

Amendment No. 1

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION

ADOPTED _____ (Y/N)
ADOPTED AS AMENDED _____ (Y/N)
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION _____ (Y/N)
FAILED TO ADOPT _____ (Y/N)
WITHDRAWN _____ (Y/N)
OTHER

1 Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Commerce Committee
2 Representative Diaz, M. offered the following:

3
4 **Amendment (with title amendment)**

5 Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

6 Section 1. Section 320.64, Florida Statutes, is amended to
7 read:

8 320.64 Denial, suspension, or revocation of license;
9 grounds.—A license of a licensee under s. 320.61 may be denied,
10 suspended, or revoked within the entire state or at any specific
11 location or locations within the state at which the applicant or
12 licensee engages or proposes to engage in business, upon proof
13 that the section was violated with sufficient frequency to
14 establish a pattern of wrongdoing, and a licensee or applicant
15 shall be liable for claims and remedies provided in ss. 320.695
16 and 320.697 for any violation of any of the following

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17 | provisions. A licensee is prohibited from committing the
18 | following acts:

19 | (1) The applicant or licensee is determined to be unable
20 | to carry out contractual obligations with its motor vehicle
21 | dealers.

22 | (2) The applicant or licensee has knowingly made a
23 | material misstatement in its application for a license.

24 | (3) The applicant or licensee willfully has failed to
25 | comply with significant provisions of ss. 320.60-320.70 or with
26 | any lawful rule or regulation adopted or promulgated by the
27 | department.

28 | (4) The applicant or licensee has indulged in any illegal
29 | act relating to his or her business.

30 | (5) The applicant or licensee has coerced or attempted to
31 | coerce any motor vehicle dealer into accepting delivery of any
32 | motor vehicle or vehicles or parts or accessories therefor or
33 | any other commodities which have not been ordered by the dealer.

34 | (6) The applicant or licensee has coerced or attempted to
35 | coerce any motor vehicle dealer to enter into any agreement with
36 | the licensee.

37 | (7) The applicant or licensee has threatened to
38 | discontinue, cancel, or not to renew a franchise agreement of a
39 | licensed motor vehicle dealer, where the threatened
40 | discontinuation, cancellation, or nonrenewal, if implemented,
41 | would be in violation of any of the provisions of s. 320.641.

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42 (8) The applicant or licensee discontinued, canceled, or
43 failed to renew, a franchise agreement of a licensed motor
44 vehicle dealer in violation of any of the provisions of s.
45 320.641.

46 (9) The applicant or licensee has threatened to modify or
47 replace, or has modified or replaced, a franchise agreement with
48 a succeeding franchise agreement which would adversely alter the
49 rights or obligations of a motor vehicle dealer under an
50 existing franchise agreement or which substantially impairs the
51 sales, service obligations, or investment of the motor vehicle
52 dealer.

53 (10) (a) The applicant or licensee has attempted to enter,
54 or has entered, into a franchise agreement with a motor vehicle
55 dealer who does not, at the time of the franchise agreement,
56 have proper facilities to provide the services to his or her
57 purchasers of new motor vehicles which are covered by the new
58 motor vehicle warranty issued by the applicant or licensee.

59 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of a franchise, a
60 licensee may not require a motor vehicle dealer, by agreement,
61 program, policy, standard, or otherwise, to make substantial
62 changes, alterations, or remodeling to, or to replace a motor
63 vehicle dealer's sales or service facilities unless the
64 licensee's requirements are reasonable and justifiable in light
65 of the current and reasonably foreseeable projections of

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66 economic conditions, financial expectations, and the motor
67 vehicle dealer's market for the licensee's motor vehicles.

68 (c) A licensee may, however, consistent with the
69 licensee's allocation obligations at law and to its other same
70 line-make motor vehicle dealers, provide to a motor vehicle
71 dealer a commitment to supply additional vehicles or provide a
72 loan or grant of money as an inducement for the motor vehicle
73 dealer to expand, improve, remodel, alter, or renovate its
74 facilities if the provisions of the commitment are contained in
75 a writing voluntarily agreed to by the dealer and are made
76 available, on substantially similar terms, to any of the
77 licensee's other same line-make dealers in this state who
78 voluntarily agree to make a substantially similar facility
79 expansion, improvement, remodeling, alteration, or renovation.

80 (d) Except as provided in paragraph (c), subsection (36),
81 or as otherwise provided by law, this subsection does not
82 require a licensee to provide financial support for, or
83 contribution to, the purchase or sale of the assets of or equity
84 in a motor vehicle dealer or a relocation of a motor vehicle
85 dealer because such support has been provided to other
86 purchases, sales, or relocations.

87 (e) A licensee or its common entity may not take or
88 threaten to take any action that is unfair or adverse to a
89 dealer who does not enter into an agreement with the licensee
90 pursuant to paragraph (c).

