STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 58th Legislature (2022)

HOUSE BILL 3994 By: Dobrinski

4

3

1

2

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

1.3

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

2.4

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to motor vehicle dealers; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 562, which relates to definitions; modifying definitions; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 564, which relates to licenses; disallowing certain authorization; authorizing certain fee; providing for application for certain license; providing requirements and limitations of licensee; requiring certain license for delivery; providing for misdemeanor and fine offense; providing for quidelines for use of consumer data; providing certain indemnification; authorizing certain data disclosure; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 565, which relates to denial, revocation or suspension of license; requiring certain adherence; prohibiting certain performance methods; providing for calculation; providing for exclusions for certain rate calculation; requiring written notice; requiring criteria for validation; requiring certain factory compensation; prohibiting factory denial of certain claims and implementation of certain charge-backs; disallowing allocation requirements; allowing for certain construction or renovation; providing certain rebuttable presumption; limiting license for distribution; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 565.1, which relates to succession dealerships; clarifying language; requiring certain adherence; 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; limiting evaluations; deleting certain protest right; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 572, which relates to venue in damage actions; modifying certain legal remedies; awarding certain fees and costs; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 578.1, which

1 relates to procedures for relocation or establishment; modifying definition; amending 47 O.S. 2 2021, Section 580.2, which relates to insurance coverage on loan vehicles; defining term; making certain liability policy coverage distinction; 3 providing for codification; and providing an effective date. 4 5 6 7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA: SECTION 1. 47 O.S. 2021, Section 562, is 8 AMENDATORY 9 amended to read as follows: 10 Section 562. The following words, terms and phrases, when used in Sections 561 through 567, 572, 578.1, 579 and 579.1 of this 11 12 title, shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this 1.3 section, except where the context clearly indicates a different 14 meaning: 15 1. "Motor vehicle" means any motor-driven vehicle required to 16 be registered under the Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration Act. The term "motor vehicle" does not include: 17 18 recreational vehicles, as defined in the Recreational 19 Vehicle Franchise Act, or 20 all-terrain vehicles, utility vehicles, and b.

Req. No. 8442 Page 2

are sold by a retail implement dealer;

