1995 SESSION

LD4668819

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HOUSE BILL NO. 2324

2 Offered January 23, 1995 3 A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 2.1-20.4, 9-6.25.3, 46.2-1500, 46.2-1503, 46.2-1504, 46.2-1505, 4 46.2-1506, 46.2-1507, 46.2-1508, 46.2-1509, 46.2-1510, 46.2-1511, 46.2-1512, 46.2-1513, 46.2-1514, 5 6 7 46.2-1515, 46.2-1516, 46.2-1517, 46.2-1518, 46.1-1519, 46.2-1521, 46.2-1527.1, 46.2-1527.2, 46.2-1527.3, 16.2-1527.4, 46.2-1527.5, 46.2-1527.6, 46.2-1527.7, 46.2-1527.8, 46.2-1528, 46.2-1529, 46.2-1530, 46.2-1532, 46.2-1533, 46.2-1536, 46.2-1539, 46.2-1542, 46.2-1543, 46.2-1544, 46.2-1545, 8 46.2-1546, 46.2-1547, 46.2-1548, 46.2-1549, 46.2-1550, 46.2-1551, 46.2-1553, 46.2-1554, 46.2-1555, 46.2-1556, 46.2-1566, 46.2-1568, 46.2-1569, 46.2-1573, 46.2-1575, 46.2-1576, 46.2-1577, and 46.2-1582 of the Code of Virginia; to amend the Code of Virginia by adding sections numbered 46.2-1503.1, 46.2-1503.2, 46.2-1503.3, 46.2-1503.4, 46.2-1503.5, 46.2-1506.1, and 46.2-1565.1 and 9 10 11 by adding in Title 46.2 a chapter numbered 19, consisting of sections numbered 46.2-1900 through 12 46.2-1991; and to repeal §§ 46.2-1502 and 46.2-1541 of the Code of Virginia, relating to motor 13 14 vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, mobile home, motor home and motorcycle dealers; penalties. 15

- Patrons—Rollison, Abbitt, Ball, Behm, Cox, Dudley, Hall, Harris, Howell, Hull, Jones, D.C., Jones, J.C.,
 Katzen, Kilgore, Moore, Nixon, Robinson, Ruff, Stump, Wardrup and Wilkins; Senators: Benedetti
 and Stolle
- 19 20 21

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8/2/22 6:36

Referred to Committee on Roads and Internal Navigation

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That \$ 2.1-20.4, 9-6.25:3, 46.2-1500, 46.2-1501, 46.2-1503, 46.2-1504, 46.2-1505, 46.2-1506, 46.2-1507, 46.2-1508, 46.2-1509, 46.2-1510, 46.2-1511, 46.2-1512, 46.2-1513, 46.2-1514, 46.2-1515, 46.2-1516, 46.2-1517, 46.2-1518, 46.1-1519, 46.2-1521, 46.2-1527.1, 46.2-1527.2, 46.2-1727.3, 46.2-1516, 46.2-1527.2, 46.2 23 24 25 46.2-1527.4, 46.2-1527.5, 46.2-1527.6, 46.2-1527.7, 46.2-1527.8, 46.2-1528, 46.2-1529, 46.2-1530, 46.2-1532, 46.2-1533, 46.2-1536, 46.2-1539, 46.2-1542, 46.2-1543, 46.2-1544, 46.2-1545, 46.2-1546, 26 27 46.2-1547, 46.2-1548, 46.2-1549, 46.2-1550, 46.2-1551, 46.2-1553, 46.2-1554, 46.2-1555, 46.2-1556, 28 29 46.2-1566, 46.2-1568, 46.2-1569, 46.2-1573, 46.2-1575, 46.2-1576, 46.2-1577, and 46.2-1582 of the 30 Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted and that the Code of Virginia is amended by adding 31 sections numbered 46.2-1503.1, 46.2-1503.2, 46.2-1503.3, 46.2-1503.4, 46.2-1503.5, 46.2-1506.1, and 46.2-1565.1 and by adding in Title 46.2 a chapter numbered 19, consisting of sections numbered 32 33 46.2-1900 through 46.2-1991 as follows:

34 § 2.1-20.4. Bodies receiving compensation.

- A. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the following commissions, boards, etc., shall be those which receive compensation from state funds pursuant to § 2.1-20.3:
- **37** Accountancy, Board for
- **38** Agriculture and Consumer Services, Board of
- **39** Air Pollution Control Board, State
- 40 Airports Authority, Virginia
- 41 Apprenticeship Council
- 42 Architects, Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors and Landscape Architects, State Board for
- **43** Athletic Board, Virginia
- 44 Auctioneers Board
- 45 Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology, Board of
- 46 Aviation Board, Virginia
- 47 Barbers, Board for
- 48 Branch Pilots, Board for
- **49** Building Code Technical Review Board, State
- **50** Chesapeake Bay Local Assistance Board
- 51 Child Day Care and Early Childhood Programs, Virginia Council on
- 52 Coal Mining Examiners, Board of
- 53 College Building Authority
- 54 Commonwealth Transportation Board
- 55 Conservation and Development of Public Beaches, Board on
- 56 Conservation and Recreation, Board of
- **57** Contractors, Board for
- 58 Correctional Education, Board of
- **59** Corrections, Board of

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- 60 Cosmetology, Board for
- Criminal Justice Services Board 61
- 62 Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing, Advisory Board for the
- 63 Dentistry, Board of
- 64 Education, State Board of
- Education Loan Authority, Virginia Board of Directors 65
- 66 Elections, State Board of
- 67 Environment, Council on the
- 68 Fire Services Board, Virginia
- 69 Funeral Directors and Embalmers, Board of
- 70 Game and Inland Fisheries, Board of
- Geology, Board for 71
- 72 Health, State Board of
- 73 Health Professions, Board of
- 74 Hearing Aid Specialists, Board for
- 75 Higher Education, State Council of
- 76 Historic Resources, Board of
- 77 Housing and Community Development, Board of
- 78 Information Management, Council on
- 79 Marine Resources Commission
- 80 Medical Assistance Services, Board of
- 81 Medical Complaint Investigation Committee
- 82 Medicine, Board of
- 83 Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services Board, State
- 84 Milk Commission
- 85 Mineral Mining Examiners, Board of
- Motor Vehicle Dealer Board 86
- 87 Nursing, Board of
- 88 Nursing Home Administrators, Board of
- 89 Occupational Therapy, Advisory Board on
- 90 Oil and Gas Conservation Board, Virginia
- 91 Opticians, Board for
- 92 Optometry, Board of
- 93 Pesticide Control Board
- 94 Pharmacy, Board of
- Physical Therapy, Advisory Board on 95
- Port Authority, Board of Commissioners of the Virginia 96
- 97 Professional and Occupational Regulation, Board for
- Professional Counselors, Board of 98
- 99 Professional Soil Scientists, Board for
- Psychology, Board of 100
- Public Defender Commission 101
- 102 Public School Authority, Virginia
- 103 Purchases and Supply Appeals Board
- Real Estate Appraiser Board 104
- 105 Real Estate Board
- Recreation Specialists, Board of 106
- Rehabilitative Services, Board of 107
- Respiratory Therapy, Advisory Board on Safety and Health Codes Board 108
- 109
- Seed Potato Board 110
- Social Services, Board of 111
- Social Work, Board of 112
- State Health Department Sewage Handling and Disposal Appeal Review Board 113
- 114 Substance Abuse Certification Board
- Surface Mining Review, Board of 115
- Treasury Board 116
- Veterans' Affairs, Board on 117
- Veterinary Medicine, Board of 118
- Virginia Board for Asbestos Licensing 119
- 120 Virginia Health Planning Board
- Virginia Manufactured Housing Board 121

- 122 Virginia Veterans Care Center Board of Trustees
- 123 Virginia Waste Management Board
- 124 Visually Handicapped, Virginia Board for the
- 125 Waste Management Facility Operators, Board for
- 126 Water Control Board, State
- 127 Waterworks and Wastewater Works Operators, Board for
- 128 Well Review Board, Virginia
- 129 Youth and Family Services, State Board of.
- 130 B. Individual members of boards, commissions, committees, councils, and other similar bodies 131 appointed at the state level and receiving compensation for their services on January 1, 1980, but who 132 will not receive compensation under the provisions of this article, shall continue to receive compensation
- 133 at the January 1, 1980, rate until such member's current term expires.
- 134 § 9-6.25:3. Supervisory boards.
- 135 There shall be, in addition to such others as may be designated in accordance with § 9-6.25, the 136 following supervisory boards:
- 137 Alcoholic Beverage Control Board
- 138 Board for Branch Pilots
- 139 Board of Commissioners, Virginia Port Authority
- 140 Board of Game and Inland Fisheries
- 141 Board of Regents, Gunston Hall Plantation
- 142 Board of Regents, James Monroe Memorial Law Office and Library
- 143 Board of Trustees, Chippokes Plantation Farm Foundation
- 144 Board of Trustees, Frontier Culture Museum of Virginia
- 145 Board of Trustees, Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation
- 146 Board of Trustees, the Science Museum of Virginia
- 147
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- Board of Trustees, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Board of Trustees, Virginia Retirement System Board of Trustees, Virginia Veterans Care Center Board of Trustees, Virginia War Memorial Foundation 150
- 151 (Effective July 1, 1996) Board of the Virginia Higher Education Tuition Trust Fund
- 152 Board of Visitors, Christopher Newport University
- 153 Board of Visitors, George Mason University
- 154 Board of Visitors, James Madison University
- 155 Board of Visitors, Longwood College
- 156 Board of Visitors, Mary Washington College
- 157 Board of Visitors, Norfolk State University
- 158 Board of Visitors, Old Dominion University
- 159 Board of Visitors, Radford University
- 160 Board of Visitors, The College of William and Mary in Virginia
- 161 Board of Visitors, University of Virginia
- Board of Visitors, Virginia Commonwealth University 162
- 163 Board of Visitors, Virginia Military Institute
- 164 Board of Visitors, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
- 165 Board of Visitors, Virginia State University
- 166 Commonwealth's Attorneys' Services Council
- 167 Compensation Board
- 168 Governing Board, Virginia College Building Authority
- 169 Governing Board, Virginia Public School Authority
- 170 Motor Vehicle Dealer Board
- 171 State Board for Community Colleges, Virginia Community College System
- 172 State Board of Education
- 173 State Certified Seed Board
- 174 State Council of Higher Education for Virginia
- 175 Virginia Agricultural Council
- 176 Virginia Bright Flue-Cured Tobacco Board
- 177 Virginia Board for People with Disabilities
- 178 Virginia Cattle Industry Board
- 179 Virginia Corn Board
- 180 Virginia Dark-Fired Tobacco Board
- 181 Virginia Egg Board
- 182 Virginia Horse Industry Board

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- 183 Virginia Marine Products Board
- 184 Virginia Peanut Board
- 185 Virginia Pork Industry Board
- 186 Virginia Soybean Board
- 187 Virginia State Apple Board
- 188 Virginia Sweet Potato Board.
- 189 § 46.2-1500. Definitions.
- 190 Unless the context otherwise requires, the following words and terms for the purpose of this chapter 191 shall have the following meanings:
- 192 "Board" means the Motor Vehicle Dealer Board

193 "Certificate of origin" means the document provided by the manufacturer of a new motor vehicle, or 194 its distributor, which is the only valid indication of ownership between the manufacturer, its distributor, 195 its franchised motor vehicle dealers, and the original purchaser not for resale.

"Dealer-operator" means the individual who works at the established place of business of a dealer 196 197 and who is responsible for and in charge of day-to-day operations of that place of business.

198 "Distributor" means a person who is licensed by the Department of Motor Vehicles under Chapter 19 199 (§ 46.2-1900 et seq.) of this title and who sells or distributes new motor vehicles pursuant to a written 200 agreement with the manufacturer, to franchised motor vehicle dealers in the Commonwealth.

201 "Distributor branch" means a branch office licensed by the Department of Motor Vehicles under 202 Chapter 19 (§ 46.2-1900 et seq.) of this title and maintained by a distributor for the sale of motor vehicles to motor vehicle dealers or for directing or supervising, in whole or in part, its representatives 203 204 in the Commonwealth.

205 "Distributor representative" means a person who is licensed by the Department of Motor Vehicles 206 under Chapter 19 (§ 46.2-1900 et seq.) of this title and employed by a distributor or by a distributor 207 branch, for the purpose of making or promoting the sale of motor vehicles or for supervising or contacting its dealers, prospective dealers, or representatives in the Commonwealth. 208

209 "Factory branch" means a branch office maintained by a person for the sale of motor vehicles to 210 distributors or for the sale of motor vehicles to motor vehicle dealers, or for directing or supervising, in 211 whole or in part, its representatives in the Commonwealth.

"Factory representative" means a person who is licensed by the Department of Motor Vehicles under 212 213 Chapter 19 (§ 46.2-1900 et seq.) of this title and employed by a person who manufactures or assembles 214 motor vehicles or by a factory branch for the purpose of making or promoting the sale of its motor vehicles or for supervising or contacting its dealers, prospective dealers, or representatives in the 215 216 Commonwealth.

217 "Factory repurchase motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle sold, leased, rented, consigned, or 218 otherwise transferred to a person under an agreement that the motor vehicle will be resold or otherwise 219 retransferred only to the manufacturer or distributor of the motor vehicle, and which is reacquired by the 220 manufacturer or distributor, or their agents.

221 "Family member" means a person who either (i) is the spouse, child, grandchild, spouse of a child, 222 spouse of a grandchild, brother, sister, or parent of the dealer or owner or (ii) has been employed 223 continuously by the dealer for at least five years.

224 "Franchise" means a written contract or agreement between two or more persons whereby one 225 person, the franchisee, is granted the right to engage in the business of offering and selling, servicing, or 226 offering, selling, and servicing new motor vehicles of a particular line-make or late model or factory repurchase motor vehicles of a particular line-make manufactured or distributed by the grantor of the 227 228 right, the franchisor, and where the operation of the franchisee's business is substantially associated with 229 the franchisor's trademark, trade name, advertising, or other commercial symbol designating the 230 franchisor, the motor vehicle or its manufacturer or distributor. The term shall include any severable part 231 or parts of a franchise agreement which separately provides for selling and servicing different line-makes 232 of the franchisor.

233 "Franchised late model or factory repurchase motor vehicle dealer" means a dealer in late model or 234 factory repurchase motor vehicles, including a franchised new motor vehicle dealer, that has a franchise 235 agreement with a manufacturer or distributor of the line-make of the late model or factory repurchase 236 motor vehicles.

237 "Franchised motor vehicle dealer" means a dealer in new motor vehicles that has a franchise agreement with a manufacturer or distributor of new motor vehicles, trailers, or semitrailers. 238 239

"Fund" means the Motor Vehicle Dealer Board Fund.

"Independent motor vehicle dealer" means a dealer in used motor vehicles.

241 "Late model motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle of the current model year and the immediately 242 preceding model year.

243 "Manufacturer" means a person who is licensed by the Department of Motor Vehicles under Chapter

244 19 (§ 46.2-1900 et seq.) of this title and engaged in the business of constructing or assembling new

245 motor vehicles and, in the case of trucks, also means a person engaged in the business of manufacturing 246 engines, power trains, or rear axles, when such engines, power trains, or rear axles are not warranted by 247 the final manufacturer or assembler of the truck.

248 "Motor vehicle" means the same as provided in § 46.2-100, except, for the purposes of this chapter, 249 (i) it shall not include (i) trailers and semitrailers, but not ; (ii) mobile homes, sales of which are 250 regulated under Chapter 4.2 (§ 36-85.16 et seq.) of Title 36, (ii); (iii) motor homes; (iv) motorcycles; 251 (v) a nonrepairable vehicle vehicles, as defined in § 46.2-1600, shall not be considered a motor vehicle 252 for the purposes of this chapter, ; and (iii) a (vi) salvage vehicle vehicles, as defined in § 46.2-1600, 253 shall not be considered a motor vehicle for the purposes of this chapter. "Motor vehicle dealer" or 254 "dealer" means any person who:

255 1. For commission, money, or other thing of value, buys, sells, exchanges, either outright or on 256 conditional sale, bailment lease, chattel mortgage, or otherwise or arranges or offers or attempts to solicit or negotiate on behalf of others a sale, purchase, or exchange of an interest in new motor 257 258 vehicles, new and used motor vehicles, or used motor vehicles alone, or trailers or semitrailers, whether 259 or not the motor vehicles, trailers, or semitrailers are owned by him; or

260 2. Is wholly or partly engaged in the business of selling new motor vehicles, new and used motor 261 vehicles, or used motor vehicles only, or trailers or semitrailers, whether or not the motor vehicles are 262 owned by him; or

263 3. Offers to sell, sells, displays, or permits the display for sale, of five or more motor vehicles, 264 trailers, or semitrailers within any twelve consecutive months.

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

266 1. Receivers, trustees, administrators, executors, guardians, or other persons appointed by or acting 267 under judgment or order of any court or their employees when engaged in the specific performance of 268 their duties as employees. 269

2. Public officers, their deputies, assistants, or employees, while performing their official duties.

270 3. Persons other than business entities primarily engaged in the leasing or renting of motor vehicles 271 to others when selling or offering such vehicles for sale at retail, disposing of motor vehicles acquired 272 for their own use and actually so used, when the vehicles have been so acquired and used in good faith and not for the purpose of avoiding the provisions of this chapter. 273

274 4. Persons dealing solely in the sale and distribution of fire-fighting equipment, ambulances, and 275 funeral vehicles, including motor vehicles adapted therefor; however, this exemption shall not exempt 276 any person from the provisions of §§ 46.2-1519, 46.2-1520 and 46.2-1548.

277 5. Any financial institution chartered or authorized to do business under the laws of the 278 Commonwealth or the United States which may have received title to a motor vehicle in the normal 279 course of its business by reason of a foreclosure, other taking, repossession, or voluntary reconveyance 280 to that institution occurring as a result of any loan secured by a lien on the vehicle.

281 6. An employee of an organization arranging for the purchase or lease by the organization of 282 vehicles for use in the organization's business.

283 7. Any person licensed to sell real estate who sells a mobile home or similar vehicle in conjunction with the sale of the parcel of land on which the mobile home or similar vehicle is located. 284

285 8. Any person who permits the operation of a motor vehicle show or permits the display of motor 286 vehicles for sale by any motor vehicle dealer licensed under this chapter.

287 9. An insurance company authorized to do business in the Commonwealth that sells or disposes of 288 vehicles under a contract with its insured in the regular course of business.

289 10. Any publication, broadcast, or other communications media when engaged in the business of 290 advertising, but not otherwise arranging for the sale of vehicles owned by others.

291 11. Any person dealing solely in the sale or lease of vehicles designed exclusively for off-road use.

292 12. Any credit union authorized to do business in Virginia, provided the credit union does not 293 receive a commission, money, or other thing of value directly from a motor vehicle dealer.

294 13. Any person licensed as a manufactured home dealer, broker, manufacturer, or salesperson under Chapter 4.2 (§ 36-85.16 et seq.) of Title 36. "Motor vehicle salesperson" or "salesperson" means any person who is licensed as and employed as a 295

296 297 salesperson by a motor vehicle dealer to sell or exchange motor vehicles.

298 "Motor vehicle show" means a display of motor vehicles to the general public at a location other 299 than a dealer's location licensed under this chapter where the vehicles are not being offered for sale or 300 exchange during or as part of the display.

301 "New motor vehicle" means any vehicle which (i) has not been previously sold except in good faith 302 for the purpose of resale, (ii) has not been used as a rental, driver education, or demonstration motor 303 vehicle, or for the personal and business transportation of the manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or any of 304 his employees, (iii) has not been used except for limited use necessary in moving or road testing the 305 vehicle prior to delivery to a customer, (iv) is transferred by a certificate of origin, and (v) has the

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306 manufacturer's certification that it conforms to all applicable federal motor vehicle safety and emission 307 standards. Notwithstanding provisions (i) and (iii), a motor vehicle that has been previously sold but not 308 titled shall be deemed a new motor vehicle if it meets the requirements of provisions (ii), (iv), and (v). 309

"Relevant market area" means as follows:

310 1. In metropolitan localities, the relevant market area shall be a circular area around an existing 311 franchised dealer with a population of 250,000, not to exceed a radius of ten miles but in no case less 312 than seven miles.

313 2. If the population in an area within a radius of ten miles around an existing franchised dealer is 314 less than 250,000, but the population in an area within a radius of fifteen miles around an existing franchised dealer is 150,000 or more, the relevant market area shall be that area within the fifteen-mile 315 316 radius.

317 3. In all other cases the relevant market area shall be an area within a radius of twenty miles around 318 an existing franchised dealer or the area of responsibility defined in the franchise, whichever is greater. In any case where the franchise agreement is silent as to area responsibility, the relevant market area 319 320 shall be the greater of an area within a radius of twenty miles around an existing franchised dealer or 321 that area in which the franchisor otherwise requires the franchisee to make significant retail sales or 322 sales efforts.

323 In determining population for this definition, the most recent census by the U.S. Bureau of the 324 Census or the most recent population update, either from the National Planning Data Corporation or 325 other similar recognized source, shall be accumulated for all census tracts either wholly or partially 326 within the relevant market area.

327 "Retail installment sale" means every sale of one or more motor vehicles to a buyer for his use and 328 not for resale, in which the price of the vehicle is payable in one or more installments and in which the 329 seller has either retained title to the goods or has taken or retained a security interest in the goods under 330 form of contract designated either as a security agreement, conditional sale, bailment lease, chattel 331 mortgage, or otherwise.

332 "Sale at retail" or "retail sale" means the act or attempted act of selling, bartering, exchanging, or 333 otherwise disposing of a motor vehicle to a buyer for his personal use and not for resale.

