STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

HOUSE BILL NO. 2244 By: Dobrinski

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7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to motor vehicles; defining terms; authorizing dealer management system providers perform certain actions; prohibiting dealer management system providers from certain actions; making conflicting term or condition of contracts void and unenforceable; requiring certain actions of authorized integrators; allowing dealers to withdraw, revoke or amend certain express written authorization under certain circumstances; requiring certain obligations to secure and prevent unauthorized access to certain information; stating certain parties not liable for certain actions; requiring indemnification for certain claims; confining certain judgments to operations of this act directly involved in the controversy in which judgment is rendered; requiring manufacturers to allow new motor vehicle dealers to make certain offers to consumers; making certain exceptions; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 562, which relates to definitions; modifying definitions; defining terms; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 564, which relates to licenses; disallowing certain authorization; making certain exception; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 565, as last amended by Section 3, Chapter 192, O.S.L. 2022 (47 O.S. Supp. 2022, Section 565), which relates to denial, revocation, or suspension of license; modifying entity subject to license denial, revocation, suspension, or fine; modifying reasons for license denial, revocation, suspension, or punishment by fine; prohibiting certain standards to measure performance; requiring certain vehicles be offered at same price; requiring certain reimbursement for rental cars; making certain exception; requiring new vehicles be distributed in

certain manner; limiting dealers to one part or labor rate request per year; providing for certain calculation; providing for exclusions for certain rate calculation; modifying reasons for certain rebuttal; allowing certain written request; allowing certain adjustments; requiring certain written notice; prohibiting certain recovery of costs; prohibiting factory denial of certain claims and implementation of certain charge-backs; requiring certain documentation and written attestation; providing for certain compensation calculation; requiring certain method for used vehicle calculations; allowing factory to direct dealer in certain manner and method; requiring certain reimbursement claims be subject to certain limitations and requirements; placing certain limit on total compensation; disallowing certain remedy combinations; disallowing the use of certain agreements; making certain exception; providing for certain violation; allowing for certain construction or renovation; providing certain rebuttable presumption; prohibiting factories from changing certain plans or systems; limiting license for distribution; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 565.1, which relates to succession dealerships; defining term; clarifying language; requiring adherence to certain agreement; requiring certain changes be in compliance with existing law; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 565.2, which relates to termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of franchise; requiring certain compensation; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 565.3, which relates to notice of proposed sale; requiring use of certain standards; requiring certain changes be in compliance with existing law; limiting certain evaluations; deleting certain protest right; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 578.1, which relates to procedures for relocation or establishment; modifying definition; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 580.2, which relates to insurance coverage on loan vehicles; defining term; making certain liability policy coverage distinction; providing for noncodification; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

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1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 564.3 of Title 47, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. As used in this section:

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- 1. "Access fee" means a requirement to pay money for access to protected dealer data.
- 2. "Authorized integrator" means a person with which a dealer has a contractual relationship or to which the dealer otherwise gives express written authorization to have access to protected dealer data stored on a dealer data system or to write protected dealer data to the dealer data system for the purpose of performing a specific function for the dealer.
- 3. "Dealer data system" means software, hardware or firmware that a dealer leases or rents from a dealer management system provider for the purpose of storing protected dealer data.
- 4. "Dealer management system provider" means a person that for compensation maintains and provides access to a dealer data system in which a dealer stores protected dealer data.
 - 5. "Protected dealer data" means:
 - a. personal data or financial data about a consumer that a dealer generated or that the consumer provided to the dealer that is not otherwise publicly available and which the consumer has not otherwise provided

consent or acknowledgment permitting his or her information may be shared, and

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- b. any other personal or financial data in connection with the dealer's daily business operations to which a dealer has rights in a dealer data system.
- 6. "Authorized integrator" and "dealer management system provider" do not include:
 - a. a manufacturer, distributor or importer or any entity that is a subsidiary or affiliate of, or acts on behalf of, a manufacturer, distributor or importer, or
 - b. a governmental body or other person that is acting in accordance with federal, state or local law or a valid court order.
 - B. A dealer management system provider may:
- 1. Condition a dealer's or authorized integrator's access and ability to receive, share, copy, use, write or transmit protected dealer data from or to a dealer data system on the dealer's or authorized integrator's compliance with security standards;
- 2. Require an authorized integrator to have express written authorization from a dealer before allowing the authorized integrator to gain access to, receive, share, copy, use or transmit protected dealer data; and
- 3. Deny access to a dealer data system to a dealer if the dealer fails to pay an amount due to the dealer management system

provider under a lease, contract or other agreement concerning the dealer's access to or use of the dealer data system.

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- C. Except as provided in subsection B of this section, a dealer management system provider shall not take any action that would limit or prohibit a dealer's or an authorized integrator's ability to receive, protect, store, copy, share or use protected dealer data using means that include, but are not limited to:
- Imposing an access fee on a dealer or authorized integrator;
- 2. Restricting a dealer or an authorized integrator from sharing protected dealer data or writing data or having access to a dealer data system. Examples of restrictions this paragraph does not permit include, but are not limited to:
 - a. limits on the scope or nature of protected dealer data to which a dealer or authorized integrator has access or may share or write to a dealer data system, and
 - b. a requirement for a dealer or authorized integrator to provide sensitive or confidential business information or information that a dealer or authorized integrator uses for competitive purposes in return for access to protected dealer data or an authorization to share or write protected dealer data to a dealer data system.
- D. Except as otherwise provided in this section, any term or condition of a contract with a dealer management system provider

that conflicts with the requirements set forth in subsection C of this section is void and unenforceable to the extent of the conflict.

E. 1. An authorized integrator shall:

- a. obtain express written authorization from a dealer before gaining access to, receiving, sharing, copying, using, writing or transmitting protected dealer data, and
- b. comply with security standards in gaining access to, receiving, sharing, copying, using, writing or transmitting protected dealer data.
- 2. Allow a dealer to withdraw, revoke or amend any express written authorization the dealer provides under subparagraph a of paragraph 1 of this subsection:
 - a. at the dealer's sole discretion, if the dealer gives30 days' prior notice to an authorized integrator, or
 - b. immediately, for good cause.
- F. 1. This section does not prevent a dealer, a dealer management system provider or an authorized integrator from discharging the dealer's, dealer management system provider's or authorized integrator's obligations under federal, state or local law to secure and prevent unauthorized access to protected dealer data, or from limiting the scope of the obligations, in accordance with federal, state or local law.

2. A dealer management system provider is not liable for any action that a dealer takes directly with respect to securing or preventing unauthorized access to protected dealer data, or for actions that an authorized integrator takes in appropriately following the dealer's written instructions for securing or preventing unauthorized access to protected dealer data, to the extent that the actions prevent the dealer management system provider from meeting a legal obligation to secure or prevent unauthorized access to protected dealer data.

- 3. A dealer is not liable for any action that an authorized integrator takes directly with respect to securing or preventing unauthorized access to protected dealer data, or for actions that the authorized integrator takes in appropriately following the dealer's written instructions for securing or preventing unauthorized access to protected dealer data, to the extent that the actions prevent the dealer from meeting a legal obligation to secure or prevent unauthorized access to protected dealer data.
- 4. An authorized integrator is not liable for any action that a dealer takes directly with respect to securing or preventing unauthorized access to protected dealer data, or for actions that the dealer takes in appropriately following the authorized integrator's written instructions for securing or preventing unauthorized access to protected dealer data, to the extent that the actions prevent the authorized integrator from meeting a legal

1 obligation to secure or prevent unauthorized access to protected 2 dealer data.

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- 5. A manufacturer, distributor or importer or any entity that is a subsidiary or affiliate of, or acts on behalf of, a manufacturer, distributor or importer is not liable for any action that a dealer, dealer management system provider, authorized integrator, or other third party takes directly with respect to securing or preventing unauthorized access to protected dealer data, or for actions that an authorized integrator, dealer management system provider, or other third party takes in appropriately following the dealer's written instructions for securing or preventing unauthorized access to protected dealer data.
 - 6. Notwithstanding any other agreement, an authorized integrator shall indemnify and hold the new motor vehicle dealer harmless from any third-party claims asserted against or damages incurred by the new motor vehicle dealer to the extent caused by access to, use of, or disclosure of consumer data in violation of this section.
 - 7. Notwithstanding any other agreement, a manufacturer, distributor or importer or any entity that is a subsidiary or affiliate of, or acts on behalf of, a manufacturer, distributor or importer shall indemnify the dealer for any third-party claims asserted against or damages incurred by the dealer to the extent the claims or damages are caused by the access to and unlawful

disclosure of protected dealer data resulting from a breach caused by the manufacturer or distributor or a third party to which the manufacturer or distributor has provided the protected dealer data in violation of this section, the written consent granted by the dealer, or other applicable state or federal law.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 564.4 of Title 47, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

If any part or provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance be adjudged invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such judgment shall be confined in its operation to the part, provision, or application directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment shall have been rendered and shall not affect or impair the validity of the remainder of this act or the application thereof to other persons or circumstances.

SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 565.4 of Title 47, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

Any manufacturer or distributor who has new motor vehicle sales and service contracts with new motor vehicles dealers shall allow its new motor vehicle dealers to offer consumers any remote software upgrade or change to vehicle functions and features to a new motor vehicle which is of a line-make the new motor vehicle dealer holds an active sales and service contract for, at the same price and for

a reasonable profit as any offered to consumers by the manufacturer or distributor, and such upgrade or change shall be available for an authorized new motor vehicle dealer to offer to consumers at any time during the life cycle of the vehicle, provided the same continues to be made available and offered to consumers by the manufacturer or distributor. This section does not apply to remote software upgrades or changes related solely to the safety, cyber security, or recall of the new motor vehicle.

