GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2025

H.B. 13 Jan 29, 2025 HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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H **HOUSE BILL DRH30015-MU-11**

Short Title: Charges for Payments by Credit or Debit Card. (Public) Representative Warren. Sponsors: Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED 1 2 AN ACT TO REGULATE THE AMOUNT A MERCHANT MAY CHARGE CUSTOMERS 3 FOR PAYMENTS BY CREDIT CARD OR DEBIT CARD. 4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts: 5 **SECTION 1.** Article 13 of Chapter 66 of the General Statutes is amended by adding 6 a new section to read: "§ 66-67.10. Charges for payments by credit card or debit card. 7 8 In this section, the following definitions apply: 9 Merchant. – A person that engages in the business of selling goods or services (1) 10 at retail. 11 (2) Payment card entity. – An entity involved in facilitating or processing an electronic transfer of funds between a merchant and a customer using a credit 12 13 card or debit card. 14 A merchant operating in this State shall not impose a charge for payments by credit 15 16 17

card or debit card that is more than the charge that the merchant pays to a payment card entity to facilitate or process these payments. If a merchant operating in this State advertises that it accepts payments by credit card or debit card and imposes a charge for these payments, the merchant shall conspicuously disclose the amount of the charge in the advertisement.

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- The Secretary of Commerce may assess a civil penalty against a merchant for a violation of this section. The amount of the penalty shall not exceed two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) for the first violation or five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for a subsequent violation. The clear proceeds of civil penalties imposed pursuant to this subsection shall be remitted to the Civil Penalty and Forfeiture Fund in accordance with G.S. 115C-457.2."
- **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective October 1, 2025, and applies to payments made on or after that date.