"New motor vehicle dealer" means any person, firm,

association, corporation or trust not excluded by this paragraph who

motorcycles used exclusively for off-road use which

2.1

22

23

24

2.

```
1
    that sells, leases, exchanges or otherwise conveys a new motor
    vehicle, accepts orders for sale, lease, exchange or other
 2
    conveyance of a new motor vehicle, offers for sale, lease, exchange
 3
 4
    or other conveyance of a new motor vehicle, finances the sale,
 5
    lease, or other conveyance of a new motor vehicle, advertises to
    sell, leases or lease, exchange or convey a new motor vehicle,
 6
 7
    offers through a subscription or like arrangement, displays new
    motor vehicles, offers vehicle test drives or demonstrations of new
 9
    motor vehicle functions or features, or otherwise engages in any
10
    way, in whole or in part, in the business of selling, leasing,
    exchanging or otherwise conveying new motor vehicles and used motor
11
12
    vehicles, as well as parts, including post-sale software and
13
    hardware upgrades or changes to vehicle functions and features, and
14
    accessories for those motor vehicles, and holds a bona fide contract
15
    or franchise in effect with a manufacturer or distributor authorized
16
    by the manufacturer to establish a physical place of business in the
17
    state which is of such reasonably sufficient size and accommodation
18
    to perform the activities of a new motor vehicle dealer, including
19
    vehicle inventory and display, sales activity, make predelivery
20
    preparation of such new motor vehicles sold, leased or otherwise
21
    conveyed to purchasers consumers and to perform post-sale work
22
    pursuant to the manufacturer's or distributor's warranty and recall
23
    policies. As used herein, "authorized predelivery preparation"
24
    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 or motor vehicle manufacturer's warranty and recall policies. 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 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 synonymous. The term "new motor vehicle dealer does not include:

1

3

5

6

7

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

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

b. public officers while performing or in operation of their duties, or

1.3

- 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 employees;
- 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, conveyance or financing of any new motor vehicle for 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, who manufactures or assembles new and unused motor vehicles or who 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, being authorized by the original manufacturer, in whole or in part sells or distributes new and unused motor vehicles to motor vehicle dealers, or who maintains distributor representatives;

7. "Factory branch" means any branch office maintained by a person, firm, association, corporation or trust who manufactures or assembles motor vehicles for the sale of motor vehicles to distributors, or for the sale of motor vehicles to 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 motor vehicle dealer and a manufacturer of a new motor vehicle or its distributor or factory branch by which the dealer is authorized to engage in the business of selling any specified make or makes of new

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 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;
- 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;
- 23 16. "Product" means new motor vehicles and new motor vehicle
 24 parts;

1 17. "Service" means motor vehicle warranty repairs including 2 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 is in the business of selling any new powersports vehicles except for retail implement dealers; and
- 23. "Retail implement dealer" means a business engaged primarily in the sale of farm tractors as defined in Section 1-118 of this title or implements of husbandry as defined in Section 1-125 of this title or a combination thereof;
- 24. "Consumer data" means nonpublic personal information as such term is defined in 15 U.S.C., Section 6809(4) as it existed on January 1, 2022, that is:
 - a. collected by a dealer, and
 - b. provided by the dealer directly to a manufacturer or third party acting on behalf of a manufacturer.

1 Such term shall not include the same or similar data obtained by a manufacturer from any source other than the dealer or dealer's data management system; and 4 "Data management system" means a computer hardware or software system that: is owned, leased or licensed by a dealer including a a. system or web-based applications, computer software or computer hardware, b. is located at the dealership or hosted remotely, and stores and provides access to consumer data collected C. or stored by a dealer. Such term shall include, but shall not be limited to, dealership management systems and customer relations management systems. SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 564, is amended to read as follows: 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 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.

2

3

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

Rea. No. 8442 Page 9

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 motor vehicle dealer.

1

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

Applications for licenses required to be obtained under В. 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 safequarding 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
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.
```

C. The schedule of license fees to be charged and received by the Commission for the licenses issued hereunder shall be as follows:

23

22

1

3

5

6

7

8

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

24

- 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;

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

23

24

- 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; and
- 6. For each motor vehicle direct shipper, initial fee of Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00), with an annual renewal fee of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00).
- 22 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 dealer shall be posted in a conspicuous place in the 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 3. 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. A person who is licensed in his or her state of domicile as a franchised new motor vehicle dealer, and who is not affiliated by

ownership or control of a manufacturer, distributor, factory branch, factory representative, distributor branch or distributor representative, as defined in Section 562 Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes, may apply to the Oklahoma Motor Vehicle Commission for a motor vehicle direct shipper license. Only a person holding a motor vehicle direct shipper license may ship a new motor vehicle from out of the state to a person, association or entity who is an Oklahoma resident. A motor vehicle dealer licensed in this state shall not be required to obtain a motor vehicle direct shipper license to ship a new motor vehicle to a person, association or entity who is an Oklahoma resident. Any person who ships less than three new motor vehicles per year from out of the state to a person, association or entity that is an Oklahoma resident shall not be required to obtain a motor vehicle direct shipper license. The license fee for a motor vehicle direct shipper shall be determined by the Commission. amount of the fee must approximate and reasonably reflect the costs necessary to defray the expenses of the Commissioner's service and activities in connection with this section.

1

3

5

6

7

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

B. It shall be unlawful for common or permit carriers, operators of trucks, buses or other conveyances or out-of-state manufacturers or suppliers to make delivery of any new motor vehicle from without the State of Oklahoma to any person, association or entity within the state unless the delivery is made by a person

licensed in this state as a motor vehicle dealer or a motor vehicle direct shipper.