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SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 562, is amended to read as follows:

Section 562. The following words, terms and phrases, when used in Sections 561 through 567, 572, 578.1, 579 and 579.1 of this title, shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

- 1. "Motor vehicle" means any motor-driven vehicle required to be registered under the Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration Act. The term "motor vehicle" does not include:
 - a. recreational vehicles, as defined in the Recreational Vehicle Franchise Act, or
 - b. all-terrain vehicles, utility vehicles, and motorcycles used exclusively for off-road use which are sold by a retail implement dealer;

2. "New motor vehicle dealer" means any person, firm, association, corporation or trust not excluded by this paragraph who sells, offers for sale, advertises to sell, leases or displays new motor vehicles and holds a bona fide contract or franchise in effect with a manufacturer or distributor authorized by the manufacturer to make predelivery preparation of such vehicles sold to purchasers and to perform post-sale work pursuant to the manufacturer's or distributor's warranty. As used herein, "authorized predelivery preparation" means the rendition by the dealer of services and safety adjustments on each new motor vehicle in accordance with the procedure and safety standards required by the manufacturer of the vehicle to be made before its delivery to the purchaser. "Performance of authorized post-sale work pursuant to the warranty", as used herein, means the rendition of services which are required by the terms of the warranty that stands extended to the vehicle at the time of its sale and are to be made in accordance with the safety standards prescribed by the manufacturer. The term includes premises or facilities at which a person engages only in the repair of motor vehicles if repairs are performed pursuant to the terms of a franchise and motor vehicle manufacturer's warranty. However, the term shall not include premises or facilities at which a new motor vehicle dealer or dealers within the area of responsibility of such dealer or dealers as defined in the manufacturer's franchise agreement of such dealer or dealers performs motor vehicle repairs

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pursuant to the terms of a franchise and motor vehicle

manufacturer's warranty. For the purpose of Sections 561 through

567, 572, 578.1, 579 and 579.1 of this title, the terms "new motor

vehicle dealer" and "new motor vehicle dealership" shall be

a. receivers, trustees, administrators, executors, guardians or other persons appointed by or acting under judgment or order of any court,

The term "new motor vehicle dealer" does not include:

- b. public officers while performing or in operation of their duties, $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}$
- c. employees of persons, corporations or associations enumerated in subparagraph a of this paragraph when engaged in the specific performance of their duties as such employee employees, or
- d. a powersports vehicle dealer;

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- 3. "Motor vehicle salesperson" means any person who, for gain or compensation of any kind, either directly or indirectly, regularly or occasionally, by any form of agreement or arrangement, sells or negotiates for the sale, lease, or conveyance or arranges the financing of any new motor vehicle for as an employee of any new motor vehicle dealer to any one or more third parties;
 - 4. "Commission" means the Oklahoma Motor Vehicle Commission;
- 5. "Manufacturer" means any person, firm, association, corporation or trust, resident or nonresident, $\frac{1}{2}$ who that manufactures

or assembles new and unused motor vehicles or who that engages in the fabrication or assembly of motorized vehicles of a type required to be registered in the State of Oklahoma;

- 6. "Distributor" means any person, firm, association, corporation or trust, resident or nonresident, who that, being authorized by the original manufacturer, in whole or in part sells or distributes new and unused motor vehicles to new motor vehicle dealers, or who that maintains distributor representatives;
- 7. "Factory branch" means any branch office maintained by a person, firm, association, corporation or trust who that manufactures or assembles motor vehicles for the sale of motor vehicles to distributors, or for the sale of motor vehicles to new motor vehicle dealers, or for directing or supervising, in whole or in part, its representatives;
- 8. "Distributor branch" means any branch office similarly maintained by a distributor for the same purposes a factory branch is maintained;
- 9. "Factory representative" means any officer or agent engaged as a representative of a manufacturer of motor vehicles or by a factory branch, for the purpose of making or promoting the sale of its motor vehicles, or for supervising or contacting its dealers or prospective dealers;
- 10. "Distributor representative" means any person, firm, association, corporation or trust and each officer and employee

thereof engaged as a representative of a distributor or distributor

branch of motor vehicles, for the purpose of making or promoting the

sale of its motor vehicles, or for supervising or contacting its

dealers or prospective dealers;

- 11. "Franchise" means any contract or agreement between a new
 motor vehicle dealer and a manufacturer of a new motor vehicle or
 its distributor or factory branch by which the new motor vehicle
 dealer is authorized to engage in the business of selling any
 specified motor vehicles activities of a new
 motor vehicle dealer as defined by this section;
- 12. "New or unused motor vehicle" means a vehicle which is in the possession of the manufacturer or distributor or has been sold only to the holder of a valid selling agreement, franchise or contract, granted by the manufacturer or distributor for the sale of that make of new vehicle so long as the manufacturer's statement of origin has not been assigned to anyone other than a licensed franchised new motor vehicle dealer of the same line-make;
- 13. "Area of responsibility" means the geographical area, as designated by the manufacturer, factory branch, factory representative, distributor, distributor branch or distributor representative, in which the new motor vehicle dealer is held responsible for the promotion and development of sales and rendering of service for the make of motor vehicle for which the <u>new</u> motor vehicle dealer holds a franchise or selling agreement;

14. "Off premises" means at a location other than the address designated on the new motor vehicle dealer's license;

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- 15. "Sponsoring entity" means any person, firm, association, corporation or trust which has control, either permanently or temporarily, over the real property upon which the off-premise off-premises sale or display is conducted;
- 7 16. "Product" means new motor vehicles and new motor vehicle 8 parts;
 - 17. "Service" means motor vehicle warranty repairs including both parts and labor;
 - 18. "Lead" means a consumer contact in response to a factory program designed to generate interest in purchasing or leasing a new motor vehicle;
 - 19. "Sell or sale" means to sell or lease;
 - 20. "Factory" means a manufacturer, distributor, factory branch, distributor branch, factory representative or distributor representative, which manufactures or distributes vehicle products;
 - 21. "Powersports vehicle" means motorcycles, scooters, mopeds, all-terrain vehicles, and utility vehicles;
 - 22. "Powersports vehicle dealer" means any person, firm, or corporation who that is in the business of selling any new powersports vehicles except for retail implement dealers; and
- 23. "Retail implement dealer" means a business engaged
 24 primarily in the sale of farm tractors as defined in Section 1-118

1 of this title or implements of husbandry as defined in Section 1-125 2 of this title or a combination thereof; 24. "Consumer data" means nonpublic personal information as 3 4 such term is defined in 15 U.S.C., Section 6809(4) as it existed on 5 January 1, 2023, that is: collected by a new motor vehicle dealer, and 6 a. 7 provided by the new motor vehicle dealer directly to a b. manufacturer or third party acting on behalf of a 8 9 manufacturer. 10 Such term shall not include the same or similar data obtained by 11 a manufacturer from any source other than the new motor vehicle 12 dealer or new motor vehicle dealer's data management system; 13 25. "Data management system" means a computer hardware or 14 software system that:

is owned, leased, or licensed by a new motor vehicle dealer including a system or web-based applications, computer software or computer hardware,

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- $\underline{\text{b.}}$ is located at the dealership or hosted remotely, and
- c. stores and provides access to consumer data collected or stored by a new motor vehicle dealer.

Such term shall include, but shall not be limited to, dealership management systems and customer relations management systems; and

26. "Fleet vehicle" means a new motor vehicle sold and titled or registered to a business and used for business purposes only.

SECTION 5. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 564, is amended to read as follows:

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Section 564. A. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, association, corporation or trust to engage in business as, or serve in the capacity of, or act as a new motor vehicle dealer or manufacturer or distributor of new motor vehicles, or factory branch, distributor branch or factory representative or distributor representative, as such defined in Section 562 of this title, in this state without first obtaining a license therefor as provided for by law. Any person, firm, association, corporation or trust engaging in more than one of such capacities or having more than one place where such business is carried on or conducted shall be required to obtain and hold a current license for each thereof. Provided that, a new motor vehicle dealer's license shall authorize one person to sell in the event such person shall be the owner of a proprietorship, or the person designated as principal in the dealer's franchise or the managing officer or one partner if no principal person is named in the franchise. It is further provided that a factory or an entity affiliated by any ownership or control by the factory shall not be permitted to be licensed as a new motor vehicle dealer in this state, except as provided by subparagraph b of paragraph 12 of Section 565 of this title.

B. Applications for licenses required to be obtained under provisions of Section 561 et seq. of this title shall be verified by

the oath or affirmation of the applicant and shall be on forms prescribed by the Oklahoma Motor Vehicle Commission and furnished to such applicants, and shall contain such information as the Commission deems necessary to enable it to fully determine the qualifications and eligibility of the several applicants to receive the license or licenses applied for. The Commission shall require in such application, or otherwise, information relating to the applicant's financial standing, the applicant's business integrity, whether the applicant has an established place of business and is primarily engaged in the pursuit, avocation or business for which a license, or licenses, are applied for, and whether the applicant is able to properly conduct the business for which a license, or licenses, are applied for, and such other pertinent information consistent with the safeguarding of the public interest and the public welfare. All such applications for license or licenses shall be accompanied by the appropriate fee or fees therefor in accordance with the schedule thereof hereinafter set out. In the event any such application is denied and the license applied for is not issued, the entire license fee shall be returned to the applicant. All licenses issued under the provisions of Section 561 et seq. of this title shall expire on June 30, following the date of issue and shall be nontransferable. All applications for renewal of a license for a new motor vehicle dealer, manufacturer, distributor or manufacturer's or distributor's representative shall be submitted by

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- June 1 of each year, and such license or licenses will be issued by

 July 1. If applications have not been made for renewal of licenses

 at the times described in this subsection, it shall be illegal for

 any person to represent himself or herself and act as a dealer,

 manufacturer, distributor or manufacturer's or distributor's

 representative. Motor license agents will be notified not to accept

 such dealers' titles until such time as licenses have been issued by

 the Commission.
- 9 C. The schedule of license fees to be charged and received by
 10 the Commission for the licenses issued hereunder shall be as
 11 follows:
- 1. For each factory branch or distributor branch, Four Hundred

 Dollars (\$400.00) initial fee with annual renewal fee of Three

 Hundred Dollars (\$300.00);
 - 2. For each manufacturer or distributor of new motor vehicles, Four Hundred Dollars (\$400.00) initial fee with annual renewal fee of Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00);
 - 3. For each factory representative or distributor representative, One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) annually;

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4. For each new motor vehicle dealer, except powersports vehicle dealers, initial fee of Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) per franchise sold at each location licensed, with an annual renewal fee of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per franchise sold at each location per year; and

5. For each powersports vehicle dealer, initial fee of Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) per manufacturer represented by the dealer at each location licensed, with an annual renewal fee of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per manufacturer represented by the dealer at each location licensed per year.