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91 (f) This subsection does not affect any contract between a
92 licensee and any of its dealers regarding relocation, expansion,
93 improvement, remodeling, renovation, or alteration which exists
94 on the effective date of this act.

95 (g) A licensee may set and uniformly apply reasonable
96 standards for a motor vehicle dealer's sales and service
97 facilities which are related to upkeep, repair, and cleanliness.

98 (h) A violation of paragraphs (b) through (g) is not a
99 violation of s. 320.70 and does not subject any licensee to any
100 criminal penalty under s. 320.70.

101 (i)1. If an applicant or licensee establishes a program,
102 standard, or policy or in any manner offers a bonus, incentive,
103 rebate, or other benefit to a motor vehicle dealer which is
104 based, in whole or in part, on the construction of new sales or
105 service facilities or the remodeling, improvement, renovation,
106 expansion, replacement, or other alteration of the motor vehicle
107 dealer's existing sales or service facilities, including
108 installation of signs or other image elements, a motor vehicle
109 dealer who completes such construction, alteration, or
110 installation in reliance upon such program, standard, policy,
111 bonus, incentive, rebate, or other benefit is deemed to be in
112 full compliance with the applicant's or licensee's requirements
113 related to the new, remodeled, improved, renovated, expanded,
114 replaced, or altered facilities, signs, and image elements for
115 10 years after such completion.

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116 2. If, during such 10-year period, the applicant or
117 licensee revises an existing, or establishes a new, program,
118 standard, policy, bonus, incentive, rebate, or other benefit
119 described in subparagraph 1., a motor vehicle dealer who
120 completed a facility in reliance upon a prior program, standard,
121 policy, bonus, incentive, rebate, or other benefit and elects
122 not to comply with the applicant's or licensee's requirements
123 for facilities, signs, or image elements under the revised or
124 new program, standard, policy, bonus, incentive, rebate, or
125 other benefit will not be eligible for any benefit under the
126 revised or new program but shall remain entitled to all benefits
127 under the prior program, plus any increase in benefits between
128 the prior and revised or new programs, during the remainder of
129 the 10-year period.

130
131 This paragraph does not obviate, affect, alter, or diminish the
132 provisions of subsection (38).

133 (11) The applicant or licensee has coerced a motor vehicle
134 dealer to provide installment financing for the motor vehicle
135 dealer's purchasers with a specified financial institution.

136 (12) The applicant or licensee has advertised, printed,
137 displayed, published, distributed, broadcast, or televised, or
138 caused or permitted to be advertised, printed, displayed,
139 published, distributed, broadcast, or televised, in any manner
140 whatsoever, any statement or representation with regard to the

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141 sale or financing of motor vehicles which is false, deceptive,
142 or misleading.

143 (13) The applicant or licensee has sold, exchanged, or
144 rented a motorcycle which produces in excess of 5 brake
145 horsepower, knowing the use thereof to be by, or intended for,
146 the holder of a restricted Florida driver license.

147 (14) The applicant or licensee has engaged in previous
148 conduct which would have been a ground for revocation or
149 suspension of a license if the applicant or licensee had been
150 licensed.

151 (15) The applicant or licensee, directly or indirectly,
152 through the actions of any parent of the licensee, subsidiary of
153 the licensee, or common entity causes a termination,
154 cancellation, or nonrenewal of a franchise agreement by a
155 present or previous distributor or importer unless, by the
156 effective date of such action, the applicant or licensee offers
157 the motor vehicle dealer whose franchise agreement is
158 terminated, canceled, or not renewed a franchise agreement
159 containing substantially the same provisions contained in the
160 previous franchise agreement or files an affidavit with the
161 department acknowledging its undertaking to assume and fulfill
162 the rights, duties, and obligations of its predecessor
163 distributor or importer under the terminated, canceled, or
164 nonrenewed franchise agreement and the same is reinstated.

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165 (16) Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement,
166 the applicant or licensee prevents or refuses to accept the
167 succession to any interest in a franchise agreement by any legal
168 heir or devisee under the will of a motor vehicle dealer or
169 under the laws of descent and distribution of this state;
170 provided, the applicant or licensee is not required to accept a
171 succession where such heir or devisee does not meet licensee's
172 written, reasonable, and uniformly applied minimal standard
173 qualifications for dealer applicants or which, after notice and
174 administrative hearing pursuant to chapter 120, is demonstrated
175 to be detrimental to the public interest or to the
176 representation of the applicant or licensee. Nothing contained
177 herein, however, shall prevent a motor vehicle dealer, during
178 his or her lifetime, from designating any person as his or her
179 successor in interest by written instrument filed with and
180 accepted by the applicant or licensee. A licensee who rejects
181 the successor transferee under this subsection shall have the
182 burden of establishing in any proceeding where such rejection is
183 in issue that the rejection of the successor transferee complies
184 with this subsection.