- C. A person who sells and ships a new motor vehicle directly from any person, association or corporation to a resident of the State of Oklahoma without holding a valid motor vehicle direct shipper's license, upon conviction, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine pursuant to Section 565 of Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes.
- 9 SECTION 4. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified 10 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 564.4 of Title 47, unless there 11 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:
- With respect to consumer data, a factory or third party acting on behalf of a factory:
 - 1. Shall comply with and shall not cause a dealer to violate any applicable restrictions on reuse or disclosure of consumer data established by federal or state law;
 - 2. Shall, upon the written request of the dealer, provide a written statement describing the established procedures adopted by such factory or third party acting on behalf of the factory which meet or exceed any federal or state requirements to safeguard consumer data including, but not limited to, those established in the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, 15 U.S.C., Section 6801 et seq.;
 - 3. Shall, upon the written request of the dealer, provide a written list of the consumer data obtained from the dealer and all

persons to whom any consumer data has been provided by the factory or a third party acting on behalf of a factory during the preceding six (6) months. The dealer may make such a request no more than once every six (6) months. The list must indicate the specific fields of consumer data which were provided to each person;

1

3

4

5

6

7

8

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

4. May not require that a dealer grant the factory or a third party acting on behalf of a factory, or use any incentive or withhold any benefit from a dealer to obtain, direct or indirect access to such dealer's data management system to obtain consumer data. A factory or a third party acting on behalf of a factory shall permit a dealer to furnish consumer data in a widely accepted file format, such as comma delimited, and through a third-party vendor selected by the dealer. However, a factory or a third party acting on behalf of a factory may access or obtain consumer data directly from a dealer's data management system with the express written consent of the dealer. The consent shall be in the form of a stand-alone written document that is executed by the dealer principal or operator and may be withdrawn by the dealer upon thirty (30) days' written notice to the factory or third party acting on the factory's behalf, as applicable. Such consent shall not be required as a condition to a new motor vehicle dealer's participation in an incentive program or receipt of some other benefit; and

5. Shall indemnify the dealer for any third-party claims asserted against or damages incurred by the dealer to the extent caused by access to, use of, or disclosure of consumer data in violation of this section by the factory or a third party to whom the factory has provided consumer data. Nothing contained in this section shall limit the ability of the factory or a third party acting on the factory's behalf to require that the dealer provide, or use in accordance with the law, such consumer information related solely to such factory's own vehicle makes to the extent necessary to do any of the following:

1.3

- a. satisfy any safety or recall notice obligations or other legal notice obligations on the part of the manufacturer,
- b. validate and pay to a dealer a consumer or dealer incentive, or
- c. submit claims to the factory for any services supplied by the dealer for any claim for warranty parts or repair.
- The factory shall be limited to using consumer data strictly for the purposes listed in this paragraph.
- SECTION 5. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, 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 <u>against any person</u>, 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, who 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:

7

8

10

11

12

1.3

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

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 dealer,

22

23

24

- 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 crime involving moral turpitude,
- 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:

1.3

2.1

- 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 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 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 customer consumer 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:

4

5

6

7

9

10

11

12

1.3

14

15

16

17

18

19

2.0

2.1

22

23

24

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

5

6

7

9

10

11

12

1.3

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

(3) to order or accept delivery of any parts, accessories, equipment, machinery, tools, appliances or any commodity whatsoever, or

induced under threat or discrimination by the b. withholding from delivery to a motor vehicle dealer certain models of motor vehicles, changing or amending unilaterally the 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 dealer to participate or contribute to any local or national advertising fund controlled directly or indirectly by the factory or for any other purposes such as contest, "give-aways" or other so-called sales promotional devices and/or change of quotas in any sales contest; or has required motor vehicle dealers, as a condition to receiving their vehicle allotment, to order a certain percentage of the vehicles with optional equipment not specified by the new motor vehicle dealer; however, nothing in this section shall prohibit a factory from supporting an advertising

