
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR & SENIOR STAFF
FROM: BOYD
SUBJECT: CONSUMER PRIVACY LEGISLATION
DATE: 10/20/2000
CC: FILE

Mississippi has very few legislative privacy protections for citizens, especially regarding electronic identity and medical information and records. According to the Mississippi Code Annotated, we have three major protections 1) adult protective services (43-47-31); 2) bank depositor information (81-5-55); and, 3) photographing or filming another without permission (97-29-63).

Elements of a good privacy protection statute include: access, choice, data integrity, enforcement, notice, onward transfer, recourse, and security.

- **Access** – Individuals should have access to their own data to know what has been collected and assure its accuracy.
- **Choice** – In most cases, individuals should be given a choice about whether or not to provide their personal information, subject to law (“Opt-in” or “Opt-out”).
- **Data integrity** – Individuals should have reasonable assurance that their information was entered correctly and has not been corrupted.
- **Enforcement** – Laws and regulations regarding the handling of personal information should be enforced.
- **Notice** – Individuals should be notified when their information is being collected and informed about how it will be used.
- **Onward transfer** – Individuals should be notified and given choice if their personal information will be transferred to another organization than the one that originally collected it, or whether the information will be used for a different purpose than that for which it was collected.
- **Recourse** – Individuals should have access to a process for redress of damages that might result from mishandling or abuse of their personal information.
- **Security** – Individuals should have reasonable assurance that their information is secure and protected from outside attack or unauthorized alteration.