185 (17) The applicant or licensee has included in any
186 franchise agreement with a motor vehicle dealer terms or
187 provisions that are contrary to, prohibited by, or otherwise
188 inconsistent with the provisions contained in ss. 320.60-320.70,

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189 or has failed to include in such franchise agreement a provision
190 conforming to the requirements of s. 320.63(3).

191 (18) The applicant or licensee has established a system of
192 motor vehicle allocation or distribution or has implemented a
193 system of allocation or distribution of motor vehicles to one or
194 more of its franchised motor vehicle dealers which reduces or
195 alters allocations or supplies of new motor vehicles to the
196 dealer to achieve, directly or indirectly, a purpose that is
197 prohibited by ss. 320.60-320.70, or which otherwise is unfair,
198 inequitable, unreasonably discriminatory, or not supportable by
199 reason and good cause after considering the equities of the
200 affected motor vehicles dealer or dealers. An applicant or
201 licensee shall maintain for 3 years records that describe its
202 methods or formula of allocation and distribution of its motor
203 vehicles and records of its actual allocation and distribution
204 of motor vehicles to its motor vehicle dealers in this state. As
205 used in this subsection, "unfair" includes, without limitation,
206 the refusal or failure to offer to any dealer an equitable
207 supply of new vehicles under its franchise, by model, mix, or
208 colors as the licensee offers or allocates to its other same
209 line-make dealers in the state.

210 (19) The applicant or licensee, without good and fair
211 cause, has delayed, refused, or failed to provide a supply of
212 motor vehicles by series in reasonable quantities, including the
213 models publicly advertised by the applicant or licensee as being

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214 available, or has delayed, refused, or failed to deliver motor
215 vehicle parts and accessories within a reasonable time after
216 receipt of an order by a franchised dealer. However, this
217 subsection is not violated if such failure is caused by acts or
218 causes beyond the control of the applicant or licensee.

219 (20) The applicant or licensee has required, or threatened
220 to require, a motor vehicle dealer to prospectively assent to a
221 release, assignment, novation, waiver, or estoppel, which
222 instrument or document operates, or is intended by the applicant
223 or licensee to operate, to relieve any person from any liability
224 or obligation under the provisions of ss. 320.60-320.70.

225 (21) The applicant or licensee has threatened or coerced a
226 motor vehicle dealer toward conduct or action whereby the dealer
227 would waive or forego its right to protest the establishment or
228 relocation of a motor vehicle dealer in the community or
229 territory serviced by the threatened or coerced dealer.

230 (22) The applicant or licensee has refused to deliver, in
231 reasonable quantities and within a reasonable time, to any duly
232 licensed motor vehicle dealer who has an agreement with such
233 applicant or licensee for the retail sale of new motor vehicles
234 and parts for motor vehicles sold or distributed by the
235 applicant or licensee, any such motor vehicles or parts as are
236 covered by such agreement. Such refusal includes the failure to
237 offer to its same line-make franchised motor vehicle dealers all
238 models manufactured for that line-make, or requiring a dealer to

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239 pay any extra fee, require a dealer to execute a separate
240 franchise agreement, purchase unreasonable advertising displays
241 or other materials, or relocate, expand, improve, remodel,
242 renovate, recondition, or alter the dealer's existing
243 facilities, or provide exclusive facilities as a prerequisite to
244 receiving a model or series of vehicles. However, the failure to
245 deliver any motor vehicle or part will not be considered a
246 violation of this section if the failure is due to an act of
247 God, work stoppage, or delay due to a strike or labor
248 difficulty, a freight embargo, product shortage, or other cause
249 over which the applicant or licensee has no control. An
250 applicant or licensee may impose reasonable requirements on the
251 motor vehicle dealer, other than the items listed above,
252 including, but not limited to, the purchase of special tools
253 required to properly service a motor vehicle and the undertaking
254 of sales person or service person training related to the motor
255 vehicle.

256 (23) The applicant or licensee has competed or is
257 competing with respect to any activity covered by the franchise
258 agreement with a motor vehicle dealer of the same line-make
259 located in this state with whom the applicant or licensee has
260 entered into a franchise agreement, except as permitted in s.
261 320.645.

262 (24) The applicant or licensee has sold a motor vehicle to
263 any retail consumer in the state except through a motor vehicle

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264 dealer holding a franchise agreement for the line-make that
265 includes the motor vehicle. This section does not apply to sales
266 by the applicant or licensee of motor vehicles to its current
267 employees, employees of companies affiliated by common
268 ownership, charitable not-for-profit-organizations, and the
269 federal government.

