

HB 1496 -- Price Gouging

Sponsor: Bruns

This bill prohibits a person from charging excessive prices for necessities during emergencies. An excessive price is one that exceeds the person's retail price prior to the emergency by 10% or more.

An affirmative defense is available if a person can prove that the excessive price is due to either an increase in the cost to the person or that the increase is not within the person's control.

A person who engages in price gouging is liable for three times the amount unfairly received for each transaction.