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1
2 An act relating to motor vehicle manufacturers and
3 dealers; amending s. 320.64, F.S.; providing that a
4 motor vehicle dealer who constructs or alters sales or
5 service facilities in reliance upon a program or
6 incentive offered by an applicant or licensee is
7 deemed to be in compliance with certain requirements
8 for a specified period; specifying eligibility for
9 benefits under a revised or new program, standard,
10 policy, bonus, incentive, rebate, or other benefit;
11 providing construction; authorizing denial,
12 suspension, or revocation of the license of an
13 applicant or licensee who establishes certain
14 performance measurement criteria that have a material
15 or adverse effect on motor vehicle dealers; requiring
16 an applicant, licensee, or common entity, or an
17 affiliate thereof, under certain circumstances and
18 upon the request of the motor vehicle dealer, to
19 describe in writing to the motor vehicle dealer how
20 certain performance measurement criteria were
21 designed, calculated, established, and uniformly
22 applied; reenacting s. 320.6992, F.S., relating to
23 provisions that apply to all systems of distribution
24 of motor vehicles in this state, to incorporate the
25 amendment made to s. 320.64, F.S., in references

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26 thereto; reenacting ss. 320.60, 320.605, 320.61,
 27 320.615, 320.62, 320.63, 320.6403, 320.6405, 320.641,
 28 320.6412, 320.6415, 320.642, 320.643, 320.644,
 29 320.645, 320.646, 320.664, 320.67, 320.68, 320.69,
 30 320.695, 320.696, 320.697, 320.6975, 320.698, 320.699,
 31 320.69915, and 320.70, F.S., to incorporate the
 32 amendment made to s. 320.64, F.S.; providing an
 33 effective date.

34

35 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

36

37 Section 1. Section 320.64, Florida Statutes, is amended to
 38 read:

39 320.64 Denial, suspension, or revocation of license;
 40 grounds.—A license of a licensee under s. 320.61 may be denied,
 41 suspended, or revoked within the entire state or at any specific
 42 location or locations within the state at which the applicant or
 43 licensee engages or proposes to engage in business, upon proof
 44 that the section was violated with sufficient frequency to
 45 establish a pattern of wrongdoing, and a licensee or applicant
 46 shall be liable for claims and remedies provided in ss. 320.695
 47 and 320.697 for any violation of any of the following
 48 provisions. A licensee is prohibited from committing the
 49 following acts:

50 (1) The applicant or licensee is determined to be unable

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51 | to carry out contractual obligations with its motor vehicle
52 | dealers.

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

55 | (3) The applicant or licensee willfully has failed to
56 | comply with significant provisions of ss. 320.60-320.70 or with
57 | any lawful rule or regulation adopted or promulgated by the
58 | department.

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

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

65 | (6) The applicant or licensee has coerced or attempted to
66 | coerce any motor vehicle dealer to enter into any agreement with
67 | the licensee.

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

73 | (8) The applicant or licensee discontinued, canceled, or
74 | failed to renew, a franchise agreement of a licensed motor
75 | vehicle dealer in violation of any of the provisions of s.

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76 | 320.641.

77 | (9) The applicant or licensee has threatened to modify or
78 | replace, or has modified or replaced, a franchise agreement with
79 | a succeeding franchise agreement which would adversely alter the
80 | rights or obligations of a motor vehicle dealer under an
81 | existing franchise agreement or which substantially impairs the
82 | sales, service obligations, or investment of the motor vehicle
83 | dealer.

84 | (10) (a) The applicant or licensee has attempted to enter,
85 | or has entered, into a franchise agreement with a motor vehicle
86 | dealer who does not, at the time of the franchise agreement,
87 | have proper facilities to provide the services to his or her
88 | purchasers of new motor vehicles which are covered by the new
89 | motor vehicle warranty issued by the applicant or licensee.

90 | (b) Notwithstanding any provision of a franchise, a
91 | licensee may not require a motor vehicle dealer, by agreement,
92 | program, policy, standard, or otherwise, to make substantial
93 | changes, alterations, or remodeling to, or to replace a motor
94 | vehicle dealer's sales or service facilities unless the
95 | licensee's requirements are reasonable and justifiable in light
96 | of the current and reasonably foreseeable projections of
97 | economic conditions, financial expectations, and the motor
98 | vehicle dealer's market for the licensee's motor vehicles.