association which is open to all dealers on the same basis,

- unfair sales or other standard to measure a dealer's

 performance under any factory program, policy or the

 franchise agreement. It shall be considered

 unreasonable, arbitrary and unfair for the factory to

 fail to take into account the dealer's specific and

 market circumstances in establishing the sales or

 other standard,
- d. failed or refused to sell, or offer for sale, new and used motor vehicles to all of its same line-make franchised dealers at the same price for a comparably equipped motor vehicle, on the same terms, with no differential in discount, allowance, credit or bonus,
- e. failed to reimburse a dealer in full for the actual cost of providing a loaner vehicle to any consumer who is having a vehicle serviced at the dealership if the provision of such a loaner vehicle is required by the factory. For purposes of this paragraph, actual cost shall not exceed the average cost in the dealer's region for the rental of a substantially similar make and model as the vehicle being serviced;
- 9. Being a factory that:

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 motor vehicle dealer; or has acted dishonestly, or has failed to act in accordance with the reasonable standards of fair dealing,

1

2

3

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

1.3

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

has failed to compensate its dealers for the work and b. services they are required to perform in connection with the dealer's delivery and preparation obligations according to the agreements on file with the 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, extended warranty agreements, maintenance agreements, recall repairs and similar work, which shall include diagnostic work and goodwill repairs. 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

for parts and/or labor shall be established by the dealer submitting to the manufacturer or distributor one hundred sequential nonwarranty customer-paid consumer-paid service repair orders which contain warranty-like parts repairs, or ninety (90) consecutive days of 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 markup. 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. The 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 dealer's total cost of the purchase of those parts, subtracting one (1), and multiplying by one hundred (100) to produce a percentage. The dealer shall calculate its retail labor rate by dividing the

1	<u>a</u>	mour	nt of the dealer's total labor sales from the
2	<u>d</u>	uali	fied repair orders by the total labor hours that
3	<u>g</u>	ener	rated those sales. When submitting repair orders
4	t	.o c a	alculate <u>establish</u> a <u>retail parts and/or</u> labor
5	r	ate,	a dealer need not include repair orders <u>repairs</u>
6	f	or <u>:</u>	
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	<u>(</u>	2)	factory special events, specials or promotional
12			discounts for retail consumer repairs,
13	<u>(</u>	3)	parts sold or repairs performed at wholesale,
14	<u>(</u>	4)	factory-approved goodwill or policy repairs or
15			replacements,
16	<u>(</u>	5)	repairs with aftermarket parts, when calculating
17			the retail parts rate but not the retail labor
18			rate,
19	<u>(</u>	6)	repairs on aftermarket parts,
20	<u>(</u>	7)	replacement of or work on tires including front-
21			end alignments and wheel or tire rotations,
22	_(8)	repairs of motor vehicles owned by the dealer or
23			employee thereof at the time of the repair,
24	(9)	engine and/or transmission assemblies,

(10) vehicle reconditioning, or

1

2

3

5

10

11

12

1.3

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

(11) 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 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 established in accordance with this section. A manufacturer or distributor shall not deny the dealer's submission to establish the retail labor rate, retail parts rate or both, under this section. Instead, the manufacturer or distributor must approve or rebut as provided The retail rate labor and parts rates shall go into effect thirty (30) days following the approval by the manufacturer or distributor, subject to audit of the submitted repair orders by the franchisor and a rebuttal of the declared rate as described above. If the declared rate is rebutted, the manufacturer or distributor shall

24

provide written notice stating the specific reasons for the rebuttal, a full explanation of any and all reasons for the allegation, evidence substantiating the manufacturer or distributor's position, a copy of all calculations used by the franchisor in determining the manufacturer or distributor's position and propose an adjustment in writing of the average percentage markup or labor rate based on that rebuttal not later than thirty (30) days after submission. If the dealer does not agree with the proposed average percentage markup or labor rate, the dealer may file a protest with the Commission not later than thirty (30) days after receipt of that proposal by the manufacturer or distributor. In the event a protest is filed, the manufacturer or distributor shall have the burden of proof to establish the new motor vehicle dealer's submitted parts markup rate or labor rate was inaccurate or unreasonable in light of the practices of all other franchised motor vehicle dealers in an economically similar part of the state not established in accordance with this section. A manufacturer or distributor may not

