

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 102

BY REPRESENTATIVE WRIGHT

CREDIT/CARDS: Memorializes the United States Congress to protect consumers from government interference in the free market

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To memorialize the United States Congress to protect consumers from government
3 interference by opposing congressional efforts to prevent surcharges or an extra fee
4 when a customer chooses to pay with a credit card.

5 WHEREAS, Americans have developed an exceptionally advanced and innovative
6 payments system through a steadfast focus on private sector leadership that respects the
7 rights of individuals and companies to make their own informed choices about how they pay
8 and are paid; and

9 WHEREAS, the market-based payments approach in this nation responds to the
10 dynamic and diverse needs of American entrepreneurs and consumers rather than operating
11 under static government mandates; and

12 WHEREAS, while other nations import payments technology to run their economy,
13 American companies set the standard of the global payments ecosystem; and

14 WHEREAS, the importance of prioritizing the protection of consumers from
15 government interference that would shift financial transactions to less secure, less
16 innovative, and potentially risky providers who could place consumers and their financial
17 data in a more vulnerable position; and

18 WHEREAS, states should oppose any governmental economic favoritism that would
19 negatively impact consumers, provide less choice and access to popular consumer benefits
20 such as cashback and rewards programs, threaten airline services, or undermine critical
21 payment fraud protections while increasing national security risks; and

1 WHEREAS, the commandeering of the payments system by the government or the
2 central bank threatens personal privacy, innovation, and American economic leadership; and

3 WHEREAS, the United States has the most robust and secure financial system in the
4 world, and a strong network supporting small businesses and protecting consumers; and

5 WHEREAS, more than four hundred eighty-six million credit cards are in use in the
6 United States, with more than one hundred ninety-one million Americans holding at least
7 one credit card; and

8 WHEREAS, states should protect consumers' right to choose their payment methods
9 and pay transparent prices by preventing the addition of a surcharge or an extra fee when a
10 customer chooses to pay with a credit card; and

11 WHEREAS, the credit card payments industry is a healthy and competitive space,
12 and further legislation to impose government-mandated price controls in this area is both
13 unnecessary and harmful to innovation and security.

14 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
15 urge the United States Congress to protect consumers from government interference in the
16 free market and any actions that would weaken our national security by opposing
17 congressional efforts to overreach into the wallets of American consumers and small
18 businesses.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
20 presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the
21 United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HCR 102 Engrossed

2024 Regular Session

Wright

Memorialize the United States Congress to oppose congressional efforts to prevent surcharges when a consumer chooses to pay with a credit card.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Commerce to the original bill:

1. Make technical changes.