"Sale at wholesale" or "wholesale" means a sale to motor vehicle dealers or wholesalers other than to 334 335 consumers; a sale to one who intends to resell. 336

"Used motor vehicle" means any vehicle other than a new motor vehicle as defined in this section.

"Wholesale auction" means an auction of motor vehicles restricted to sales at wholesale.

§ 46.2-1503. Motor Vehicle Dealer Board.

339 A. The Motor Vehicle Dealer Board is hereby created. The Board shall consist of eleven fifteen 340 members. Twelve of these shall be appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the General 341 Assembly. One member shall be appointed from each of the geographic operating districts used by the 342 Department and shall reside in the district from which he is appointed. Every member appointed by the Governor must have been licensed as a motor vehicle dealer for at least five years prior to being 343 344 appointed by the Governor, must be a citizen of the United States, and must be a resident of Virginia. 345 The Governor may remove any member as provided in subsection B of § 2.1-43. The initial terms of six 346 members appointed in July of 1995, shall commence when appointed and shall be for terms ending on June 30, 1997. The remaining six members shall be appointed for a full four-year term. The remaining 347 348 members shall be at-large members and, insofar as practical, should reflect fair and equitable statewide 349 representation.

350 B. Four Seven members shall be franchised motor vehicle dealers, three and five members shall be 351 independent motor vehicle dealers, . At least one of the Board member members shall be a licensed motor vehicle dealer primarily also engaged in the business of renting or leasing vehicles, and three 352 353 members shall be persons who are not dealers or salespersons.

354 C. Appointments shall be Members shall be serve for terms of four years, and no member person 355 other than the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles, the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Affairs, and the Superintendent of State Police shall be eligible to serve for more than two 356 357 full consecutive successive four-year terms. The Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles shall serve as chairman of the Board. Vacanciesterms. Appointment and confirmation of the Board 358 359 members shall occur only as the terms of the current members of the Board expire under prior law.

360 shall be filled by appointment by the Governor for the unexpired term and shall be effective until thirty days after the next meeting of the ensuing General Assembly and, if confirmed, thereafter for the 361 remainder of the term. Any person appointed to fill a vacancy may serve two additional successive 362 363 terms.

D. In addition to the twelve members appointed by the Governor, the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles, the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer 364 365 Affairs, and the Superintendent of State Police shall be full, voting members of the Board. 366

E. Members of the Board shall be reimbursed their actual and necessary expenses incurred in 367

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368 carrying out their duties, such reimbursement to be paid from the special fund referred to in 369 § 46.2-1520.

370 § 46.2-1503.1. Board to employ executive director.

371 The Board shall employ an executive director who shall serve at the pleasure of the Board. He shall 372 direct the affairs of the Board and keep records of all proceedings, transactions, communications, and 373 official acts of the Board. He shall be custodian of all records of the Board and perform such duties as 374 the Board may require. The executive director shall call a meeting of the board at the direction of the 375 chairman or upon written request of three or more Board members. The executive director, with 376 approval of the Board, may employ such additional staff as needed. The annual salary of the executive 377 director shall be at Level II of the Executive Compensation Plan.

378 § 46.2-1503.2. State Personnel and Public Procurement Acts not applicable.

379 A. The executive director and all staff employed by the Board shall be exempt from the Virginia Personnel Act, Chapter 10 (§ 2.1-110 et seq.) of Title 2.1. Personnel actions under this exemption shall 380 381 be taken without regard to race, sex, color, national origin, religion, age, handicap or political 382 affiliation.

383 B. The Board and the executive director shall be exempt from the Virginia Public Procurement Act, 384 Chapter 7 (§ 11-35 et seq.) of Title 11.

385 § 46.2-1503.3. Motor Vehicle Dealer Board Fund; receipts; disbursements.

386 The Motor Vehicle Dealer Board Fund is established as a special Fund in the state treasury. Except 387 as otherwise provided in this chapter, all fees collected as provided in this chapter and by regulations 388 promulgated by the Board, shall be paid into the state treasury immediately upon collection and 389 credited to the Motor Vehicle Dealer Board Fund. All disbursements from the Fund shall be made by 390 the State Treasurer upon warrants of the Comptroller issued upon vouchers signed by an authorized 391 officer of the Board or the executive director as authorized by the Board.

392 § 46.2-1503.4. General powers and duties of Board.

393 The powers and duties of the Board shall include, but not necessarily be limited to the following:

394 1. To establish the qualifications of applicants for certification or licensure, provided that all 395 qualifications shall be necessary to ensure competence and integrity.

396 2. To examine, or cause to be examined, the qualifications of each applicant for certification or 397 licensure, including the preparation, administration and grading of examinations.

- 398 3. To certify or license qualified applicants as motor vehicle dealers and motor vehicle salespersons.
- 399 4. To levy and collect fees for certification or licensure and renewal that are sufficient to cover all 400 expenses for the administration and operation of the Board. 401
 - 5. To levy on licensees special assessments necessary to cover expenses of the Board.

402 6. To revoke, suspend, or fail to renew a certificate or license for just cause as set out in articles 2, 403 3, 4, 8 and 9 of this chapter or enumerated in regulations promulgated by the Board.

- 404 7. To ensure that inspections are conducted relating to the motor vehicle sales industry and to 405 ensure that all licensed dealers and salespersons are conducting business in a professional manner, not 406 in violation of any provision of articles 2, 3, 4, 7, 8 and 9 of this chapter and within the lawful 407 regulations promulgated by the Board.
- 408 8. To receive complaints concerning the conduct of persons and businesses licensed by the Board 409 and to take appropriate disciplinary action if warranted.
- 410 9. To enter into contracts necessary or convenient for carrying out the provisions of this chapter or 411 the functions of the Board.
- 412 10. To establish committees of the Board, appoint persons to such committees, and to promulgate 413 regulations establishing the responsibilities of these committees. Each of these committees shall include 414 at least one Board member and the Advertising, Dealer Practices and Transaction Recovery Fund 415 committees shall include at least one citizen member who is not licensed or certified by the Board. The 416 Board may establish one of each committee in each DMV District. Committees to be established shall 417 include, but not be limited to the following:
- 418 a. Advertising:
- 419 b. Licensing;
- 420 c. Dealer Practices;
- 421 d. Franchise Review and Advisory Committee; and
- 422 e. Transaction Recovery Fund.
- 423 11. To do all things necessary and convenient for carrying into effect articles 2, 3, 4, 8 and 9 of this 424 chapter or as enumerated in regulations promulgated by the Board.
- 425 § 46.2-1503.5. Biennial report.
- 426 The Board shall submit a biennial report to the Governor and General Assembly on or before 427 November 1 of each even-numbered year. The biennial report shall contain, at a minimum, the following
- 428 information: (i) a summary of the Board's fiscal affairs, (ii) a description of the Board's activities, (iii)

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429 statistical information regarding the administrative hearings and decisions of the Board, and (iv) a 430 general summary of all complaints received against licensees and the procedures used to resolve the 431 complaints. The biennial report shall be distributed in accordance with the provisions of § 2.1-467.

§ 46.2-1504. Board's powers with respect to hearings under this chapter.

433 The Commissioner Board may, in hearings arising under this chapter, except as provided for in 434 Article 7 (§ 46.2-1566 et seq.), determine the place in the Commonwealth where they shall be held; 435 subpoena witnesses; take depositions of witnesses residing outside the Commonwealth in the manner provided for in civil actions in courts of record; pay these witnesses the fees and mileage for their 436 437 attendance as is provided for witnesses in civil actions in courts of record; and administer oaths. 438

§ 46.2-1505. Suit to enjoin violations.

439 The Commissioner Board, whenever he it believes from evidence submitted to him the Board that 440 any person has been violating, is violating or is about to violate any provision of this chapter, in addition to any other remedy, may bring an action in the name of the Commonwealth to enjoin any 441 violation of this chapter. 442

§ 46.2-1506. Regulations.

444 The Commissioner Board may promulgate regulations requiring persons licensed under this chapter 445 to keep and maintain records reasonably required for the enforcement of §§ 46.2-112 and 46.2-629, and 446 any other regulations, not inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter, as he shall consider necessary 447 for the effective administration and enforcement of this chapter. A copy of any regulation promulgated 448 under this section shall be mailed to each motor vehicle dealer licensee thirty days prior to its effective 449 date. 450

§ 46.2-1506.1. Additional training.

451 The Board may promulgate regulations specifying additional training or conditions for individuals 452 seeking certification, licensure, or renewal of certificates or licenses. 453

§ 46.2-1507. Penalties.

454 Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, any person violating any of the provisions of this 455 chapter shall may be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor assessed a civil penalty by the Board. No such 456 civil penalty shall exceed \$1,000 for any single violation. Civil penalties collected under this chapter 457 shall be deposited in the Transportation Trust Fund.

§ 46.2-1508. Licenses required.

459 It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in business in the Commonwealth as a motor vehicle 460 dealer, or salesperson, manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor branch, or factory or 461 distributor representative without first obtaining a license as provided in this chapter. Every person 462 licensed as a manufactured home dealer under Chapter 4.2 (§ 36-85.16 et seq.) of Title 36 shall obtain a certificate of dealer registration as provided in this chapter. It shall be unlawful for any person to 463 464 engage in business in the Commonwealth as a motor vehicle manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, 465 distributor branch, or factory or distributor representative without first obtaining a license as provided 466 in Chapter 19 (§ 46.2-1900 et seq.) of this title. Any person licensed in another state as a motor vehicle dealer may sell motor vehicles at wholesale auctions in the Commonwealth after having obtained a 467 468 certificate of dealer registration as provided in this chapter Chapter 19 (§ 46.2-1900 et seq.) of this title. 469 The offering or granting of a motor vehicle dealer franchise in the Commonwealth shall constitute 470 engaging in business in the Commonwealth for purposes of this section, and no new motor vehicle may 471 be sold or offered for sale in the Commonwealth unless the franchisor of motor vehicle dealer franchises 472 for that line-make in the Commonwealth, whether such franchisor is a manufacturer, factory branch, 473 distributor, distributor branch, or otherwise, is licensed under this chapter Chapter 19 (§ 46.2-1900 et 474 seq.) of this title. In the event a license issued under this chapter Chapter 19 (§ 46.2-1900 et seq.) of 475 this title to a franchisor of motor vehicle dealer franchises is suspended, revoked, or not renewed, nothing in this section shall prevent the sale of any new motor vehicle of such franchisor's line-make 476 477 manufactured in or brought into the Commonwealth for sale prior to the suspension, revocation or 478 expiration of the license. 479

§ 46.2-1509. Application for license or certificate of dealer registration.

480 Application for license or certificate of dealer registration under this chapter shall be made to the 481 Commissioner Board and contain such information as the Commissioner Board shall require. The 482 application shall be accompanied by the required fee as required by the Board.

483 The Commissioner Board shall require, in the application or otherwise, information relating to the matters set forth in § 46.2-1575 as grounds for refusing licenses, certificates of dealer registration, and to 484 other pertinent matters requisite for the safeguarding of the public interest, including, if the applicant is 485 a dealer in new motor vehicles with factory warranties, a copy of a current service agreement with the 486 487 manufacturer or with the distributor, requiring the applicant to perform within a reasonable distance of 488 his established place of business, the service, repair, and replacement work required of the manufacturer 489 or distributor by such vehicle warranty. All of these matters shall be considered by the Commissioner 490 *Board* in determining the fitness of the applicant to engage in the business for which he seeks a license 491 or certificate of dealer registration.

492 § 46.2-1510. Dealers required to have established place of business.

493 No license shall be issued to any motor vehicle dealer unless he has an established place of business, 494 owned or leased by him, where a substantial portion of the sales activity of the business is routinely 495 conducted and which:

496 1. Satisfies all local zoning regulations;

497 2. Has sales, service, and office space devoted exclusively to the dealership of at least 250 square **498** feet in a permanent, enclosed building not used as a residence;

499 3. Houses all records the dealer is required to maintain by § 46.2-1529;

500 4. Is equipped with a desk, chairs, filing space, a working telephone listed in the name of the 501 dealership, and working utilities including electricity and provisions for space heating;

502 5. Displays a sign and business hours as required by this chapter; and

503 6. Has contiguous space designated for the exclusive use of the dealer adequate to permit the display 504 of at least ten vehicles.

505 However, any licensee engaging in business exclusively as a dealer in used mobile homes without 506 inventory need not have contiguous display space and need have only 120 square feet of sales and office 507 space devoted exclusively to its business.

508 Any dealer licensed on or before January 1, 1989 July 1, 1995, shall be considered in compliance 509 with subdivisions 2 and 6 of this section for that licensee.

510 § 46.2-1511. Dealer-operator to have certificate of qualification.

511 No license shall be issued to any motor vehicle dealer unless the dealer-operator holds a valid 512 certificate of qualification issued by the Department Board. Such certificate shall be issued only on 513 application to the Department Board, payment of a twenty-five dollar an application fee of no more than 514 fifty dollars as determined by the Board, the successful completion of an examination prepared and 515 administered by the Department Board, and other prerequisites as set forth in this section. However, any individual who is the dealer-operator of a licensed dealer on July 1, 1989 1995, shall be entitled to such 516 517 a certificate without examination on application to the **Department** Board made on or before September 518 1, 1989 January 1, 1996.

519 The Commissioner Board may establish minimum qualifications for applicants and require applicants 520 to satisfactorily complete courses of study or other prerequisites prior to taking the examination. 521

§ 46.2-1512. Salesperson to have certificate of qualification.

522 No license shall be issued to any motor vehicle salesperson unless he holds a valid certificate of 523 qualification issued by the **Department** Board. A certificate shall be issued only on application to the 524 Department Board, payment of a twenty-five dollar the required application fee of no more than fifty 525 dollars as determined by the Board, the successful completion of an examination prepared and 526 administered by the Department Board, and other prerequisites as set forth in this section. However, any 527 individual who is licensed as a salesperson on July 1, 1989, shall be entitled to such a certificate 528 without examination on application to the Department made on or before September 1, 1989.

529 The Commissioner Board may establish minimum qualifications for applicants and require applicants 530 to satisfactorily complete courses of study or other prerequisites prior to taking the examination.

531 § 46.2-1513. Continued operation on loss of a dealer-operator holding certificate of qualification.

532 Each dealer shall notify the Department Board in writing immediately when a dealer-operator who 533 holds a certificate of qualification dies, becomes disabled, retires, is removed, or for any other cause 534 ceases to act as dealer-operator. The dealer may continue to operate for 120 days thereafter without a 535 dealer-operator and may be granted approval by the Department Board to operate for an additional 60 536 days on application and good cause shown for such delay.

537 § 46.2-1514. Action on applications; hearing on denial; denial for failure to have established place of 538 business.

539 The Commissioner Board shall act on all applications for a license or certificate of dealer registration 540 under this chapter within sixty days after receipt by either granting or refusing the application. Any 541 applicant denied a license or certificate shall, on his written request filed within thirty days, be given a 542 hearing at a time and place determined by the Commissioner Board or a person designated by him the 543 *Board.* All hearings under this section shall be public and shall be held promptly. The applicant may be 544 represented by counsel.

545 Any applicant denied a license for failure to have an established place of business as provided in 546 § 46.2-1510 may not, nor shall anyone, apply for a license for premises for which a license was denied 547 for thirty days from the date of the rejection of the application.

548 § 46.2-1515. Location to be specified; display of license; change of location.

549 The licenses of motor vehicle dealers, manufacturers, factory branches, distributors, and distributor 550 branches shall specify the location of each place of business, branch or other location occupied or to be occupied by the licensee in conducting his business and the license issued therefor shall be 551

552 conspicuously displayed at each of the premises. In the event any licensee intends to change a licensed 553 location, he shall provide the Commissioner Board thirty-days' advance written notice and a successful 554 inspection of the new location shall be required prior to approval of a change of location. The 555 Commissioner Board shall endorse the change of location on the license, without charge, if the new 556 location is within the same county or city. A change in location to another county or city shall require a 557 new license and fee. Nothing contained in this section shall prevent a licensee engaged in business 558 exclusively as a dealer in used mobile homes without inventory from conducting business in any county 559 or city other than the county or city in which his established place of business is maintained.

560 § 46.2-1516. Supplemental sales locations.

561 The Commissioner Board may issue a license for a licensed motor vehicle dealer to display for sale 562 or sell vehicles at locations other than his established place of business, subject to compliance with local 563 ordinances and requirements.

564 A permanent supplemental license may be issued for premises less than 500 yards from the dealer's established place of business, provided a sign is displayed as required for the established place of 565 business. A supplemental license shall not be required for premises otherwise contiguous to the 566 567 established place of business except for a public thoroughfare.

568 A temporary supplemental license may be issued for a period not to exceed seven days, provided that 569 the application is made fifteen days prior to the sale. A temporary supplemental license for the sale of 570 new motor vehicles may be issued only for locations within the dealer's area of responsibility, as defined in his franchise or sales agreement, unless proof is provided that all dealers in the same line-make in 571 whose areas of responsibility, as defined in their franchise or sales agreements, where the temporary 572 573 supplemental license is sought do not oppose the issuance of the temporary license.

A temporary supplemental license for sale of used motor vehicles may be issued only for the county, 574 city, or town in which the dealer is licensed pursuant to § 46.2-1510, or for a contiguous county, city, or 575 town. Temporary licenses may be issued without regard to the foregoing geographic restrictions where 576 the dealer operating under a temporary license provides notice, at least thirty days before any proposed 577 sale under a temporary license, to all other dealers licensed in the jurisdiction in which the sale will 578 579 occur of the intent to conduct a sale and permits any locally licensed dealer who wishes to do so to 580 participate in the sale on the same terms as the dealer operating under the temporary license. Any 581 locally licensed dealer who chooses to participate in the sale must obtain a temporary supplemental 582 license for the sale pursuant to this section.

583 A temporary supplemental license may be issued for the sale of boat trailers at a boat show. Any 584 such license shall be valid for no more than fourteen days. Application for such a license shall be made 585 and such license obtained prior to the opening of the show. Temporary supplemental licenses for sale of 586 boat trailers at boat shows may be issued for any boat show located anywhere in the Commonwealth 587 without notification of or approval by other boat trailer dealers. 588

§ 46.2-1517. Changes in form of ownership, make, name.

589 Any change in the form of ownership or the addition or deletion of a partner shall require a new 590 application, license, and fee.

591 Any addition or deletion of a franchise or change in the name of a dealer shall require immediate 592 notification to the Department and the Board, and the Commissioner Board shall endorse the change on 593 the license without a fee. The change of an officer or director of a corporation shall be made at the time 594 of license renewal. 595

§ 46.2-1518. Display of salesperson's license; notice on termination.

596 No salesperson shall be employed by more than one dealer, unless the dealers are owned by the 597 same person.

598 Each dealer shall post and maintain in a place conspicuous to the public a list of salespersons 599 employed.

600 Each salesperson, factory representative, and distributor representative shall carry his license when 601 engaged in his business and shall display it on request.

602 Each dealer, manufacturer, and distributor shall notify the Department Board in writing not later than the tenth day following the month of the termination of any licensed salesperson's or representative's 603 604 employment. In lieu of written notification, the license of the terminated salesperson or representative may be returned to the Department Board annotated "terminated" on the face of the license and signed 605 606 and dated by the dealer-operator, owner, or officer. 607

§ 46.2-1519. License and registration fees; additional to other licenses and fees required by law.

608 A. The fee for each license and registration year or part thereof shall be as follows determined by the 609 Board, subject to the following:

1. For motor vehicle dealers, \$100 not more than \$300 for each principal place of business, plus \$20 610 not more than \$40 for each supplemental license. 611

612 2. For manufacturers, distributors, and each factory branch and distributor branch, \$100.

613 3. For motor vehicle and rebuilder salespersons, factory representatives, and distributor

614 representatives, \$10 not more than \$50.

615 4. For motor vehicle dealers licensed in other states but not in Virginia, a registration fee of \$50.

616 5. For manufactured home dealers, a registration fee of \$50.

617 B. The licenses, registrations, and fees required by this chapter are in addition to licenses, taxes, and 618 fees imposed by other provisions of law and nothing contained in this chapter shall exempt any person 619 from any license, tax, or fee imposed by any other provision of law.

620 § 46.2-1521. Issuance, expiration, and renewal of licenses and certificates of registration.

All licenses and certificates of registration issued under this chapter shall be issued for a period of twelve consecutive months except, at the discretion of the Commissioner Board, the periods may be adjusted as is necessary to distribute the licenses and certificates as equally as practicable on a monthly basis. The expiration date shall be the last day of the twelfth month of validity or the last day of the designated month. Every license and certificate of registration shall be renewed annually on application by the licensee or registrant and by payment of fees required by law, the renewal to take effect on the first day of the succeeding month.

628 The Commissioner may offer an optional multi-year license or certificate of registration. When such option is offered and chosen by the licensee or the registrant, all annual and twelve-month fees due at the time of licensing or registration shall be multiplied by the number of years or fraction thereof the 631 license or registrant will be licensed or registered.

632 § 46.2-1527.1. Motor Vehicle Transaction Recovery Fund established.

633 All fees in this article shall be deposited in the Motor Vehicle Transaction Recovery Fund, 634 hereinafter referred to in this chapter as "the Fund." The Fund shall be a special fund in the state 635 treasury to pay claims against the Fund and for no other purpose. The Fund shall be used to satisfy 636 unpaid judgments, as provided for in § 46.2-1527.3. Any interest income shall accrue to the Fund. The 637 Commissioner Board shall maintain an accurate record of all transactions involving the Fund. The minimum balance of the Fund shall be \$250,000. However, beginning with April 8, 1994, the Fund 638 639 balance may decline to \$50,000, in order to pay current claims. Beginning on July 1, 1995, the Fund 640 balance shall be allowed to return to \$250,000.