270 (25) The applicant or licensee has undertaken or engaged
271 in an audit of warranty, maintenance, and other service-related
272 payments or incentive payments, including payments to a motor
273 vehicle dealer under any licensee-issued program, policy, or
274 other benefit, which were previously paid to a motor vehicle
275 dealer in violation of this section or has failed to comply with
276 any of its obligations under s. 320.696. An applicant or
277 licensee may reasonably and periodically audit a motor vehicle
278 dealer to determine the validity of paid claims as provided in
279 s. 320.696. Audits of warranty, maintenance, and other service-
280 related payments shall be performed by an applicant or licensee
281 only during the 12-month period immediately following the date
282 the claim was paid. Audits of incentive payments shall be
283 performed only during the 12-month period immediately following
284 the date the incentive was paid. As used in this section, the
285 term "incentive" includes any bonus, incentive, or other
286 monetary or nonmonetary consideration. After such time periods
287 have elapsed, all warranty, maintenance, and other service-
288 related payments and incentive payments shall be deemed final

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289 and incontrovertible for any reason notwithstanding any
290 otherwise applicable law, and the motor vehicle dealer shall not
291 be subject to any chargeback or repayment. An applicant or
292 licensee may deny a claim or, as a result of a timely conducted
293 audit, impose a chargeback against a motor vehicle dealer for
294 warranty, maintenance, or other service-related payments or
295 incentive payments only if the applicant or licensee can show
296 that the warranty, maintenance, or other service-related claim
297 or incentive claim was false or fraudulent or that the motor
298 vehicle dealer failed to substantially comply with the
299 reasonable written and uniformly applied procedures of the
300 applicant or licensee for such repairs or incentives, but only
301 for that portion of the claim so shown. Notwithstanding the
302 terms of any franchise agreement, guideline, program, policy, or
303 procedure, an applicant or licensee may deny or charge back only
304 that portion of a warranty, maintenance, or other service-
305 related claim or incentive claim which the applicant or licensee
306 has proven to be false or fraudulent or for which the dealer
307 failed to substantially comply with the reasonable written and
308 uniformly applied procedures of the applicant or licensee for
309 such repairs or incentives, as set forth in this subsection. An
310 applicant or licensee may not charge back a motor vehicle dealer
311 subsequent to the payment of a warranty, maintenance, or
312 service-related claim or incentive claim unless, within 30 days
313 after a timely conducted audit, a representative of the

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314 applicant or licensee first meets in person, by telephone, or by
315 video teleconference with an officer or employee of the dealer
316 designated by the motor vehicle dealer. At such meeting the
317 applicant or licensee must provide a detailed explanation, with
318 supporting documentation, as to the basis for each of the claims
319 for which the applicant or licensee proposed a chargeback to the
320 dealer and a written statement containing the basis upon which
321 the motor vehicle dealer was selected for audit or review.
322 Thereafter, the applicant or licensee must provide the motor
323 vehicle dealer's representative a reasonable period after the
324 meeting within which to respond to the proposed chargebacks,
325 with such period to be commensurate with the volume of claims
326 under consideration, but in no case less than 45 days after the
327 meeting. The applicant or licensee is prohibited from changing
328 or altering the basis for each of the proposed chargebacks as
329 presented to the motor vehicle dealer's representative following
330 the conclusion of the audit unless the applicant or licensee
331 receives new information affecting the basis for one or more
332 chargebacks and that new information is received within 30 days
333 after the conclusion of the timely conducted audit. If the
334 applicant or licensee claims the existence of new information,
335 the dealer must be given the same right to a meeting and right
336 to respond as when the chargeback was originally presented.
337 After all internal dispute resolution processes provided through
338 the applicant or licensee have been completed, the applicant or

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339 licensee shall give written notice to the motor vehicle dealer
340 of the final amount of its proposed chargeback. If the dealer
341 disputes that amount, the dealer may file a protest with the
342 department within 30 days after receipt of the notice. If a
343 protest is timely filed, the department shall notify the
344 applicant or licensee of the filing of the protest, and the
345 applicant or licensee may not take any action to recover the
346 amount of the proposed chargeback until the department renders a
347 final determination, which is not subject to further appeal,
348 that the chargeback is in compliance with the provisions of this
349 section. In any hearing pursuant to this subsection, the
350 applicant or licensee has the burden of proof that its audit and
351 resulting chargeback are in compliance with this subsection.