D. The licenses issued to each new motor vehicle dealer, manufacturer, distributor, factory branch, distributor branch or representative, if a corporation, shall specify the location of the factory, office or branch thereof. In case such location is changed, the Commission may endorse the change of location on the license without charge unless the change of address triggers a relocation of a new motor vehicle dealer pursuant to the provisions of Section 578.1 of this title. The license of each new motor vehicle dealer shall be posted in a conspicuous place in the new motor vehicle dealer's place or places of business.

Every motor vehicle factory representative or distributor representative if an individual shall physically possess the license when engaged in business, and shall display same upon request. The name of the employer of such factory representative or distributor representative shall be stated on the license and, in case of a change of employer, the holder of such license shall immediately mail same to the Commission for its endorsement of such change thereon. The Commission shall endorse each such change of employer on licenses for a fee of Ten Dollars (\$10.00).

E. The powersports dealer license shall only allow the sale of the specific types of powersports vehicles authorized by the manufacturer and agreed to by the powersports dealer.

- SECTION 6. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 565, as amended by Section 3, Chapter 192, O.S.L. 2022 (47 O.S. Supp. 2022, Section 565), is amended to read as follows:
- Section 565. A. The Oklahoma Motor Vehicle Commission may deny an application for a license, or revoke or suspend a license, or impose a fine against any person or entity, not to exceed Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) against a manufacturer or distributor or a fine not to exceed One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) against a dealer per occurrence, that violates any provision of Sections 561 through 567, 572, 578.1, 579 and 579.1 of this title is violated or for any of the following reasons:
- 1. On satisfactory proof of unfitness of the applicant in any application for any license under the provisions of Section 561 et seq. of this title;
- 2. For any material misstatement made by an applicant in any application for any license under the provisions of Section 561 et seq. of this title;
- 3. For any failure to comply with any provision of Section 561 et seq. of this title or any rule promulgated by the Commission under authority vested in it by Section 561 et seq. of this title;

- 4. A change of condition after license is granted resulting in failure to maintain the qualifications for license;
 - 5. Being a new motor vehicle dealer who:

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- a. has required a purchaser of a new motor vehicle, as a condition of sale and delivery thereof, to also purchase special features, appliances, accessories or equipment not desired or requested by the purchaser and installed by the new motor vehicle dealer,
- b. uses any false or misleading advertising in connection with business as a new motor vehicle dealer,
- c. has committed any unlawful act which resulted in the revocation of any similar license in another state,
- d. has failed or refused to perform any written agreement with any retail buyer involving the sale of a motor vehicle,
- e. has been convicted of a felony crime that substantially relates to the occupation of a new motor vehicle dealer and poses a reasonable threat to public safety,
- f. has committed a fraudulent act in selling, purchasing or otherwise dealing in new motor vehicles or has misrepresented the terms and conditions of a sale, purchase or contract for sale or purchase of a new

motor vehicle or any interest therein including an option to purchase such vehicle,

- g. has failed to meet or maintain the conditions and requirements necessary to qualify for the issuance of a license, or
- h. completes any sale or transaction of an extended service contract, extended maintenance plan, or similar product using contract forms that do not conspicuously disclose the identity of the service contract provider;
- 6. Being a new motor vehicle salesperson who is not employed as such by a licensed new motor vehicle dealer;
 - 7. Being a new motor vehicle dealer who:

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- a. does not have an established place of business,
- b. does not provide for a suitable repair shop separate from the display room with ample space to repair or recondition one or more vehicles at the same time, and which is staffed with properly trained and qualified repair technicians and is equipped with such parts, tools and equipment as may be requisite for the servicing of motor vehicles in such a manner as to make them comply with the safety laws of this state and to properly fulfill the new motor vehicle dealer's or manufacturer's warranty obligation,

c. does not hold a franchise in effect with a

manufacturer or distributor of new or unused motor

vehicles for the sale of the same and is not

authorized by the manufacturer or distributor to

render predelivery preparation of such vehicles sold

to purchasers and to perform any authorized post-sale

work pursuant to the manufacturer's or distributor's

warranty,

- d. employs a person without obtaining a certificate of registration for the person, or utilizes the services of used motor vehicle lots or dealers or other unlicensed persons in connection with the sale of new motor vehicles,
- e. does not properly service a new motor vehicle before delivery of same to the original purchaser thereof, or
- f. fails to order and stock a reasonable number of new motor vehicles necessary to meet <u>customer consumer</u> demand for each of the new motor vehicles included in the new motor vehicle dealer's franchise agreement, unless the new motor vehicles are not readily available from the manufacturer or distributor due to limited production;
- 8. Being a factory that has:

Req. No. 7669 Page 24

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a. either induced or attempted to induce by means of coercion or intimidation, any new motor vehicle dealer:

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- (1) to accept delivery of any motor vehicle or vehicles, parts or accessories therefor, or any other commodities including advertising material which shall not have been ordered by the new motor vehicle dealer,
- (2) to order or accept delivery of any motor vehicle with special features, appliances, accessories or equipment not included in the list price of the motor vehicles as publicly advertised by the manufacturer thereof, or
- (3) to order or accept delivery of any parts, accessories, equipment, machinery, tools, appliances or any commodity whatsoever, or
- b. induced under threat or discrimination by the withholding from delivery to a <u>new</u> motor vehicle dealer certain models of motor vehicles, changing or amending unilaterally the <u>new motor vehicle</u> dealer's allotment of motor vehicles and/or withholding and delaying delivery of such vehicles out of the ordinary course of business, in order to induce by such coercion any such <u>new motor vehicle</u> dealer to

1 participate or contribute to any local or national 2 advertising fund controlled directly or indirectly by the factory or for any other purposes such as contest, 3 "give-aways" "giveaways" or other so-called sales 5 promotional devices and/or change of quotas in any sales contest; or has required new motor vehicle 6 7 dealers, as a condition to receiving their vehicle allotment, to order a certain percentage of the 8 9 vehicles with optional equipment not specified by the new motor vehicle dealer; however, nothing in this 10 11 section shall prohibit a factory from supporting an 12 advertising association which is open to all new motor 1.3 vehicle dealers on the same basis; 14 used a performance standard, sales objective or C. 15 program for measuring dealer performance that may have 16 a material effect on a dealer's right to vehicle 17 allocation; or payment under any incentive or 18 reimbursement program that is unfair, unreasonable, 19 inequitable and not based on accurate information, 20 used a performance standard for measuring sales or d. 2.1 service performance of any new vehicle dealer under 22 the terms of the franchise agreement which: 23 (1) is unfair, unreasonable, arbitrary or 24 inequitable; and

does not consider the relevant and material local and state or regional criteria, including prevailing economic conditions affecting the sales or service performance of a vehicle dealer or any relevant and material data and facts presented by the dealer in writing within thirty (30) days of the manufacturer's written notice to the dealer of its intention to cancel, terminate, or not renew the dealer's franchise agreement.

- e. failed or refused to sell, or offer for sale, new

 motor vehicles to all of its authorized same line-make

 franchised new motor vehicle dealers at the same price

 for a comparably equipped motor vehicle, on the same

 terms, with no differential in functionally available

 discount, allowance, credit or bonus, except as

 provided in subparagraph e of paragraph 9 of this

 subsection.
- failed to provide reasonable compensation to a new motor vehicle dealer substantially equivalent to the actual cost of providing a manufacturer required loaner or rental vehicle to any consumer who is having a vehicle serviced at the dealership. For purposes of this paragraph, actual cost is the average cost in the new motor vehicle dealer's region for the rental of a

substantially similar make and model as the vehicle
being serviced, or

g. failed to make available to its new motor vehicle

dealers a fair and proportional share of all new

vehicles distributed to same line-make dealers in this

state, subject to the same reasonable terms, including

any vehicles distributed from a common new vehicle

inventory pool outside of the factory's ordinary

allocation process such as any vehicles the factory

reserves to distribute on a discretionary basis.