Effective July 1, 1994, every applicant renewing a motor vehicle dealer's license shall pay, in addition to other license fees, an annual Fund fee of \$100 and every applicant for a motor vehicle salesperson's license shall pay, in addition to other license fees, an annual Fund fee of ten dollars, prior to license issue. However, annual Fund renewal fees from salespersons shall not exceed \$100 per year from an individual dealer. These fees shall be deposited in the Motor Vehicle Transaction Recovery 646 Fund.

647 Beginning with April 8, 1994, applicants for an original motor vehicle dealer's license shall pay an
648 annual Fund fee of \$250 each year for three consecutive years. During this period, the \$250 Fund fee
649 will take the place of the annual \$100 fund fee.

In addition to the \$250 annual fee, applicants for an original dealer's license shall have a \$25,000
bond pursuant to \$ 46.2-1527.2 for three consecutive years. Only those renewing licensees who have not
been the subject of a claim against their bond or against the Fund for three consecutive years shall pay
the annual \$100 fee and will no longer be required to pay the \$250 annual fee or hold the \$25,000
bond.

655 Persons licensed as motor vehicle dealers as of April 8, 1994, shall not be subject to the \$250 annual
656 fee or the bond, nor shall persons licensed as motor vehicle dealers as of April 8, 1994, who open an
657 additional dealership be subject to the \$250 annual fee or the bond.

658 At the time of the first renewal after July 1, 1994, the annual Fund fee paid by persons already659 holding a license shall be doubled from \$10 to \$20 for a salesperson and from \$100 to \$200 for a660 licensed dealer. The double fee shall be paid one time.

661 Beginning with April 8, 1994, in addition to other license fees, applicants for an original Certificate 662 of Dealer Registration or its renewal shall pay a Fund fee of \$60.

663 The Commissioner, after consulting with the Motor Vehicle Dealer's Advisory Board, may suspend 664 or reinstate collection of Fund fees.

665 The provisions of this section shall not apply to manufactured home dealers as defined in § 36-85.16.
666 On and after July 1, 1995, the provisions of this section shall apply to T&M vehicles as defined in § 46.2-1900.

668 § 46.2-1527.2. Bonding requirements for applicants for an original license.

669 Before the Commissioner *Board* shall issue to an applicant an original license, the applicant shall 670 obtain and file with the Commissioner *Board* a bond in the amount of \$25,000. The bond shall come 671 from a corporate surety licensed to do business in the Commonwealth and approved by the Attorney 672 General. The bond shall be conditioned on a statement by the applicant that the applicant will not 673 practice fraud, make any fraudulent representation, or violate any provision of this chapter in the 674 conduct of the applicant's business. The Commissioner *Board* may, without holding a hearing, suspend **698**

719

675 the dealer's license during the period that the dealer does not have a sufficient bond on file.

676 If a person suffers any of the following: (i) loss or damage in connection with the purchase of a motor vehicle by reason of fraud practiced on him or fraudulent representation made to him by a 677 678 licensed motor vehicle dealer or one of the dealer's salespersons acting within his scope of employment, 679 (ii) loss or damage by reason of the violation by a dealer or salesperson of any provision of this chapter 680 in connection with the purchase of a motor vehicle, or (iii) loss or damage resulting from a breach of an 681 extended service contract entered into on or after the effective date of this act, as defined by § 59.1-435, **682** that person shall have a claim against the dealer and the dealer's bond, and may recover such damages 683 as may be awarded to such person by final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction against the dealer as a proximate result of such loss or damage up to but not exceeding the amount of the bond, **684** from such surety, who shall be subrogated to the rights of such person against the dealer or salesperson. **685** The liability of such surety shall be limited to actual damages, and shall not include any punitive 686 **687** damages or attorneys' fees assessed against the dealer or salesperson.

688 In those cases in which a dealer's surety shall be liable pursuant to this section, the surety shall be liable only for the first \$25,000 in claims against the dealer. Thereafter, the Fund shall be liable for the 689 690 next \$25,000 in those cases in which the Fund itself may be liable. The aggregate liability of the 691 dealer's surety to any and all persons, regardless of the number of claims made against the bond or the **692** number of years the bond remains in force, shall in no event exceed \$25,000.

693 The dealer's surety shall notify the Department Board when a claim is made against a dealer's bond, 694 when a claim is paid and when the bond is cancelled. Such notification shall include the amount of a 695 claim and the circumstances surrounding the claim. Notification of cancellation shall include the effective date and reason for cancellation. The bond may be cancelled as to future liability by the 696 697 dealer's surety upon thirty days' notice to the Department Board.

§ 46.2-1527.3. Recovery from Fund, generally.

Whenever any person is awarded a final judgment in a court of competent jurisdiction in the 699 700 Commonwealth for (i) any loss or damage in connection with the purchase of a motor vehicle by reason 701 of any fraud practiced on him or fraudulent representation made to him by a licensed or registered 702 motor vehicle dealer or one of a dealer's salespersons acting for the dealer or within the scope of his 703 employment, or (ii) any loss or damage by reason of the violation by a dealer or salesperson of any of 704 the provisions of this chapter in connection with the purchase of a motor vehicle, on or after January 1, 705 1989, the judgment creditor may file a verified claim with the Commissioner Board, requesting payment 706 from the Fund of the amount unpaid on the judgment. The claim shall be filed with the Commissioner 707 Board no sooner than thirty days and no later than twelve months after the judgment becomes final.

708 On or after the effective date of this act, the Commissioner Board shall only consider for payment, 709 claims submitted by retail purchasers of motor vehicles, and for purchases of motor vehicles by licensed 710 or registered motor vehicle dealers who contribute to the Fund. 711

§ 46.2-1527.4. Opportunity to intervene.

Any action instituted by a person against a licensed or registered dealer or a salesperson, which may 712 become a claim against the Fund, shall be served to the Commissioner Board in the manner prescribed 713 714 by law. All subsequent pleadings and documents shall also be served to the Commissioner Board. Included in such service shall be an affidavit stating all acts constituting fraud or violations of this 715 716 chapter. Upon service of process, the Commissioner Board, or duly authorized representative, shall have 717 the right to request leave of the court to intervene. The person shall submit such pleadings or documents to the Commissioner Board by certified mail or the equivalent. 718

§ 46.2-1527.5. Limitations on recovery from Fund.

720 The maximum claim of one judgment creditor against the Fund based on an unpaid final judgment 721 arising out of any loss or damage by reason of a claim submitted under § 46.2-1527.2 or § 46.2-1527.3 722 involving a single transaction, shall be limited to \$15,000, regardless of the amount of the unpaid final 723 judgment of one judgment creditor.

724 The aggregate of claims against the Fund based on unpaid final judgments arising out of any loss or 725 damage by reason of a claim submitted under § 46.2-1527.3 involving more than one transaction shall be limited to \$50,000, regardless of the total amounts of the unpaid final judgments of judgment 726 727 creditors.

728 However, aggregate claims against the Fund under § 46.2-1527.2 shall be limited to \$25,000 and 729 then only after the dealer's \$25,000 bond has been exhausted.

730 If a claim has been made against the Fund, and the Commissioner Board has reason to believe that 731 there may be additional claims against the Fund from other transactions involving the same licensee or 732 registrant, the Commissioner Board may withhold any payment from the Fund involving the licensee or 733 registrant for a period not to exceed the end of the relevant license or registration period. After this period, if the aggregate of claims against the licensee or registrant exceeds \$50,000, a total of \$50,000 734 735 shall be prorated among the claimants and paid from the Fund in proportion to the amounts of their 736 unpaid final judgments against the licensee or registrant.

737 However, claims against motor vehicle dealers and salespersons under § 46.2-1527.2 shall be prorated
738 when the aggregate exceeds \$25,000. Claims shall be prorated only after the dealer's \$25,000 bond has
739 been exhausted.

740 On receipt of a verified claim filed against the Fund, the Commissioner Board shall forthwith notify 741 the licensee or registrant who is the subject of the unpaid judgment that a verified claim has been filed 742 and that the licensee or registrant should satisfy the judgment debt. If the judgment debt is not fully 743 satisfied thirty days following the date of the notification by the Commissioner Board, the 744 Commissioner Board shall make payment from the Fund subject to the other limitations contained in 745 this article.

Excluded from the amount of any unpaid final judgment on which a claim against the Fund is basedshall be any sums representing interest, or punitive or exemplary damages.

748 If at any time the Fund is insufficient to fully satisfy any claims or claim filed with the 749 Commissioner Board and authorized by this article, the Commissioner Board shall pay such claims, 750 claim, or portion thereof to the claimants in the order that the claims were filed with the Commissioner 751 Board. However, claims by retail purchasers shall take precedence over other claims.

752 § 46.2-1527.6. Assignment of claimant's rights to the Board; payment of claims.

753 Subject to the provisions of this article and on the claimant's execution and delivery to the 754 Commissioner Board of an assignment to the Department Board of his rights against the licensee or 755 registrant, to the extent he received satisfaction from the Fund, the Commissioner Board shall pay the 756 claimant from the Fund the amount of the unpaid final judgment.

757 § 46.2-1527.7. Revocation of license or certificate of registration on payment from the Fund.

758 On payment by the Commissioner Board to a claimant from the Fund as provided in this article, the 759 Commissioner Board shall immediately notify the licensee or registrant in writing of the Department's 760 Board's payment to the claimant and request full reimbursement be made to the Department Board within thirty days of the notification. Failure to reimburse the Department Board in full within the 761 specified period shall cause the Commissioner Board to immediately revoke the license or certificate of 762 763 the dealer or the license of a salesperson whose fraud, fraudulent representation, or violation of this 764 chapter resulted in this payment. Any person whose license or certificate is revoked shall not be eligible 765 to apply for a license or certificate as a motor vehicle dealer or a license as a salesperson until the 766 person has repaid in full the amount paid from the Fund on his account, plus interest at the rate of eight 767 percent per year from the date of payment.

768 § 46.2-1527.8. No waiver by the Board of disciplinary action against licensee or registrant.

769 Nothing contained in this article shall limit the authority of the Department Board to take 770 disciplinary action against any licensee or registrant for any violation of this chapter or any regulation 771 promulgated thereunder, nor shall full repayment of the amount paid from the Fund on a licensee's or 772 registrant's account nullify or modify the effect of any disciplinary action against that licensee or 773 registrant for any violation.

774 § 46.2-1528. Examination or audit of licensee; costs.

The Commissioner Board or authorized representatives of the Department Board may examine, during the posted business hours, the records required to be maintained by this chapter. If a licensee is found to have violated this chapter or any order of the Commissioner Board, the actual cost of the examination shall be paid by the licensee so examined within thirty days after demand therefor by the Commissioner Board. The Commissioner Board may maintain an action for the recovery of these costs in any court of competent jurisdiction.

781 § 46.2-1529. Dealer records.

782 All dealer records regarding employees; lists of vehicles in inventory for sale, resale, or on 783 consignment; vehicle purchases, sales, trades, and transfers of ownership; collections of taxes; titling, 784 uninsured motor vehicle, and registration fees; odometer disclosure statements; records of permanent 785 dealer registration plates assigned to the dealer and temporary transport plates and temporary certificates 786 of ownership; and other records required by the Department or the Board shall be maintained on the 787 premises of the licensed location. The Commissioner Board may, on written request by a dealer, permit 788 his records to be maintained at a location other than the premises of the licensed location for good cause 789 shown. All dealer records shall be preserved in original form for a period of five years in a manner that 790 permits systematic retrieval. Certain records may be maintained on a computerized record-keeping 791 system with the prior approval of the Commissioner Board.

792 § 46.2-1530. Buyer's order.

A. Every motor vehicle dealer shall complete, in duplicate, a buyer's order for each sale or exchange of a motor vehicle. A copy of the buyer's order form shall be made available to a prospective buyer during the negotiating phase of a sale and prior to any sales agreement. The completed original shall be retained for a period of four years in accordance with § 46.2-1529, and a duplicate copy shall be delivered to the purchaser at the time of sale or exchange. A buyer's order shall include:

798 1. The name and address of the person to whom the vehicle was sold or traded.

799 2. The date of the sale or trade.

800 3. The name and address of the motor vehicle dealer selling or trading the vehicle.

801 4. The make, model year, vehicle identification number and body style of the vehicle.

802 5. The sale price of the vehicle.

6. The amount of any cash deposit made by the buver. 803

804 7. A description of any vehicle used as a trade-in and the amount credited the buyer for the trade-in. 805 The description of the trade-in shall be the same as outlined in subdivision 4 of this subsection.

806 8. The amount of any sales and use tax, title fee, uninsured motor vehicle fee, registration fee, or other fee required by law for which the buyer is responsible and the dealer has collected. Each tax and 807 808 fee shall be individually listed and identified. 809

9. The net balance due at settlement.

810 10. Any item designated as "processing fee," and the amount charged by the dealer, if any, for processing the transaction. As used in this section processing includes obtaining title and license plates 811 812 for the purchaser.

11. Any item designated as "dealer's business license tax," and the amount charged by the dealer, if 813 814 any.

815 12. For sales involving dealer-arranged financing, the following notice, printed in bold type no less 816 than ten-point: "THIS SALE IS CONDITIONED UPON APPROVAL OF YOUR PROPOSED RETAIL 817 INSTALLMENT SALE CONTRACT AS SUBMITTED TO OR THROUGH THE DEALER. IF THAT PROPOSED RETAIL INSTALLMENT SALE CONTRACT IS NOT APPROVED UNDER THE 818 819 TERMS AGREED TO WITH THE DEALER, YOU MAY CANCEL THIS SALE AND ANY DOWN PAYMENT AND/OR TRADE-IN YOU SUBMITTED WILL BE RETURNED TO YOU, PROVIDED 820 THAT ANY VEHICLE DELIVERED TO YOU BY THE DEALER PURSUANT TO THIS AGREEMENT IS RETURNED TO THE DEALER IN THE SAME CONDITION AS DELIVERED TO 821 822 YOU, NORMAL WEAR AND TEAR EXCEPTED, WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS OF WRITTEN 823 824 OR ORAL NOTICE TO YOU OF THE CREDIT DENIAL.'

825 If the transaction does not include a policy of motor vehicle liability insurance, the seller shall stamp 826 or mark on the face of the bill of sale in boldface letters no smaller than eighteen point type the 827 following words: "No Liability Insurance Included." 828

A completed buyer's order when signed by both buyer and seller may constitute a bill of sale.

829 B. The Commissioner Board shall approve a buyer's order form and each dealer shall file with each 830 license application, or renewal, its buyer's order form, on which the processing fee amount is stated.

831 C. If a processing fee is charged, that fact and the amount of the processing fee shall be disclosed by 832 the dealer. Disclosure shall be by placing a clear and conspicuous sign in the public sales area of the 833 dealership. The sign shall be no smaller than eight and one-half inches by eleven inches and the print 834 shall be no smaller than one-half inch, and in a form as approved by the Commissioner Board. 835 § 46.2-1532. Odometer disclosure.

836 Every motor vehicle dealer shall comply with all requirements of the Federal Odometer Act and 837 § 46.2-629 by completing the appropriate odometer mileage statement form for each vehicle purchased, 838 sold or transferred, or in any other way acquired or disposed of. Odometer disclosure statements shall be 839 maintained by the dealer in a manner that permits systematic retrieval. Any person found guilty of 840 violating any of the provision of this section shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. 841

§ 46.2-1533. Business hours.

842 Each motor vehicle dealer shall be open for business a minimum of twenty hours per week, at least 843 ten of which shall be between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except that 844 the Commissioner *Board*, on written request by a dealer, may modify these requirements for good cause. Each licensee engaged in business exclusively as a dealer in used mobile homes without inventory shall 845 846 be open for business a minimum of two consecutive hours per week between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 847 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The dealer's hours shall be posted and maintained conspicuously on 848 or near the main entrance of each place of business.

849 Each dealer shall include his business hours on the original and every renewal application for a 850 license, and changes to these hours shall be immediately filed with the Department. 851

§ 46.2-1536. Coercing purchaser to provide insurance coverage on motor vehicle.

852 It shall be unlawful for any dealer or salesperson or any employee of a dealer or representative of 853 either to coerce or offer anything of value to any purchaser of a motor vehicle to provide any type of 854 insurance coverage on the motor vehicle.

Nothing in this section shall prohibit a dealer from requiring that a retail customer obtain automobile 855 856 physical damage insurance to protect collateral secured by an installment sales contract. Any person 857 found guilty of violating any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

858 § 46.2-1539. Inspection of vehicles required.

859 No person required to be licensed as a dealer under this chapter shall sell at retail any motor vehicle

which is intended by the buyer for use on the public highways, and which is required to comply with 860 the safety inspection requirements provided in Article 21 (§ 46.2-1157 et seq.) of Chapter 10 of this title 861 862 unless between the time the vehicle comes into the possession of the dealer and the time it is sold at retail it is inspected by an official safety inspection station. In the event the vehicle is found not to be in 863 864 compliance with all safety inspection requirements, the dealer shall either take steps to bring it into 865 compliance or shall furnish any buyer intending it for use on the public highway a written disclosure, 866 prior to sale, that the vehicle did not pass a safety inspection. Any person found guilty of violating any 867 of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

868

§ 46.2-1542. Temporary certificates of ownership.

869 A. Notwithstanding §§ 46.2-617 and 46.2-628, whenever a dealer licensed by the Department Board 870 sells and delivers to a purchaser a motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer, and is unable at the time of the 871 sale to deliver to the purchaser the certificate of title or certificate of origin for the vehicle because the 872 certificate of title or certificate of origin is lost or is being detained by another in possession or for any 873 other reason beyond the dealer's control, the dealer shall execute, on forms provided by the 874 Commissioner, a temporary certificate of ownership. The certificate shall bear its date of issuance, the 875 name and address of the purchaser, the identification number of the vehicle, the registration number to 876 be used temporarily on the vehicle, the name of the state in which the vehicle is to be registered, the 877 name and address of the person from whom the dealer acquired the vehicle, and whatever other 878 information may be required by the Commissioner. A copy of the temporary certificate and a bona fide 879 bill of sale shall be delivered to the purchaser and shall be in the possession of the purchaser at all 880 times when operating the vehicle. One copy of the certificate shall be retained by the dealer and shall be 881 subject to inspection at any time by the Department's agents. The original of the certificate shall be 882 forwarded by the dealer to the Department directly on issuance to the purchaser if the vehicle is to be 883 titled outside the Commonwealth, along with application for title. The issuance of a temporary certificate **884** of ownership to a purchaser pursuant to this section shall have the effect of vesting ownership to the 885 vehicle in the purchaser for the period that the certificate remains effective.

886 B. A temporary certificate of ownership issued by a dealer to a purchaser pursuant to this section 887 shall expire on receipt by the purchaser of a certificate of title to the vehicle issued by the Department 888 in the name of the purchaser, but in no event shall any temporary certificate of ownership issued under 889 this section be effective for more than thirty days from the date of its issuance. In the event that the 890 dealer fails to produce the old certificate of title or certificate of origin to the vehicle or fails to apply 891 for a replacement certificate of title pursuant to § 46.2-632, thereby preventing delivery to the 892 Department or purchaser before the expiration of the temporary certificate of ownership, the purchaser's 893 ownership of the vehicle may terminate and the purchaser shall have the right to return the vehicle to 894 the dealer and obtain a full refund of all payments made toward the purchase of the vehicle, less any 895 damage to the vehicle incurred while ownership was vested in the purchaser, and less a reasonable 896 amount for use not to exceed one-half the amount allowed per mile by the Internal Revenue Service, as 897 provided by regulation, revenue procedure, or revenue ruling promulgated pursuant to § 162 of the 898 Internal Revenue Code, for use of a personal vehicle for business purposes.

899 C. Notwithstanding subsection B of this section, if the dealer fails to deliver the certificate of title or 900 certificate of origin to the purchaser within thirty days, a second temporary certificate of ownership may 901 be issued. However, the dealer shall, not later than the expiration of the first temporary certificate, 902 deliver to the Department an application for title, copy of the bill of sale, all required fees and a written 903 statement of facts describing the dealer's efforts to secure the certificate of title or certificate of origin to **904** the vehicle. On receipt of the title application with attachments as described herein, the Department shall 905 record the purchaser's ownership of the vehicle and may authorize the dealer to issue a second thirty-day 906 temporary certificate of ownership. If the dealer does not produce the certificate of title or certificate of 907 origin to the vehicle before the expiration of the second temporary certificate, the purchaser's ownership 908 of the vehicle may terminate and he shall have the right to return the vehicle as provided in subsection 909 B of this section.

910 D. If the dealer is unable to produce the certificate of title or certificate of origin to the vehicle 911 within the sixty-day period from the date of issuance of the first temporary certificate, the Department 912 may extend temporary ownership for an additional period of up to ninety days, provided the dealer 913 makes application in the format required by the Department. If the dealer does not produce the 914 certificate of title or certificate of origin to the vehicle before the expiration of the additional ninety-day 915 period, the purchaser's ownership of the vehicle may terminate and he shall have the right to return the 916 vehicle as provided in subsection B of this section.

917 E. The Commissioner, on determining that the provisions of this section or the directions of the
918 Department are not being complied with by a dealer, may suspend, after a hearing, the right of the
919 dealer to issue temporary certificates of ownership.

920 § 46.2-1543. Use of old license plates and registration number on another vehicle.