352 (26) Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement,
353 including any licensee's program, policy, or procedure, the
354 applicant or licensee has refused to allocate, sell, or deliver
355 motor vehicles; charged back or withheld payments or other
356 things of value for which the dealer is otherwise eligible under
357 a sales promotion, program, or contest; prevented a motor
358 vehicle dealer from participating in any promotion, program, or
359 contest; or has taken or threatened to take any adverse action
360 against a dealer, including chargebacks, reducing vehicle
361 allocations, or terminating or threatening to terminate a
362 franchise because the dealer sold or leased a motor vehicle to a
363 customer who exported the vehicle to a foreign country or who

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364 resold the vehicle, unless the licensee proves that the dealer
365 knew or reasonably should have known that the customer intended
366 to export or resell the motor vehicle. There is a rebuttable
367 presumption that the dealer neither knew nor reasonably should
368 have known of its customer's intent to export or resell the
369 vehicle if the vehicle is titled or registered in any state in
370 this country. A licensee may not take any action against a motor
371 vehicle dealer, including reducing its allocations or supply of
372 motor vehicles to the dealer or charging back to a dealer any
373 incentive payment previously paid, unless the licensee first
374 meets in person, by telephone, or video conference with an
375 officer or other designated employee of the dealer. At such
376 meeting, the licensee must provide a detailed explanation, with
377 supporting documentation, as to the basis for its claim that the
378 dealer knew or reasonably should have known of the customer's
379 intent to export or resell the motor vehicle. Thereafter, the
380 motor vehicle dealer shall have a reasonable period,
381 commensurate with the number of motor vehicles at issue, but not
382 less than 15 days, to respond to the licensee's claims. If,
383 following the dealer's response and completion of all internal
384 dispute resolution processes provided through the applicant or
385 licensee, the dispute remains unresolved, the dealer may file a
386 protest with the department within 30 days after receipt of a
387 written notice from the licensee that it still intends to take
388 adverse action against the dealer with respect to the motor

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389 vehicles still at issue. If a protest is timely filed, the
390 department shall notify the applicant or licensee of the filing
391 of the protest, and the applicant or licensee may not take any
392 action adverse to the dealer until the department renders a
393 final determination, which is not subject to further appeal,
394 that the licensee's proposed action is in compliance with the
395 provisions of this subsection. In any hearing pursuant to this
396 subsection, the applicant or licensee has the burden of proof on
397 all issues raised by this subsection. An applicant or licensee
398 may not take any adverse action against a motor vehicle dealer
399 because the dealer sold or leased a motor vehicle to a customer
400 who exported the vehicle to a foreign country or who resold the
401 vehicle unless the applicant or licensee provides written
402 notification to the motor vehicle dealer of such resale or
403 export within 12 months after the date the dealer sold or leased
404 the vehicle to the customer.

405 (27) Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement,
406 the applicant or licensee has failed or refused to indemnify and
407 hold harmless any motor vehicle dealer against any judgment for
408 damages, or settlements agreed to by the applicant or licensee,
409 including, without limitation, court costs and reasonable
410 attorney ~~attorneys~~ fees, arising out of complaints, claims, or
411 lawsuits, including, without limitation, strict liability,
412 negligence, misrepresentation, express or implied warranty, or
413 revocation or rescission of acceptance of the sale of a motor

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414 vehicle, to the extent the judgment or settlement relates to the
415 alleged negligent manufacture, design, or assembly of motor
416 vehicles, parts, or accessories. Nothing herein shall obviate
417 the licensee's obligations pursuant to chapter 681.

418 (28) The applicant or licensee has published, disclosed,
419 or otherwise made available in any form information provided by
420 a motor vehicle dealer with respect to sales prices of motor
421 vehicles or profit per motor vehicle sold. Other confidential
422 financial information provided by motor vehicle dealers shall
423 not be published, disclosed, or otherwise made publicly
424 available except in composite form. However, this information
425 may be disclosed with the written consent of the dealer or in
426 response to a subpoena or order of the department, a court or a
427 lawful tribunal, or introduced into evidence in such a
428 proceeding, after timely notice to an affected dealer.

429 (29) The applicant or licensee has failed to reimburse a
430 motor vehicle dealer in full for the reasonable cost of
431 providing a loaner vehicle to any customer who is having a
432 vehicle serviced at the motor vehicle dealer, if a loaner is
433 required by the applicant or licensee, or a loaner is expressly
434 part of an applicant or licensee's customer satisfaction index
435 or computation.

436 (30) The applicant or licensee has conducted or threatened
437 to conduct any audit of a motor vehicle dealer in order to
438 coerce or attempt to coerce the dealer to forego any rights

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439 granted to the dealer under ss. 320.60-320.70 or under the
440 agreement between the licensee and the motor vehicle dealer.
441 Nothing in this section shall prohibit an applicant or licensee
442 from reasonably and periodically auditing a dealer to determine
443 the validity of paid claims, as permitted under this chapter, if
444 the licensee complies with the provisions of ss. 320.60-320.70
445 applicable to such audits.

446 (31) From and after the effective date of enactment of
447 this provision, the applicant or licensee has offered to any
448 motor vehicle dealer a franchise agreement that:

449 (a) Requires that a motor vehicle dealer bring an
450 administrative or legal action in a venue outside of this state;

451 (b) Requires that any arbitration, mediation, or other
452 legal proceeding be conducted outside of this state; or

453 (c) Requires that a law of a state other than Florida be
454 applied to any legal proceeding between a motor vehicle dealer
455 and a licensee.