99 | (c) A licensee may, however, consistent with the
100 | licensee's allocation obligations at law and to its other same

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101 line-make motor vehicle dealers, provide to a motor vehicle
102 dealer a commitment to supply additional vehicles or provide a
103 loan or grant of money as an inducement for the motor vehicle
104 dealer to expand, improve, remodel, alter, or renovate its
105 facilities if the provisions of the commitment are contained in
106 a writing voluntarily agreed to by the dealer and are made
107 available, on substantially similar terms, to any of the
108 licensee's other same line-make dealers in this state who
109 voluntarily agree to make a substantially similar facility
110 expansion, improvement, remodeling, alteration, or renovation.

111 (d) Except as provided in paragraph (c), subsection (36),
112 or as otherwise provided by law, this subsection does not
113 require a licensee to provide financial support for, or
114 contribution to, the purchase or sale of the assets of or equity
115 in a motor vehicle dealer or a relocation of a motor vehicle
116 dealer because such support has been provided to other
117 purchases, sales, or relocations.

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

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

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

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

132 (i)1. If an applicant or licensee establishes a program,
 133 standard, or policy or in any manner offers a bonus, incentive,
 134 rebate, or other benefit to a motor vehicle dealer which is
 135 based, in whole or in part, on the construction of new sales or
 136 service facilities or the remodeling, improvement, renovation,
 137 expansion, replacement, or other alteration of the motor vehicle
 138 dealer's existing sales or service facilities, including
 139 installation of signs or other image elements, a motor vehicle
 140 dealer who completes such construction, alteration, or
 141 installation in reliance upon such program, standard, policy,
 142 bonus, incentive, rebate, or other benefit is deemed to be in
 143 full compliance with the applicant's or licensee's requirements
 144 related to the new, remodeled, improved, renovated, expanded,
 145 replaced, or altered facilities, signs, and image elements for
 146 10 years after such completion.

147 2. If, during such 10-year period, the applicant or
 148 licensee revises an existing, or establishes a new, program,
 149 standard, policy, bonus, incentive, rebate, or other benefit
 150 described in subparagraph 1., a motor vehicle dealer who

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151 completed a facility in reliance upon a prior program, standard,
 152 policy, bonus, incentive, rebate, or other benefit and elects
 153 not to comply with the applicant's or licensee's requirements
 154 for facilities, signs, or image elements under the revised or
 155 new program, standard, policy, bonus, incentive, rebate, or
 156 other benefit will not be eligible for any benefit under the
 157 revised or new program but shall remain entitled to all benefits
 158 under the prior program, plus any increase in benefits between
 159 the prior and revised or new programs, during the remainder of
 160 the 10-year period.

161
 162 This paragraph does not obviate, affect, alter, or diminish the
 163 provisions of subsection (38).

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

167 (12) The applicant or licensee has advertised, printed,
 168 displayed, published, distributed, broadcast, or televised, or
 169 caused or permitted to be advertised, printed, displayed,
 170 published, distributed, broadcast, or televised, in any manner
 171 whatsoever, any statement or representation with regard to the
 172 sale or financing of motor vehicles which is false, deceptive,
 173 or misleading.

174 (13) The applicant or licensee has sold, exchanged, or
 175 rented a motorcycle which produces in excess of 5 brake

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176 horsepower, knowing the use thereof to be by, or intended for,
177 the holder of a restricted Florida driver license.

178 (14) The applicant or licensee has engaged in previous
179 conduct which would have been a ground for revocation or
180 suspension of a license if the applicant or licensee had been
181 licensed.

182 (15) The applicant or licensee, directly or indirectly,
183 through the actions of any parent of the licensee, subsidiary of
184 the licensee, or common entity causes a termination,
185 cancellation, or nonrenewal of a franchise agreement by a
186 present or previous distributor or importer unless, by the
187 effective date of such action, the applicant or licensee offers
188 the motor vehicle dealer whose franchise agreement is
189 terminated, canceled, or not renewed a franchise agreement
190 containing substantially the same provisions contained in the
191 previous franchise agreement or files an affidavit with the
192 department acknowledging its undertaking to assume and fulfill
193 the rights, duties, and obligations of its predecessor
194 distributor or importer under the terminated, canceled, or
195 nonrenewed franchise agreement and the same is reinstated.

196 (16) Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement,
197 the applicant or licensee prevents or refuses to accept the
198 succession to any interest in a franchise agreement by any legal
199 heir or devisee under the will of a motor vehicle dealer or
200 under the laws of descent and distribution of this state;

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201 provided, the applicant or licensee is not required to accept a
202 succession where such heir or devisee does not meet licensee's
203 written, reasonable, and uniformly applied minimal standard
204 qualifications for dealer applicants or which, after notice and
205 administrative hearing pursuant to chapter 120, is demonstrated
206 to be detrimental to the public interest or to the
207 representation of the applicant or licensee. Nothing contained
208 herein, however, shall prevent a motor vehicle dealer, during
209 his or her lifetime, from designating any person as his or her
210 successor in interest by written instrument filed with and
211 accepted by the applicant or licensee. A licensee who rejects
212 the successor transferee under this subsection shall have the
213 burden of establishing in any proceeding where such rejection is
214 in issue that the rejection of the successor transferee complies
215 with this subsection.