9. Being a factory that:

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- a. has attempted to coerce or has coerced any new motor vehicle dealer to enter into any agreement or to cancel any agreement, or fails to act in good faith and in a fair, equitable and nondiscriminatory manner; or has directly or indirectly coerced, intimidated, threatened or restrained any new motor vehicle dealer; or has acted dishonestly, or has failed to act in accordance with the reasonable standards of fair dealing,
- b. has failed to compensate its dealers for the work and services they are required to perform in connection with the dealer's delivery and preparation obligations according to the agreements on file with the

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Commission which must be found by the Commission to be reasonable, or fail has failed to adequately and fairly compensate its dealers for labor, parts and other expenses incurred by such dealer to perform under and comply with manufacturer's warranty agreements, and recall repairs which shall include diagnostic work as applicable and assistance requested by a consumer whose vehicle was subjected to an overthe-air or remote change, repair, or update to any part, system, accessory, or function by the manufacturer and performed by the dealer in order to satisfy the consumer. Time allowances for the diagnosis and performance of repair work shall be reasonable and adequate for the work to be performed. Adequate and fair compensation, which under this provision shall be no less than the rates customarily charged for retail consumer repairs as calculated herein, for parts and/or labor for warranty and recall repairs shall, at the option of the new motor vehicle dealer, be established by the new motor vehicle dealer submitting to the manufacturer or distributor one hundred sequential nonwarranty customer-paid consumerpaid service repair orders which contain warranty-like parts repairs, or ninety (90) consecutive days of

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nonwarranty customer-paid consumer-paid service repair orders which contain warranty-like parts repairs, whichever is less, covering repairs made no more than one hundred eighty (180) days before the submission and declaring the average percentage labor rate and/or markup rate. Adequate and fair compensation for labor shall be established by the dealer submitting to the manufacturer or distributor one hundred sequential customer-paid service repair orders which contain labor charges, or ninety (90) consecutive days of customer-paid service repair orders which contain labor charges, whichever is less. A new motor vehicle dealer may not submit a request to establish its retail rates more than once in a twelve-month period. That request may establish a parts mark-up rate, labor rate, or both. The new motor vehicle dealer shall calculate its retail parts rate by determining the total charges for parts from the qualified repair orders submitted, dividing that amount by the new motor vehicle dealer's total cost of the purchase of those parts, subtracting one (1), and multiplying by one hundred (100) to produce a percentage. The new motor vehicle dealer shall calculate its retail labor rate by dividing the amount of the new motor vehicle

1 dealer's total labor sales from the qualified repair 2 orders by the total labor hours charged for those sales. When submitting repair orders to calculate 3 establish a retail parts and/or labor rate, a new 5 motor vehicle dealer need not include repair orders repairs for: 7 (1) routine maintenance including, but not limited 8 to, the replacement of bulbs, fluids, filters, 9 batteries, and belts that are not provided in the 10 course of and related to a repair, 11 (2) factory special events, specials, or promotional 12 discounts for retail consumer repairs, 1.3 (3) parts sold or repairs performed at wholesale, 14 (4) factory-approved goodwill or policy repairs or 15 replacements, 16 (5) repairs with aftermarket parts, when calculating 17 the retail parts rate but not the retail labor 18 rate, 19 (6) repairs on aftermarket parts, 20 replacement of or work on tires including front-(7) 2.1 end alignments and wheel or tire rotations, 22 repairs of motor vehicles owned by the new motor (8) 23 vehicle dealer or employee thereof at the time of 24 the repair,

(9) vehicle reconditioning, or

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items that do not have individual part numbers
including, but not limited to, nuts, bolts and
fasteners.

A manufacturer or distributor may, not later than thirty (30) days after submission, rebut that declared retail parts and/or labor rate in writing by reasonably substantiating that the rate is inaccurate or unreasonable in light of the practices of all other franchised motor vehicle dealers in an economically similar part of the state offering the same line-make vehicles not accurate or is incomplete pursuant to the provisions of this section. If the manufacturer or distributor determines from the new motor vehicle dealer's set of repair orders submitted pursuant to this section that the new motor vehicle dealer's submission for a retail labor rate or retail parts markup is substantially higher than the new motor vehicle dealer's current warranty rates, the manufacturer or distributor may request, in writing, within thirty (30) days after the manufacturer's or distributor's receipt of the new motor vehicle dealer's initial submission, all repair orders closed within the period of thirty (30) days immediately preceding, or thirty (30) days immediately following, the set of repair orders initially submitted by

1 the new motor vehicle dealer. All time periods under this 2 section shall be suspended until the supplemental repair orders are provided. If the manufacturer or distributor 3 4 requests supplemental repair orders, the manufacturer or 5 distributor may, within thirty (30) days after receiving 6 the supplemental repair orders and in accordance with the 7 formula described in this subsection, calculate a proposed 8 adjusted retail labor rate or retail parts markup, as 9 applicable, based upon any set of the qualified repair 10 orders submitted by the franchisee and following the formula set forth herein to establish the rate. 11 12 rate labor and parts rates shall go into effect thirty (30) 1.3 days following the approval by the manufacturer, subject to 14 audit of the submitted repair orders by the franchisor and 15 a rebuttal of the declared rate as described above or 16 distributor. If the declared rate is rebutted, the 17 manufacturer or distributor shall provide written notice 18 stating the reasons for the rebuttal, an explanation of the 19 reasons for the rebuttal, and a copy of all calculations 20 used by the franchisor in determining the manufacturer or 2.1 distributor's position and propose an adjustment in writing 22 of the average percentage markup or labor rate based on 23 that rebuttal not later than thirty (30) days after 24

The retail

Req. No. 7669 Page 33

submission. If the new motor vehicle dealer does not agree

1 with the proposed average percentage markup or labor rate, the new motor vehicle dealer may file a protest with the Commission not later than thirty (30) days after receipt of 3 that proposal by the manufacturer or distributor. 4 event a protest is filed, the manufacturer or distributor 5 shall have the burden of proof to establish the new motor 6 7 vehicle dealer's submitted parts markup rate or labor rate was inaccurate or unreasonable in light of the practices of 9 all other franchised motor vehicle dealers in an 10 economically similar part of the state is not complete 11 pursuant to the provisions of this section. A manufacturer 12 or distributor may not retaliate against any new motor 1.3 vehicle dealer seeking to exercise its rights under this 14 provision section. A manufacturer or distributor may 15 require a dealer to submit repair orders in accordance with 16 this section in order to validate the reasonableness of a 17 dealer's retail rate for parts or labor not more often than 18 once every twelve (12) months. A manufacturer or 19 distributor may not otherwise recover its costs from new 20 motor vehicle dealers within this state including a 2.1 surcharge imposed on a new motor vehicle dealer solely 22 intended to recover the cost of reimbursing a new motor 23 vehicle dealer for parts and labor pursuant to this 24 section; provided, a manufacturer or distributor shall not

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be prohibited from increasing prices for vehicles or parts in the normal course of business. All claims made by dealers for compensation for delivery, preparation and, warranty, or recall repair work shall be paid within thirty (30) days after approval and shall be approved or disapproved within thirty (30) days after receipt. any claim is disapproved, the dealer shall be notified in writing of the grounds for disapproval. The dealer's delivery, preparation and warranty obligations as filed with the Commission shall constitute the dealer's sole responsibility for product liability as between the dealer and manufacturer. A factory may reasonably and periodically audit a new motor vehicle dealer to determine the validity of paid claims for new motor vehicle dealer compensation or any charge-backs for warranty parts or service compensation. Except in cases of suspected fraud, audits of warranty payments shall only be for the one-year period immediately following the date of the payment. A manufacturer shall reserve the right to reasonable, periodic audits to determine the validity of paid claims for dealer compensation or any charge-backs for consumer or dealer incentives. Except in cases of suspected fraud, audits of incentive payments shall only be for a one-year period immediately following the date of the payment. A

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reactory shall not deny a claim or charge a new motor vehicle dealer back subsequent to the payment of the claim unless the factory can show that the claim was false or fraudulent or that the new motor vehicle dealer failed to reasonably substantiate the claim by the written reasonable procedures of the factory. A factory shall not deny a claim or implement a charge-back against a new motor vehicle dealer after payment of a claim in the event a purchaser of a new vehicle that is the subject of a claim fails to comply with titling or registration laws of this state and is not prevented from compliance by any action of the new motor vehicle dealer; provided, that the factory may require the new motor vehicle dealer to provide, within thirty (30) days of notice of chargeback, withholding of payment, or denial of claim, the following:

- (1) documentation to demonstrate the vehicle sale and delivery as reported, including consumer name and address, and
- (2) written attestation signed by the dealer operator or general manager stating the consumer was not on the export control list and the dealer did not know or have reason to know the vehicle was being exported or resold.

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The factory shall provide written notice to a dealer of a proposed charge-back that is the result of an audit along with the specific audit results and proposed charge-back amount. A dealer that receives notice of a proposed charge-back pursuant to a factory's audit has the right to file a protest with the Commission within thirty (30) days after receipt of the notice of the charge-back or audit results, whichever is later. The factory is prohibited from implementing the charge-back or debiting the dealer's account until either the time frame for filing a protest has passed or a final adjudication is rendered by the Commission, whichever is later, unless the dealer has agreed to the charge-back or charge-backs,

- . <u>fails to compensate the new motor vehicle dealer for a</u> used motor vehicle:
 - that is of the same make and model manufactured, imported or distributed by the factory and is a line-make that the new motor vehicle dealer is franchised to sell or on which the new motor vehicle dealer is authorized to perform recall repairs,
 - (2) that is subject to a stop-sale or do-not-drive notice issued by the factory or an authorized governmental agency,

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that is held by the new motor vehicle dealer in the dealer's inventory at the time the stop-sale or do-not-drive notice is issued or that is taken by the new motor vehicle dealer into the dealer's inventory after the recall notice as a result of a retail consumer trade-in or a lease return to the dealer inventory in accordance with an applicable lease contract,

- (4) that cannot be repaired due to the unavailability, within thirty (30) days after issuance of the stop-sale or do-not-drive notice, of a remedy or parts necessary for the new motor vehicle dealer to make the recall repair, and
- (5) that is not at least in the prorated amount of one percent (1.00%) of the value of the vehicle per month beginning on the date that is thirty

 (30) days after the date on which the stop-sale order was provided to the new motor vehicle dealer until the earlier of either of the following:
 - (a) the date the recall remedy or parts are made available, or

(b) the date the new motor vehicle dealer sells,

trades, or otherwise disposes of the

affected used motor vehicle.

For the purposes of division (5) of this subparagraph, the value of a used vehicle shall be the average Black Book value for the year, make, and model of the recalled vehicle.