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921 An owner who sells or transfers a registered motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer may have the 922 license plates and the registration number transferred to another vehicle titled in the owner's name 923 according to the provisions of Chapter 6 of this title, which is in a like vehicle category as specified in 924 § 46.2-694 and which requires an identical registration fee, on application to the Department 925 accompanied by a fee of two dollars or, if the other vehicle requires a greater registration fee than that 926 for which the license plates were assigned, on the payment of a fee of two dollars and the amount of 927 the difference in registration fees between the two vehicles, all such transfers to be in accordance with 928 the regulations of the Department. All fees collected under this section shall be paid by the Commissioner into the state treasury and shall be set aside as a special fund to be used to meet the 929 930 expenses of the Department. For purposes of this section, a motor vehicle dealer licensed by the 931 Department Board may be authorized to act as an agent of the Department for the purpose of receiving, processing, and approving applications from its customers for assignment of license plates and 932 933 registration numbers pursuant to this section, using the forms and following the procedures prescribed by 934 the Department. The Commissioner, on determining that the provisions of this section or the directions 935 of the Department are not being complied with by a dealer, may suspend, after a hearing, the authority 936 of the dealer to receive, process, and approve the assignment of license plates and registration numbers 937 pursuant to this section.

938 § 46.2-1544. Certificate of title for dealers.

939 Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, every dealer shall obtain, on the purchase of each 940 vehicle, a certificate of title issued to the dealer or shall obtain an assignment or reassignment of a 941 certificate of title for each vehicle purchased within two full business days, except that a certificate of 942 title shall not be required for any new vehicle to be sold as such. Any person found guilty of violating 943 any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. 944

§ 46.2-1545. Termination of business.

945 No dealer, unless his license has been suspended, revoked, or canceled, shall cease business without 946 a thirty-day prior notification to the Department and the Board. On cessation of the business, the dealer 947 shall immediately surrender to the Department Board the dealer's certificate of license, all salespersons' 948 licenses, and any other materials furnished by the Board. The dealer shall also immediately surrender to 949 the Department all dealer and temporary license plates, all fees and taxes collected, and any other materials furnished by the Department. After cessation of business, the former licensee shall continue to 950 951 maintain and make available to the Department and the Board dealer records as set forth in this chapter. 952 § 46.2-1546. Registration of dealers; fees.

953 Every manufacturer, distributor, or dealer, before he commences to operate vehicles in his inventory 954 for sale or resale, shall apply to the Commissioner for a dealer's certificate of vehicle registration and 955 license plates. For the purposes of this article, a vehicle is in inventory when it is owned by or assigned 956 to a dealer and is offered and available for sale or resale. All dealer's certificates of vehicle registration 957 and license plates issued under this section may, at the discretion of the Commissioner, be placed in a system of staggered issue to distribute the work of issuing vehicle registration certificates and license 958 959 plates as uniformly as practicable throughout the year. Dealerships which sold fewer than twenty-five vehicles during the last twelve months of the preceding license year shall be eligible to receive no more 960 961 than two dealer's license plates; dealerships which sold at least twenty-five but fewer than fifty vehicles 962 during the last twelve months of the preceding license year shall be eligible to receive no more than 963 four dealer's license plates. However, dealerships which sold fifty or more vehicles during their current license year may apply for additional license plates not to exceed four times the number of licensed 964 965 salespersons employed by that dealership. Dealerships which sold fifty or more vehicles during the last 966 twelve months of the preceding license year shall be eligible to receive a number of dealer's license plates not to exceed four times the number of licensed salespersons employed by that dealership. A new 967 968 applicant for a dealership shall be eligible to receive a number of dealer's license plates not to exceed 969 four times the number of licensed salespersons employed by that dealership. For the purposes of this 970 article, a salesperson or employee shall be considered to be employed only if he (i) works for the 971 dealership at least twenty-five hours each week on a regular basis and (ii) is compensated for this work. 972 All salespersons' or employees' employment records shall be retained in accordance with the provisions 973 of § 46.2-1529. A salesperson shall not be considered employed, within the meaning of this section, if 974 he is an independent contractor as defined by the United States Internal Revenue Code. The fee for the 975 issuance of dealer's license plates shall be thirty dollars per year for the first two dealer's license plates 976 and thirteen dollars per year for determined by the Board, but not more than \$30 per license plate; 977 however, the fee for the first two dealer's plates shall not be less than twenty-four dollars and the fee 978 for additional dealer's license plates shall not be less than ten dollars and forty cents each. For the first 979 two dealer's license plates issued by the Department to a dealer, twenty-four dollars shall be deposited 980 into the Transportation Trust Fund and the remainder shall be deposited into the Motor Vehicle Dealer 981 Fund. For each additional dealer's license plate issued to a dealer, ten dollars and forty cents shall be 982 deposited into the Transportation Trust Fund and the remainder shall be deposited into the Motor 983 Vehicle Dealer Fund. However, for motorcycle dealers, the fee shall be nine dollars per year for each
 984 dealer's license plate.

985 § 46.2-1547. License under this chapter prerequisite to receiving dealer's license plates; insurance986 required; Commissioner may revoke plates.

987 No motor vehicle manufacturer, distributor, or dealer, unless licensed under this chapter, nor any 988 motor vehicle manufacturer or distributor, unless licensed under Chapter 19 (§ 46.2-1900 et seq.) of this 989 *title*, shall be entitled to receive or maintain any dealer's license plates. It shall be unlawful to use or 990 permit the use of any dealer's license plates for which there is no automobile liability insurance coverage 991 or a certificate of self-insurance as defined in § 46.2-368 on any motor vehicle. No dealer's license 992 plates shall be issued unless the dealer certifies to the Department that there is automobile liability 993 insurance coverage or a certificate of self-insurance with respect to each dealer's license plate to be 994 issued. Such automobile liability insurance or a certificate of self-insurance shall be maintained as to 995 each dealer's license plate for so long as the registration for the dealer's license plate remains valid 996 without regard to whether the plate is actually being used on a vehicle. If insurance or a certificate of 997 self-insurance is not so maintained, the dealer's license plate shall be surrendered to the Department. The **998** Commissioner shall revoke any dealer's license plate as to which there is no insurance or a certificate of 999 self-insurance. The Commissioner may also revoke any dealer's license plate that has been used in any 1000 way not authorized by the provisions of this title.

1001 § 46.2-1548. Transferable dealer's license plates.

1002 In lieu of registering each vehicle of a type described in this section, a manufacturer, distributor, or 1003 dealer owning and operating any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer on any highway may obtain a 1004 dealer's license plate from the Department, on application therefor on the prescribed form and on 1005 payment of the fees required by law. These license plates shall be attached to each vehicle as required 1006 by subsection A of § 46.2-711. Each plate shall bear a distinctive number, and the name of the Commonwealth, which may be abbreviated, together with the word "dealer" or a distinguishing symbol 1007 1008 indicating that the plate is issued to a manufacturer, distributor, or dealer. Month and year decals 1009 indicating the date of expiration shall be affixed to each license plate. Any license plates so issued may, during the calendar year or years for which they have been issued, be transferred from one motor 1010 1011 vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer to another, used or operated by the manufacturer, distributor, or dealer, 1012 who shall keep a written record of the motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer on which the dealer's license 1013 plates are used. This record shall be in a format approved by the Commissioner and shall be open to 1014 inspection by any law-enforcement officer or any officer or employee of the Department.

1015 Display of a transferable manufacturer's, distributor's, or dealer's license plate or plates on a motor **1016** vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer shall subject the vehicle to the requirements of §§ 46.2-1038 and **1017** 46.2-1056.

1018 All manufacturer's, distributor's, and dealer's license plates shall be issued for a period of twelve 1019 consecutive months except, at the discretion of the Commissioner, the periods may be adjusted as may 1020 be necessary to distribute the registrations as equally as practicable on a monthly basis. The expiration 1021 date shall be the last day of the twelfth month of validity or the last day of the designated month. Every 1022 license plate shall be renewed annually on application by the owner and by payment of fees required by 1023 law, such renewal to take effect on the first day of the succeeding month.

1024 The Commissioner may offer an optional multi-year license plate registration to manufacturers, 1025 distributors, and dealers licensed pursuant to this chapter provided that he has chosen to offer optional 1026 multi-year licensing to such persons pursuant to § 46.2-1521. When such option is offered and chosen 1027 by the licensee, all annual and twelve-month fees due at the time of registration shall be multiplied by 1028 the number of years or fraction thereof the licensee will be licensed pursuant to § 46.2-1521.

1029 § 46.2-1549. Dealer's license plates to distinguish between various types of dealers.

1030 The Commissioner shall provide for the issuance of appropriate franchised or independent dealer's 1031 license plates so as to distinguish between:

- 1032 1. Factory dealers;
- 1033 2. Dealers selling passenger vehicles, trucks or tractor trucks;
- 1034 3. Trailer dealers;
- 1035 4. Motor home dealers; and
- 1036 5. Motorcycle dealers.
- **1037** § 46.2-1550. Use of dealer's license plates, generally.

1038 Dealer's license plates may be used on vehicles in the inventory of licensed motor vehicle 1039 manufacturers, distributors, and dealers in the Commonwealth when operated on the highways of 1040 Virginia by dealers, their spouses, or employees of manufacturers, distributors, and dealers as permitted 1041 in this article. Except as otherwise explicitly permitted in this article, it shall be unlawful for any dealer 1042 to cause or permit: (i) use of dealer's license plates on vehicles other than those held in inventory for 1043 sale or resale; (ii) dealer's license plates to be lent, leased, rented, or placed at the disposal of any HB232

1044 persons other than those permitted by this article to use dealer's license plates; and (iii) use of dealer's 1045 license plates on any vehicle of a type for which their use is not authorized by this article. It shall be 1046 unlawful for any dealer to cause or permit dealer's license plates to be used on: 1047

1. Motor vehicles such as tow trucks, wrecking cranes, or other service motor vehicles;

1048 2. Vehicles used to deliver or transport (i) other vehicles; (ii) portions of vehicles; (iii) vehicle 1049 components, parts, or accessories; or (iv) fuel;

1050 3. Courtesy vehicles; or

1051 4. Vehicles used in conjunction with any other business.

1052 A dealer may permit his license plates to be used in the operation of a motor vehicle, trailer, or 1053 semitrailer (i) by any person whom the dealer reasonably believes to be a bona fide prospective purchaser who is either accompanied by a licensed salesperson or has the written permission of the 1054 1055 dealer, or (ii) when the plates are being used by a customer on a vehicle owned by the dealer in whose 1056 repair shop the customer's vehicle is being repaired. The dealer shall issue to the prospective purchaser 1057 or customer whose vehicle is being repaired a certificate on forms provided by the Department, a copy 1058 of which shall be retained by the dealer and open at all times to the inspection of the Commissioner or 1059 any of the officers or agents of the Department. The certificate shall be in the immediate possession of 1060 the person operating or authorized to operate the vehicle. The certificate shall entitle the person to 1061 operate with dealer's license plates for a specific period of no more than five days. Not more than two 1062 certificates may be issued by a dealer to the same person for successive periods.

1063 § 46.2-1551. Use of dealer's license plates or temporary transport plates on certain vehicles traveling 1064 from one establishment to another for purpose of having special equipment installed.

Notwithstanding the provisions of § 46.2-1550, dealer's license plates or temporary transport plates 1065 may be used on tractor trucks, or trucks, trailers, or semitrailers for the purpose of delivering these 1066 vehicles to another establishment for the purpose of having a fifth wheel, body, or any special 1067 1068 permanently mounted equipment installed on the vehicles, and for the purpose of returning the vehicle to 1069 the dealer whose plates are attached to the tractor truck, or truck, trailer, or semitrailer, whether or not 1070 the title to the vehicle has been retained by the dealer, and no other license, permit, warrant, exemption 1071 card, or classification plate from any other agency of the Commonwealth shall be required under these 1072 circumstances. No other statute or regulation in conflict with the provisions of this section shall be 1073 applicable to the extent of the conflict. This section shall also apply to trips into the Commonwealth by a vehicle owned and operated outside the Commonwealth to an establishment within the Commonwealth 1074 1075 and to the return trip of that vehicle from the Commonwealth to another state, provided the operator of 1076 the vehicle carries on his person when so operating a bill of sale for the fifth wheel, body, or special 1077 equipment. 1078

§ 46.2-1553. Operation without license plate prohibited.

1079 No manufacturer or distributor of or dealer in motor vehicles, trailers, or semitrailers shall cause or 1080 permit any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer owned by him to be operated or moved on a public 1081 highway without there being displayed on the motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer a license plate or plates issued to him, either under § 46.2-711 or under § 46.2-1548, except as otherwise authorized in 1082 1083 §§ 46.2-733, 46.2-1554 and 46.2-1555.

1084 § 46.2-1554. Movement by manufacturer to place of shipment or delivery.

1085 Any manufacturer of motor vehicles, trailers, or semitrailers may operate or move or cause to be 1086 moved or operated on the highways for a distance of no more than twenty-five miles motor vehicles, 1087 trailers, or semitrailers, from the factory where manufactured or assembled to a railway depot, vessel, or 1088 place of shipment or delivery, without registering them and without license plates attached thereto, under a written permit first obtained from the local law-enforcement authorities having jurisdiction over the 1089 1090 highways and on displaying in plain sight on each motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer a placard bearing 1091 the name and address of the manufacturer authorizing or directing the movement.

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§ 46.2-1555. Movement by dealers to salesrooms.

1093 Any dealer in motor vehicles, trailers, or semitrailers may operate or move, or cause to be operated 1094 or moved, any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer on the highways for a distance of no more than 1095 twenty-five miles from a vessel, railway depot, warehouse, or any place of shipment or from a factory 1096 where manufactured or assembled to a salesroom, warehouse, or place of shipment or transshipment 1097 without registering them and without license plates attached thereto, under a written permit first obtained 1098 from the local law-enforcement authorities having jurisdiction over the highways and on displaying in 1099 plain sight on each motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer a placard bearing the name and address of the 1100 dealer authorizing or directing the movement.

1101 § 46.2-1556. Operation under foreign dealer's license.

1102 It shall be unlawful, except as provided for by reciprocal agreement, for any person to operate a 1103 motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer or for the owner thereof to permit a motor vehicle, trailer, or 1104 semitrailer to be operated in the Commonwealth on a foreign dealer's license, unless the operation of the 1105 motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer on the license is specifically authorized by the Commissioner.

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1106 § 46.2-1565.1. Penalties.

1107 Any person violating any of the provisions of this article shall be guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor. 1108 Any summons issued for any violation of any provision of this article relating to use or misuse of 1109 temporary license plates shall be served upon the dealership to whom the plates were issued or to the 1110 person expressly permitting the unlawful use, or upon the operator of the motor vehicle if the plates are 1111

used contrary to the use authorized pursuant to § 46.2-1561.

1112 § 46.2-1566. Filing of franchises.

1113 A. Each It shall be the responsibility of each motor vehicle manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, 1114 distributor branch, or subsidiary thereof shall to file with the Commissioner by certified mail a true copy 1115 of each new, amended, modified, or different form or addendum offered to more than one dealer which 1116 affects the rights, responsibilities, or obligations of the parties of a franchise or sales, service, or sales 1117 and service agreement to be offered to a motor vehicle dealer or prospective motor vehicle dealer in the 1118 Commonwealth no later than sixty days prior to the date the franchise or sales agreement is offered. In 1119 no event shall a new, amended, modified, or different form of franchise or sales, service, or sales and 1120 service agreement be offered a motor vehicle dealer in the Commonwealth until the form has been 1121 approved determined by the Commissioner as not containing terms inconsistent with the provisions of 1122 this chapter. At the time a filing is made with the Commissioner pursuant to this section, the 1123 manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor branch, or subsidiary shall also give written notice 1124 together with a copy of the papers so filed to the affected dealer or dealers.

1125 B. The Department shall inform the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor branch, or 1126 subsidiary and the dealer or dealers or other parties named in the agreement of a preliminary 1127 recommendation as to the consistency of the agreement with the provisions of this chapter. If any of the 1128 parties involved have comments on the preliminary recommendation, they must be submitted to the 1129 Commissioner within thirty days of receiving the preliminary recommendation. The Commissioner shall render his decision within fifteen days of receiving comments from the parties involved. If the Commissioner does not receive comments within the thirty-day time period, he shall make the final 1130 1131 1132 determination as to the consistency of the agreement with the provisions of this chapter.

1133 § 46.2-1568. Coercion of retail dealer by manufacturer or distributor with respect to retail installment 1134 sales contracts prohibited.

1135 A. It shall be unlawful for any manufacturer or distributor, or any officer, agent, or representative of 1136 either, to coerce or attempt to coerce any retail motor vehicle dealer or prospective retail motor vehicle 1137 dealer in the Commonwealth to sell, assign, or transfer any retail installment sales contract obtained by 1138 the dealer in connection with the sale by him in the Commonwealth of motor vehicles manufactured or 1139 sold by the manufacturer or distributor, to a specified finance company or class of finance companies or 1140 to any other specified persons by any of the following:

1141 1. By any statement, suggestion, promise, or threat that the manufacturer or distributor will in any 1142 manner benefit or injure the dealer, whether the statement, suggestion, threat, or promise is express or 1143 implied or made directly or indirectly.

2. By any act that will benefit or injure the dealer.

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1145 3. By any contract, or any express or implied offer of contract, made directly or indirectly to the 1146 dealer, for handling the motor vehicle on the condition that the dealer sell, assign, or transfer his retail 1147 installment sales contract on the vehicle, in the Commonwealth, to a specified finance company or class 1148 of finance companies or to any other specified person.

1149 4. By any express or implied statement or representation made directly or indirectly that the dealer is 1150 under any obligation whatsoever to sell, assign, or transfer any of his retail sales contracts in the 1151 Commonwealth on motor vehicles manufactured or sold by the manufacturer or distributor to a finance 1152 company, or class of finance companies, or other specified person, because of any relationship or 1153 affiliation between the manufacturer or distributor and the finance company or companies or the 1154 specified person or persons.

1155 B. Any such statements, threats, promises, acts, contracts, or offers of contracts, when their effect 1156 may be to lessen or eliminate competition or tend to create a monopoly, are declared unfair trade 1157 practices and unfair methods of competition and are prohibited.

1158 C. Any person found guilty of violating any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a Class 1159 1 misdemeanor.

1160 § 46.2-1569. Other coercion of dealers; transfer, grant, succession to and cancellation of dealer 1161 franchises; delivery of vehicles, parts, and accessories.

1162 It Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement, it shall be unlawful for any manufacturer, 1163 factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch, or any field representative, officer, agent, or their 1164 representatives:

1165 1. To coerce or attempt to coerce any dealer to accept delivery of any motor vehicle or vehicles, 1166 parts or accessories therefor, or any other commodities, which have not been ordered by the dealer.

1167 2. To coerce or attempt to coerce any dealer to enter into an agreement with the manufacturer,
1168 factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch, or representative thereof, or do any other act unfair to
1169 the dealer, by threatening to cancel any franchise existing between the manufacturer, factory branch,
1170 distributor, distributor branch, or representative thereof and the dealer.

1171 2a. To coerce or attempt to coerce any dealer to join, contribute to, or affiliate with any advertising association.

1173 3. Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise, to To prevent or refuse to approve the sale or transfer 1174 of the ownership of a dealership by the sale of the business, stock transfer, or otherwise, or the transfer, sale, or assignment of a dealer franchise, or a change in the executive management or principal operator 1175 1176 of the dealership, unless the franchisor provides written notice to the dealer of its objection and the 1177 reasons therefor at least thirty days prior to the proposed effective date of the transfer, sale, assignment, 1178 or change. No such objection shall be effective to prevent the sale, transfer, assignment, or change if the 1179 Commissioner has determined, if requested in writing by the dealer within thirty days after receipt of an 1180 objection to the proposed sale, transfer, or change, and after a hearing on the matter, that the failure to 1181 permit or honor the sale, transfer, assignment, or change is unreasonable under the circumstances. No 1182 franchise may be sold, assigned, or transferred unless (i) the franchisor has been given at least ninety 1183 days' prior written notice by the dealer as to the identity, financial ability, and qualifications of the 1184 proposed transferee, and (ii) the sale or transfer of the franchise and business will not involve, without 1185 the franchisor's consent, a relocation of the business.

1186 4. To grant an additional franchise for a particular line-make of motor vehicle in a relevant market 1187 area in which a dealer or dealers in that line-make are already located unless the franchisor has first 1188 advised in writing all other dealers in the line-make in the relevant market area. No such additional franchise may be established at the proposed site unless the Commissioner has determined, if requested 1189 1190 by a dealer of the same line-make in the relevant market area within thirty days after receipt of the 1191 franchisor's notice of intention to establish the additional franchise, and after a hearing on the matter, 1192 that there is reasonable evidence that after the grant of the new franchise, the market will support all of 1193 the dealers in that line-make in the relevant market area. Establishing a franchised dealer in a relevant 1194 market area to replace a franchised dealer that has not been in operation for more than two years shall 1195 constitute the establishment of a new franchise subject to the terms of this subdivision. The two-year 1196 period for replacing a franchised dealer shall begin on the day the franchise was terminated, or, if a 1197 termination hearing was held, on the day the franchisor was legally permitted finally to terminate the 1198 franchise. This subdivision shall not apply to (i) the relocation of an existing dealer within that dealer's 1199 relevant market area if the relocation site is to be more than ten miles distant from any other dealer for 1200 the same line-make; (ii) the relocation of an existing dealer within that dealer's relevant market area if 1201 the relocation site is to be more distant than the existing site from all other dealers of the same 1202 line-make in that relevant market area; or (iii) the relocation of an existing new motor vehicle dealer 1203 within two miles of the existing site of the relocating dealer.