24

retaliate against any new motor vehicle dealer seeking to exercise its rights under this provision section. A manufacturer or distributor may require a dealer to submit repair orders in accordance with this section in order to validate a dealer's retail rate for parts or labor not more often than once every twelve (12) months. Any validation of the retail parts and labor rate as permitted herein must use the same criteria for establishment of the rate in this section. A manufacturer or distributor may not otherwise recover its costs from dealers within this state including an increase in the wholesale price of a vehicle or surcharge imposed on a dealer solely intended to recover the cost of reimbursing a dealer for parts and labor pursuant to this section; provided, a manufacturer or distributor shall not 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 repair work shall be paid within thirty (30) days after approval and shall be approved or disapproved within thirty (30) days after

24

receipt. When 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 dealer compensation or any chargebacks 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 factory shall not deny a claim or charge a new motor vehicle dealer back subsequent to the payment of the claim unless the factory

24

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 dealer. The factory shall provide written notice to a dealer of a proposed chargeback that is the result of an audit along with the specific audit results and proposed chargeback 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,

1			whichever is later, unless the dealer has agreed
2			to the charge-back or charge-backs,
3	С.	fail	s to compensate the new motor vehicle dealer for a
4		used	motor vehicle:
5		(1)	that is of the same make and model manufactured,
6			imported or distributed by the manufacturer,
7		(2)	that is subject to a recall notice issued by the
8			manufacturer, distributor or an authorized
9			governmental agency, regardless of whether the
10			vehicle is identified by its vehicle
11			identification number,
12		(3)	that is held by the new motor vehicle dealer in
13			the dealer's inventory at the time the recall
14			notice is issued or that is taken by the new
15			motor vehicle dealer into the dealer's inventory
16			after the recall notice as a result of a retail
17			consumer trade-in or a lease return to the dealer
18			inventory in accordance with an applicable lease
19			contract,
20		(4)	that cannot be repaired due to the
21			unavailability, within thirty (30) days after
22			issuance of the recall notice, of a remedy or
23			parts necessary for the new motor vehicle dealer
24			to make the recall repair, and

24

(5) for which the factory has not issued a written statement to the new motor vehicle dealer indicating that the used motor vehicle may be sold or delivered to a retail consumer before completion of the recall repair. The purpose of such written statement is to provide notice to the new motor vehicle dealer that the vehicle may be sold or delivered based solely on the specific recall notice and is not intended to address any other aspect of the vehicle unrelated to the recall notice. The factory shall pay the compensation required under this subsection within thirty (30) days after the motor vehicle dealer's application for payment. Compensation under this subsection must be the greater of: (a) payment at a rate of at least one and onehalf percent (1.5%) per month of the value of the motor vehicle as determined by the average Black Book value of the corresponding model year vehicle of average condition, of each eligible used motor vehicle in the new motor vehicle dealer's inventory for each month that the dealer

does not receive a remedy and parts to

1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

complete the required recall repair. Such

payment must be prorated for any period less

than one (1) month based on the number of

days during the month each eligible used

motor vehicle is in the motor vehicle

dealer's inventory, or

- (b) payment under a national program applicable
 to all motor vehicle dealers holding a
 franchise agreement with the manufacturer
 for the motor vehicle dealer's costs
 associated with holding the eligible used
 motor vehicles,
- d. unreasonably fails or refuses to offer to its same 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, enter into a separate agreement, or remodel, renovate, or recondition the dealer's existing facilities as a prerequisite to receiving a model or series of vehicles. It shall be a violation of this section for new vehicle allocation to be withheld subject to any requirement to purchase or sell any number of used or off-lease vehicles. The

