

A Study on Regulatory Schemes Governing Consumption Information Disclosure —Based on German Consumer Information Act

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Abstract

People have always understand that food is their primary need, but today consumers can only passively receive information, mainly through labels, media reports, and advertisements. Can consumers, by demanding that governments require the disclosure of all relevant information, gradually shift from being passive to proactive in receiving information? Take for example Germany's Law on Improvement of Health-related Consumer Information, hereinafter the German Consumer Information Act, which explicitly gives everyone the right to request that the government disclose consumption information, and strengthens the dimension, which consumers may actively request. Currently, Taiwan's regulatory scheme on information disclosure is based on the Freedom of Government Information Law. The German legislative framework and practical experience might capture Taiwan's attention and provoke discussion of consumer information disclosure regulation, and allow consumers a chance to better protect their health.

Key Words: Consumption Information, Right of Access to Information, German Consumer Information Act, The Freedom of Government Information Law, Exemptions from Disclosure, Balance of Legal Interests