A factory may direct the manner and method in which a new motor vehicle dealer must demonstrate the inventory status of an affected used motor vehicle to determine eligibility under this subparagraph; provided, that the manner and method may not be unduly burdensome and may not require information that is unduly burdensome to provide.

All reimbursement claims made by new motor vehicle dealers

pursuant to this section for recall remedies or repairs, or for

compensation where no part or repair is reasonably available and the

vehicle is subject to a stop-sale or do-not-drive order, shall be

subject to the same limitations and requirements as a warranty

reimbursement claim made under subparagraph b of this paragraph. In

the alternative, a manufacturer may compensate its franchised new

motor vehicle dealers under a national recall compensation program;

provided, the compensation under the program is equal to or greater

than that provided under division (5) of this subparagraph, or as

the manufacturer and new motor vehicle dealer otherwise agree.

Nothing in this section shall require a factory to provide total compensation to a new motor vehicle dealer which would exceed the total average Black Book value of the affected used motor vehicle as originally determined under division (5) of this subparagraph.

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Any remedy provided to a new motor vehicle dealer under this subparagraph is exclusive and may not be combined with any other state or federal compensation remedy.

unreasonably fails or refuses to offer to its same d. line-make franchised dealers a reasonable supply and mix of all models manufactured for that line-make, or unreasonably requires a dealer to pay any extra fee, purchase unreasonable advertising displays or other materials, or enter into a separate agreement which adversely alters the rights or obligations contained within the new motor vehicle dealer's existing franchise agreement or which waives any right the new motor vehicle dealer as protected by Section 561 et seq. of this title, or remodel, renovate, or recondition the new motor vehicle dealer's existing facilities as a prerequisite to receiving a model or series of vehicles, except as may be necessary to sell or service the model or series of vehicles as provided by subparagraph e of this paragraph. It shall be a violation of this section for new vehicle allocation

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or sell any number of used or off-lease vehicles. The failure to deliver any such new motor vehicle shall not be considered a violation of the section if the failure is not arbitrary or is due to lack of manufacturing capacity or to a strike or labor difficulty, a shortage of materials, a freight embargo or other cause over which the manufacturer has no control. However, this subparagraph shall not apply to recreational vehicles, or a vehicle not advertised by the factory for sale in this state,

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e. except as necessary to comply with a health or safety law, or to comply with a technology requirement which is necessary to sell or service a motor vehicle that the franchised new motor vehicle dealer is authorized or licensed by the franchisor to sell or service, requires a new motor vehicle dealer to construct a new facility or substantially renovate the new motor vehicle dealer's existing facility unless the facility construction or renovation is justified by the economic conditions existing at the time, as well as the reasonably foreseeable projections, in the new

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motor vehicle dealer's market and in the automotive industry. However, this subparagraph shall not apply if the factory provides new motor vehicle dealer voluntarily agrees to facility construction or renovation in exchange for money, credit, allowance, reimbursement, or additional vehicle allocation to a new motor vehicle dealer from the factory to compensate the new motor vehicle dealer for the cost of, or a portion of the cost of, the facility construction or renovation. Except as necessary to comply with a health or safety law, or to comply with a technology or safety requirement which is necessary to sell or service a motor vehicle that the franchised new motor vehicle dealer is authorized or licensed by the franchisor to sell or service, a new motor vehicle dealer which completes a facility construction or renovation pursuant to factory requirements shall not be required to construct a new facility or renovate the existing facility if the same area of the facility or premises has been constructed or substantially altered within the last ten (10) years and the construction or alteration was approved by the manufacturer as a part of a facility upgrade program, standard, or policy. For purposes of this subsection,

"substantially altered" means to perform an alteration that substantially impacts the architectural features, characteristics, or integrity of a structure or lot. The term shall not include routine maintenance reasonably necessary to maintain a dealership in attractive condition. If a facility upgrade program, standard, or policy under which the dealer completed a facility construction or substantial alteration does not contain a specific time period during which the manufacturer or distributor shall provide payments or benefits to a participating dealer, or the time frame specified under the program is reduced or cancelled prematurely in the unilateral discretion of the manufacturer or distributor, the manufacturer or distributor shall not deny the participating dealer any payment or benefit under the terms of the program, standard, or policy as it existed when the dealer began to perform under the program, standard, or policy for the balance of the ten-year period, regardless of whether the manufacturer's or distributor's program, standard, or policy has been changed or canceled, unless the manufacturer and dealer agree, in writing, to the change in payment or benefit,

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requires a new motor vehicle dealer to establish an exclusive facility, unless supported by reasonable business, market and economic considerations; provided, that this provision section shall not restrict the terms of any agreement for such exclusive facility voluntarily entered into and supported by valuable consideration separate from the new motor vehicle dealer's right to sell and service motor vehicles for the franchisor,

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g. requires a new motor vehicle dealer to enter into a site-control agreement covering any or all of the new motor vehicle dealer's facilities or premises; provided, that this provision section shall not restrict the terms of any site-control agreement voluntarily entered into and supported by valuable consideration separate from the new motor vehicle dealer's right to sell and service motor vehicles for the franchisor. Notwithstanding the foregoing or the terms of any site-control agreement, a site-control agreement automatically extinguishes if all of the factory's franchises that operated from the location that are the subject of the site-control agreement are

terminated by the factory as part of the discontinuance of a product line, or

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- h. refuses to pay, or claims reimbursement from, a new motor vehicle dealer for sales, incentives or other payments related to a motor vehicle sold by the new motor vehicle dealer because the purchaser of the motor vehicle exported or resold the motor vehicle in violation of the policy of the factory unless the factory can show that, at the time of the sale, the new motor vehicle dealer knew or reasonably should have known of the purchaser's intention to export or resell the motor vehicle. There is a rebuttable presumption that the new motor vehicle dealer did not know or could not have known that the vehicle would be exported if the vehicle is titled and registered in any state of the United States, or
- i. requires a new motor vehicle dealer to purchase goods or services for the construction, renovation, or improvement of the dealer's facility from a vendor chosen by the factory if goods or services available from other sources are of substantially similar quality and design and comply with all applicable laws; provided, however, that such goods are not

1 subject to the factory's intellectual property or trademark rights and the new motor vehicle dealer has received the factory's approval, which approval may 3 not be unreasonably withheld. Nothing in this 5 subparagraph may be construed to allow a new motor vehicle dealer to impair or eliminate a factory's 6 7 intellectual property, trademark rights or trade dress usage guidelines. Nothing in this section prohibits 8 9 the enforcement of a voluntary agreement between the factory and the new motor vehicle dealer where 10 11 separate and valuable consideration has been offered 12 and accepted;

10. Being a factory that:

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- a. establishes a system of motor vehicle allocation or distribution which is unfair, inequitable or unreasonably discriminatory. Upon the request of any new motor vehicle dealer franchised by it, a factory shall disclose in writing to the new motor vehicle dealer the basis upon which new motor vehicles are allocated, scheduled and delivered among the new motor vehicle dealers of the same line-make for that factory, or
- b. changes an established plan or system of motor vehicle distribution. A new motor vehicle dealer franchise

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agreement shall continue in full force and operation notwithstanding a change, in whole or in part, of an established plan or system of distribution of the motor vehicles offered or previously offered for sale under such franchise agreement. The appointment of a new importer or distributor for motor vehicles offered for sale under such franchise agreement shall be deemed to be a change of an established plan or system of distribution. The discontinuation of a line-make shall not be deemed to be a change of an established plan or system of motor vehicle distribution. The creation of a line-make shall not be deemed to be a change of an established plan or system of motor vehicle distribution as long as the new line-make is not selling the same, or substantially the same vehicle or vehicles previously sold through another line-make by new motor vehicle dealers with an active franchise agreement for the other line-make in the state if such new motor vehicle dealers are no longer authorized to sell the comparable vehicle previously sold through their line-make. Changing a vehicle's powertrain is not sufficient to show it is substantially different. Upon the occurrence of such change, the manufacturer or distributor shall be

vehicles under the new plan or system of distribution
unless the manufacturer or distributor offers to each
new motor vehicle dealer who is a party to the
franchise agreement a new franchise agreement
containing substantially the same provisions which
were contained in the previous franchise agreement;

- 11. Being a factory that sells directly or indirectly new motor vehicles to any retail consumer in the state except through a new motor vehicle dealer holding a franchise for the line-make that includes the new motor vehicle. This paragraph does not apply to factory sales of new motor vehicles to its employees, family members of employees, retirees and family members of retirees, not-for-profit organizations or the federal, state or local governments. The provisions of this paragraph shall not preclude a factory from providing information to a consumer for the purpose of marketing or facilitating a sale of a new motor vehicle or from establishing a program to sell or offer to sell new motor vehicles through participating dealers subject to the limitations contained in paragraph 2 of Section 562 of this title;
 - 12. a. Being a factory which directly or indirectly:
 - (1) owns any ownership interest or has any financial interest in a new motor vehicle dealer or any

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person who sells products or services <u>pursuant</u> to the <u>public</u> <u>terms of the franchise agreement</u>,

- (2) operates or controls a new motor vehicle dealer, or
- (3) acts in the capacity of a new motor vehicle dealer.
- b. (1) This paragraph does not prohibit a factory from owning or controlling a new motor vehicle dealer while in a bona fide relationship with a dealer development candidate who has made a substantial initial investment in the franchise and whose initial investment is subject to potential loss. The dealer development candidate can reasonably expect to acquire full ownership of a new motor vehicle dealer within a reasonable period of time not to exceed ten (10) years and on reasonable terms and conditions. The ten-year acquisition period may be expanded for good cause shown.
 - (2) This paragraph does not prohibit a factory from owning, operating, controlling or acting in the capacity of a <u>new</u> motor vehicle dealer for a period not to exceed twelve (12) months during the transition from one <u>independent</u> dealer to another <u>independent</u> dealer if the dealership is

for sale at a reasonable price and on reasonable terms and conditions to an independent qualified buyer. On showing by a factory of good cause, the Oklahoma Motor Vehicle Commission may extend the time limit set forth above; extensions may be granted for periods not to exceed twelve (12) months.