1

14

18

20

24

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 for vehicles planned for limited production, each dealer shall receive at least one such vehicle and otherwise shall receive a reasonable and proportional share of such vehicle allocation. This subparagraph shall not apply to recreational vehicles or limited production model vehicles,

d.

except as necessary to comply with a health or safety е. law, or to comply with a technology requirement which is necessary to sell or service a motor vehicle that the franchised motor vehicle dealer is authorized or licensed by the franchisor to sell or service, requires a new motor vehicle dealer to provide any service or take any action or to construct a new facility or substantially renovate the new motor vehicle dealer's existing facility, in order to receive all models manufactured for that line-make,

1 f. except as necessary to comply with a health or safety 2 law, or to comply with a technology requirement which is necessary to sell or service a motor vehicle that 3 the franchised motor vehicle dealer is authorized or 5 licensed by the franchisor to sell or service, requires a new motor vehicle dealer to construct a new 6 7 facility or substantially renovate the new motor vehicle dealer's existing facility unless the facility 9 construction or renovation is justified by the 10 economic conditions existing at the time, as well as 11 the reasonably foreseeable projections, in the 12 dealer's market and in the automotive industry. 1.3 However, this subparagraph shall not apply if the 14 factory provides dealer voluntarily agrees to facility 15 construction or renovation in exchange for money, 16 credit, allowance, reimbursement, except for payments 17 on a per vehicle basis, or additional vehicle 18 allocation to a dealer from the factory to compensate 19 the dealer for the cost of, or a portion of the cost 20 of, the facility construction or renovation. Except 2.1 as necessary to comply with a health or safety law, or 22 to comply with a technology requirement which is 23 necessary to sell or service a motor vehicle that the 24 franchised motor vehicle dealer is authorized or

2.1

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 for ten (10) years, during which
time the dealer will be considered in compliance with
any new facility program for purposes of being
entitled to all incentive or bonus payments offered to
same line-make dealers,

e .

g. 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,

f.

h. 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

1 restrict the terms of any site-control agreement 2 voluntarily entered into and supported by valuable consideration separate from the new motor vehicle 3 dealer's right to sell and service motor vehicles for 5 the franchisor. Notwithstanding the foregoing or the terms of any site-control agreement, a site-control 6 7 agreement automatically extinguishes if all of the factory's franchises that operated from the location 8 9 that are the subject of the site-control agreement are 10 terminated by the factory as part of the 11 discontinuance of a product line, or

g.

12

1.3

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

i. refuses to pay, or claim reimbursement from, a dealer for sales, incentives or other payments related to a motor vehicle sold by the 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 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 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

requires a new motor vehicle dealer to purchase goods j. 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 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 not be unreasonably withheld. Nothing in this subparagraph may be construed to allow a new motor vehicle dealer to impair or eliminate a factory's intellectual property, trademark rights or trade dress usage guidelines. Nothing in this section prohibits the enforcement of a voluntary agreement between the factory and the new motor vehicle dealer where separate and valuable consideration has been offered and accepted;

10. Being a factory that:

1

2

3

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

1.3

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

a. establishes a system of motor vehicle allocation or distribution which is unfair, inequitable or unreasonably discriminatory. Upon the request of any dealer franchised by it, a factory shall disclose in

23

24

writing to the dealer the basis upon which new motor vehicles are allocated, scheduled and delivered among the dealers of the same line-make for that factory, or changes an established plan or system of motor vehicle b. distribution. A motor vehicle dealer franchise 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. Upon the occurrence of such change, the manufacturer or distributor shall be prohibited from obtaining a license to distribute vehicles under the new plan or system of distribution unless the manufacturer or distributor offers to each motor vehicle dealer who is a party to the franchise agreement a new franchise agreement containing substantially the same provisions which were contained

11. Being a factory that sells directly or indirectly new motor vehicles to any retail consumer in the state except through a new