216 (17) The applicant or licensee has included in any
217 franchise agreement with a motor vehicle dealer terms or
218 provisions that are contrary to, prohibited by, or otherwise
219 inconsistent with the provisions contained in ss. 320.60-320.70,
220 or has failed to include in such franchise agreement a provision
221 conforming to the requirements of s. 320.63(3).

222 (18) The applicant or licensee has established a system of
223 motor vehicle allocation or distribution or has implemented a
224 system of allocation or distribution of motor vehicles to one or
225 more of its franchised motor vehicle dealers which reduces or

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226 | alters allocations or supplies of new motor vehicles to the
227 | dealer to achieve, directly or indirectly, a purpose that is
228 | prohibited by ss. 320.60-320.70, or which otherwise is unfair,
229 | inequitable, unreasonably discriminatory, or not supportable by
230 | reason and good cause after considering the equities of the
231 | affected motor vehicles dealer or dealers. An applicant or
232 | licensee shall maintain for 3 years records that describe its
233 | methods or formula of allocation and distribution of its motor
234 | vehicles and records of its actual allocation and distribution
235 | of motor vehicles to its motor vehicle dealers in this state. As
236 | used in this subsection, "unfair" includes, without limitation,
237 | the refusal or failure to offer to any dealer an equitable
238 | supply of new vehicles under its franchise, by model, mix, or
239 | colors as the licensee offers or allocates to its other same
240 | line-make dealers in the state.

241 | (19) The applicant or licensee, without good and fair
242 | cause, has delayed, refused, or failed to provide a supply of
243 | motor vehicles by series in reasonable quantities, including the
244 | models publicly advertised by the applicant or licensee as being
245 | available, or has delayed, refused, or failed to deliver motor
246 | vehicle parts and accessories within a reasonable time after
247 | receipt of an order by a franchised dealer. However, this
248 | subsection is not violated if such failure is caused by acts or
249 | causes beyond the control of the applicant or licensee.

250 | (20) The applicant or licensee has required, or threatened

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251 to require, a motor vehicle dealer to prospectively assent to a
252 release, assignment, novation, waiver, or estoppel, which
253 instrument or document operates, or is intended by the applicant
254 or licensee to operate, to relieve any person from any liability
255 or obligation under the provisions of ss. 320.60-320.70.

256 (21) The applicant or licensee has threatened or coerced a
257 motor vehicle dealer toward conduct or action whereby the dealer
258 would waive or forego its right to protest the establishment or
259 relocation of a motor vehicle dealer in the community or
260 territory serviced by the threatened or coerced dealer.

261 (22) The applicant or licensee has refused to deliver, in
262 reasonable quantities and within a reasonable time, to any duly
263 licensed motor vehicle dealer who has an agreement with such
264 applicant or licensee for the retail sale of new motor vehicles
265 and parts for motor vehicles sold or distributed by the
266 applicant or licensee, any such motor vehicles or parts as are
267 covered by such agreement. Such refusal includes the failure to
268 offer to its same line-make franchised motor vehicle dealers all
269 models manufactured for that line-make, or requiring a dealer to
270 pay any extra fee, require a dealer to execute a separate
271 franchise agreement, purchase unreasonable advertising displays
272 or other materials, or relocate, expand, improve, remodel,
273 renovate, recondition, or alter the dealer's existing
274 facilities, or provide exclusive facilities as a prerequisite to
275 receiving a model or series of vehicles. However, the failure to

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276 deliver any motor vehicle or part will not be considered a
277 violation of this section if the failure is due to an act of
278 God, work stoppage, or delay due to a strike or labor
279 difficulty, a freight embargo, product shortage, or other cause
280 over which the applicant or licensee has no control. An
281 applicant or licensee may impose reasonable requirements on the
282 motor vehicle dealer, other than the items listed above,
283 including, but not limited to, the purchase of special tools
284 required to properly service a motor vehicle and the undertaking
285 of sales person or service person training related to the motor
286 vehicle.

287 (23) The applicant or licensee has competed or is
288 competing with respect to any activity covered by the franchise
289 agreement with a motor vehicle dealer of the same line-make
290 located in this state with whom the applicant or licensee has
291 entered into a franchise agreement, except as permitted in s.
292 320.645.

