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CrS Report for Congress: Junk E-mail: An Overview of Issues and Legislation Concerning Unsolicited Commercial Electronic Mail (Spam): June 25,

By Marcia S. Smith

Bibliogov. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 24 pages. Dimensions: 9.7in. x 7.4in. x 0.1in. Unsolicited commercial e-mail (UCE), also called spam or junk e-mail, aggravates many computer users. Not only can spam be a nuisance, but its cost may be passed on to consumers through higher charges from Internet service providers who must upgrade their systems to handle the traffic. Also, some spam involves fraud, or includes adult-oriented material that offends recipients or that parents want to protect their children from seeing. Proponents of UCE insist it is a legitimate marketing technique that is protected by the First Amendment. While 34 states have anti-spam laws, there is no federal law specifically concerning spam. Nine antispam bills are pending in the 108th Congress: H. R. 1933 (Lofgren), H. R. 2214 (BurrTauzin-Sensenbrenner), H. R. 2515 (Wilson), S. 563 (Dayton), S. 877 (BurnsWyden), S. 1052 (Nelson-FL), S. 1231 (Schumer), S. 1293 (Hatch), and S. 1327 (Corzine). Tables providing brief side-by-side comparisons of the bills are included in this report. Spam on wireless devices such as cell phones is discussed in CRS Report RL31636, Wireless Privacy: Availability of Location Information for Telemarketing. State spam laws, and an existing federal...



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