Req. No. 8442 Page 40

in the previous franchise agreement;

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 through its franchised motor vehicle dealers 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;

1

3

4

5

6

7

10

11

12

1.3

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

- 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 person who sells products or services to the public,
 - (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 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

24

capacity of a 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 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 motor vehicle dealerships selling the motor vehicles of that manufacturer in this state trade exclusively in the linemake 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,
 - (c) 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 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 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 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:

- 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:

1.3

2.1

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

1.3

- 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{g} and \underline{f} 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 customer 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;
- 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:

2.1

- a. by an act or statement from the factory that will in any manner adversely impact the dealer,
- b. by measuring the 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 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:
- 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:

1.3

- 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.
- SECTION 6. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 565.1, is amended to read as follows:

Section 565.1 Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement, and subject to the following conditions contained in paragraphs 1 through 5 of this section, 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, or designated successor to a departing dealership operator, 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 or designee 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 or successor's timely written notice, the manufacturer may request, and the legal heir or, devisee or 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 successor dealership dealer, and in case of disapproval shall communicate in writing such disapproval and grounds for disapproval to the legal heir or devisee proposed 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;

1

2

3

5

6

7

8

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

Within ten (10) days of its the proposed successor's receipt 5. of the manufacturer's notice of disapproval, the legal heir or devisee proposed 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. The 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 proposed successor, or the legal heir or devisee's proposed successor'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 financial qualifications, general business experience, and other requirements relating to prospective franchisees. However, a legal heir that who is of good moral character in accordance with the reasonable factory's qualifications and meets the factory's financial qualifications may rely on controlling executive 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 proposed successor based upon a failure to agree to terms other than those contained in the existing franchise agreement shall not be considered good cause for such denial. The disapproval by the manufacturer shall be final if the legal heir or devisee proposed successor or dealership fails to file a timely protest of such disapproval. In the event that the Commission finds that the manufacturer's disapproval was not made for good cause, then it shall issue a final order requiring the manufacturer to honor the successor designated in the notice sent by the legal heir or devisee. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this section, a new motor vehicle dealer may designate any person as successor by filing a written instrument pursuant to the franchise with the manufacturer during the new motor vehicle dealer's lifetime. such a case, the written instrument and franchise shall govern the dealership succession.

1

3

4

5

6

7

8

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

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.

SECTION 7. 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

1.3

- 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;
- 22 2. Not less than fifteen (15) days prior to the effective date 23 of such termination, cancellation or nonrenewal with respect to any 24 of the following:

a. insolvency of the new motor vehicle dealer, or the filing of any petition by or against the motor vehicle dealer under any bankruptcy or receivership law,

1.3

- 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.

D. 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

1

2

3

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

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.

- 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.

1.3

2.1

- 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.
- 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:
 - 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 recommendedby the manufacturer.

3

4

5

7

8

9

10

11

12

1.3

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

- 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.
- 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:

1.3

- 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.
- H. 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. If the 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 mediator to resolve the disagreement.

SECTION 8. 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 <u>proposed</u> 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.

1

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

- The approval by the manufacturer or distributor of the sale, В. transfer, or assignment shall not be unreasonably withheld unless the proposed 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 different than those contained in the transferor's franchise agreement, but may be made contingent upon the proposed transferee meeting reasonable written requirements. 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:
- 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, then 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.
- 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 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. SECTION 9. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 572, is amended to read as follows: Section 572. Any action brought to recover any damages that may be sustained by any motor vehicle dealer may be brought in the county in which said dealer is located and in addition to the action for damages he shall be entitled to sue for and have injunctive relief against the threatened loss, damage or injury to his business or property because of any violation of Sections 565 through 566 and 579 of this title or the threatened cancellation, termination or failure to renew any franchise agreement between any factory and said dealer, and the court may grant such injunctive relief, including temporary restraining orders, as it deems just and proper. Notwithstanding the existence of any adequate remedy at law, a dealer is authorized to bring an action in the county in which said dealer is located for the grant, upon a hearing and for

