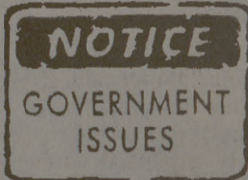


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Do-not-call list still up in air FCC steps in to enforce list, Bush signs support

By David Ho
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The bewildering fight between the government and telemarketers over the national do-not-call list took another turn Monday when a second federal agency said it would enforce the program, promising that consumers would soon see some reduction in telephone sales pitches.

The Federal Communications Commission said it would seek fines of up to \$120,000 against telemarketers each time they call people on the registry. The FCC got involved because the Federal Trade Commission, which is compiling the list and planned to enforce it, has been blocked by a federal judge.

The list of more than 50 million telephone numbers registered by people who don't want to hear from telemarketers is scheduled to go into effect Wednesday. The public is being encouraged to continue signing up for the service and many telemarketers plan to respect the wishes of those on the list even while legal questions remain.

"One of the things we all need to do is take a deep breath," FCC Chairman Michael Powell said. "What you've got is virtually everyone in federal government here working to leave no avenue unexplored to make sure the list works as fully as legally possible."

Prompted by two court rulings last week favoring telemarketers, seemingly every elected official in Washington has sought to show their commitment to the do-not-call list. Republicans and Democrats in Congress joined forces to pass a bill in near-record speed last week and President Bush signed it Monday.

The measure gives explicit authority to the FTC to set up and operate the do-not-call list, a distinction made moot by a court order that came down after Congress acted. Bush did not mention that.

"The public is understandably losing patience with these unwanted phone calls, unwanted intrusions," he said at a White House ceremony. "Given a choice, Americans prefer not to receive random sales pitches at all hours of the day. The American people should be free to restrict these calls."

The legislation came after U.S. District Judge Lee R. West in Oklahoma City ruled last week that the FCC lacked authority to run the registry.

At about the same time that Congress passed the bill Thursday, U.S. District Judge Edward W. Nottingham in

Denver ruled the do-not-call list unconstitutional on free-speech grounds because it applied to calls from businesses but not charities. That decision blocked the FTC from enforcing the list. The FTC has asked the court to suspend its decision while the agency appeals.

Another court decision let the FCC free to act. A three-judge panel at the Denver-based 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on Friday denied a request from telemarketers to block the FCC's role in the registry.

"Given a choice, Americans prefer not to receive random sales pitches at all hours of the day."

— President George W. Bush

On Monday, Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer refused to block that decision, but telemarketers could renew their request with another justice. If the Supreme Court grants the request to temporarily suspend the FCC's rules, both agencies would be blocked from enforcing the list.

The FTC says people can still sign up for the list and file complaints about telemarketer violations at www.donotcall.gov or by calling 1-888-382-1222.

FCC officials said complaints will be forwarded to their agency for enforcement. Consumers can also file complaints directly with the FCC by calling 1-888-225-5322.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Band to host onstage suicide

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — The leader of the rock band Hell on Earth said Monday that an onstage suicide will be conducted during a private St. Petersburg concert this weekend in defiance of a new city law designed to stop the act.

"The show will go on," Billy Tourtelot said. "It will be available on the Internet and it will be in the city limits (of St. Petersburg)."

Earlier Monday, the St. Petersburg city council unanimously approved an emergency ordinance that makes it illegal to conduct a suicide for commercial or entertainment purposes, and to host, promote and sell tickets for such an event.

Circuit Judge John C. Lenderman of St. Petersburg granted the city a temporary injunction against the band Monday, preventing them from advertising the show and allowing the suicide. The judge scheduled a hearing in the case Thursday.

The Tampa-based band, known for such outrageous onstage stunts as chocolate syrup wrestling and grinding up live rats in a blender, first created the furor by announcing earlier this month that the suicide would happen during a show at the State Theater in downtown St. Petersburg.

But the theater's owner promptly canceled the band's appearance, and another venue also turned away the event.



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Stu

"Hey a—h
Stop be

This obscene yell become more popular "yells." The only thing

But who is the one The person who not go to Texas A&M son who may or may not take his hat off during "out of respect?" Or cursing a fellow Aggie to take his (insert expletive) hat off?

There is no written available online that so-called tradition.

Traditions Council or why it started.

Senior yell leaders know when it started maybe he could if he if a senior yell leader of leading the yells, uncovering before a in section 226 does.

Everyone's been to to uncover before yet great sign of respect our hats off before yet

But regardless of apparently it is more Aggies in the stands, might start a riot and ring. Obviously, anyone isn't really an Aggie.

Oh, and did the A because people didn't

Senior electrical engineer said he is tired of people something so petty.

"I hate it," he said friends from other schools ball game or to yell

Astro

By THE A

HOUSTON — This was too much like their hitting evaporator four times they've m

This year, they slipped into the c McLane taking a close payroll and general forward with the tea

And, two of the closer Billy Wagner were guessing where

Wagner, who had 44 saves, criticized M get another starting p

expects more of the "It's going to be what seemed like fin

Following Sunday's season going out there and just going to be nipped

Hidalgo overcame a berry attempt prior to big comeback season and 88 RBIs. A year and 48 RBIs.

"I've just got to t

W Bra

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