

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 17, 2025

AMENDED IN SENATE FEBRUARY 27, 2025

SENATE BILL

No. 82

Introduced by Senator Umberg

January 17, 2025

An act to add Section 1670.15 to the Civil Code, relating to contracts.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 82, as amended, Umberg. Contracts: consumer goods and services: agreements to arbitrate.

Existing law regulates the formation and enforcement of contracts, including imposing certain restrictions on the terms of a contract for the sale or lease of consumer goods or services. In this regard, existing law prohibits a provision waiving the consumer's right to make any statement regarding the seller, lessor, or its employees or agents, or concerning the goods or services. Existing law also prohibits a consumer service contract from limiting a consumer's ability to file a complaint with a licensing board that regulates the consumer service provider or to participate in the board's investigation into the consumer service provider, as specified.

This bill would, for contracts for the sale or lease of consumer goods or services entered into on or after January 1, 2026, require an agreement to arbitrate to be limited to a claim arising out of *and relating to* the contract containing the agreement to arbitrate. The bill would make a violation of this requirement or a waiver of these provisions void and unenforceable, as provided.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 1670.15 is added to the Civil Code, to
2 read:
3 1670.15. (a) For a contract for the sale or lease of consumer
4 goods or services entered into on or after January 1, 2026, an
5 agreement to arbitrate shall be limited to a claim arising out of *and*
6 *relating to* the contract containing the agreement to arbitrate.
7 (b) An agreement to arbitrate that violates subdivision (a) is
8 void and unenforceable.
9 (c) A waiver of the provisions of this section is contrary to public
10 policy and void and unenforceable.

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