

Delaware Enacts Labeling Requirements for Apparel Containing Real Fur

On July 3, 2008, Governor Ruth Ann Minner signed into law House Substitute No. 1 for House Bill No. 216, An Act to Amend Title 6 of the Delaware Code Relating to Prohibited Trade Practices. The purpose of this Act is to ensure that the retail consumer has notice prior to purchasing wearing apparel that contains real animal fur. The Act establishes requirements that must be met by a merchant that sells, offers or displays for sale new apparel that contains real animal fur. The Act sets forth that such apparel must have a tag, label or sticker attached to it and conspicuously displayed that clearly and legibly states, in English, that such apparel contains real animal fur.

This law applies to all new fur-containing apparel, regardless of the price of the apparel or the value of the fur contained therein. It applies only to new apparel sold by a merchant to a retail consumer in a retail store. It does not apply to the re-sale of such apparel by second-hand, consignment, goodwill or similar "re-sell" merchants. Merchants found in violation of these requirements, which become effective and enforceable on June, 1, 2010, shall be subject to a civil penalty of \$200 per incident, regardless of the total number of articles of apparel found in violation during the incident.