, and governmental agencies from tampering, interference, damage, and unauthorized access to lawfully created computer data and computer systems. The Legislature finds and declares that the proliferation of computer technology has resulted in a concomitant proliferation of computer crime and other forms of unauthorized access to computers, computer systems, and computer data.

The Legislature further finds and declares that protection of the integrity of all types and forms of lawfully created computers, computer systems, and computer data is vital to the protection of the privacy of individuals as well as to the well-being of financial institutions, business concerns, governmental agencies, and others within this state that lawfully utilize those computers, computer systems, and data.



(b) For the purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) “Access” means to gain entry to, instruct, or communicate with the logical, arithmetical, or memory function resources of a computer, computer system, or computer network.

(2) “Computer network” means any system that provides communications between one or more computer systems and input/output devices including, but not limited to, display terminals and printers connected by telecommunication facilities.

(3) “Computer program or software” means a set of instructions or statements, and related data, that when executed in actual or modified form, cause a computer, computer system, or computer network to perform specified functions.

(4) “Computer services” includes, but is not limited to, computer time, data processing, or storage functions, or other uses of a computer, computer system, or computer network.

(5) “Computer system” means a device or collection of devices, including support devices and excluding calculators that are not programmable and capable of being used in conjunction with external files, one or more of which contain computer programs, electronic instructions, input data, and output data, that performs functions including, but not limited to, logic, arithmetic, data storage and retrieval, communication, and control.

(6) “Data” means a representation of information, knowledge, facts, concepts, computer software, computer programs or instructions. Data may be in any form, in storage media, or as stored in the memory of the computer or in transit or presented on a display device.

(7) “Supporting documentation” includes, but is not limited to, all information, in any form, pertaining to the design, construction, classification, implementation, use, or modification of a computer, computer system, computer network, computer program, or computer software, which information is not generally available to the public and is necessary for the operation of a computer, computer system, computer network, computer program, or computer software.

(8) “Injury” means any alteration, deletion, damage, or destruction of a computer system, computer network, computer program, or data caused by the access.

(9) “Victim expenditure” means any expenditure reasonably and necessarily incurred by the owner or lessee to verify that a computer system, computer network, computer program, or data was or was not altered, deleted, damaged, or destroyed by the access.

(10) “Computer contaminant” means any set of computer instructions that are designed to modify, damage, destroy, record, or transmit information within a computer, computer system, or computer network without the intent or permission of the owner of



the information. They include, but are not limited to, a group of computer instructions commonly called viruses or worms, that are self-replicating or self-propagating and are designed to contaminate other computer programs or computer data, consume computer resources, modify, destroy, record, or transmit data, or in some other fashion usurp the normal operation of the computer, computer system, or computer network.

(11) “Internet domain name” means a globally unique, hierarchical reference to an Internet host or service, assigned through centralized Internet naming authorities, comprising a series of character strings separated by periods, with the rightmost character string specifying the top of the hierarchy.

(c) Except as provided in subdivision (h), any person who commits any of the following acts is guilty of a public offense:

(1) Knowingly accesses and without permission alters, damages, deletes, destroys, or otherwise uses any data, computer, computer system, or computer network in order to either (A) devise or execute any scheme or artifice to defraud, deceive, or extort, or (B) wrongfully control or obtain money, property, or data.

(2) Knowingly accesses and without permission takes, copies, or makes use of any data from a computer, computer system, or computer network, or takes or copies any supporting documentation, whether existing or residing internal or external to a computer, computer system, or computer network.

(3) Knowingly and without permission uses or causes to be used computer services.

(4) Knowingly accesses and without permission adds, alters, damages, deletes, or destroys any data, computer software, or computer programs which reside or exist internal or external to a computer, computer system, or computer network.

(5) Knowingly and without permission disrupts or causes the disruption of computer services or denies or causes the denial of computer services to an authorized user of a computer, computer system, or computer network.

(6) Knowingly and without permission provides or assists in providing a means of accessing a computer, computer system, or computer network in violation of this section.

(7) Knowingly and without permission accesses or causes to be accessed any computer, computer system, or computer network.

(8) Knowingly introduces any computer contaminant into any computer, computer system, or computer network.

(9) Knowingly and without permission uses the Internet domain name of another individual, corporation, or entity in connection with the sending of one or more electronic mail messages, and thereby damages or causes damage to a computer, computer system, or computer network.



(d) (1) Any person who violates any of the provisions of paragraph (1), (2), (4), or (5) of subdivision (c) is punishable by a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), or by imprisonment in the state prison for 16 months, or two or three years, or by both that fine and imprisonment, or by a fine not exceeding five thousand dollars (\$5,000), or by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one year, or by both that fine and imprisonment.