456 (32) Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement,
457 the applicant or licensee has rejected or withheld approval of
458 any proposed transfer in violation of s. 320.643 or a proposed
459 change of executive management in violation of s. 320.644.

460 (33) The applicant or licensee has attempted to sell or
461 lease, or has sold or leased, used motor vehicles at retail of a
462 line-make that is the subject of any franchise agreement with a

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463 motor vehicle dealer in this state, other than trucks with a net
464 weight of more than 8,000 pounds.

465 (34) The applicant or licensee, after the effective date
466 of this subsection, has included in any franchise agreement with
467 a motor vehicle dealer a mandatory obligation or requirement of
468 the motor vehicle dealer to purchase, sell, or lease, or offer
469 for purchase, sale, or lease, any quantity of used motor
470 vehicles.

471 (35) The applicant or licensee has refused to assign
472 allocation earned by a motor vehicle dealer, or has refused to
473 sell motor vehicles to a motor vehicle dealer, because the motor
474 vehicle dealer has failed or refused to purchase, sell, lease,
475 or certify a certain quantity of used motor vehicles prescribed
476 by the licensee.

477 (36) (a) Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise
478 agreement, in addition to any other statutory or contractual
479 rights of recovery after the voluntary or involuntary
480 termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of a franchise, failing
481 to pay the motor vehicle dealer, as provided in paragraph (d),
482 the following amounts:

483 1. The net cost paid by the dealer for each new car or
484 truck in the dealer's inventory with mileage of 2,000 miles or
485 less, or a motorcycle with mileage of 100 miles or less,
486 exclusive of mileage placed on the vehicle before it was
487 delivered to the dealer.

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- 488 2. The current price charged for each new, unused,
489 undamaged, or unsold part or accessory that:
- 490 a. Is in the current parts catalogue and is still in the
491 original, resalable merchandising package and in an unbroken
492 lot, except that sheet metal may be in a comparable substitute
493 for the original package; and
- 494 b. Was purchased by the dealer directly from the
495 manufacturer or distributor or from an outgoing authorized
496 dealer as a part of the dealer's initial inventory.
- 497 3. The fair market value of each undamaged sign owned by
498 the dealer which bears a trademark or trade name used or claimed
499 by the applicant or licensee or its representative which was
500 purchased from or at the request of the applicant or licensee or
501 its representative.
- 502 4. The fair market value of all special tools, data
503 processing equipment, and automotive service equipment owned by
504 the dealer which:
- 505 a. Were recommended in writing by the applicant or
506 licensee or its representative and designated as special tools
507 and equipment;
- 508 b. Were purchased from or at the request of the applicant
509 or licensee or its representative; and
- 510 c. Are in usable and good condition except for reasonable
511 wear and tear.

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512 5. The cost of transporting, handling, packing, storing,
513 and loading any property subject to repurchase under this
514 section.

515 (b) If the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of the
516 dealer's franchise is the result of the bankruptcy or
517 reorganization of a licensee or its common entity, or the result
518 of a licensee's plan, scheme, or policy, whether or not publicly
519 declared, which is intended to or has the effect of decreasing
520 the number of, or eliminating, the licensee's franchised motor
521 vehicle dealers of a line-make in this state, or the result of a
522 termination, elimination, or cessation of manufacture or
523 reorganization of a licensee or its common entity, or the result
524 of a termination, elimination, or cessation of manufacture or
525 distribution of a line-make, in addition to the above payments
526 to the dealer, the licensee or its common entity, shall be
527 liable to and shall pay the motor vehicle dealer for an amount
528 at least equal to the fair market value of the franchise for the
529 line-make, which shall be the greater of the value determined as
530 of the day the licensee announces the action that results in the
531 termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal, or the value
532 determined on the day that is 12 months before that date. Fair
533 market value of the franchise for the line-make includes only
534 the goodwill value of the dealer's franchise for that line-make
535 in the dealer's community or territory.

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536 (c) This subsection does not apply to a termination,
537 cancellation, or nonrenewal that is implemented as a result of
538 the sale of the assets or corporate stock or other ownership
539 interests of the dealer.

540 (d) The dealer shall return the property listed in this
541 subsection to the licensee within 90 days after the effective
542 date of the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal. The
543 licensee shall supply the dealer with reasonable instructions
544 regarding the method by which the dealer must return the
545 property. Absent shipping instructions and prepayment of
546 shipping costs from the licensee or its common entity, the
547 dealer shall tender the inventory and other items to be returned
548 at the dealer's facility. The compensation for the property
549 shall be paid by the licensee or its common entity
550 simultaneously with the tender of inventory and other items,
551 provided that, if the dealer does not have clear title to the
552 inventory and other items and is not in a position to convey
553 that title to the licensee, payment for the property being
554 returned may be made jointly to the dealer and the holder of any
555 security interest.