1204 5. Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision and notwithstanding the terms of any franchise, 1205 to terminate, cancel, or refuse to renew the franchise of any dealer without good cause and unless (i) the 1206 dealer and the Commissioner have received written notice of the franchisor's intentions at least sixty 1207 days prior to the effective date of such termination, cancellation, or the expiration date of the franchise, 1208 setting forth the specific grounds for the action, and (ii) the Commissioner has determined, if requested 1209 in writing by the dealer within the sixty-day period and, after a hearing on the matter, that there is good 1210 cause for the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of the franchise. In any case where a petition is 1211 made to the Commissioner for a determination as to good cause for the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of a franchise, the franchise in question shall continue in effect pending the Commissioner's 1212 1213 decision or, if that decision is appealed to the circuit court, pending the decision of the circuit court. In 1214 any case in which a franchisor neither advises a dealer that it does not intend to renew a franchise nor 1215 takes any action to renew a franchise beyond its expiration date, the franchise in question shall continue 1216 in effect on the terms last agreed to by the parties. Notwithstanding the other provisions of this 1217 subdivision notice of termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal may be provided to a dealer by a 1218 franchisor not less than fifteen days prior to the effective date of such termination, cancellation, or 1219 nonrenewal when the grounds for such action are any of the following:

a. Insolvency of the franchised motor vehicle dealer or filing of any petition by or against the
franchised motor vehicle dealer, under any bankruptcy or receivership law, leading to liquidation or
which is intended to lead to liquidation of the franchisee's business.

b. Failure of the franchised motor vehicle dealer to conduct its customary sales and service
operations during its posted business hours for seven consecutive business days, except where the failure
results from acts of God or circumstances beyond the direct control of the franchised motor vehicle
dealer.

1227 c. Revocation of any license which the franchised motor vehicle dealer is required to have to operate 1228 a dealership.

1229 d. Conviction of the dealer or any principal of the dealer of a felony.

1230 The change or discontinuance of a marketing or distribution system of a particular line-make product 1231 by a manufacturer or distributor, while the name identification of the product is continued in substantial 1232 form by the same or different manufacturer or distributor, may be considered to be a franchise 1233 termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal. The provisions of this paragraph shall apply to changes and 1234 discontinuances made after January 1, 1989, but they shall not be considered by any court in any case in 1235 which such a change or discontinuance occurring prior to that date has been challenged as constituting a 1236 termination, cancellation or nonrenewal.

1237 5a. To fail to provide continued parts and service support to a dealer which holds a franchise in a 1238 discontinued line-make for at least five years from the date of such discontinuance. This requirement 1239 shall not apply to a line-make which was discontinued prior to January 1, 1989.

1240 6. Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise, to To fail to allow a dealer the right at any time to 1241 designate a member of his family as a successor to the dealership in the event of the death or incapacity 1242 of the dealer. It shall be unlawful to prevent or refuse to honor the succession to a dealership by a 1243 member of the family of a deceased or incapacitated dealer if the franchisor has not provided to the 1244 member of the family previously designated by the dealer as his successor written notice of its 1245 objections to the succession and of such person's right to seek a hearing on the matter before the 1246 Commissioner pursuant to this article, and the Commissioner determines, if requested in writing by such 1247 member of the family within thirty days of receipt of such notice from the franchisor, and after a 1248 hearing on the matter before the Commissioner pursuant to this article, that the failure to permit or 1249 honor the succession is unreasonable under the circumstances. No member of the family may succeed to a franchise unless (i) the franchisor has been given written notice as to the identity, financial ability, and 1250 1251 qualifications of the member of the family in question, and (ii) the succession to the franchise will not 1252 involve, without the franchisor's consent, a relocation of the business.

1253 7. To fail to ship monthly to any dealer, if ordered by the dealer, the number of new vehicles of 1254 each make, series, and model needed by the dealer to receive a percentage of total new vehicle sales of 1255 each make, series, and model equitably related to the total new vehicle production or importation 1256 currently being achieved nationally by each make, series, and model covered under the franchise. Upon 1257 the written request of any dealer holding its sales or sales and service franchise, the manufacturer or 1258 distributor shall disclose to the dealer in writing the basis upon which new motor vehicles are allocated, 1259 scheduled, and delivered to the dealers of the same line-make. In the event that allocation is at issue in 1260 a request for a hearing, the dealer may demand the Commissioner to direct that the manufacturer or 1261 distributor provide to the dealer, within thirty days of such demand, all records of sales and all records 1262 of distribution of all motor vehicles to the same line-make dealers who compete with the dealer 1263 requesting the hearing.

1264 7a. Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise, to To require or otherwise coerce a dealer to 1265 underutilize the dealer's facilities.

1266 8. To include in any franchise with a motor vehicle dealer terms that are contrary to, prohibited by, 1267 or otherwise inconsistent with the requirements of this chapter.

1268 8a. For any franchise agreement to require a motor vehicle dealer to pay the attorney's fees of the 1269 manufacturer or distributor related to hearings and appeals brought under this article.

1270 9. To fail to include in any franchise with a motor vehicle dealer the following language: "If any 1271 provision herein contravenes the laws or regulations of any state or other jurisdiction wherein this 1272 agreement is to be performed, or denies access to the procedures, forums, or remedies provided for by 1273 such laws or regulations, such provision shall be deemed to be modified to conform to such laws or 1274 regulations, and all other terms and provisions shall remain in full force," or words to that effect. 1275

§ 46.2-1573. Hearings and other remedies.

1276 A. In every case of a hearing before the Commissioner authorized under this article, the Commissioner shall give reasonable notice of each hearing to all interested parties, and the 1277 1278 Commissioner's decision shall be binding on the parties, subject to the rights of judicial review and 1279 appeal as provided in Chapter 1.1:1 (§ 9-6.14:1 et seq.) of Title 9.

B. Hearings before the Commissioner under this article shall commence within ninety days of the 1280 1281 request for a hearing and the Commissioner's decision shall be rendered within sixty days from the 1282 conclusion of the hearing. Hearings authorized under this article shall be presided over by a hearing 1283 officer selected from a list prepared by the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia. On 1284 request of the Commissioner, the Executive Secretary will name a hearing officer from the list, selected 1285 on a rotation system administered by the Executive Secretary. The hearing officer shall provide 1286 recommendations to the Commissioner within ninety days of the conclusion of the hearing.

1287 **B** C. Notwithstanding any contrary provision of this article, the Commissioner shall initiate 1288 investigations, conduct hearings, and determine the rights of parties under this article whenever he is provided information by the Motor Vehicle Dealers' Advisory Dealer Board or any other person 1289

1290 indicating a possible violation of any provision of this article. Before rendering any hearing decision 1291 under this article, the Commissioner shall request recommendations on the subject from those six 1292 members of the Motor Vehicle Dealers' Advisory Board who were selected by the Commissioner in 1293 accordance with § 46.2-1502 to attend the hearing, and these recommendations shall be provided within 1294 fifteen days after the Commissioner's request for recommendations.

C D. For purposes of any matter brought to the Commissioner under subdivisions 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7a 1295 1296 of § 46.2-1569 with respect to which the Commissioner is to determine whether there is good cause for 1297 a proposed action or whether it would be unreasonable under the circumstances, the Commissioner shall 1298 consider:

1299 1. The volume of the affected dealer's business in the relevant market area;

1300 The nature and extent of the dealer's investment in its business; 2.

1301 3. The adequacy of the dealer's service facilities, equipment, parts, supplies, and personnel;

1302 4. The effect of the proposed action on the community;

1303 5. The extent and quality of the dealer's service under motor vehicle warranties;

1304 6. The dealer's performance under the terms of its franchise; 1305

7. Other economic and geographical factors reasonably associated with the proposed action; and

1306 8. The recommendations, if any, from those six members of the Motor Vehicle Dealers' Advisory Board who were selected by the Commissioner in accordance with \$ 46.2-1502 to attend the hearing a 1307 1308 three-member panel composed of members of the Board who are not franchised dealers and who are 1309 appointed to the panel by the Commissioner.

1310 With respect to subdivision 6 of this subsection, any performance standard or program for measuring 1311 dealership performance that may have a material effect on a dealer, and the application of any such standard or program by a manufacturer or distributor, shall be fair, reasonable, and equitable and, if 1312 based upon a survey, shall be based upon a statistically valid sample. Upon the request of any dealer, a 1313 1314 manufacturer or distributor shall disclose in writing to the dealer a description of how a performance 1315 standard or program is designed and all relevant information used in the application of the performance 1316 standard or program to that dealer.

§ 46.2-1575. Grounds for denying, suspending, or revoking licenses or certificates of dealer 1317 1318 registration or qualification.

A license or certificate of dealer registration or qualification issued under this subtitle may be denied, 1319 1320 suspended, or revoked on any one or more of the following grounds:

1321 1. Material misstatement or omission in application for license, dealer's license plates, certificate of 1322 dealer registration, certificate of qualification, or certificate of title;

1323 2. Failure to comply subsequent to receipt of a written warning from the Department or the Board or 1324 any willful failure to comply with any provision of this chapter or any regulation promulgated by the 1325 Commissioner or the Board under this chapter;

1326 3. Failure to have an established place of business as defined in § 46.2-1510 or failure to have as the 1327 dealer-operator an individual who holds a valid certificate of qualification;

1328 4. Defrauding any retail buyer, to the buyer's damage, or any other person in the conduct of the 1329 licensee's or registrant's business;

1330 5. Employment of fraudulent devices, methods or practices in connection with compliance with the 1331 requirements under the statutes of the Commonwealth with respect to the retaking of vehicles under 1332 retail installment contracts and the redemption and resale of those vehicles; 1333

6. Having used unfair methods of competition or deceptive acts or practices;

1334 7. Knowingly advertising by any means any assertion, representation, or statement of fact which is 1335 untrue, misleading, or deceptive in any particular relating to the conduct of the business licensed or 1336 registered or for which a license or registration is sought;

1337 8. Having been convicted of any fraudulent act in connection with the business of selling vehicles or 1338 any consumer-related fraud; 1339

9. Having been convicted of any criminal act involving the business of selling vehicles;

1340 10. Willfully retaining in his possession title to a motor vehicle that has not been completely and 1341 legally assigned to him;

1342 11. Failure to comply with any provision of Chapter 4.1 (§ 36-85.2 et seq.) of Title 36 or any 1343 regulation promulgated pursuant to that chapter;

1344 12. Leasing, renting, lending, or otherwise allowing the use of a dealer's license plate by persons not 1345 specifically authorized under this title; 1346

13. Having been convicted of a felony;

1347 14. Failure to submit to the Department, within thirty days from the date of sale, any application, 1348 tax, or fee collected for the Department on behalf of a buyer;

1349 15. Having been convicted of larceny of a vehicle or receipt or sale of a stolen vehicle;

1350 16. Having been convicted of odometer tampering or any related violation;

1351 17. If a salvage dealer, salvage pool, or rebuilder, failing to comply with any provision of Chapter 16

1352 of this title or any regulation promulgated by the Commissioner under that chapter; or

1353 18. Failing to maintain automobile liability insurance, issued by a company licensed to do business in 1354 the Commonwealth, or a certificate of self-insurance as defined in § 46.2-368, with respect to each 1355 dealer's license plate issued to the dealer by the Department.

1356 § 46.2-1576. Suspension, revocation, and refusal to renew licenses or certificates of dealer registration 1357 or qualification; notice and hearing.

1358 A. Except as provided in § 46.2-1527.7 and subsection B of this section, no license or certificate of 1359 dealer registration or qualification issued under this subtitle shall be suspended or revoked, or renewal 1360 thereof refused, until a written copy of the complaint made has been furnished to the licensee, registrant, 1361 or qualifier against whom the same is directed and a public hearing thereon has been had before the 1362 Commissioner a hearing officer selected from a lists prepared by the Executive Secretary of the 1363 Supreme Court of Virginia. The Board shall determine whether the hearing officer is to hear the case alone or whether the Board is to hear the case with the hearing officer. At least ten days' written 1364 1365 notice of the time and place of the hearing shall be given to the licensee, registrant, or qualifier by 1366 registered mail addressed to his last known post-office address or as shown on his license or certificate 1367 or other record of information in possession of the Commissioner Board. At the hearing the licensee, 1368 registrant, or qualifier shall have the right to be heard personally or by counsel. The hearing officer 1369 shall provide recommendations to the Board within ninety days of the conclusion of the hearing. After 1370 hearing receiving the recommendations from the hearing officer, the Commissioner Board may suspend, 1371 revoke, or refuse to renew the license or certificate in question. A Board member shall disqualify 1372 himself and withdraw from any case in which he cannot accord fair and impartial consideration. Any 1373 party may request the disgualification of any Board member by stating with particularity the grounds 1374 upon which it is claimed that fair and impartial consideration cannot be accorded. The remaining 1375 members of the Board shall determine whether the individual should be disqualified. Immediate notice 1376 of any suspension, revocation, or refusal shall be given to the licensee, registrant, or qualifier in the 1377 manner provided in this section in the case of notices of hearing.

1378 B. Should a dealer fail to maintain an established place of business, the Commissioner Board may 1379 cancel the license of the dealer without a hearing after notification of the intent to cancel has been sent, 1380 by return receipt mail, to the dealer at the dealer's residence and business addresses, and the notices are 1381 returned undelivered or the dealer does not respond within twenty days from the date the notices were 1382 sent. Any subsequent application for a dealer's license shall be treated as an original application. 1383

§ 46.2-1577. Appeals from actions of the Board.

1384 Any person aggrieved by the action of the Commissioner Board in refusing to grant or renew a 1385 license or certificate of dealer registration or qualification issued under this chapter, or by any other 1386 action of the Commissioner Board which is alleged to be improper, unreasonable, or unlawful under the 1387 provisions of this chapter is entitled to judicial review in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Process Act (§ 9-6.14:1 et seq.). 1388

1389 § 46.2-1582. Enforcement; regulations.

1390 The Commissioner Board may promulgate regulations reasonably necessary for enforcement of this 1391 article.

1392 In addition to any other sanctions or remedies available to the Commissioner Board under this 1393 chapter, the Commissioner Board may assess a civil penalty not to exceed \$1,000 for any single 1394 violation of this article. Each day that a violation continues shall constitute a separate violation. 1395

CHAPTER 19

T&M VEHICLE DEALERS

Article 1. *T&M Vehicle Dealers Generally.*

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1399 § 46.2-1900. Definitions.

1400 Unless the context otherwise requires, the following words and terms for the purpose of this chapter 1401 shall have the following meanings:

1402 "Certificate of origin" means the document provided by the manufacturer of a new T&M vehicle, or 1403 its distributor, which is the only valid indication of ownership between the manufacturer, its distributor, 1404 its franchised T&M vehicle dealers, and the original purchaser not for resale.

1405 "Dealer-operator" means the individual who works at the established place of business of a dealer 1406 and who is responsible for and in charge of day-to-day operations of that place of business.

1407 "Distributor" means a person who sells or distributes new T&M vehicles pursuant to a written 1408 agreement with the manufacturer, to franchised T&M vehicle dealers in the Commonwealth.

1409 "Distributor branch" means a branch office maintained by a distributor for the sale of T&M vehicles 1410 to T&M vehicle dealers or for directing or supervising, in whole or in part, its representatives in the 1411 *Commonwealth.*

1412 "Distributor representative" means a person employed by a distributor or by a distributor branch, for HB2324

1413 the purpose of making or promoting the sale of T&M vehicles or for supervising or contacting its 1414 dealers, prospective dealers, or representatives in the Commonwealth.

1415 "Factory branch" means a branch office maintained by a person for the sale of T&M vehicles to 1416 distributors or for the sale of T&M vehicles to T&M vehicle dealers, or for directing or supervising, in 1417 whole or in part, its representatives in the Commonwealth.

1418 "Factory representative" means a person employed by a person who manufactures or assembles 1419 T&M vehicles, or by a factory branch for the purpose of making or promoting the sale of its T&M 1420 vehicles, or for supervising or contacting its dealers, prospective dealers, or representatives in the 1421 Commonwealth.

1422 "Factory repurchase T&M vehicle" means a T&M vehicle sold, leased, rented, consigned, or 1423 otherwise transferred to a person under an agreement that the T&M vehicle will be resold or otherwise 1424 retransferred only to the manufacturer or distributor of the T&M vehicle, and which is reacquired by 1425 the manufacturer or distributor, or their agents.

1426 "Family member" means a person who either (i) is the spouse, child, grandchild, spouse of a child, 1427 spouse of a grandchild, brother, sister, or parent of the dealer or owner, or (ii) has been employed 1428 continuously by the dealer for at least five years.

1429 "Franchise" means a written contract or agreement between two or more persons whereby one 1430 person, the franchisee, is granted the right to engage in the business of offering and selling, servicing, 1431 or offering, selling, and servicing new T&M vehicles of a particular line-make or late model or factory 1432 repurchase T&M vehicles of a particular line-make manufactured or distributed by the grantor of the 1433 right, the franchisor, and where the operation of the franchisee's business is substantially associated 1434 with the franchisor's trademark, trade name, advertising, or other commercial symbol designating the franchisor, the T&M vehicle or its manufacturer or distributor. The term shall include any severable 1435 1436 part or parts of a franchise agreement which separately provides for selling and servicing different 1437 line-makes of the franchisor.

1438 "Franchised late model or factory repurchase T&M vehicle dealer" means a dealer in late model or 1439 factory repurchase T&M vehicles, including a franchised new T&M vehicle dealer, that has a franchise 1440 agreement with a manufacturer or distributor of the line-make of the late model or factory repurchase 1441 T&M vehicles.

"Franchised T&M vehicle dealer" means a dealer in new T&M vehicles that has a franchise 1442 agreement with a manufacturer or distributor of new T&M vehicles. 1443

1444 "Independent T&M vehicle dealer" means a dealer in used T&M vehicles.

1445 "Late model T&M vehicle" means a T&M vehicle of the current model year and the immediately 1446 preceding model year.

"Manufacturer" means a person engaged in the business of constructing or assembling new T&M 1447 1448 vehicles and, in the case of motor homes, also means a person engaged in the business of 1449 manufacturing engines, power trains, or rear axles, when such engines, power trains, or rear axles are 1450 not warranted by the final manufacturer or assembler of the motor home.

1451 "Motor vehicle" means the same as provided in § 46.2-100, except, for the purposes of this chapter 1452 (i) it not shall include trailers and semitrailers; (ii) mobile homes, sales of which are regulated under 1453 Chapter 4.2 (§ 36-85.16 et seq.) of Title 36; (iii) motor homes; (iv) motorcycles; (v) nonrepairable vehicles, as defined in § 46.2-1600; or (vi) salvage vehicles, as defined in § 46.2-1600. 1454

1455 "T&M vehicle" means trailers, semitrailers, motor homes, and motorcycles but not mobile homes, 1456 sales of which are regulated under Chapter 4.2 (§ 36-85.16 et seq.) of Title 36.

1457 New T&M vehicle" means any vehicle which (i) has not been previously sold except in good faith for 1458 the purpose of resale, (ii) has not been used as a rental, driver education, or demonstration T&M1459 vehicle, or for the personal and business transportation of the manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or any of his employees, (iii) has not been used except for limited use necessary in moving or road testing the 1460 1461 vehicle prior to delivery to a customer, (iv) is transferred by a certificate of origin, and (v) has the 1462 manufacturer's certification that it conforms to all applicable federal T&M vehicle safety and emission standards. Notwithstanding provisions (i) and (iii), a T&M vehicle that has been previously sold but not 1463 1464 titled shall be deemed a new T&M vehicle if it meets the requirements of provisions (ii), (iv), and (v). 1465

"T&M vehicle dealer" or "dealer" means any person who:

1466 1. For commission, money, or other thing of value, buys, sells, exchanges, either outright or on 1467 conditional sale, bailment lease, chattel mortgage, or otherwise or arranges or offers or attempts to solicit or negotiate on behalf of others a sale, purchase, or exchange of an interest in new T&M 1468 vehicles, new and used T&M vehicles, used T&M vehicles alone, whether or not the T&M vehicles are 1469 1470 owned by him; or

1471 2. Is wholly or partly engaged in the business of selling new T&M vehicles, new and used T&M 1472 vehicles, or used T&M vehicles only, whether or not the T&M vehicles are owned by him; or

1473 3. Offers to sell, sells, displays, or permits the display for sale, of five or more T&M vehicles, within 1474 any twelve consecutive months.

1475 The term "T&M vehicle dealer" does not include:

1476 1. Receivers, trustees, administrators, executors, guardians, or other persons appointed by or acting 1477 under judgment or order of any court or their employees when engaged in the specific performance of 1478 their duties as employees. 1479

2. Public officers, their deputies, assistants, or employees, while performing their official duties.

1480 3. Persons other than business entities primarily engaged in the leasing or renting of T&M vehicles 1481 to others when selling or offering such vehicles for sale at retail, disposing of T&M vehicles acquired 1482 for their own use and actually so used, when the vehicles have been so acquired and used in good faith 1483 and not for the purpose of avoiding the provisions of this chapter.

1484 4. Persons dealing solely in the sale and distribution of fire-fighting equipment, ambulances, and 1485 funeral vehicles, including T&M vehicles adapted therefor; however, this exemption shall not exempt any 1486 person from the provisions of §§ 46.2-1919, 46.2-1920 and 46.2-1949.

1487 5. Any financial institution chartered or authorized to do business under the laws of the 1488 Commonwealth or the United States which may have received title to a T&M vehicle in the normal 1489 course of its business by reason of a foreclosure, other taking, repossession, or voluntary reconveyance 1490 to that institution occurring as a result of any loan secured by a lien on the vehicle.

1491 6. An employee of an organization arranging for the purchase or lease by the organization of 1492 vehicles for use in the organization's business.