- (3) This paragraph does not prohibit a factory from owning, operating or controlling or acting in the capacity of a <u>new</u> motor vehicle dealer which was in operation prior to January 1, 2000.
- (4) This paragraph does not prohibit a factory from owning, directly or indirectly, a minority interest in an entity that owns, operates or controls new motor vehicle dealerships of the same line-make franchised by the manufacturer, provided that each of the following conditions are met:
 - (a) all of the new selling the motor vehicles of that manufacturer in this state trade exclusively in the line-make of that manufacturer,
 - (b) all of the franchise agreements of the manufacturer confer rights on the dealer of

the line-make to develop and operate, within a defined geographic territory or area, as many dealership facilities as the dealer and manufacturer shall agree are appropriate,

- at the time the manufacturer first acquires an ownership interest or assumes operation, the distance between any dealership thus owned or operated and the nearest unaffiliated new motor vehicle dealership trading in the same line-make is not less than seventy (70) miles,
- (d) during any period in which the manufacturer has such an ownership interest, the manufacturer has no more than three franchise agreements with new motor vehicle dealers licensed by the Oklahoma Motor Vehicle Commission to do business within the state, and
- (e) prior to January 1, 2000, the factory shall have furnished or made available to prospective new motor vehicle dealers an offering-circular in accordance with the Trade Regulation Rule on Franchising of the Federal Trade Commission, and any guidelines

and exemptions issued thereunder, which
disclose the possibility that the factory
may from time to time seek to own or
acquire, directly or indirectly, ownership
interests in retail dealerships;

13. Being a factory which directly or indirectly makes available for public disclosure any proprietary information provided to the factory by a new motor vehicle dealer, other than in composite form to new motor vehicle dealers in the same line-make or in response to a subpoena or order of the Commission or a court. Proprietary information includes, but is not limited to, information:

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- a. derived from monthly financial statements provided to the factory, and
- b. regarding any aspect of the profitability of a particular new motor vehicle dealer;
- 14. Being a factory which does not provide or direct leads in a fair, equitable and timely manner. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to require a factory to disregard the preference of a consumer in providing or directing a lead;
- 15. Being a factory which used the <u>customer consumer</u> list of a new motor vehicle dealer for the purpose of unfairly competing with dealers;

16. Being a factory which prohibits a new motor vehicle dealer from relocating after a written request by such new motor vehicle dealer if:

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- b. the proposed new location is within the area of responsibility of the new motor vehicle dealer pursuant to Section 578.1 of this title, and
- c. the factory has sixty (60) days from receipt of the new motor vehicle dealer's relocation request to approve or deny the request. The failure to approve or deny the request within the sixty-day time frame shall constitute approval of the request;
- 17. Being a factory which prohibits a new motor vehicle dealer from adding additional line-makes to its existing facility, if, after adding the additional line-makes, the facility satisfies the written reasonable capitalization standards and facility guidelines of each factory. Reasonable facility guidelines do not include a requirement to maintain exclusivity or site control unless agreed to

by the dealer as set forth in subparagraphs e \underline{f} and \underline{f} \underline{g} of paragraph 9 of this subsection;

- 18. Being a factory that increases prices of new motor vehicles which the new motor vehicle dealer had ordered for retail consumers and notified the factory prior to the dealer's receipt of the written official price increase notification. A sales contract signed by a retail consumer accompanied with proof of order submission to the factory shall constitute evidence of each such order, provided that the vehicle is in fact delivered to the eustomer consumer. Price differences applicable to new models or series motor vehicles at the time of the introduction of new models or series shall not be considered a price increase for purposes of this paragraph. Price changes caused by any of the following shall not be subject to the provisions of this paragraph:
 - a. the addition to a motor vehicle of required or optional equipment pursuant to state or federal law,
 - b. revaluation of the United States dollar in the case of foreign-made vehicles or components, or
 - c. an increase in transportation charges due to increased rates imposed by common or contract carriers;
- 19. Being a factory that requires a new motor vehicle dealer to participate monetarily in an advertising campaign or contest, or purchase any promotional materials, showroom or other display decoration or materials at the expense of the new motor vehicle

dealer without consent of the dealer, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld;

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- 20. Being a factory that denies any new motor vehicle dealer the right of free association with any other new motor vehicle dealer for any lawful purpose, unless otherwise permitted by this chapter; or
- 21. Being a factory that requires a new motor vehicle dealer to sell, offer to sell or sell exclusively an extended service contract, extended maintenance plan or similar product, such as gap products offered, endorsed or sponsored by the factory by the following means:
 - a. by an act or statement from the factory that will in any manner adversely impact the <u>new motor vehicle</u> dealer,
 - b. by measuring the <u>new motor vehicle</u> dealer's performance under the franchise based on the sale of extended service contracts, extended maintenance plans or similar products offered, endorsed or sponsored by the manufacturer or distributor.
- B. Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement, in the event of a proposed sale or transfer of a dealership, the manufacturer or distributor shall be permitted to exercise a right of first refusal to acquire the assets or ownership interest of the dealer of the new motor vehicle dealership, if such sale or transfer

is conditioned upon the manufacturer or dealer entering into a dealer agreement with the proposed new owner or transferee, only if all the following requirements are met:

- 1. To exercise its right of first refusal, the factory must notify the dealer in writing within sixty (60) days of receipt of the completed proposal for the proposed sale transfer;
- 2. The exercise of the right of first refusal will result in the dealer and the owner of the dealership receiving the same or greater consideration as they have contracted to receive in connection with the proposed change of ownership or transfer;
- 3. The proposed sale or transfer of the assets of the dealership does not involve the transfer or sale to a member or members of the family of one or more dealer owners, or to a qualified manager or a partnership or corporation controlled by such persons; and
- 4. The factory agrees to pay the reasonable expenses, including attorney fees which do not exceed the usual, customary and reasonable fees charged for similar work done for other clients incurred by the proposed new owner and transferee prior to the exercise by the factory of its right of first refusal in negotiating and implementing the contract for the proposed sale or transfer of the dealership or dealership assets. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no payment of expenses and attorney fees shall be required if the proposed new dealer or transferee has not submitted or caused to be

submitted an accounting of those expenses within thirty (30) days of receipt of the written request of the factory for such an accounting. The accounting may be requested by a factory before exercising its right of first refusal.

C. Nothing in this section shall prohibit, limit, restrict or impose conditions on:

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- 1. Business activities, including without limitation the dealings with motor vehicle manufacturers and the representatives and affiliates of motor vehicle manufacturers, of any person that is primarily engaged in the business of short-term, not to exceed twelve (12) months, rental of motor vehicles and industrial and construction equipment and activities incidental to that business, provided that:
 - a. any motor vehicle sold by that person is limited to used motor vehicles that have been previously used exclusively and regularly by that person in the conduct of business and used motor vehicles traded in on motor vehicles sold by that person,
 - b. warranty repairs performed by that person on motor vehicles are limited to those motor vehicles that it owns, previously owned or takes in trade, and
 - c. motor vehicle financing provided by that person to retail consumers for motor vehicles is limited to used

vehicles sold by that person in the conduct of business; or

- 2. The direct or indirect ownership, affiliation or control of a person described in paragraph 1 of this subsection.
 - D. As used in this section:

- 1. "Substantially relates" means the nature of criminal conduct for which the person was convicted has a direct bearing on the fitness or ability to perform one or more of the duties or responsibilities necessarily related to the occupation; and
- 2. "Poses a reasonable threat" means the nature of criminal conduct for which the person was convicted involved an act or threat of harm against another and has a bearing on the fitness or ability to serve the public or work with others in the occupation.
- 14 SECTION 7. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 565.1, is 15 amended to read as follows:
 - Section 565.1 A. For the purposes of this section, "designated successor" means a person who the new motor vehicle dealer has designated to take over operation of the dealership or legal heir or devisee under the will of a new motor vehicle dealer or under the laws of descent and distribution of this state.
 - B. Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement, and subject to the following conditions contained in paragraphs 1 through 5 of this section subsection, any manufacturer or distributor who prevents or refuses to honor the succession to the

operation of a dealership by any legal heir or devisee under the will of a new motor vehicle dealer or under the laws of descent and distribution of this state, a designated successor, without good cause or good faith, as defined in this section, shall be subject to the following procedure:

- 1. Within one hundred twenty (120) days after the death or departure of the new motor vehicle dealer, the manufacturer shall receive a written notice from any legal heir or devisee the designated successor who intends to establish a become the successor dealership operator. If timely notice is not so received, then this paragraph shall not apply, and any succession shall be governed solely by the terms of the franchise;
- 2. Within thirty (30) days of receipt of the legal heir's or devisee's designated successor's timely written notice, the manufacturer may request, and the legal heir or devisee designated successor shall, within a reasonable time, provide any information which is reasonably necessary for the manufacturer to evaluate the proposed successor dealer and dealership, including, but not limited to, applications, proposals for facilities and financing;
- 3. Within sixty (60) days of receipt of such information, the manufacturer shall approve or disapprove the proposed designated successor dealership dealer, and in case of disapproval shall communicate in writing such disapproval and grounds for disapproval to the legal heir or devisee designated successor;

4. Failure of the manufacturer to act in a timely manner with respect to any time period described above shall constitute a waiver of the manufacturer's right to disapprove the proposed succession;