556 (37) Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement,
557 the applicant or licensee has refused to allow or has limited or
558 restricted a motor vehicle dealer from acquiring or adding a
559 sales or service operation for another line-make of motor
560 vehicles at the same or expanded facility at which the motor

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561 vehicle dealer currently operates a dealership unless the
562 applicant or licensee can demonstrate that such refusal,
563 limitation, or restriction is justified by consideration of
564 reasonable facility and financial requirements and the dealer's
565 performance for the existing line-make.

566 (38) The applicant or licensee has failed or refused to
567 offer a bonus, incentive, or other benefit program, in whole or
568 in part, to a dealer or dealers in this state which it offers to
569 all of its other same line-make dealers nationally or to all of
570 its other same line-make dealers in the licensee's designated
571 zone, region, or other licensee-designated area of which this
572 state is a part, unless the failure or refusal to offer the
573 program in this state is reasonably supported by substantially
574 different economic or marketing considerations than are
575 applicable to the licensee's same line-make dealers in this
576 state. For purposes of this chapter, a licensee may not
577 establish this state alone as a designated zone, region, or area
578 or any other designation for a specified territory. A licensee
579 may offer a bonus, rebate, incentive, or other benefit program
580 to its dealers in this state which is calculated or paid on a
581 per vehicle basis and is related in part to a dealer's facility
582 or the expansion, improvement, remodeling, alteration, or
583 renovation of a dealer's facility. Any dealer who does not
584 comply with the facility criteria or eligibility requirements of
585 such program is entitled to receive a reasonable percentage of

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586 the bonus, incentive, rebate, or other benefit offered by the
587 licensee under that program by complying with the criteria or
588 eligibility requirements unrelated to the dealer's facility
589 under that program. For purposes of the previous sentence, the
590 percentage unrelated to the facility criteria or requirements is
591 presumed to be "reasonable" if it is not less than 80 percent of
592 the total of the per vehicle bonus, incentive, rebate, or other
593 benefits offered under the program.

594 (39) Notwithstanding any agreement, program, incentive,
595 bonus, policy, or rule, an applicant or licensee may not fail to
596 make any payment pursuant to any agreement, program, incentive,
597 bonus, policy, or rule for any temporary replacement motor
598 vehicle loaned, rented, or provided by a motor vehicle dealer to
599 or for its service or repair customers, even if the temporary
600 replacement motor vehicle has been leased, rented, titled, or
601 registered to the motor vehicle dealer's rental or leasing
602 division or an entity that is owned or controlled by the motor
603 vehicle dealer, provided that the motor vehicle dealer or its
604 rental or leasing division or entity complies with the written
605 and uniformly enforced vehicle eligibility, use, and reporting
606 requirements specified by the applicant or licensee in its
607 agreement, program, policy, bonus, incentive, or rule relating
608 to loaner vehicles.

609 (40) Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement,
610 the applicant or licensee may not require or coerce, or attempt

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611 to require or coerce, a motor vehicle dealer to purchase goods
612 or services from a vendor selected, identified, or designated by
613 the applicant or licensee, or one of its parents, subsidiaries,
614 divisions, or affiliates, by agreement, standard, policy,
615 program, incentive provision, or otherwise, without making
616 available to the motor vehicle dealer the option to obtain the
617 goods or services of substantially similar design and quality
618 from a vendor chosen by the motor vehicle dealer. If the motor
619 vehicle dealer exercises such option, the dealer must provide
620 written notice of its desire to use the alternative goods or
621 services to the applicant or licensee, along with samples or
622 clear descriptions of the alternative goods or services that the
623 dealer desires to use. The licensee or applicant shall have the
624 opportunity to evaluate the alternative goods or services for up
625 to 30 days to determine whether it will provide a written
626 approval to the motor vehicle dealer to use said alternative
627 goods or services. Approval may not be unreasonably withheld by
628 the applicant or licensee. If the motor vehicle dealer does not
629 receive a response from the applicant or licensee within 30
630 days, approval to use the alternative goods or services is
631 deemed granted. If a dealer using alternative goods or services
632 complies with this subsection and has received approval from the
633 licensee or applicant, the dealer is not ineligible for all
634 benefits described in the agreement, standard, policy, program,
635 incentive provision, or otherwise solely for having used such

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636 alternative goods or services. As used in this subsection, the
637 term "goods or services" is limited to such goods and services
638 used to construct or renovate dealership facilities or furniture
639 and fixtures at the dealership facilities. The term does not
640 include:

641 (a) Any materials subject to the applicant's or licensee's
642 intellectual property rights, including copyright, trademark, or
643 trade dress rights;

644 (b) Any special tool and training as required by the
645 applicant or licensee;

646 (c) Any part to be used in repairs under warranty
647 obligations of an applicant or licensee;

648 (d) Any good or service paid for entirely by the applicant
649 or licensee; or

650 (e) Any applicant's or licensee's design or architectural
651 review service.