1493 7. Any person licensed to sell real estate who sells a mobile home or similar vehicle in conjunction 1494 with the sale of the parcel of land on which the mobile home or similar vehicle is located.

1495 8. Any person who permits the operation of a T&M vehicle show or permits the display of T&M 1496 vehicles for sale by any T&M vehicle dealer licensed under this chapter.

1497 9. An insurance company authorized to do business in the Commonwealth that sells or disposes of 1498 vehicles under a contract with its insured in the regular course of business.

1499 10. Any publication, broadcast, or other communications media when engaged in the business of 1500 advertising, but not otherwise arranging for the sale of vehicles owned by others.

1501 11. Any person dealing solely in the sale or lease of vehicles designed exclusively for off-road use.

1502 12. Any credit union authorized to do business in Virginia, provided the credit union does not 1503 receive a commission, money, or other thing of value directly from a T&M vehicle dealer.

1504 13. Any person licensed as a manufactured home dealer, broker, manufacturer, or salesperson under 1505 Chapter 4.2 (§ 36-85.16 et seq.) of Title 36.

1506 "T&M vehicle salesperson" or "salesperson" means any person who is licensed as and employed as 1507 a salesperson by a T&M vehicle dealer to sell or exchange T&M vehicles.

1508 "T&M vehicle show" means a display of T&M vehicles to the general public at a location other than 1509 a dealer's location licensed under this chapter where the vehicles are not being offered for sale or 1510 exchange during or as part of the display. 1511

"Relevant market area" means as follows:

1512 1. In metropolitan localities with a population of 250,000, the relevant market area shall be a 1513 circular area around an existing franchised dealer not to exceed a radius of ten miles, but in no case 1514 less than seven miles.

1515 2. If the population in an area within a radius of ten miles around an existing franchised dealer is 1516 less than 250,000, but the population in an area within a radius of fifteen miles around an existing 1517 franchised dealer is 150,000 or more, the relevant market area shall be that area within the fifteen-mile 1518 radius.

1519 3. In all other cases the relevant market area shall be an area within a radius of twenty miles 1520 around an existing franchised dealer or the area of responsibility defined in the franchise, whichever is 1521 greater. In any case where the franchise agreement is silent as to area responsibility, the relevant 1522 market area shall be the greater of an area within a radius of twenty miles around an existing 1523 franchised dealer or that area in which the franchisor otherwise requires the franchisee to make 1524 significant retail sales or sales efforts.

1525 In determining population for this definition, the most recent census by the U.S. Bureau of the 1526 Census or the most recent population update, either from the National Planning Data Corporation or 1527 other similar recognized source, shall be accumulated for all census tracts either wholly or partially 1528 within the relevant market area.

1529 "Retail installment sale" means every sale of one or more T&M vehicles to a buyer for his use and 1530 not for resale, in which the price of the vehicle is payable in one or more installments and in which the 1531 seller has either retained title to the goods or has taken or retained a security interest in the goods under form of contract designated either as a security agreement, conditional sale, bailment lease, 1532 1533 chattel mortgage, or otherwise.

1534 "Sale at retail" or "retail sale" means the act or attempted act of selling, bartering, exchanging, or 1535 otherwise disposing of a T&M vehicle to a buyer for his personal use and not for resale.

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1536 "Sale at wholesale" or "wholesale" means a sale to T&M vehicle dealers or wholesalers other than 1537 to consumers; a sale to one who intends to resell.

1538 "Used T&M vehicle" means any vehicle other than a new T&M vehicle as defined in this section.

1539 "Wholesale auction" means an auction of T&M vehicles restricted to sales at wholesale.

1540 § 46.2-1901. General powers of Commissioner.

1541 The Commissioner shall promote the interest of the retail buyers of T&M vehicles and endeavor to 1542 prevent unfair methods of competition and unfair or deceptive acts or practices.

1543 § 46.2-1902. T&M vehicle Dealers' Advisory Board; functions.

1544 The T&M Dealers' Advisory Board is hereby created within the Department and hereinafter referred 1545 to as "the Board." The Board will advise the Commissioner on matters relating to this chapter and 1546 Chapter 16. 1547

§ 46.2-1903. Composition of T&M vehicle Dealers' Advisory Board.

1548 The Board shall consist of eleven licensed T&M vehicle dealers appointed by the Commissioner. At 1549 least one of these appointees shall be a boat trailer dealer, at least one shall be a motor home dealer, 1550 at least one shall be a motorcycle dealer, and at least one shall be a salvage dealer. Members shall 1551 serve for terms of four years, and no member shall serve for more than two full consecutive terms.

1552 Members of the Board shall be reimbursed their actual and necessary expenses incurred in carrying 1553 out their duties, such reimbursement to be paid from the special fund referred to in § 46.2-1920. 1554

§ 46.2-1904. Commissioner's powers with respect to hearings under this chapter.

1555 The Commissioner may, in hearings arising under this chapter, determine the place in the Commonwealth where they shall be held; subpoena witnesses; take depositions of witnesses residing 1556 outside the Commonwealth in the manner provided for in civil actions in courts of record; pay these 1557 1558 witnesses the fees and mileage for their attendance as is provided for witnesses in civil actions in courts 1559 of record; and administer oaths. 1560

§ 46.2-1905. Suit to enjoin violations.

1561 The Commissioner, whenever he believes from evidence submitted to him that any person has been 1562 violating, is violating or is about to violate any provision of this chapter, in addition to any other 1563 remedy, may bring an action in the name of the Commonwealth to enjoin any violation of this chapter. 1564 § 46.2-1906. Regulations.

The Commissioner may promulgate regulations requiring persons licensed under this chapter to keep 1565 1566 and maintain records reasonably required for the enforcement of §§ 46.2-112 and 46.2-629, and any other regulations, not inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter, as he shall consider necessary for 1567 the effective administration and enforcement of this chapter. A copy of any regulation promulgated 1568 1569 under this section shall be mailed to each T&M vehicle dealer licensee thirty days prior to its effective 1570 date. 1571

§ 46.2-1907. Penalties.

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1572 Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, any person violating any of the provisions of this chapter may be assessed a civil fine not to exceed \$1,000 for any single violation. Civil penalties 1573 1574 collected under this chapter shall be deposited into the Transportation Trust Fund. 1575

Article 2.

T&M Vehicle Dealer Licenses.

§ 46.2-1908. Licenses required.

1578 It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in business in the Commonwealth as a T&M vehicle 1579 dealer, salesperson, manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor branch, or factory or 1580 distributor representative or as a motor vehicle manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor 1581 branch, or factory or distributor representative as defined in § 46.2-1600, without first obtaining a license as provided in this chapter. Every person licensed as a manufactured home dealer under Chapter 4.2 (§ 36-85.16 et seq.) of Title 36 shall obtain a certificate of dealer registration as provided 1582 1583 1584 in this chapter. Any person licensed in another state as a motor vehicle dealer or T&M vehicle dealer 1585 may sell motor vehicles or T&M vehicles at wholesale auctions in the Commonwealth after having 1586 obtained a certificate of dealer registration as provided in this chapter. The offering or granting of a T&M vehicle dealer franchise in the Commonwealth shall constitute engaging in business in the 1587 1588 Commonwealth for purposes of this section, and no new T&M vehicle may be sold or offered for sale in 1589 the Commonwealth unless the franchisor of T&M vehicle dealer franchises for that line-make in the 1590 Commonwealth, whether such franchisor is a manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor 1591 branch, or otherwise, is licensed under this chapter. In the event a license issued under this chapter to a 1592 franchisor of T&M vehicle dealer franchises is suspended, revoked, or not renewed, nothing in this 1593 section shall prevent the sale of any new T&M vehicle of such franchisor's line-make manufactured in 1594 or brought into the Commonwealth for sale prior to the suspension, revocation or expiration of the 1595 license.

1596 § 46.2-1909. Application for license or certificate of dealer registration.

1597 Application for license or certificate of dealer registration under this chapter shall be made to the

1598 Commissioner and contain such information as the Commissioner shall require. The application shall be accompanied by the required fee.

1600 The Commissioner shall require, in the application or otherwise, information relating to the matters 1601 set forth in § 46.2-1985 as grounds for refusing licenses, certificates of dealer registration, and to other 1602 pertinent matters requisite for the safeguarding of the public interest, including, if the applicant is a dealer in new T&M vehicles with factory warranties, a copy of a current service agreement with the 1603 1604 manufacturer or with the distributor, requiring the applicant to perform within a reasonable distance of 1605 his established place of business, the service, repair, and replacement work required of the manufacturer 1606 or distributor by such vehicle warranty. All of these matters shall be considered by the Commissioner in 1607 determining the fitness of the applicant to engage in the business for which he seeks a license or 1608 certificate of dealer registration.

1609 § 46.2-1910. Dealers required to have established place of business.

1610 No license shall be issued to any T&M vehicle dealer unless he has an established place of business, 1611 owned or leased by him, where a substantial portion of the sales activity of the business is routinely 1612 conducted and which:

- 1613 *1. Satisfies all local zoning regulations;*
- 1614 2. Has sales, service, and office space devoted exclusively to the dealership of at least 250 square 1615 feet in a permanent, enclosed building not used as a residence;
- **1616** *3. Houses all records the dealer is required to maintain by § 46.2-1929;*

4. Is equipped with a desk, chairs, filing space, a working telephone listed in the name of thedealership, and working utilities including electricity and provisions for space heating;

1619 5. Displays a sign and business hours as required by this chapter; and

1620 6. Has contiguous space designated for the exclusive use of the dealer adequate to permit the display1621 of at least ten vehicles.

1622 However, any licensee engaging in business exclusively as a dealer in used mobile homes without 1623 inventory need not have contiguous display space and need have only 120 square feet of sales and 1624 office space devoted exclusively to its business.

1625 Any dealer licensed on or before July 1, 1995, shall be considered in compliance with subdivisions 2 **1626** and 6 of this section for that licensee.

1627 § 46.2-1911. Dealer-operator to have certificate of qualification.

No license shall be issued to any T&M vehicle dealer unless the dealer-operator holds a valid certificate of qualification issued by the Department. Such certificate shall be issued only on application to the Department, payment of a twenty-five dollar application fee, the successful completion of an examination prepared and administered by the Department, and other prerequisites as set forth in this section. However, any individual who is the dealer-operator of a licensed T&M dealer on July 1, 1995, shall be entitled to such a certificate without examination on application to the Department made on or before January 1, 1996.

1635 The Commissioner may establish minimum qualifications for applicants and require applicants to **1636** satisfactorily complete courses of study or other prerequisites prior to taking the examination.

1637 § 46.2-1912. Salesperson to have certificate of qualification.

1638 No license shall be issued to any T&M vehicle salesperson unless he holds a valid certificate of
1639 qualification issued by the Department. A certificate shall be issued only on application to the
1640 Department, payment of a twenty-five dollar application fee, the successful completion of an examination
1641 prepared and administered by the Department, and other prerequisites as set forth in this section.

1642 The Commissioner may establish minimum qualifications for applicants and require applicants to satisfactorily complete courses of study or other prerequisites prior to taking the examination.

1644 § 46.2-1913. Continued operation on loss of a dealer-operator holding certificate of qualification.

Each dealer shall notify the Department in writing immediately when a dealer-operator who holds a
certificate of qualification dies, becomes disabled, retires, is removed, or for any other cause ceases to
act as dealer-operator. The dealer may continue to operate for 120 days thereafter without a
dealer-operator and may be granted approval by the Department to operate for an additional sixty days
on application and with good cause shown for such delay.

1650 § 46.2-1914. Action on applications; hearing on denial; denial for failure to have established place **1651** of business.

 The Commissioner shall act on all applications for a license or certificate of dealer registration under this chapter within sixty days after receipt by either granting or refusing the application. Any applicant denied a license or certificate shall, on his written request filed within thirty days, be given a hearing at a time and place determined by the Commissioner or a person designated by him. All hearings under this section shall be public and shall be held promptly. The applicant may be represented by counsel.

1658 Any applicant denied a license for failure to have an established place of business as provided in

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1659 § 46.2-1910 may not, nor shall anyone, apply for a license for premises for which a license was denied 1660 for thirty days from the date of the rejection of the application.

1661 § 46.2-1915. Location to be specified; display of license; change of location.

1662 The licenses of T&M vehicle dealers, manufacturers, factory branches, distributors, and distributor 1663 branches and the licenses of motor vehicle manufacturers, factory branches, distributors and distributor 1664 branches, shall specify the location of each place of business, branch or other location occupied or to 1665 be occupied by the licensee in conducting his business and the license issued therefor shall be conspicuously displayed at each of the premises. In the event any licensee intends to change a licensed 1666 1667 location, he shall provide the Commissioner thirty days' advance written notice and a successful inspection of the new location shall be required prior to approval of a change of location. The 1668 Commissioner shall endorse the change of location on the license, without charge, if the new location is 1669 within the same county or city. A change in location to another county or city shall require a new 1670 1671 license and fee. Nothing contained in this section shall prevent a licensee engaged in business exclusively as a dealer in used mobile homes without inventory from conducting business in any county 1672 1673 or city other than the county or city in which his established place of business is maintained. 1674

§ 46.2-1916. Supplemental sales locations.

1675 The Commissioner may issue a license for a licensed T&M vehicle dealer to display for sale or sell 1676 vehicles at locations other than his established place of business, subject to compliance with local 1677 ordinances and requirements.

1678 A permanent supplemental license may be issued for premises less than 500 yards from the dealer's 1679 established place of business, provided a sign is displayed as required for the established place of business. A supplemental license shall not be required for premises otherwise contiguous to the 1680 1681 established place of business except for a public thorough fare.

A temporary supplemental license may be issued for a period not to exceed seven days, provided that 1682 1683 the application is made fifteen days prior to the sale. A temporary supplemental license for the sale of new T&M vehicles may be issued only for locations within the dealer's area of responsibility, as defined 1684 1685 in his franchise or sales agreement, unless proof is provided that all dealers in the same line-make in 1686 whose areas of responsibility, as defined in their franchise or sales agreements, where the temporary 1687 supplemental license is sought do not oppose the issuance of the temporary license.

1688 A temporary supplemental license for sale of used T&M vehicles may be issued only for the county, 1689 city, or town in which the dealer is licensed pursuant to § 46.2-1910, or for a contiguous county, city, 1690 or town. Temporary licenses may be issued without regard to the foregoing geographic restrictions 1691 where the dealer operating under a temporary license provides notice, at least thirty days before any 1692 proposed sale under a temporary license, to all other dealers licensed in the jurisdiction in which the 1693 sale will occur of the intent to conduct a sale and permits any locally licensed dealer who wishes to do 1694 so to participate in the sale on the same terms as the dealer operating under the temporary license. Any 1695 locally licensed dealer who chooses to participate in the sale must obtain a temporary supplemental 1696 license for the sale pursuant to this section.

1697 A temporary supplemental license may be issued for the sale of boat trailers at a boat show. Any 1698 such license shall be valid for no more than fourteen days. Application for such a license shall be made 1699 and such license obtained prior to the opening of the show. Temporary supplemental licenses for sale of 1700 boat trailers at boat shows may be issued for any boat show located anywhere in the Commonwealth 1701 without notification of or approval by other boat trailer dealers.

1702 § 46.2-1917. Changes in form of ownership, make, name.

1703 Any change in the form of ownership or the addition or deletion of a partner shall require a new 1704 application, license, and fee.

1705 Any addition or deletion of a franchise or change in the name of a dealer shall require immediate 1706 notification to the Department, and the Commissioner shall endorse the change on the license without a 1707 fee. The change of an officer or director of a corporation shall be made at the time of license renewal.

1708 § 46.2-1918. Display of salesperson's license; notice on termination.

1709 No salesperson shall be employed by more than one dealer, unless the dealers are owned by the 1710 same person.

1711 Each dealer shall post and maintain in a place conspicuous to the public a list of salespersons 1712 employed.

1713 Each salesperson, factory representative, and distributor representative shall carry his license when 1714 engaged in his business and shall display it on request.

1715 Each dealer and each motor vehicle and T&M vehicle manufacturer, and distributor shall notify the 1716 Department in writing not later than the tenth day of the month following the termination of any licensed salesperson's or representative's employment. In lieu of written notification, the license of the 1717 1718 terminated salesperson or representative may be returned to the Department annotated "terminated" on

1719 the face of the license and signed and dated by the dealer-operator, owner, or officer.

1720 § 46.2-1919. License and registration fees; additional to other licenses and fees required by law.

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1721 A. The fee for each license and registration year or part thereof shall be as follows:

1722 1. For T&M vehicle dealers, \$100 for each principal place of business, plus \$20 for each 1723 supplemental license.

1724 2. For T&M and motor vehicle manufacturers, distributors, and each factory branch and distributor 1725 branch, \$100.

1726 3. For T&M and motor vehicle and rebuilder salespersons, factory representatives, and distributor 1727 representatives, \$10.

1728 4. For motor vehicle dealers and T&M vehicle dealers licensed in other states, but not in Virginia, a 1729 registration fee of \$50.

5. For manufactured home dealers, a registration fee of \$50. 1730

1731 B. The licenses, registrations, and fees required by this chapter are in addition to licenses, taxes, and 1732 fees imposed by other provisions of law and nothing contained in this chapter shall exempt any person 1733 from any license, tax, or fee imposed by any other provision of law. 1734

§ 46.2-1920. Collection of license and registration fees; payments from fund.

1735 All licensing and registration fees provided for in this chapter, except as identified in Article 3 (§ 46.2-1927) of this chapter shall be collected by the Commissioner and paid into the state treasury 1736 1737 and set aside as a special fund to meet the expenses of the Department.

1738 § 46.2-1921. Issuance, expiration, and renewal of licenses and certificates of registration.

1739 All licenses and certificates of registration issued under this chapter shall be issued for a period of 1740 twelve consecutive months except, at the discretion of the Commissioner, the periods may be adjusted as 1741 is necessary to distribute the licenses and certificates as equally as practicable on a monthly basis. The 1742 expiration date shall be the last day of the twelfth month of validity or the last day of the designated 1743 month. Every license and certificate of registration shall be renewed annually on application by the 1744 licensee or registrant and by payment of fees required by law, the renewal to take effect on the first day 1745 of the succeeding month.

1746 §§46.22.1922 through 46.2-1926. Reserved.

Article 3.

Bonding Requirements.

1749 § 46.2-1927. Bonding requirements for applicants for license.

1750 Before the Commissioner shall issue a license under this chapter, the applicant shall obtain and file 1751 with the Commissioner a bond in the amount of \$25,000. The bond shall come from a corporate surety 1752 licensed to do business in the Commonwealth and approved by the Attorney General. The bond shall be 1753 conditioned on a statement by the applicant that the applicant will not practice fraud, make any 1754 fraudulent representation, or violate any provision of this chapter in the conduct of the applicant's 1755 business. The Commissioner may, without holding a hearing, suspend the dealer's license during the 1756 period that the dealer does not have a sufficient bond on file.

If a person suffers any of the following: (i) loss or damage in connection with the purchase of a T&M vehicle by reason of fraud practiced on him or fraudulent representation made to him by a 1757 1758 1759 licensed T&M vehicle dealer or one of the dealer's salespersons acting within his scope of employment; 1760 (ii) loss or damage by reason of the violation by a dealer or salesperson of any provision of this 1761 chapter in connection with the purchase of a T&M vehicle; or (iii) loss or damage resulting from a breach of an extended service contract entered into on or after the effective date of this act, as defined 1762 1763 by § 59.1-435, that person shall have a claim against the dealer and the dealer's bond, and may recover 1764 such damages as may be awarded to such person by final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction 1765 against the dealer as a proximate result of such loss or damage up to, but not exceeding, the amount of 1766 the bond, from such surety, who shall be subrogated to the rights of such person against the dealer or 1767 salesperson. The liability of such surety shall be limited to actual damages, and shall not include any 1768 punitive damages or attorneys' fees assessed against the dealer or salesperson.

1769 The dealer's surety shall notify the Department when a claim is made against a dealer's bond, when 1770 a claim is paid and when the bond is cancelled. Such notification shall include the amount of a claim 1771 and the circumstances surrounding the claim. Notification of cancellation shall include the effective date 1772 and reason for cancellation. The bond may be cancelled as to future liability by the dealer's surety upon 1773 thirty days' notice to the Department.

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Article 4

Conduct of Business.

1776 § 46.2-1928. Examination or audit of licensee; costs.

1777 The Commissioner or authorized representatives of the Department may examine, during the posted 1778 business hours, the records required to be maintained by this chapter. If a licensee is found to have 1779 violated this chapter or any order of the Commissioner, the actual cost of the examination shall be paid 1780 by the licensee so examined within thirty days after demand therefor by the Commissioner. The 1781 Commissioner may maintain an action for the recovery of these costs in any court of competent

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jurisdiction. 1782

1783 § 46.2-1929. Dealer records.

1784 All dealer records regarding employees; lists of vehicles in inventory for sale, resale, or on 1785 consignment; vehicle purchases, sales, trades, and transfers of ownership; collections of taxes; titling, 1786 uninsured T&M vehicle and registration fees; odometer disclosure statements; records of permanent 1787 dealer registration plates assigned to the dealer and temporary transport plates and temporary 1788 certificates of ownership; and other records required by the Department shall be maintained on the 1789 premises of the licensed location. The Commissioner may, on written request by a dealer, permit his 1790 records to be maintained at a location other than the premises of the licensed location for good cause 1791 shown. All dealer records shall be preserved in original form for a period of five years in a manner 1792 that permits systematic retrieval. Certain records may be maintained on a computerized record-keeping 1793 system with the prior approval of the Commissioner. 1794

§ 46.2-1930. Buyer's order.