293 (24) The applicant or licensee has sold a motor vehicle to
294 any retail consumer in the state except through a motor vehicle
295 dealer holding a franchise agreement for the line-make that
296 includes the motor vehicle. This section does not apply to sales
297 by the applicant or licensee of motor vehicles to its current
298 employees, employees of companies affiliated by common
299 ownership, charitable not-for-profit-organizations, and the
300 federal government.

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301 (25) The applicant or licensee has undertaken or engaged
302 in an audit of warranty, maintenance, and other service-related
303 payments or incentive payments, including payments to a motor
304 vehicle dealer under any licensee-issued program, policy, or
305 other benefit, which were previously paid to a motor vehicle
306 dealer in violation of this section or has failed to comply with
307 any of its obligations under s. 320.696. An applicant or
308 licensee may reasonably and periodically audit a motor vehicle
309 dealer to determine the validity of paid claims as provided in
310 s. 320.696. Audits of warranty, maintenance, and other service-
311 related payments shall be performed by an applicant or licensee
312 only during the 12-month period immediately following the date
313 the claim was paid. Audits of incentive payments shall be
314 performed only during the 12-month period immediately following
315 the date the incentive was paid. As used in this section, the
316 term "incentive" includes any bonus, incentive, or other
317 monetary or nonmonetary consideration. After such time periods
318 have elapsed, all warranty, maintenance, and other service-
319 related payments and incentive payments shall be deemed final
320 and incontrovertible for any reason notwithstanding any
321 otherwise applicable law, and the motor vehicle dealer shall not
322 be subject to any chargeback or repayment. An applicant or
323 licensee may deny a claim or, as a result of a timely conducted
324 audit, impose a chargeback against a motor vehicle dealer for
325 warranty, maintenance, or other service-related payments or

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326 | incentive payments only if the applicant or licensee can show
327 | that the warranty, maintenance, or other service-related claim
328 | or incentive claim was false or fraudulent or that the motor
329 | vehicle dealer failed to substantially comply with the
330 | reasonable written and uniformly applied procedures of the
331 | applicant or licensee for such repairs or incentives, but only
332 | for that portion of the claim so shown. Notwithstanding the
333 | terms of any franchise agreement, guideline, program, policy, or
334 | procedure, an applicant or licensee may deny or charge back only
335 | that portion of a warranty, maintenance, or other service-
336 | related claim or incentive claim which the applicant or licensee
337 | has proven to be false or fraudulent or for which the dealer
338 | failed to substantially comply with the reasonable written and
339 | uniformly applied procedures of the applicant or licensee for
340 | such repairs or incentives, as set forth in this subsection. An
341 | applicant or licensee may not charge back a motor vehicle dealer
342 | subsequent to the payment of a warranty, maintenance, or
343 | service-related claim or incentive claim unless, within 30 days
344 | after a timely conducted audit, a representative of the
345 | applicant or licensee first meets in person, by telephone, or by
346 | video teleconference with an officer or employee of the dealer
347 | designated by the motor vehicle dealer. At such meeting the
348 | applicant or licensee must provide a detailed explanation, with
349 | supporting documentation, as to the basis for each of the claims
350 | for which the applicant or licensee proposed a chargeback to the

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351 dealer and a written statement containing the basis upon which
352 the motor vehicle dealer was selected for audit or review.
353 Thereafter, the applicant or licensee must provide the motor
354 vehicle dealer's representative a reasonable period after the
355 meeting within which to respond to the proposed chargebacks,
356 with such period to be commensurate with the volume of claims
357 under consideration, but in no case less than 45 days after the
358 meeting. The applicant or licensee is prohibited from changing
359 or altering the basis for each of the proposed chargebacks as
360 presented to the motor vehicle dealer's representative following
361 the conclusion of the audit unless the applicant or licensee
362 receives new information affecting the basis for one or more
363 chargebacks and that new information is received within 30 days
364 after the conclusion of the timely conducted audit. If the
365 applicant or licensee claims the existence of new information,
366 the dealer must be given the same right to a meeting and right
367 to respond as when the chargeback was originally presented.
368 After all internal dispute resolution processes provided through
369 the applicant or licensee have been completed, the applicant or
370 licensee shall give written notice to the motor vehicle dealer
371 of the final amount of its proposed chargeback. If the dealer
372 disputes that amount, the dealer may file a protest with the
373 department within 30 days after receipt of the notice. If a
374 protest is timely filed, the department shall notify the
375 applicant or licensee of the filing of the protest, and the

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376 applicant or licensee may not take any action to recover the
377 amount of the proposed chargeback until the department renders a
378 final determination, which is not subject to further appeal,
379 that the chargeback is in compliance with the provisions of this
380 section. In any hearing pursuant to this subsection, the
381 applicant or licensee has the burden of proof that its audit and
382 resulting chargeback are in compliance with this subsection.