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5. Within ten (10) days of its the designated successor's receipt of the manufacturer's notice of disapproval, the legal heir or devisee designated successor may file a protest of the manufacturer's decision with the Oklahoma Motor Vehicle Commission and request a hearing. Such hearing shall be heard in a substantially similar manner as provided by Section 566 of this title, except that the Commission shall render a final decision within sixty (60) days of the filing of the protest. manufacturer shall have the burden of proof to show that its disapproval was for a good cause and in good faith. A denial shall not be for good cause and in good faith unless the factory establishes that the legal heir or devisee, or the legal heir or devisee's controlling executive management, designated successor is not of good moral character or fails to meet the written, reasonable and uniformly applied requirements of the manufacturer or distributor relating to financial qualifications, general business experience, and other requirements relating to prospective franchisees. However, a legal heir that designated successor who is a family member and who is of good moral character in accordance with the factory's reasonable factory qualifications and meets the factory's financial qualifications may rely on controlling executive

1 management that is of good moral character and meets the factory's qualifications for general business experience and other requirements relating to prospective franchises. Any denial of the 3 4 designated successor based upon a failure to agree to terms other 5 than those contained in the existing franchise agreement, related 6 addendums and agreements, and any written notice provided to the 7 existing dealer prior to the manufacturer's or distributor's receipt of any written notice from the existing dealer of the proposed 8 9 transfer shall not be considered good cause for such denial. 10 However, any proposed change to the franchise pursuant to written 11 notice from the manufacturer or distributor, to be valid, shall be 12 in compliance with existing law. The disapproval by the 13 manufacturer shall be final if the legal heir or devisee designated 14 successor fails to file a timely protest of such disapproval. Ιn 15 the event that the Commission finds that the manufacturer's 16 disapproval was not made for good cause, then it shall issue a final 17 order requiring the manufacturer to honor the successor designated 18 in the notice sent by the legal heir or devisee designated 19 successor. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this 20 section, a new motor vehicle dealer may designate any person as 21 successor by filing a written instrument pursuant to the franchise 22 with the manufacturer during the new motor vehicle dealer's 23 In such a case, the written instrument and franchise lifetime. 24 shall govern the dealership succession.

The suspension, revocation or refusal to issue or renew a license or the imposition of any other penalty by the Commission shall be in addition to any penalty which might be imposed upon any licensee upon judgment or conviction in a court of competent jurisdiction for any violation of the provisions of Sections 561 through 567, 572, 578.1, 579 and 579.1 of this title.

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SECTION 8. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 565.2, is amended to read as follows:

Section 565.2 A. Irrespective of the terms, provisions or conditions of any franchise, or the terms or provisions of any waiver, no manufacturer shall terminate, cancel or fail to renew any franchise with a licensed new motor vehicle dealer unless the manufacturer has satisfied the notice requirements as provided in this section and has good cause for cancellation, termination or nonrenewal. The manufacturer shall not attempt to cancel or fail to renew the franchise agreement of a new motor vehicle dealer in this state unfairly and without just provocation or without due regard to the equities of the dealer or without good faith as defined herein. As used herein, "good faith" means the duty of each party to any franchise agreement to act in a fair and equitable manner toward each other, with freedom from coercion or intimidation or threats thereof from each other.

B. Irrespective of the terms, provisions or conditions of any franchise, or the terms or provisions of any waiver, good cause

shall exist for the purpose of a termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal when:

- 1. The new motor vehicle dealer has failed to comply with a provision of the franchise, which provision is both reasonable and of material significance to the franchise relationship, or the new motor vehicle dealer has failed to comply with reasonable performance criteria for sales or service established by the manufacturer, and the dealer has been notified by written notice from the manufacturer; and
- 2. The new motor vehicle dealer has received written notification of failure to comply with the manufacturer's reasonable sales performance standards, capitalization requirements, facility commitments, business_related equipment acquisitions or other such remediable failings exclusive of those reasons enumerated in paragraph 1 of subsection C of this section, and the new motor vehicle dealer has been afforded a reasonable opportunity of not less than six (6) months to comply with such a provision or criteria.
- C. Irrespective of the terms, provisions or conditions of any franchise agreement prior to the termination, cancellation or nonrenewal of any franchise, the manufacturer shall furnish notification of such termination, cancellation or nonrenewal to the new motor vehicle dealer and the Oklahoma Motor Vehicle Commission as follows:

1. Not less than ninety (90) days prior to the effective date of such termination, cancellation or nonrenewal unless for a cause described in paragraph 2 of this subsection;

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- 2. Not less than fifteen (15) days prior to the effective date of such termination, cancellation or nonrenewal with respect to any of the following:
 - a. insolvency of the new motor vehicle dealer, or the filing of any petition by or against the <u>new</u> motor vehicle dealer under any bankruptcy or receivership law,
 - b. failure of the new motor vehicle dealer to conduct its customary sales and service operations during its customary business hours for seven (7) consecutive business days, provided that such failure to conduct business shall not be due to an act of God or circumstances beyond the direct control of the new motor vehicle dealer, or
 - c. conviction of the new motor vehicle dealer of any felony which is punishable by imprisonment or a violation of the Federal Odometer Act; and
- 3. Not less than one hundred eighty (180) days prior to the effective date of such termination or cancellation where the manufacturer or distributor is discontinuing the sale of the product line.

The notification required by this subsection shall be by certified mail, return receipt requested, and shall contain a statement of intent to terminate, to cancel or to not renew the franchise, a statement of the reasons for the termination, cancellation or nonrenewal and the date the termination shall take effect.

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Upon the affected new motor vehicle dealer's receipt of the aforementioned notice of termination, cancellation or nonrenewal, the new motor vehicle dealer shall have the right to file a protest of such threatened termination, cancellation or nonrenewal with the Commission within thirty (30) days and request a hearing. hearing shall be held in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act, Sections 301 250 through 326 323 of Title 75 of the Oklahoma Statutes, to determine if the threatened cancellation, termination or nonrenewal of the franchise has been for good cause and if the factory has complied with its obligations pursuant to subsections A, B and C of this section and the factory shall have the burden of proof. If the Commission finds that the threatened cancellation, termination or nonrenewal of the franchise has not been for good cause or violates subsection A, B or C of this section, then it shall issue a final order stating that the threatened termination is wrongful. A factory shall have the right to appeal such order. During the pendency of the hearing and after the decision, the franchise shall remain in full force and effect,

including the right to transfer the franchise. If the Commission finds that the threatened cancellation, termination or nonrenewal is for good cause and does not violate subsection A, B or C of this section, the new motor vehicle dealer shall have the right to an appeal. During the pendency of the action, including the final decision or appeal, the franchise shall remain in full force and effect, including the right to transfer the franchise. If the new motor vehicle dealer prevails in the threatened termination action, the Commission shall award to the new motor vehicle dealer the attorney fees and costs incurred to defend the action.

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- E. If the factory prevails in an action to terminate, cancel or not renew any franchise, the new motor vehicle dealer shall be allowed fair and reasonable compensation by the manufacturer for:
- 1. New current and previous model year vehicle inventory which has been acquired from the manufacturer, and which is unused and has not been damaged or altered while in the dealer's possession;
- 2. Supplies and parts which have been acquired from the manufacturer, for the purpose of this section, limited to any and all supplies and parts that are listed on the current parts price sheet available to the dealer;
- 3. Equipment and furnishings, provided the new motor vehicle dealer purchased them from the manufacturer or its approved sources; and

- 4. Special tools, with such fair and reasonable compensation to be paid by the manufacturer within ninety (90) days of the effective date of the termination, cancellation or nonrenewal, provided the new motor vehicle dealer has clear title to the inventory and other items and is in a position to convey that title to the manufacturer.
 - a. For the purposes of paragraph 1 of this subsection,
 fair and reasonable compensation shall be no less than
 the net acquisition price of the vehicle paid by the
 new motor vehicle dealer.
 - b. For the purposes of paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 of this subsection, fair and reasonable compensation shall be the net acquisition price paid by the new motor vehicle dealer less a twenty-percent (20%) straight-line depreciation for each year following the dealer's acquisition of the supplies, parts, equipment, furnishings and/or special tools.
- F. If a factory prevails in an action to terminate, cancel or not renew any franchise and the new motor vehicle dealer is leasing the dealership facilities, the manufacturer shall pay a reasonable rent to the lessor in accordance with and subject to the provisions of subsection G of this section. Nothing in this section shall be construed to relieve a dealer of its duty to mitigate damages.

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G. 1. Such reasonable rental value shall be paid only to the extent the dealership premises are recognized in the franchise and only if they are:

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- a. used solely for performance in accordance with the franchise. If the facility is used for the operation of more than one franchise, the reasonable rent shall be paid based upon the portion of the facility utilized by the franchise being terminated, canceled or nonrenewed, and
- b. not substantially in excess of facilities recommended by the manufacturer.
- 2. If the facilities are owned by the new motor vehicle dealer, within ninety (90) days following the effective date of the termination, cancellation or nonrenewal the manufacturer will either:
 - a. locate a qualified purchaser who will offer to purchase the dealership facilities at a reasonable price,
 - b. locate a qualified lessee who will offer to lease the premises for the remaining lease term at the rent set forth in the lease, or
 - c. failing the foregoing, lease the dealership facilities at a reasonable rental value for the portion of the

facility that is recognized in the franchise agreement
for one (1) year.

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- 3. If the facilities are leased by the new motor vehicle dealer, within ninety (90) days following the effective date of the termination, cancellation or nonrenewal the manufacturer will either:
 - a. locate a tenant or tenants satisfactory to the lessor, who will sublet or assume the balance of the lease,
 - b. arrange with the lessor for the cancellation of the lease without penalty to the dealer, or
 - c. failing the foregoing, lease the dealership facilities at a reasonable rent for the portion of the facility that is recognized in the franchise agreement for one (1) year.
- 4. The manufacturer shall not be obligated to provide assistance under this section if the new motor vehicle dealer:
 - a. fails to accept a bona fide offer from a prospective purchaser, subleases or assignee,
 - b. refuses to execute a settlement agreement with the lessor if such agreement with the lessor would be without cost to the dealer, or
 - c. fails to make written request for assistance under this section within ninety (90) days after the

effective date of the termination, cancellation or nonrenewal.

