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Act No. 135 (H.639). An act relating to genetic data privacy

Subjects: Consumer protection; commerce and trade; genetic data privacy

This act provides privacy protections and rights for consumers for their genetic data. Direct-to-consumer genetic testing companies are required to provide clear information to consumers about the company's policies on its collection and use of consumers' genetic data. Such companies must also obtain a consumer's consent before the company uses the genetic data or biological sample of the consumer beyond the primary purpose of the genetic testing or service, including disclosing or transferring the genetic data or biological sample to a third party.

The act requires that direct-to-consumer genetic testing companies implement reasonable security procedures to protect against unauthorized access to consumers' genetic data. It also gives consumers the right to request that their genetic data be deleted. A violation of the act is enforced through the Vermont Consumer Protection Act.

Effective Date: July 1, 2026