383 (26) Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement,
384 including any licensee's program, policy, or procedure, the
385 applicant or licensee has refused to allocate, sell, or deliver
386 motor vehicles; charged back or withheld payments or other
387 things of value for which the dealer is otherwise eligible under
388 a sales promotion, program, or contest; prevented a motor
389 vehicle dealer from participating in any promotion, program, or
390 contest; or has taken or threatened to take any adverse action
391 against a dealer, including chargebacks, reducing vehicle
392 allocations, or terminating or threatening to terminate a
393 franchise because the dealer sold or leased a motor vehicle to a
394 customer who exported the vehicle to a foreign country or who
395 resold the vehicle, unless the licensee proves that the dealer
396 knew or reasonably should have known that the customer intended
397 to export or resell the motor vehicle. There is a rebuttable
398 presumption that the dealer neither knew nor reasonably should
399 have known of its customer's intent to export or resell the
400 vehicle if the vehicle is titled or registered in any state in

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401 | this country. A licensee may not take any action against a motor
402 | vehicle dealer, including reducing its allocations or supply of
403 | motor vehicles to the dealer or charging back to a dealer any
404 | incentive payment previously paid, unless the licensee first
405 | meets in person, by telephone, or video conference with an
406 | officer or other designated employee of the dealer. At such
407 | meeting, the licensee must provide a detailed explanation, with
408 | supporting documentation, as to the basis for its claim that the
409 | dealer knew or reasonably should have known of the customer's
410 | intent to export or resell the motor vehicle. Thereafter, the
411 | motor vehicle dealer shall have a reasonable period,
412 | commensurate with the number of motor vehicles at issue, but not
413 | less than 15 days, to respond to the licensee's claims. If,
414 | following the dealer's response and completion of all internal
415 | dispute resolution processes provided through the applicant or
416 | licensee, the dispute remains unresolved, the dealer may file a
417 | protest with the department within 30 days after receipt of a
418 | written notice from the licensee that it still intends to take
419 | adverse action against the dealer with respect to the motor
420 | vehicles still at issue. If a protest is timely filed, the
421 | department shall notify the applicant or licensee of the filing
422 | of the protest, and the applicant or licensee may not take any
423 | action adverse to the dealer until the department renders a
424 | final determination, which is not subject to further appeal,
425 | that the licensee's proposed action is in compliance with the

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426 provisions of this subsection. In any hearing pursuant to this
 427 subsection, the applicant or licensee has the burden of proof on
 428 all issues raised by this subsection. An applicant or licensee
 429 may not take any adverse action against a motor vehicle dealer
 430 because the dealer sold or leased a motor vehicle to a customer
 431 who exported the vehicle to a foreign country or who resold the
 432 vehicle unless the applicant or licensee provides written
 433 notification to the motor vehicle dealer of such resale or
 434 export within 12 months after the date the dealer sold or leased
 435 the vehicle to the customer.

436 (27) Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement,
 437 the applicant or licensee has failed or refused to indemnify and
 438 hold harmless any motor vehicle dealer against any judgment for
 439 damages, or settlements agreed to by the applicant or licensee,
 440 including, without limitation, court costs and reasonable
 441 attorney ~~attorneys~~ fees, arising out of complaints, claims, or
 442 lawsuits, including, without limitation, strict liability,
 443 negligence, misrepresentation, express or implied warranty, or
 444 revocation or rescission of acceptance of the sale of a motor
 445 vehicle, to the extent the judgment or settlement relates to the
 446 alleged negligent manufacture, design, or assembly of motor
 447 vehicles, parts, or accessories. Nothing herein shall obviate
 448 the licensee's obligations pursuant to chapter 681.

449 (28) The applicant or licensee has published, disclosed,
 450 or otherwise made available in any form information provided by

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451 a motor vehicle dealer with respect to sales prices of motor
452 vehicles or profit per motor vehicle sold. Other confidential
453 financial information provided by motor vehicle dealers shall
454 not be published, disclosed, or otherwise made publicly
455 available except in composite form. However, this information
456 may be disclosed with the written consent of the dealer or in
457 response to a subpoena or order of the department, a court or a
458 lawful tribunal, or introduced into evidence in such a
459 proceeding, after timely notice to an affected dealer.