1

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

Req. No. 8442 Page 65

continuing to violate any of the provisions of Sections 561 through

cause shown, of a temporary or permanent injunction, or both,

restraining any person from acting as a licensee under the terms of

Sections 561 through 567, 572, 578.1, 579 and 579.1 of this title

without being properly licensed hereunder, or from violating or

```
1
    567, 572, 578.1, 579 and 579.1 of this title, or from failing or
 2
    refusing to comply with the requirements of this law or any rule or
    regulation adopted hereunder. Such injunction shall be issued
 3
 4
    without bond. A single act in violation of the provisions of
 5
    Sections 561 through 567, 572, 578.1, 579 and 579.1 of this
    title shall be sufficient to authorize the issuance of an
 6
 7
    injunction. Upon a prima facie showing by the person bringing the
    action that such a violation by the licensee has occurred, the
 8
 9
    burden of proof shall then be upon the licensee to prove that such
10
    violation or unfair practice did not occur. In any action brought
11
    under this section, the court shall award attorney fees and costs to
12
    a dealer who prevails, notwithstanding any other provisions of law,
13
    and in addition to any other remedy which may be afforded under any
14
    other statute of this state.
        SECTION 10. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 578.1, is
15
16
    amended to read as follows:
17
        Section 578.1 A. Notwithstanding the terms of a franchise and
18
    notwithstanding the terms of a waiver, if a factory intends or
    proposes to enter into a franchise to establish an additional new
19
20
    motor vehicle dealer or to relocate an existing new motor vehicle
21
    dealer within or into a relevant market area in which the same line-
22
    make of motor vehicle is currently represented, the factory shall
23
    provide at least sixty (60) days advance written notice to the
```

Req. No. 8442 Page 66

Commission and to each new motor vehicle dealer of the same line-

24

make 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. The notice shall be sent by certified mail to each party and shall include the following information:

1.3

- 1. The specific location at which the additional or relocated motor vehicle dealer will be established;
- 2. The date on or after which the additional or relocated motor vehicle intends to commence business at the proposed location;
- 3. The identity of all motor vehicle dealers who are franchised to sell the same line-make vehicles as the proposed 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 motor vehicle dealership, the principal investors in the proposed additional or relocated motor vehicle dealership, and the proposed dealer operator of the proposed additional or relocated motor vehicle dealership; and
- 5. The specific grounds or reasons for the proposed establishment of an additional motor vehicle dealer or relocation of an existing 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;
- 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

protest. 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 dealer having secondary coverage until the vehicle is returned. As used

```
1
    herein, "motor vehicle liability policy" means motor vehicle
 2
    insurance against legal liability for the death, injury or
    disability of any human being, or for damage to real or personal
 3
    property. The motor vehicle liability policy of any person who has
 4
 5
    been loaned a vehicle by a new motor vehicle dealer pursuant to the
 6
    terms of this section shall provide primary coverage for any death
 7
    or injury of any human being or for any real or personal property
    damage, including damage to the loaned vehicle, with the motor
 8
 9
    vehicle insurance policy of the dealer having secondary coverage for
10
    any death or injury of any human being or for any real or personal
11
    property damage, including damage to the loaned vehicle. The change
12
    in financial responsibility shall be evidenced by a release signed
13
    by the person operating the vehicle with the express or implied
14
    permission of the dealer with the release to be returned to the
15
    person upon the return of the motor vehicle to the dealer.
16
    motor vehicle liability policy of such person shall meet the minimum
17
    financial responsibility requirements found in Section 7-324 of this
18
    title.
19
        This section shall apply only to the loan of a motor vehicle by
20
    an authorized a new motor vehicle dealer which loan occurs without
21
    financial remuneration in the form of a fee or lease charge.
22
        SECTION 12. This act shall become effective November 1, 2022.
23
24
        58-2-8442
                       JBH
                                 01/17/22
```