(2) Any person who violates paragraph (3) of subdivision (c) is punishable as follows:

(A) For the first violation that does not result in injury, and where the value of the computer services used does not exceed four hundred dollars (\$400), by a fine not exceeding five thousand dollars (\$5,000), or by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one year, or by both that fine and imprisonment.

(B) For any violation that results in a victim expenditure in an amount greater than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or in an injury, or if the value of the computer services used exceeds four hundred dollars (\$400), or for any second or subsequent violation, by a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), or by imprisonment in the state prison for 16 months, or two or three years, or by both that fine and imprisonment, or by a fine not exceeding five thousand dollars (\$5,000), or by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one year, or by both that fine and imprisonment.

(3) Any person who violates paragraph (6), (7), or (8) of subdivision (c) is punishable as follows:

(A) For a first violation that does not result in injury, an infraction punishable by a fine not exceeding two hundred fifty dollars (\$250).

(B) For any violation that results in a victim expenditure in an amount not greater than five thousand dollars (\$5,000), or for a second or subsequent violation, by a fine not exceeding five thousand dollars (\$5,000), or by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one year, or by both that fine and imprisonment.

(C) For any violation that results in a victim expenditure in an amount greater than five thousand dollars (\$5,000), by a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), or by imprisonment in the state prison for 16 months, or two or three years, or by both that fine and imprisonment, or by a fine not exceeding five thousand dollars (\$5,000), or by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one year, or by both that fine and imprisonment.

(4) Any person who violates paragraph (9) of subdivision (c) is punishable as follows:

(A) For a first violation that does not result in injury, an infraction punishable by a fine not exceeding two hundred fifty dollars (\$250).

(B) For any violation that results in injury, or for a second or subsequent violation, by a fine not exceeding five thousand dollars (\$5,000), or by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one year, or by both that fine and imprisonment.



(e) (1) In addition to any other civil remedy available, the owner or lessee of the computer, computer system, computer network, computer program, or data may bring a civil action against any person convicted under this section for compensatory damages, including any expenditure reasonably and necessarily incurred by the owner or lessee to verify that a computer system, computer network, computer program, or data was or was not altered, damaged, or deleted by the access. For the purposes of actions authorized by this subdivision, the conduct of an unemancipated minor shall be imputed to the parent or legal guardian having control or custody of the minor, pursuant to the provisions of Section 1714.1 of the Civil Code.

(2) In any action brought pursuant to this subdivision the court may award reasonable attorney's fees to a prevailing party.

(3) A community college, state university, or academic institution accredited in this state is required to include computer-related crimes as a specific violation of college or university student conduct policies and regulations that may subject a student to disciplinary sanctions up to and including dismissal from the academic institution. This paragraph shall not apply to the University of California unless the Board of Regents adopts a resolution to that effect.

(f) This section shall not be construed to preclude the applicability of any other provision of the criminal law of this state which applies or may apply to any transaction, nor shall it make illegal any employee labor relations activities that are within the scope and protection of state or federal labor laws.

(g) Any computer, computer system, computer network, or any software or data, owned by the defendant, that is used during the commission of any public offense described in subdivision (c) or any computer, owned by the defendant, which is used as a repository for the storage of software or data illegally obtained in violation of subdivision (c) shall be subject to forfeiture, as specified in Section 502.01.

(h) (1) Subdivision (c) does not apply to any person who accesses his or her employer's computer system, computer network, computer program, or data when acting within the scope of his or her lawful employment.

(2) Paragraph (3) of subdivision (c) does not apply to any employee who accesses or uses his or her employer's computer system, computer network, computer program, or data when acting outside the scope of his or her lawful employment, so long as the employee's activities do not cause an injury, as defined in paragraph (8) of subdivision (b), to the employer or another, or so long as the value of supplies and computer services, as defined in paragraph (4) of subdivision (b), which are used do not exceed an accumulated total of one hundred dollars (\$100).



(i) No activity exempted from prosecution under paragraph (2) of subdivision (h) which incidentally violates paragraph (2), (4), or (7) of subdivision (c) shall be prosecuted under those paragraphs.

(j) For purposes of bringing a civil or a criminal action under this section, a person who causes, by any means, the access of a computer, computer system, or computer network in one jurisdiction from another jurisdiction is deemed to have personally accessed the computer, computer system, or computer network in each jurisdiction.

(k) In determining the terms and conditions applicable to a person convicted of a violation of this section the court shall consider the following:

(1) The court shall consider prohibitions on access to and use of computers.

(2) Except as otherwise required by law, the court shall consider alternate sentencing, including community service, if the defendant shows remorse and recognition of the wrongdoing, and an inclination not to repeat the offense.

SEC. 4. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.

Notwithstanding Section 17580 of the Government Code, unless otherwise specified, the provisions of this act shall become operative on the same date that the act takes effect pursuant to the California Constitution.