1795 A. Every T&M vehicle dealer shall complete, in duplicate, a buyer's order for each sale or exchange 1796 of a T&M vehicle. A copy of the buyer's order form shall be made available to a prospective buyer 1797 during the negotiating phase of a sale and prior to any sales agreement. The completed original shall 1798 be retained for a period of four years in accordance with § 46.2-1929, and a duplicate copy shall be 1799 delivered to the purchaser at the time of sale or exchange. A buyer's order shall include: 1800

1. The name and address of the person to whom the vehicle was sold or traded.

1801 2. The date of the sale or trade.

1802 3. The name and address of the T&M vehicle dealer selling or trading the vehicle.

1803 4. The make, model year, vehicle identification number and body style of the vehicle.

1804 5. The sale price of the vehicle.

6. The amount of any cash deposit made by the buyer.

1806 7. A description of any vehicle used as a trade-in and the amount credited the buyer for the trade-in. 1807 The description of the trade-in shall be the same as outlined in subdivision 4 of this subsection.

1808 8. The amount of any sales and use tax, title fee, uninsured T&M vehicle fee, registration fee, or 1809 other fee required by law for which the buyer is responsible and the dealer has collected. Each tax and 1810 fee shall be individually listed and identified.

9. The net balance due at settlement.

1812 10. Any item designated as "processing fee," and the amount charged by the dealer, if any, for 1813 processing the transaction. As used in this section processing includes obtaining title and license plates 1814 for the purchaser.

1815 11. Any item designated as "dealer's business license tax," and the amount charged by the dealer, if 1816 any.

12. For sales involving dealer-arranged financing, the following notice, printed in bold type no less 1817 1818 than ten-point: "THIS SALE IS CONDITIONED UPON APPROVAL OF YOUR PROPOSED RETAIL 1819 INSTALLMENT SALE CONTRACT AS SUBMITTED TO OR THROUGH THE DEALER. IF THAT PROPOSED RETAIL INSTALLMENT SALE CONTRACT IS NOT APPROVED UNDER THE TERMS 1820 AGREED TO WITH THE DEALER, YOU MAY CANCEL THIS SALE AND ANY DOWN PAYMENT 1821 AND/OR TRADE-IN YOU SUBMITTED WILL BE RETURNED TO YOU, PROVIDED THAT ANY 1822 VEHICLE DELIVERED TO YOU BY THE DEALER PURSUANT TO THIS AGREEMENT IS 1823 RETURNED TO THE DEALER IN THE SAME CONDITION AS DELIVERED TO YOU, NORMAL 1824 1825 WEAR AND TEAR EXCEPTED, WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS OF WRITTEN OR ORAL NOTICE 1826 TO YOU OF THE CREDIT DENIAL."

1827 If the transaction does not include a policy of T&M vehicle liability insurance, the seller shall stamp 1828 or mark on the face of the bill of sale in boldface letters no smaller than eighteen point type the 1829 following words: "No Liability Insurance Included." 1830

A completed buyer's order when signed by both buyer and seller may constitute a bill of sale.

1831 B. The Commissioner shall approve a buyer's order form and each dealer shall file with each license 1832 application, or renewal, its buyer's order form, on which the processing fee amount is stated.

1833 C. If a processing fee is charged, that fact and the amount of the processing fee shall be disclosed 1834 by the dealer. Disclosure shall be by placing a clear and conspicuous sign in the public sales area of 1835 the dealership. The sign shall be no smaller than eight and one-half inches by eleven inches and the 1836 print shall be no smaller than one-half inch, and in a form as approved by the Commissioner. 1837

§ 46.2-1931. Consignment vehicles; contract.

1838 Any T&M vehicle dealer offering a vehicle for sale on consignment shall have in his possession a 1839 consignment contract for the vehicle, executed and signed by the dealer and the consignor. The 1840 consignment contract shall include:

1. The complete name, address, and the telephone number of the owners. 1841

1842 2. The name, address, and dealer certificate number of the selling dealer.

1843 3. A complete description of the vehicle on consignment, including the make, model year, vehicle 1844 identification number, and body style.

1845 4. The beginning and termination dates of the contract.

1846 5. The percentage of commission, the amount of the commission, or the net amount the owner is to 1847 receive, if the vehicle is sold.

1848 6. Any fees for which the owner is responsible.

1849 7. A disclosure of all unsatisfied liens on the vehicle and the location of the certificate of title to the 1850 vehicle.

1851 8. A requirement that the T&M vehicle pass a safety inspection prior to sale.

1852 Any dealer offering a vehicle for sale on consignment shall inform any prospective customer that the 1853 vehicle is on consignment.

1854 Dealer license plates shall not be used to demonstrate a vehicle on consignment except on (i) T&M 1855 vehicles with gross vehicle weight of 15,000 pounds or more and (ii) vehicles on consignment from another licensed T&M vehicle dealer. The owner's license plates may be used if liability insurance 1856 1857 coverage is in effect in the amounts prescribed by § 46.2-472.

1858 § 46.2-1932. Odometer disclosure.

1859 Every T&M vehicle dealer shall comply with all requirements of the Federal Odometer Act and 1860 § 46.2-629 by completing the appropriate odometer mileage statement form for each vehicle purchased, sold or transferred, or in any other way acquired or disposed of. Odometer disclosure statements shall 1861 1862 be maintained by the dealer in a manner that permits systematic retrieval. Any person found violating 1863 any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

1864 § 46.2-1933. Certain disclosures required by manufacturers and distributors.

1865 T&M vehicle manufacturers and distributors shall affix or cause to be affixed in a conspicuous place 1866 to every T&M vehicle offered for sale as a new vehicle a statement disclosing the place of assembly or 1867 manufacture of the vehicle. For disclosures of place of assembly, the assembly plant shall be the same 1868 as that designated by the vehicle identification number.

1869 The provisions of this section shall apply only to T&M vehicles manufactured for the 1991 or 1870 subsequent model years. 1871

§ 46.2-1934. Business hours.

1872 Each T&M vehicle dealer shall be open for business a minimum of twenty hours per week, at least 1873 ten of which shall be between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except that 1874 the Commissioner, on written request by a dealer, may modify these requirements for good cause. Each 1875 licensee engaged in business exclusively as a dealer in used mobile homes without inventory shall be 1876 open for business a minimum of two consecutive hours per week between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 1877 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The dealer's hours shall be posted and maintained conspicuously on 1878 or near the main entrance of each place of business.

1879 Each dealer shall include his business hours on the original and every renewal application for a 1880 license, and changes to these hours shall be immediately filed with the Department. 1881

§ 46.2-1935. Signs.

1882 Each retail T&M vehicle dealer's place of business shall be identified by a permanent sign visible from the front of the business office so that the public may quickly and easily identify the dealership. 1883 1884 The sign shall contain the dealer's trade name in letters no less than six inches in height unless 1885 otherwise restricted by law or contract.

1886 Each licensee engaged in business exclusively as a dealer in used mobile homes without inventory 1887 shall be identified by a permanent sign visible from the front of the business office so that the public 1888 may quickly and easily identify the dealership. The sign shall contain the dealer's trade name in letters 1889 no less than two inches in height unless otherwise restricted by law or contract.

1890 § 46.2-1936. Advertisements.

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1891 Unless the dealer is clearly identified by name, whenever any licensee places an advertisement in 1892 any newspaper or publication, the abbreviations "VA DLR," denoting a Virginia licensed dealer, shall 1893 appear therein.

§ 46.2-1937. Coercing purchaser to provide insurance coverage on T&M vehicle.

1895 It shall be unlawful for any dealer or salesperson or any employee of a dealer or representative of either to coerce or offer anything of value to any purchaser of a T&M vehicle to provide any type of 1896 1897 insurance coverage on the T&M vehicle.

1898 Nothing in this section shall prohibit a dealer from requiring that a retail customer obtain 1899 automobile physical damage insurance to protect collateral secured by an installment sales contract. 1900 Any person found guilty of violating any provisions of this section shall be guilty of a Class 1 1901 misdemeanor.

1902 § 46.2-1938. Prohibited solicitation and compensation.

1903 It shall be unlawful for any T&M vehicle dealer or salesperson licensed under this chapter, directly 1904 or indirectly, to solicit the sale of a T&M vehicle through a person with a pecuniary interest, or to pay,

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1905 or cause to be paid, any commission or compensation in any form whatsoever to any person in 1906 connection with the sale of a T&M vehicle, unless the person is duly licensed as a salesperson employed 1907 by the dealer. 1908

§ 46.2-1939. Salesman selling for other than his employer prohibited.

1909 It shall be unlawful for any T&M vehicle salesman licensed under this chapter to sell or exchange or 1910 offer or attempt to sell or exchange any T&M vehicle except for the licensed T&M vehicle dealer by 1911 whom he is employed, or to offer, transfer, or assign any sale or exchange that he may have negotiated 1912 to any other dealer or salesman.

1913 § 46.2-1940. Inspection of vehicles required.

1914 No person required to be licensed as a dealer under this chapter shall sell at retail any T&M vehicle 1915 which is intended by the buyer for use on the public highways, and which is required to comply with the safety inspection requirements provided in Article 21 (§ 46.2-1157 et seq.) of Chapter 10 of this title 1916 1917 unless between the time the vehicle comes into the possession of the dealer and the time it is sold at 1918 retail it is inspected by an official safety inspection station. In the event the vehicle is found not to be in 1919 compliance with all safety inspection requirements, the dealer shall either take steps to bring it into 1920 compliance or shall furnish any buyer intending it for use on the public highway a written disclosure, 1921 prior to sale, that the vehicle did not pass a safety inspection. Any person found guilty of violating any 1922 provisions of this section shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. 1923

§ 46.2-1941. Inspections prior to sale not required of certain sellers.

1924 The provisions of §§ 46.2-1158 and 46.2-1940 requiring inspection of any T&M vehicle prior to sale 1925 at retail shall not apply to any person conducting a public auction for the sale of T&M vehicles at 1926 retail, provided that the individual, firm, or business conducting the auction shall not have taken title to the vehicle, but is acting as an agent for the sale of the vehicle. Nor shall the provisions of 1927 §§ 46.2-1158 and 46.2-1940 requiring inspection of any T&M vehicle prior to sale at retail apply to any 1928 1929 new T&M vehicle or vehicles sold on the basis of a special order placed by a dealer with a 1930 manufacturer outside Virginia on behalf of a customer who is a nonresident of Virginia and takes 1931 delivery outside Virginia. 1932

§ 46.2-1942. Inspections or disclosure required before sale of certain trailers.

1933 Any trailer required by any provision of this title to undergo periodic safety inspections shall be 1934 inspected by an official inspection station between the time it comes into the possession of a retail 1935 dealer and the time the trailer is sold by the dealer or, in lieu of an inspection, the dealer shall present 1936 to the purchaser, prior to purchase of the trailer, a written itemization of all the trailer's deficiencies 1937 relative to applicable Virginia safety inspection requirements. The provisions of this section shall not 1938 apply to sales of trailers by individuals not ordinarily engaged in the business of selling trailers. Any 1939 person found guilty of violating any provisions of this section shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. 1940 § 46.2-1943. Temporary certificates of ownership.

1941 A. Notwithstanding §§ 46.2-617 and 46.2-628, whenever a dealer licensed by the Department sells 1942 and delivers to a purchaser a T&M vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer, and is unable at the time of the sale 1943 to deliver to the purchaser the certificate of title or certificate of origin for the vehicle because the 1944 certificate of title or certificate of origin is lost or is being detained by another in possession or for any 1945 other reason beyond the dealer's control, the dealer shall execute, on forms provided by the Commissioner, a temporary certificate of ownership. The certificate shall bear its date of issuance, the 1946 1947 name and address of the purchaser, the identification number of the vehicle, the registration number to 1948 be used temporarily on the vehicle, the name of the state in which the vehicle is to be registered, the 1949 name and address of the person from whom the dealer acquired the vehicle, and whatever other 1950 information may be required by the Commissioner. A copy of the temporary certificate and a bona fide 1951 bill of sale shall be delivered to the purchaser and shall be in the possession of the purchaser at all 1952 times when operating the vehicle. One copy of the certificate shall be retained by the dealer and shall 1953 be subject to inspection at any time by the Department's agents. The original of the certificate shall be 1954 forwarded by the dealer to the Department directly on issuance to the purchaser if the vehicle is to be 1955 titled outside the Commonwealth, along with application for title. The issuance of a temporary 1956 certificate of ownership to a purchaser pursuant to this section shall have the effect of vesting 1957 ownership to the vehicle in the purchaser for the period that the certificate remains effective.

1958 B. A temporary certificate of ownership issued by a dealer to a purchaser pursuant to this section 1959 shall expire on receipt by the purchaser of a certificate of title to the vehicle issued by the Department 1960 in the name of the purchaser, but in no event shall any temporary certificate of ownership issued under 1961 this section be effective for more than thirty days from the date of its issuance. In the event that the 1962 dealer fails to produce the old certificate of title or certificate of origin to the vehicle or fails to apply for a replacement certificate of title pursuant to § 46.2-632, thereby preventing delivery to the 1963 1964 Department or purchaser before the expiration of the temporary certificate of ownership, the purchaser's 1965 ownership of the vehicle may terminate and the purchaser shall have the right to return the vehicle to 1966 the dealer and obtain a full refund of all payments made toward the purchase of the vehicle, less any

1967 damage to the vehicle incurred while ownership was vested in the purchaser, and less a reasonable 1968 amount for use not to exceed one-half the amount allowed per mile by the Internal Revenue Service, as 1969 provided by regulation, revenue procedure, or revenue ruling promulgated pursuant to § 162 of the 1970 Internal Revenue Code, for use of a personal vehicle for business purposes.

1971 C. Notwithstanding subsection B of this section, if the dealer fails to deliver the certificate of title or 1972 certificate of origin to the purchaser within thirty days, a second temporary certificate of ownership may 1973 be issued. However, the dealer shall, not later than the expiration of the first temporary certificate, 1974 deliver to the Department an application for title, copy of the bill of sale, all required fees and a 1975 written statement of facts describing the dealer's efforts to secure the certificate of title or certificate of 1976 origin to the vehicle. On receipt of the title application with attachments as described herein, the 1977 Department shall record the purchaser's ownership of the vehicle and may authorize the dealer to issue 1978 a second thirty-day temporary certificate of ownership. If the dealer does not produce the certificate of 1979 title or certificate of origin to the vehicle before the expiration of the second temporary certificate, the 1980 purchaser's ownership of the vehicle may terminate and he shall have the right to return the vehicle as 1981 provided in subsection B of this section.

1982 D. If the dealer is unable to produce the certificate of title or certificate of origin to the vehicle 1983 within the sixty-day period from the date of issuance of the first temporary certificate, the Department 1984 may extend temporary ownership for an additional period of up to ninety days, provided the dealer 1985 makes application in the format required by the Department. If the dealer does not produce the 1986 certificate of title or certificate of origin to the vehicle before the expiration of the additional ninety-day 1987 period, the purchaser's ownership of the vehicle may terminate and he shall have the right to return the 1988 vehicle as provided in subsection B of this section.

1989 E. The Commissioner, on determining that the provisions of this section or the directions of the 1990 Department are not being complied with by a dealer, may, after a hearing, suspend the right of the 1991 dealer to issue temporary certificates of ownership.

1992 § 46.2-1944. Use of old license plates and registration number on a T&M vehicle.

1993 An owner who sells or transfers a registered T&M vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer may have the 1994 license plates and the registration number transferred to a T&M vehicle titled in the owner's name according to the provisions of Chapter 6 (§§ 46.2-600 et seq.), which is in a like vehicle category as 1995 1996 specified in § 46.2-694 and which requires an identical registration fee, on application to the 1997 Department accompanied by a fee of two dollars or, if the T&M vehicle requires a greater registration 1998 fee than that for which the license plates were assigned, on the payment of a fee of two dollars and the 1999 amount of the difference in registration fees between the two vehicles, all such transfers to be in 2000 accordance with the regulations of the Department. All fees collected under this section shall be paid by 2001 the Commissioner into the state treasury and shall be set aside as a special fund to be used to meet the 2002 expenses of the Department. For purposes of this section, a T&M vehicle dealer licensed by the 2003 Department may be authorized to act as an agent of the Department for the purpose of receiving, 2004 processing, and approving applications from its customers for assignment of license plates and registration numbers pursuant to this section, using the forms and following the procedures prescribed 2005 2006 by the Department. The Commissioner, on determining that the provisions of this section or the 2007 directions of the Department are not being complied with by a dealer, may suspend, after a hearing, the 2008 authority of the dealer to receive, process, and approve the assignment of license plates and registration 2009 numbers pursuant to this section.

2010 § 46.2-1945. Certificate of title for dealers.

2011 Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, every dealer shall obtain, on the purchase of each 2012 vehicle, a certificate of title issued to the dealer or shall obtain an assignment or reassignment of a 2013 certificate of title for each vehicle purchased, except that a certificate of title shall not be required for 2014 any new vehicle to be sold as such. 2015

§ 46.2-1946. Termination of business.

2016 No dealer, unless his license has been suspended, revoked, or canceled, shall cease business without 2017 a thirty-day prior notification to the Department. On cessation of the business, the dealer shall 2018 immediately surrender to the Department the dealer's certificate of license, all salespersons' licenses, all 2019 dealer and temporary license plates, all fees and taxes collected, and any other materials furnished by 2020 the Department. After cessation of business, the former licensee shall continue to maintain and make 2021 available to the Department dealer records as set forth in this chapter. 2022 Article 5.

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T&M Dealer License Plates.

2024 § 46.2-1947. Registration of dealers; fees.

2025 Every manufacturer, distributor, or dealer, before he commences to operate vehicles in his inventory 2026 for sale or resale, shall apply to the Commissioner for a dealer's certificate of vehicle registration and license plates. For the purposes of this article, a vehicle is in inventory when it is owned by, or 2027

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2028 assigned to, a dealer and is offered and available for sale or resale. All dealer's certificates of vehicle 2029 registration and license plates issued under this section may, at the discretion of the Commissioner, be 2030 placed in a system of staggered issue to distribute the work of issuing vehicle registration certificates 2031 and license plates as uniformly as practicable throughout the year. Dealerships which sold fewer than 2032 twenty-five vehicles during the last twelve months of the preceding license year shall be eligible to 2033 receive no more than two dealer's license plates; dealerships which sold at least twenty-five but fewer 2034 than fifty vehicles during the last twelve months of the preceding license year shall be eligible to receive 2035 no more than four dealer's license plates. However, dealerships which sold fifty or more vehicles during 2036 their current license year may apply for additional license plates not to exceed four times the number of 2037 licensed salespersons employed by that dealership. Dealerships which sold fifty or more vehicles during 2038 the last twelve months of the preceding license year shall be eligible to receive a number of dealer's 2039 license plates not to exceed four times the number of licensed salespersons employed by that dealership. 2040 A new applicant for a dealership shall be eligible to receive a number of dealer's license plates not to 2041 exceed four times the number of licensed salespersons employed by that dealership. For the purposes of 2042 this article, a salesperson or employee shall be considered to be employed only if he (i) works for the 2043 dealership at least twenty-five hours each week on a regular basis and (ii) is compensated for this work. 2044 All salespersons' or employees' employment records shall be retained in accordance with the provisions 2045 of § 46.2-1929. A salesperson shall not be considered employed, within the meaning of this section, if he 2046 is an independent contractor as defined by the United States Internal Revenue Code. The fee for the 2047 issuance of dealer's license plates shall be thirty dollars per year for the first two dealer's license plates 2048 and thirteen dollars per year for each additional dealer's license plate. However, for motorcycle dealers, 2049 the fee shall be nine dollars per year for each dealer's license plate.

2050 § 46.2-1948. License under this chapter prerequisite to receiving dealer's license plates; insurance required; Commissioner may revoke plates.

2052 No T&M vehicle manufacturer, distributor, or dealer, unless licensed under this chapter, shall be 2053 entitled to receive or maintain any dealer's license plates. It shall be unlawful to use or permit the use 2054 of any dealer's license plates for which there is no automobile liability insurance coverage or a 2055 certificate of self-insurance as defined in § 46.2-368 on any T&M vehicle. No dealer's license plates 2056 shall be issued unless the dealer certifies to the Department that there is automobile liability insurance 2057 coverage or a certificate of self-insurance with respect to each dealer's license plate to be issued. Such 2058 automobile liability insurance or a certificate of self-insurance shall be maintained for each dealer's 2059 license plate for so long as the registration for the dealer's license plate remains valid without regard to 2060 whether the plate is actually being used on a vehicle. If insurance or a certificate of self-insurance is 2061 not so maintained, the dealer's license plate shall be surrendered to the Department. The Commissioner 2062 shall revoke any dealer's license plate for which there is no insurance or a certificate of self-insurance. 2063 The Commissioner may also revoke any dealer's license plate that has been used in any way not 2064 authorized by the provisions of this title.

§ 46.2-1949. Transferable dealer's license plates.

2066 In lieu of registering each vehicle of a type described in this section, a manufacturer, distributor, or 2067 dealer owning and operating any T&M vehicle on any highway may obtain a dealer's license plate from 2068 the Department, on application therefor on the prescribed form and on payment of the fees required by 2069 law. These license plates shall be attached to each vehicle as required by subsection A of § 46.2-711. 2070 Each plate shall bear a distinctive number, and the name of the Commonwealth, which may be abbreviated, together with the word "dealer" or a distinguishing symbol indicating that the plate is 2071 2072 issued to a manufacturer, distributor, or dealer. Month and year decals indicating the date of expiration 2073 shall be affixed to each license plate. Any license plates so issued may, during the calendar year or 2074 years for which they have been issued, be transferred from one T&M vehicle, used or operated by the 2075 manufacturer, distributor, or dealer, who shall keep a written record of the T&M vehicle on which the 2076 dealer's license plates are used. This record shall be in a format approved by the Commissioner and 2077 shall be open to inspection by any law-enforcement officer or any officer or employee of the 2078 Department.