5. The manufacturer shall be entitled to occupy and use any space for which it pays rent required by this section.

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In addition to the repurchase requirements set forth in subsections E and G of this section, in the event the termination or cancellation is the result of a discontinuance of a product line, the manufacturer or distributor shall compensate the new motor vehicle dealer in an amount equivalent to the fair market value of the terminated franchise as of the date of immediately preceding the manufacturer's or distributor's announcement or provide the new motor vehicle dealer with a replacement franchise on substantially similar terms and conditions as those offered to other same linemake dealers. The dealer may immediately request payment under this provision section following the announcement in exchange for cancelling any further franchise rights, except payments owed to the dealer in the ordinary course of business, or may request payment under this provision section upon the final termination, cancellation or nonrenewal of the franchise. In either case, payment under this provision section shall be made not later than ninety (90) days after the fair market value is determined. factory and dealer cannot agree on the fair market value of the terminated franchise or agree to a process to determine the fair

market value, then the factory and dealer shall utilize a neutral third party third-party mediator to resolve the disagreement.

SECTION 9. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 565.3, is amended to read as follows:

Section 565.3 A. A franchised vehicle dealer proposing a sale, transfer, or assignment of a franchise agreement or the business and assets of a dealership or an interest in a dealership to another person, hereinafter transferee, shall notify the manufacturer or distributor whose vehicles the dealer is franchised to sell of the proposed action of the dealer. The manufacturer or distributor may make written request to the proposed transferee to submit completed application forms and related information generally utilized by a manufacturer to evaluate such a proposal and a copy of all agreements related to the proposed sale, transfer, or assignment.

B. The approval by the manufacturer or distributor of the sale, transfer, or assignment shall not be unreasonably withheld unless the <u>proposed</u> transferee is not of good moral character or fails to meet the written, reasonable, and uniformly applied requirements of the manufacturer or distributor relating to prospective franchisees. Approval of the transfer shall not be made contingent upon the transferee meeting unreasonable facility requirements or performance standards, but may be made contingent upon the transferee meeting reasonable written requirements different than those contained in the transferor's franchise agreement and related addendum and

agreements, and any written notices provided to the existing dealer prior to the manufacturer's or distributor's receipt of any written notice from the existing dealer of the proposed transfer. However, to be valid, any proposed change to the franchise pursuant to written notice from the manufacturer or distributor shall be in compliance with existing law. The burden of proof shall be upon the manufacturer or distributor to show good cause existed to withhold approval. The manufacturer or distributor that has made such a determination shall send a letter by certified mail to the dealer and the applicant of its refusal to approve the proposal, which shall include a statement of the specific grounds for refusal, within sixty (60) days after the later of:

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- 1. Receipt by the manufacturer or distributor of the notice of the proposed sale, transfer, or assignment; or
- 2. Receipt by the manufacturer or distributor of the information requested from the <u>proposed</u> transferee pursuant to subsection A of this section if the manufacturer or distributor has requested such information within fifteen (15) days of receipt of written notice of the proposed sale, transfer, or assignment.
- C. Failure of the manufacturer or distributor to send its notice of refusal pursuant to subsection B of this section shall mean that the application for the proposed sale, transfer, or assignment is approved.

D. If the proposed sale, transfer, or assignment is to an existing owner's family member or other existing owner, the manufacturer or distributor's evaluation of such proposal is limited to the written, reasonable, and uniformly applied requirements of the manufacturer or distributor relating to good moral character and financial qualifications. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, a change in dealer operation shall be addressed pursuant to the provisions of Section 565.1 of this title.

E. A dealer dealership or dealership owner receiving notice of refusal of the sale, transfer, or assignment shall have the right to file a protest with the Oklahoma Motor Vehicle Commission within thirty (30) days of receipt of the refusal. A dealer receiving notice that the sale, transfer or assignment is contingent upon the transferee meeting facility and/or performance standards shall have the right to file a protest with the Commission within thirty (30) days of receipt of the notice. In the event a protest is filed, the manufacturer or distributor shall have the burden of proof to establish the proposed transferee or the proposed transferee's controlling executive management is not of good moral character or fails to meet the written reasonable and uniformly applied requirements of the manufacturer or distributor relating to prospective franchisees or that the facility requirements are not reasonable based on the reasons set forth in subparagraph d of

paragraph 9 of Section 565 of this title different than those contained in the transferor's franchise agreement.

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SECTION 10. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 578.1, is amended to read as follows:

Section 578.1 A. Notwithstanding the terms of a franchise and notwithstanding the terms of a waiver, if a factory intends or proposes to enter into a franchise to establish an additional new motor vehicle dealer or to relocate an existing new motor vehicle dealer within or into a relevant market area in which the same linemake of motor vehicle is currently represented, the factory shall provide at least sixty (60) days advance written notice to the Commission and to each new motor vehicle dealer of the same linemake in the relevant market area, of the intention of the factory to establish an additional new motor vehicle dealer or to relocate an existing new motor vehicle dealer within or into the relevant market area. For purposes of this section, the "relevant market area" means the area within a radius of fifteen (15) miles of around the site of the proposed new motor vehicle dealership measured from the property boundary of the primary dealership property. The notice shall be sent by certified mail to each party and shall include the following information:

1. The specific location at which the additional or relocated new motor vehicle dealer will be established;

- 2. The date on or after which the additional or relocated new motor vehicle dealer intends to commence business at the proposed location;
- 3. The identity of all <u>new</u> motor vehicle dealers who are franchised to sell the same line-make vehicles as the proposed <u>new</u> motor vehicle dealer and who have licensed locations within the relevant market area;
- 4. The names and addresses of the person intended to be franchised as the proposed additional or relocated <u>new</u> motor vehicle dealership, the principal investors in the proposed additional or relocated <u>new</u> motor vehicle dealership, and the proposed dealer operator of the proposed additional or relocated <u>new</u> motor vehicle dealership; and
- 5. The specific grounds or reasons for the proposed establishment of an additional <u>new</u> motor vehicle dealer or relocation of an existing new motor vehicle dealer.
 - B. This section does not apply:

- 1. To the relocation of an existing new motor vehicle dealer within the relevant market area of that dealer; provided, that the relocation not be at a site within ten (10) miles of a licensed new motor vehicle dealer for the same line-make of motor vehicle;
- 2. To a proposed additional new motor vehicle dealer which is to be established at or within two (2) miles of a location at which a former licensed new motor vehicle dealer for the same line-make of

new motor vehicle had ceased operating within the previous two (2) years;

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- 3. To the relocation of an existing new motor vehicle dealer within two (2) miles of the existing site of the new motor vehicle dealership; or
- 4. To the relocation of an existing new motor vehicle dealer if the proposed site of the relocated new motor vehicle dealership is farther away from all other new motor vehicle dealers of the same line-make in that relevant market area.
- C. Within thirty (30) days after receipt of the notice, or within thirty (30) days after the end of an appeal procedure provided by the factory, whichever is greater, a new motor vehicle dealer so notified or entitled to notice may file a petition with the Commission protesting the proposed establishment or relocation. The petition shall contain a short statement setting forth the reasons for the objection of the dealer to the proposed establishment or relocation. Upon filing of a protest, the Commission shall promptly notify the factory that a timely protest has been filed and shall schedule a hearing, which shall be held within one hundred twenty (120) days of the filing of a timely The factory shall not establish or relocate the new motor vehicle dealer until the Commission has held a hearing and has determined that there is good cause for permitting the proposed establishment or relocation. When more than one protest is filed

against the establishment or relocation of the same dealer, the

Commission shall consolidate the hearings to expedite disposition of
the matter.

- D. The burden of proof to establish that good cause exists for permitting the proposed establishment of a new motor vehicle dealer or relocating an existing new motor vehicle dealership shall be on the applicant who seeks to establish a new motor vehicle dealership or the relocation of an existing new motor vehicle dealership.
- SECTION 11. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 580.2, is amended to read as follows:

Section 580.2 During the time a person is operating a motor vehicle with the express or implied permission of an authorized a new motor vehicle dealer, as defined in Section 562 of this title, such person's motor vehicle liability policy shall have primary coverage with the motor vehicle liability policy of the new motor vehicle dealer having secondary coverage until the vehicle is returned. As used herein, "motor vehicle liability policy" means motor vehicle insurance against legal liability for the death, injury, or disability of any human being, or for damage to real or personal property. The motor vehicle liability policy of any person who has been loaned a vehicle by a new motor vehicle dealer pursuant to the terms of this section shall provide primary coverage for any death or injury of any human being or for any real or personal property damage, including damage to the loaned vehicle, with the

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    motor vehicle insurance policy of the new motor vehicle dealer
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    having secondary coverage for any death or injury of any human being
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    or for any real or personal property damage, including damage to the
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    loaned vehicle. The change in financial responsibility shall be
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    evidenced by a release signed by the person operating the vehicle
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    with the express or implied permission of the new motor vehicle
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    dealer with the release to be returned to the person upon the return
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    of the motor vehicle to the new motor vehicle dealer.
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    vehicle liability policy of such person shall meet the minimum
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    financial responsibility requirements found in Section 7-324 of this
    title.
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        This section shall apply only to the loan of a motor vehicle by
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    an authorized a new motor vehicle dealer which loan occurs without
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    financial remuneration in the form of a fee or lease charge.
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        SECTION 12. This act shall become effective November 1, 2023.
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