460 (29) The applicant or licensee has failed to reimburse a
461 motor vehicle dealer in full for the reasonable cost of
462 providing a loaner vehicle to any customer who is having a
463 vehicle serviced at the motor vehicle dealer, if a loaner is
464 required by the applicant or licensee, or a loaner is expressly
465 part of an applicant or licensee's customer satisfaction index
466 or computation.

467 (30) The applicant or licensee has conducted or threatened
468 to conduct any audit of a motor vehicle dealer in order to
469 coerce or attempt to coerce the dealer to forego any rights
470 granted to the dealer under ss. 320.60-320.70 or under the
471 agreement between the licensee and the motor vehicle dealer.
472 Nothing in this section shall prohibit an applicant or licensee
473 from reasonably and periodically auditing a dealer to determine
474 the validity of paid claims, as permitted under this chapter, if
475 the licensee complies with the provisions of ss. 320.60-320.70

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476 applicable to such audits.

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

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

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

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

487 (32) Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement,
488 the applicant or licensee has rejected or withheld approval of
489 any proposed transfer in violation of s. 320.643 or a proposed
490 change of executive management in violation of s. 320.644.

491 (33) The applicant or licensee has attempted to sell or
492 lease, or has sold or leased, used motor vehicles at retail of a
493 line-make that is the subject of any franchise agreement with a
494 motor vehicle dealer in this state, other than trucks with a net
495 weight of more than 8,000 pounds.

496 (34) The applicant or licensee, after the effective date
497 of this subsection, has included in any franchise agreement with
498 a motor vehicle dealer a mandatory obligation or requirement of
499 the motor vehicle dealer to purchase, sell, or lease, or offer
500 for purchase, sale, or lease, any quantity of used motor

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502 | (35) The applicant or licensee has refused to assign
 503 | allocation earned by a motor vehicle dealer, or has refused to
 504 | sell motor vehicles to a motor vehicle dealer, because the motor
 505 | vehicle dealer has failed or refused to purchase, sell, lease,
 506 | or certify a certain quantity of used motor vehicles prescribed
 507 | by the licensee.

508 | (36) (a) Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise
 509 | agreement, in addition to any other statutory or contractual
 510 | rights of recovery after the voluntary or involuntary
 511 | termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of a franchise, failing
 512 | to pay the motor vehicle dealer, as provided in paragraph (d),
 513 | the following amounts:

514 | 1. The net cost paid by the dealer for each new car or
 515 | truck in the dealer's inventory with mileage of 2,000 miles or
 516 | less, or a motorcycle with mileage of 100 miles or less,
 517 | exclusive of mileage placed on the vehicle before it was
 518 | delivered to the dealer.

519 | 2. The current price charged for each new, unused,
 520 | undamaged, or unsold part or accessory that:

521 | a. Is in the current parts catalogue and is still in the
 522 | original, resalable merchandising package and in an unbroken
 523 | lot, except that sheet metal may be in a comparable substitute
 524 | for the original package; and

525 | b. Was purchased by the dealer directly from the

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526 manufacturer or distributor or from an outgoing authorized
527 dealer as a part of the dealer's initial inventory.

528 3. The fair market value of each undamaged sign owned by
529 the dealer which bears a trademark or trade name used or claimed
530 by the applicant or licensee or its representative which was
531 purchased from or at the request of the applicant or licensee or
532 its representative.

533 4. The fair market value of all special tools, data
534 processing equipment, and automotive service equipment owned by
535 the dealer which:

536 a. Were recommended in writing by the applicant or
537 licensee or its representative and designated as special tools
538 and equipment;

539 b. Were purchased from or at the request of the applicant
540 or licensee or its representative; and

541 c. Are in usable and good condition except for reasonable
542 wear and tear.

543 5. The cost of transporting, handling, packing, storing,
544 and loading any property subject to repurchase under this
545 section.

546 (b) If the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of the
547 dealer's franchise is the result of the bankruptcy or
548 reorganization of a licensee or its common entity, or the result
549 of a licensee's plan, scheme, or policy, whether or not publicly
550 declared, which is intended to or has the effect of decreasing

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551 the number of, or eliminating, the licensee's franchised motor
552 vehicle dealers of a line-make in this state, or the result of a
553 termination, elimination, or cessation of manufacture or
554 reorganization of a licensee or its common entity, or the result
555 of a termination, elimination, or cessation of manufacture or
556 distribution of a line-make, in addition to the above payments
557 to the dealer, the licensee or its common entity, shall be
558 liable to and shall pay the motor vehicle dealer for an amount
559 at least equal to the fair market value of the franchise for the
560 line-make, which shall be the greater of the value determined as
561 of the day the licensee announces the action that results in the
562 termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal, or the value
563 determined on the day that is 12 months before that date. Fair
564 market value of the franchise for the line-make includes only
565 the goodwill value of the dealer's franchise for that line-make
566 in the dealer's community or territory.