652 (41) (a) The applicant or licensee has established,
653 implemented, or enforced criteria for measuring the sales or
654 service performance of any of its franchised motor vehicle
655 dealers in this state which have a material or adverse effect on
656 any motor vehicle dealer and which:

657 1. Are unfair, unreasonable, arbitrary, or inequitable; or

658 2. Do not include all relevant and material local and
659 regional criteria, data, and facts. Relevant and material
660 criteria, data, or facts include, but are not limited to, those

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661 of motor vehicle dealerships of comparable size in comparable
662 markets. If such performance measurement criteria are based, in
663 whole or in part, on a survey, such survey must be based on a
664 statistically significant and valid random sample.

665 (b) An applicant, licensee, or common entity, or an
666 affiliate thereof, which enforces against any motor vehicle
667 dealer any such performance measurement criteria shall, upon the
668 request of the motor vehicle dealer, describe in writing to the
669 motor vehicle dealer, in detail, how the performance measurement
670 criteria were designed, calculated, established, and uniformly
671 applied.

672

673 A motor vehicle dealer who can demonstrate that a violation of,
674 or failure to comply with, any of the preceding provisions by an
675 applicant or licensee will or may ~~can~~ adversely and pecuniarily
676 affect the complaining dealer, shall be entitled to pursue all
677 of the remedies, procedures, and rights of recovery available
678 under ss. 320.695 and 320.697.

679 Section 2. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment
680 made by this act to section 320.64, Florida Statutes, in
681 references thereto, section 320.6992, Florida Statutes, is
682 reenacted to read:

683 320.6992 Application.—Sections 320.60-320.70, including
684 amendments to ss. 320.60-320.70, apply to all presently existing
685 or hereafter established systems of distribution of motor

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686 vehicles in this state, except to the extent that such
687 application would impair valid contractual agreements in
688 violation of the State Constitution or Federal Constitution.
689 Sections 320.60-320.70 do not apply to any judicial or
690 administrative proceeding pending as of October 1, 1988. All
691 agreements renewed, amended, or entered into subsequent to
692 October 1, 1988, shall be governed by ss. 320.60-320.70,
693 including any amendments to ss. 320.60-320.70 which have been or
694 may be from time to time adopted, unless the amendment
695 specifically provides otherwise, and except to the extent that
696 such application would impair valid contractual agreements in
697 violation of the State Constitution or Federal Constitution.

698 Section 3. Sections 320.60, 320.605, 320.61, 320.615,
699 320.62, 320.63, 320.6403, 320.6405, 320.641, 320.6412, 320.6415,
700 320.642, 320.643, 320.644, 320.645, 320.646, 320.664, 320.67,
701 320.68, 320.69, 320.695, 320.696, 320.697, 320.6975, 320.698,
702 320.699, 320.69915, and 320.70, Florida Statutes, are reenacted
703 for the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act
704 to s. 320.64, Florida Statutes.

705 Section 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

706

707

708 **T I T L E A M E N D M E N T**

709 Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert:

710 A bill to be entitled

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711 An act relating to motor vehicle applicants,
712 licensees, and dealers; amending s. 320.64, F.S.;
713 providing that a motor vehicle dealer who constructs
714 or alters sales or service facilities in reliance upon
715 a program or incentive offered by an applicant or
716 licensee is deemed to be in compliance with certain
717 requirements for a specified period; specifying
718 eligibility for benefits under a revised or new
719 program, standard, policy, bonus, incentive, rebate,
720 or other benefit; providing construction; authorizing
721 denial, suspension, or revocation of the license of an
722 applicant or licensee who establishes certain
723 performance measurement criteria that have a material
724 or adverse effect on motor vehicle dealers; requiring
725 an applicant, licensee, or common entity, or an
726 affiliate thereof, under certain circumstances and
727 upon the request of the motor vehicle dealer, to
728 describe in writing to the motor vehicle dealer how
729 certain performance measurement criteria were
730 designed, calculated, established, and uniformly
731 applied; reenacting s. 320.6992, F.S., relating to
732 provisions that apply to all systems of distribution
733 of motor vehicles in this state, to incorporate the
734 amendment made to s. 320.64, F.S., in references
735 thereto; reenacting ss. 320.60, 320.605, 320.61,

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COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Bill No. CS/HB 1175 (2017)

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736 | 320.615, 320.62, 320.63, 320.6403, 320.6405, 320.641,
737 | 320.6412, 320.6415, 320.642, 320.643, 320.644,
738 | 320.645, 320.646, 320.664, 320.67, 320.68, 320.69,
739 | 320.695, 320.696, 320.697, 320.6975, 320.698, 320.699,
740 | 320.69915, and 320.70, F.S., to incorporate the
741 | amendment made to s. 320.64, F.S.; providing an
742 | effective date.