



Consumer Federation of America

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CFA SAYS SELF-REGULATION NOT THE ANSWER TO PROTECTING PRIVACY

Susan Grant Comments on Commerce Proposal to Address Privacy Violations

Washington DC – December 16, 2010: Consumer Federation of America agrees with the U.S. Department of Commerce that the United States urgently needs to address privacy issues, but CFA urges much stronger action than the agency recommends in the report, “Commercial Data Privacy and Innovation in the Internet Economy: A Dynamic Policy Framework,” that it released today.

“It’s good that the Department of Commerce recognizes that we have a privacy problem, but the solution is not more self-regulation,” said Susan Grant, CFA’s Director of Consumer Protection. “We’ve tried that, and it’s clearly inadequate. We need a privacy law that sets the rules of the road, including prohibiting some data practices that are not acceptable and giving consumers real control over their personal information, and that provides for strong enforcement by the states, the Federal Trade Commission, and consumers themselves.”

For information about CFA’s positions on privacy and information about privacy for consumers, go to <http://www.consumerfed.org/consumer-privacy/privacy>.

The Consumer Federation of America is an association of nearly 300 nonprofit consumer organizations that was established in 1968 to advance the consumer interest through research, advocacy, and education.