567 (c) This subsection does not apply to a termination,
568 cancellation, or nonrenewal that is implemented as a result of
569 the sale of the assets or corporate stock or other ownership
570 interests of the dealer.

571 (d) The dealer shall return the property listed in this
572 subsection to the licensee within 90 days after the effective
573 date of the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal. The
574 licensee shall supply the dealer with reasonable instructions
575 regarding the method by which the dealer must return the

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576 | property. Absent shipping instructions and prepayment of
577 | shipping costs from the licensee or its common entity, the
578 | dealer shall tender the inventory and other items to be returned
579 | at the dealer's facility. The compensation for the property
580 | shall be paid by the licensee or its common entity
581 | simultaneously with the tender of inventory and other items,
582 | provided that, if the dealer does not have clear title to the
583 | inventory and other items and is not in a position to convey
584 | that title to the licensee, payment for the property being
585 | returned may be made jointly to the dealer and the holder of any
586 | security interest.

587 | (37) Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement,
588 | the applicant or licensee has refused to allow or has limited or
589 | restricted a motor vehicle dealer from acquiring or adding a
590 | sales or service operation for another line-make of motor
591 | vehicles at the same or expanded facility at which the motor
592 | vehicle dealer currently operates a dealership unless the
593 | applicant or licensee can demonstrate that such refusal,
594 | limitation, or restriction is justified by consideration of
595 | reasonable facility and financial requirements and the dealer's
596 | performance for the existing line-make.

597 | (38) The applicant or licensee has failed or refused to
598 | offer a bonus, incentive, or other benefit program, in whole or
599 | in part, to a dealer or dealers in this state which it offers to
600 | all of its other same line-make dealers nationally or to all of

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601 its other same line-make dealers in the licensee's designated
602 zone, region, or other licensee-designated area of which this
603 state is a part, unless the failure or refusal to offer the
604 program in this state is reasonably supported by substantially
605 different economic or marketing considerations than are
606 applicable to the licensee's same line-make dealers in this
607 state. For purposes of this chapter, a licensee may not
608 establish this state alone as a designated zone, region, or area
609 or any other designation for a specified territory. A licensee
610 may offer a bonus, rebate, incentive, or other benefit program
611 to its dealers in this state which is calculated or paid on a
612 per vehicle basis and is related in part to a dealer's facility
613 or the expansion, improvement, remodeling, alteration, or
614 renovation of a dealer's facility. Any dealer who does not
615 comply with the facility criteria or eligibility requirements of
616 such program is entitled to receive a reasonable percentage of
617 the bonus, incentive, rebate, or other benefit offered by the
618 licensee under that program by complying with the criteria or
619 eligibility requirements unrelated to the dealer's facility
620 under that program. For purposes of the previous sentence, the
621 percentage unrelated to the facility criteria or requirements is
622 presumed to be "reasonable" if it is not less than 80 percent of
623 the total of the per vehicle bonus, incentive, rebate, or other
624 benefits offered under the program.

625 (39) Notwithstanding any agreement, program, incentive,

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626 | bonus, policy, or rule, an applicant or licensee may not fail to
627 | make any payment pursuant to any agreement, program, incentive,
628 | bonus, policy, or rule for any temporary replacement motor
629 | vehicle loaned, rented, or provided by a motor vehicle dealer to
630 | or for its service or repair customers, even if the temporary
631 | replacement motor vehicle has been leased, rented, titled, or
632 | registered to the motor vehicle dealer's rental or leasing
633 | division or an entity that is owned or controlled by the motor
634 | vehicle dealer, provided that the motor vehicle dealer or its
635 | rental or leasing division or entity complies with the written
636 | and uniformly enforced vehicle eligibility, use, and reporting
637 | requirements specified by the applicant or licensee in its
638 | agreement, program, policy, bonus, incentive, or rule relating
639 | to loaner vehicles.

640 | (40) Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement,
641 | the applicant or licensee may not require or coerce, or attempt
642 | to require or coerce, a motor vehicle dealer to purchase goods
643 | or services from a vendor selected, identified, or designated by
644 | the applicant or licensee, or one of its parents, subsidiaries,
645 | divisions, or affiliates, by agreement, standard, policy,
646 | program, incentive provision, or otherwise, without making
647 | available to the motor vehicle dealer the option to obtain the
648 | goods or services of substantially similar design and quality
649 | from a vendor chosen by the motor vehicle dealer. If the motor
650 | vehicle dealer exercises such option, the dealer must provide

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651 written notice of its desire to use the alternative goods or
652 services to the applicant or licensee, along with samples or
653 clear descriptions of the alternative goods or services that the
654 dealer desires to use. The licensee or applicant shall have the
655 opportunity to evaluate the alternative goods or services for up
656 to 30 days to determine whether it will provide a written
657 approval to the motor vehicle dealer to use said alternative
658 goods or services. Approval may not be unreasonably withheld by
659 the applicant or licensee. If the motor vehicle dealer does not
660 receive a response from the applicant or licensee within 30
661 days, approval to use the alternative goods or services is
662 deemed granted. If a dealer using alternative goods or services
663 complies with this subsection and has received approval from the
664 licensee or applicant, the dealer is not ineligible for all
665 benefits described in the agreement, standard, policy, program,
666 incentive provision, or otherwise solely for having used such
667 alternative goods or services. As used in this subsection, the
668 term "goods or services" is limited to such goods and services
669 used to construct or renovate dealership facilities or furniture
670 and fixtures at the dealership facilities. The term does not
671 include:

672 (a) Any materials subject to the applicant's or licensee's
673 intellectual property rights, including copyright, trademark, or
674 trade dress rights;

675 (b) Any special tool and training as required by the

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676 applicant or licensee;

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

679 (d) Any good or service paid for entirely by the applicant
680 or licensee; or

681 (e) Any applicant's or licensee's design or architectural
682 review service.

683 (41) (a) The applicant or licensee has established,
684 implemented, or enforced criteria for measuring the sales or
685 service performance of any of its franchised motor vehicle
686 dealers in this state which have a material or adverse effect on
687 any motor vehicle dealer and which:

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

689 2. Do not include all relevant and material local and
690 regional criteria, data, and facts. Relevant and material
691 criteria, data, or facts include, but are not limited to, those
692 of motor vehicle dealerships of comparable size in comparable
693 markets. If such performance measurement criteria are based, in
694 whole or in part, on a survey, such survey must be based on a
695 statistically significant and valid random sample.

696 (b) An applicant, licensee, or common entity, or an
697 affiliate thereof, which enforces against any motor vehicle
698 dealer any such performance measurement criteria shall, upon the
699 request of the motor vehicle dealer, describe in writing to the
700 motor vehicle dealer, in detail, how the performance measurement

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701 criteria were designed, calculated, established, and uniformly
 702 applied.

703
 704 A motor vehicle dealer who can demonstrate that a violation of,
 705 or failure to comply with, any of the preceding provisions by an
 706 applicant or licensee will or may ~~can~~ adversely and pecuniarily
 707 affect the complaining dealer, shall be entitled to pursue all
 708 of the remedies, procedures, and rights of recovery available
 709 under ss. 320.695 and 320.697.

710 Section 2. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment
 711 made by this act to section 320.64, Florida Statutes, in
 712 references thereto, section 320.6992, Florida Statutes, is
 713 reenacted to read:

714 320.6992 Application.—Sections 320.60-320.70, including
 715 amendments to ss. 320.60-320.70, apply to all presently existing
 716 or hereafter established systems of distribution of motor
 717 vehicles in this state, except to the extent that such
 718 application would impair valid contractual agreements in
 719 violation of the State Constitution or Federal Constitution.
 720 Sections 320.60-320.70 do not apply to any judicial or
 721 administrative proceeding pending as of October 1, 1988. All
 722 agreements renewed, amended, or entered into subsequent to
 723 October 1, 1988, shall be governed by ss. 320.60-320.70,
 724 including any amendments to ss. 320.60-320.70 which have been or
 725 may be from time to time adopted, unless the amendment

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726 specifically provides otherwise, and except to the extent that
727 such application would impair valid contractual agreements in
728 violation of the State Constitution or Federal Constitution.

729 Section 3. Sections 320.60, 320.605, 320.61, 320.615,
730 320.62, 320.63, 320.6403, 320.6405, 320.641, 320.6412, 320.6415,
731 320.642, 320.643, 320.644, 320.645, 320.646, 320.664, 320.67,
732 320.68, 320.69, 320.695, 320.696, 320.697, 320.6975, 320.698,
733 320.699, 320.69915, and 320.70, Florida Statutes, are reenacted
734 for the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act
735 to s. 320.64, Florida Statutes.

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