2079 Display of a transferable manufacturer's, distributor's, or dealer's license plate or plates on a T&M vehicle shall subject the vehicle to the requirements of §§ 46.2-1038 and 46.2-1056.

All manufacturer's, distributor's, and dealer's license plates shall be issued for a period of twelve consecutive months except, at the discretion of the Commissioner, the periods may be adjusted as may be necessary to distribute the registrations as equally as practicable on a monthly basis. The expiration date shall be the last day of the twelfth month of validity or the last day of the designated month. Every license plate shall be renewed annually on application by the owner and by payment of fees required by law, such renewal to take effect on the first day of the succeeding month.

2087 The Commissioner may offer an optional multi-year license plate registration to manufacturers,
2088 distributors, and dealers licensed pursuant to this chapter provided that he has chosen to offer optional
2089 multi-year licensing to such persons pursuant to § 46.2-1921. When such option is offered and chosen

2090 by the licensee, all annual and twelve-month fees due at the time of registration shall be multiplied by

2091 the number of years or fraction thereof the licensee will be licensed pursuant to § 46.2-1921. 2092 § 46.2-1950. Dealer's license plates to distinguish between various types of dealers.

2093 The Commissioner shall provide for the issuance of appropriate franchised or independent dealer's

2094 license plates so as to distinguish between:

2095 1. Factory dealers;

2096 2. Trailer dealers;

2097 3. Motor home dealers; and

- 2098 4. Motorcycle dealers.
- 2099 § 46.2-1951. Dealer's promotional license plates.

2100 In addition to any other license plate authorized by this article, the Commissioner may issue dealer's 2101 promotional license plates to a dealership for use on vehicles held for sale or resale in the dealership's inventory. The design of these license plates shall be at the discretion of the Commissioner. These 2102 2103 license plates shall be for use as authorized by the Commissioner. For each such license plate issued or 2104 renewed, the Commissioner shall charge an annual fee of \$100. Issuance of license plates pursuant to 2105 this section shall be subject to the insurance requirement contained in § 46.2-1948. The Commissioner 2106 shall limit the validity of any license plate issued under this section to no more than thirty consecutive 2107 days. Upon written request from the dealership, the Commissioner may consider an extended use of a 2108 license plate issued under this section. The Commissioner's authorization for use of any license plate 2109 issued under this section shall be kept in the vehicle on which the license plate is displayed until 2110 expiration of the authorization. These license plates shall be included in the number of dealer's license 2111 plates authorized under § 46.2-1547 and not in addition thereto.

2112 § 46.2-1952. Use of dealer's license plates, generally.

2113 Dealer's license plates may be used on vehicles in the inventory of licensed T&M vehicle 2114 manufacturers, distributors, and dealers in the Commonwealth when operated on the highways of 2115 Virginia by dealers, their spouses, or employees of manufacturers, distributors, and dealers as permitted 2116 in this article. Except as otherwise explicitly permitted in this article, it shall be unlawful for any dealer 2117 to cause or permit: (i) use of dealer's license plates on vehicles other than those held in inventory for 2118 sale or resale; (ii) dealer's license plates to be lent, leased, rented, or placed at the disposal of any 2119 persons other than those permitted by this article to use dealer's license plates; and (iii) use of dealer's 2120 license plates on any vehicle of a type for which their use is not authorized by this article. It shall be 2121 unlawful for any dealer to cause or permit dealer's license plates to be used on: 2122

1. Vehicles such as tow trucks, wrecking cranes, or other service vehicles;

2123 2. Vehicles used to deliver or transport (i) T&M vehicles; (ii) portions of vehicles; (iii) vehicle 2124 components, parts, or accessories; or (iv) fuel;

2125 3. Courtesy vehicles: or 2126

4. Vehicles used in conjunction with any other business.

2127 A dealer may permit his license plates to be used in the operation of a T&M vehicle (i) by any 2128 person whom the dealer reasonably believes to be a bona fide prospective purchaser who is either 2129 accompanied by a licensed salesperson or has the written permission of the dealer, or (ii) when the 2130 plates are being used by a customer on a vehicle owned by the dealer in whose repair shop the 2131 customer's vehicle is being repaired. The dealer shall issue to the prospective purchaser or customer 2132 whose vehicle is being repaired a certificate on forms provided by the Department, a copy of which 2133 shall be retained by the dealer and open at all times to the inspection of the Commissioner or any of 2134 the officers or agents of the Department. The certificate shall be in the immediate possession of the 2135 person operating or authorized to operate the vehicle. The certificate shall entitle the person to operate 2136 with dealer's license plates for a specific period of no more than five days. Not more than two 2137 certificates may be issued by a dealer to the same person for successive periods.

2138 § 46.2-1953. Use of dealer's license plates and temporary transport plates on certain vehicles.

2139 Notwithstanding the provisions of § 46.2-1952, dealer's license plates or dealer's temporary transport 2140 plates may be used on vehicles being transported (i) from a T&M vehicle auction or other point of 2141 purchase or sale, (ii) between properties owned or controlled by the same dealership, or (iii) for 2142 repairs, painting, or installation of parts or accessories. This section shall also apply to return trips by 2143 such vehicles. 2144

§ 46.2-1954. Issuance and use of temporary transport plates, generally.

2145 The Department, subject to the limitations and conditions set forth in this section and the insurance 2146 requirements contained in § 46.2-1948, may provide for the issuance of temporary transport plates 2147 designed by the Department to any dealer licensed under this chapter who applies for at least ten plates 2148 and who encloses with his application a fee of one dollar for each plate. The application shall be made 2149 on a form prescribed and furnished by the Department. Temporary transport plates may be used for those purposes outlined in § 46.2-1953. Every dealer who has applied for temporary transport plates 2150

shall maintain a permanent record of (i) all temporary transport plates delivered to him, (ii) all 2151 2152 temporary transport plates issued by him, and (iii) any other information pertaining to the receipt or the issuance of temporary transport plates which may be required by the Department. 2153

2154 Every dealer who issues temporary transport plates shall insert clearly and indelibly on the face of 2155 the temporary transport plates the name of the issuing dealer, the date of issuance and expiration, and 2156 the make and identification number of the vehicle for which issued.

2157 The dealer shall issue to the operator of the specified vehicle a certificate on forms provided by the 2158 Department, a copy of which shall be retained by the dealer and open at all times to the inspection of 2159 the Commissioner or any of the officers or agents of the Department. The certificate shall be in the 2160 immediate possession of the person operating or authorized to operate the vehicle. The certificate shall 2161 entitle the person to operate with the dealer's temporary transport plate for a period of no more than 2162 five days. Temporary transport plates may also be used by the dealer to demonstrate types of vehicles 2163 taken in trade but for which he has not been issued dealer's license plates.

2164 § 46.2-1955. Use of dealer's license plates or temporary transport plates on certain vehicles traveling 2165 from one establishment to another for purpose of having special equipment installed.

Notwithstanding the provisions of § 46.2-1952, dealer's license plates or temporary transport plates 2166 may be used on trailers, or semitrailers for the purpose of delivering these vehicles to another 2167 2168 establishment for the purpose of having a fifth wheel, body, or any special permanently mounted 2169 equipment installed on the vehicles, and for the purpose of returning the vehicle to the dealer whose 2170 plates are attached to the trailer, or semitrailer, whether or not the title to the vehicle has been retained by the dealer, and no other license, permit, warrant, exemption card, or classification plate from any 2171 2172 other agency of the Commonwealth shall be required under these circumstances. No other statute or 2173 regulation in conflict with the provisions of this section shall be applicable to the extent of the conflict. 2174 This section shall also apply to trips into the Commonwealth by a vehicle owned and operated outside 2175 the Commonwealth to an establishment within the Commonwealth and to the return trip of that vehicle 2176 from the Commonwealth to another state, provided the operator of the vehicle carries on his person 2177 when so operating a bill of sale for the fifth wheel, body, or special equipment. 2178

§ 46.2-1956. Use of dealer's license plates on newly purchased vehicles.

2179 Notwithstanding the provisions of § 46.2-1952, any dealer who sells and delivers to a purchaser a 2180 T&M vehicle at a time when the main offices of the Department, its branch offices, or offices of its local 2181 agents, are not open for business and the purchaser is therefore unable to register the vehicle, may permit the purchaser to use, for a period not exceeding five days, on the newly purchased vehicle, 2182 2183 license plates which have been issued to the dealer, provided that, at the time of the purchase, the 2184 dealer executes in duplicate, on forms provided by the Commissioner, a certificate bearing the date of 2185 issuance, the name and address of the purchaser, the identification number of the vehicle, the 2186 registration number to be used temporarily on the vehicle, the name of the state in which the vehicle is 2187 to be registered, and whatever other information may be required by the Commissioner. The original of 2188 the certificate and a bona fide bill of sale shall be delivered to the purchaser and shall be in the 2189 possession of the purchaser at all times when operating the vehicle under dealer plates. One copy of the 2190 certificate shall be retained by the dealer, filed by him, and shall be subject to inspection at any time by 2191 the Department's agents. If the vehicle is to be titled and registered in the Commonwealth, application 2192 for title and registration shall be made by the purchaser on the first business day following issuance of 2193 the certificate and a copy of the certificate shall accompany the applications.

2194 License plates temporarily used by the purchaser shall be returned to the dealer by the purchaser 2195 not later than five days after the issuance of the certificate. 2196

§ 46.2-1957. Operation without license plate prohibited.

2197 No manufacturer or distributor of or dealer in T&M vehicles shall cause or permit any T&M 2198 vehicle, owned by him to be operated or moved on a public highway without there being displayed on 2199 the T&M vehicle, a license plate or plates issued to him, either under § 46.2-711 or under § 46.2-1949, 2200 except as otherwise authorized in §§ 46.2-733, 46.2-1948 and 46.2-1959. 2201

§ 46.2-1958. Movement by manufacturer to place of shipment or delivery.

2202 Any manufacturer of T&M vehicles may operate or move or cause to be moved or operated on the 2203 highways for a distance of no more than twenty-five miles T&M vehicles from the factory where 2204 manufactured or assembled to a railway depot, vessel, or place of shipment or delivery, without 2205 registering them and without license plates attached thereto, under a written permit first obtained from 2206 the local law-enforcement authorities having jurisdiction over the highways and on displaying in plain 2207 sight on each T&M vehicle a placard bearing the name and address of the manufacturer authorizing or 2208 *directing the movement.* 2209

§ 46.2-1959. Movement by dealers to salesrooms.

2210 Any dealer in T&M vehicles, may operate or move, or cause to be operated or moved, any T&M 2211 vehicle on the highways for a distance of no more than twenty-five miles from a vessel, railway depot, 2212 warehouse, or any place of shipment or from a factory where manufactured or assembled to a

2213 salesroom, warehouse, or place of shipment or transshipment without registering them and without 2214 license plates attached thereto, under a written permit first obtained from the local law-enforcement 2215 authorities having jurisdiction over the highways, and on displaying in plain sight on each T&M 2216 vehicle, a placard bearing the name and address of the dealer authorizing or directing the movement. 2217

§ 46.2-1960. Operation under foreign dealer's license.

2218 It shall be unlawful, except as provided for by reciprocal agreement, for any person to operate a 2219 T&M vehicle or for the owner thereof to permit a T&M vehicle to be operated in the Commonwealth on 2220 a foreign dealer's license, unless the operation of the T&M vehicle on the license is specifically authorized by the Commissioner. 2221 2222

§ 46.2-1961. Use of certain foreign-registered T&M vehicles in driver education programs.

2223 Dealer's license plates may be displayed on T&M vehicles used by Virginia school systems in 2224 connection with driver education programs approved by the State Board of Education. In the event of 2225 such use of a T&M vehicle or vehicles by a school system, any dealer, his employees and agents 2226 furnishing the T&M vehicle or vehicles shall be immune from liability in any suit, claim, action, or 2227 cause of action, including but not limited to, actions or claims for injury to persons or property arising 2228 out of such use. Nothing in this section shall authorize the sale of any T&M vehicle or vehicles so used 2229 in such driver education program as a demonstrator vehicle.

2230 Notwithstanding the provisions of §§ 46.2-1900 and 46.2-1960, school divisions either (i) bordering 2231 on Kentucky, Maryland, North Carolina, Tennessee, or West Virginia, or (ii) located in Accomack or 2232 Northampton County may use T&M vehicles bearing foreign T&M vehicle dealer's license plates in 2233 connection with their driver education programs.

2234 § 46.2-1962. Removal of plates by Department of T&M vehicles investigators; cancellation; 2235 reissuance.

2236 If any Department of T&M vehicles investigator finds that a vehicle bearing license plates or 2237 temporary transport plates issued under this article is being operated in a manner inconsistent with (i)2238 the requirements of this article, or (ii) the Commissioner's authorization provided for in this article, the 2239 Department of Motor Vehicles investigator may remove the license plate for cancellation. Once a license 2240 plate has been cancelled, the dealership may reapply for the license plate. Reissuance of the license 2241 plate shall be subject to the approval of the Commissioner and the payment of the fee prescribed for 2242 issuance of license plates under this article. 2243

§ 46.2-1963. Penalties for violations of article; service of summons.

2244 Notwithstanding § 46.2-1907, any person violating any of the provisions of this article shall be guilty 2245 of a Class 3 misdemeanor. Any summons issued for any violation of any provision of this article 2246 relating to use or misuse of dealer's license plates shall be served upon the dealership to whom the 2247 plates were issued or to the person expressly permitting the unlawful use, or upon the operator of the 2248 T&M vehicle if the plates are used contrary to the use authorized by the certificate issued pursuant to 2249 § 46.2-1952. 2250

Article 6.

Issuance of Temporary License Plates by Dealers.

§ 46.2-1964. Issuance of temporary license plates to dealers and vehicle owners.

2253 The Department may, subject to the limitations and conditions set forth in this article, deliver 2254 temporary license plates designed by the Department to any dealer licensed under this chapter who 2255 applies for at least ten sets of plates and who encloses with his application a fee of two dollars for each 2256 set applied for. The application shall be made on a form prescribed and furnished by the Department. 2257 Dealers, subject to the limitations and conditions set forth in this article, may issue temporary license 2258 plates to owners of vehicles. The owners shall comply with the provisions of this article and 2259 §§ 46.2-705, 46.2-706 and 46.2-707. Dealers issuing temporary license plates may do so free of charge, 2260 but if they charge a fee for issuing temporary plates, the fee shall be no more than the fee charged the 2261 dealer by the Department under this section.

2262 Display of a temporary license plate or plates on a T&M vehicle shall subject the vehicle to the 2263 requirements of §§ 46.2-1038 and 46.2-1056.

2264 § 46.2-1965. Records to be kept by dealers; inspection.

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2265 Every dealer who has applied for temporary license plates shall maintain a permanent record of (i)2266 all temporary license plates delivered to him, (ii) all temporary license plates issued by him, and (iii) 2267 any other information pertaining to the receipt or the issuance of temporary license plates which may be 2268 required by the Department. Each record shall be kept for at least one year from the date of entry. 2269 Every dealer shall allow full access to these records during regular business hours to authorized 2270 representatives of the Department and to law-enforcement officers.

2271 § 46.2-1966. Application for temporary license plate.

2272 No dealer shall issue a temporary license plate except on written application by the person entitled 2273 to receive the license plate, which application shall be forwarded by the dealer to the Department as

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provided in § 46.2-1943. 2274

2275 § 46.2-1967. To whom temporary plates shall not be issued; dealer to forward application for 2276 current titling and registration; misstatements and false information.

2277 No dealer shall issue, assign, transfer, or deliver temporary license plates to other than the bona fide 2278 purchaser or owner of a vehicle, whether or not the vehicle is to be registered in Virginia. If the vehicle 2279 is to be registered in Virginia, the dealer shall submit to the Department a written application for the 2280 current titling and registration of the purchased vehicle, accompanied by the prescribed fees. Any dealer 2281 who issues temporary license plates to a purchaser who fails or declines to request that his application be forwarded promptly to the Department forthwith shall notify the Department of the issuance in the 2282 2283 manner provided in this article. No dealer shall issue temporary license plates to any person who 2284 possesses current license plates for a vehicle that has been sold or exchanged, nor shall any dealer lend temporary license plates to any person for use on any vehicle. If the dealer does not have in his possession the certificate of title or certificate of origin, he shall issue temporary license plates even 2285 2286 2287 though the purchaser has current license plates to be transferred. The dealer shall present the title or 2288 certificate of origin to the customer within thirty days of purchase and after this transaction is 2289 completed, the customer shall transfer his current license plates to the vehicle. If the title or certificate 2290 of origin cannot be produced for a vehicle within thirty days, a second set of temporary license plates 2291 may be issued provided that a temporary certificate of ownership is issued as provided in § 46.2-1943. 2292 It shall be unlawful for any person to issue any temporary license plates containing any misstatement of 2293 fact, or for any person issuing or using temporary license plates knowingly to insert any false 2294 information on their face.

2295 § 46.2-1968. Dealer to insert his name, date of issuance and expiration, make and identification 2296 number of vehicle.

2297 Every dealer who issues temporary license plates shall insert clearly and indelibly on the face of 2298 each temporary license plate the name of the issuing dealer, the date of issuance and expiration, and 2299 the make and identification number of the vehicle for which issued. 2300

§ 46.2-1969. Suspension of right of dealer to issue.

2301 The Commissioner, on determining that the provisions of this chapter or the directions of the 2302 Department are not being complied with by any dealer, may, after a hearing, suspend the right of a 2303 dealer to issue temporary license plates. 2304

§ 46.2-1970. Plates to be destroyed on expiration.

2305 Every person to whom temporary license plates have been issued shall destroy them on the thirtieth 2306 day after issue or immediately on receipt of the permanent license plates from the Department, 2307 whichever occurs first. 2308

§ 46.2-1971. When plates to expire: refunds or credit.

2309 Temporary license plates shall expire on the receipt of the permanent license plates from the 2310 Department, or on the rescission of a contract to purchase a T&M vehicle, or on the expiration of, or 2311 thirty days from the date of issuance, whichever occurs first. No refund or credit of fees paid by dealers 2312 to the Department for temporary license plates shall be allowed, except that when the Department 2313 discontinues the right of a dealer to issue temporary license plates, the dealer, on returning temporary 2314 license plates to the Department, may receive a refund or a credit for them.

2315 § 46.2-1972. Penalties.

2316 Any person violating any of the provisions of this article shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. 2317

Article 7. Franchises.

2318 2319

§ 46.2-1973. Filing of franchises.

2320 Each T&M vehicle manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor branch, or subsidiary 2321 thereof shall file with the Commissioner a true copy of each new, amended, modified, or different form 2322 or addendum offered to more than one dealer which affects the rights, responsibilities, or obligations of 2323 the parties of a franchise or sales, service, or sales and service agreement to be offered to a T&M 2324 vehicle dealer or prospective T&M vehicle dealer in the Commonwealth no later than sixty days prior to 2325 the date the franchise or sales agreement is offered. In no event shall a new, amended, modified, or 2326 different form of franchise or sales, service, or sales and service agreement be offered a T&M vehicle 2327 dealer in the Commonwealth until the form has been determined by the Commissioner as not containing 2328 terms inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter. At the time a filing is made with the 2329 Commissioner pursuant to this section, the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor branch, 2330 or subsidiary shall also give written notice together with a copy of the papers so filed to the affected 2331 dealer or dealers. 2332

§ 46.2-1974. Exemption of franchises from Retail Franchising Act.

2333 Franchises subject to the provisions of this chapter shall not be subject to any requirement contained 2334 in Chapter 8 (§ 13.1-557 et seq.) of Title 13.1.

2335 § 46.2-1975. Coercion of retail dealer by manufacturer or distributor with respect to retail

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2336 installment sales contracts prohibited.

2337 A. It shall be unlawful for any manufacturer or distributor, or any officer, agent, or representative of 2338 either, to coerce or attempt to coerce any retail T&M vehicle dealer or prospective retail T&M vehicle 2339 dealer in the Commonwealth to sell, assign, or transfer any retail installment sales contract obtained by 2340 the dealer in connection with the sale by him in the Commonwealth of T&M vehicles manufactured or 2341 sold by the manufacturer or distributor, to a specified finance company or class of finance companies or 2342 to any other specified persons by any of the following:

2343 1. By any statement, suggestion, promise, or threat that the manufacturer or distributor will in any 2344 manner benefit or injure the dealer, whether the statement, suggestion, threat, or promise is expressed 2345 or implied or made directly or indirectly. 2346

2. By any act that will benefit or injure the dealer.

2347 3. By any contract, or any expressed or implied offer of contract, made directly or indirectly to the 2348 dealer, for handling the T&M vehicle on the condition that the dealer sell, assign, or transfer his retail 2349 installment sales contract on the vehicle, in the Commonwealth, to a specified finance company or class 2350 of finance companies or to any other specified person.

2351 4. By any expressed or implied statement or representation made directly or indirectly that the dealer 2352 is under any obligation whatsoever to sell, assign, or transfer any of his retail sales contracts in the 2353 Commonwealth on T&M vehicles manufactured or sold by the manufacturer or distributor to a finance 2354 company, or class of finance companies, or other specified person, because of any relationship or 2355 affiliation between the manufacturer or distributor and the finance company or companies or the 2356 specified person or persons.

2357 B. Any such statements, threats, promises, acts, contracts, or offers of contracts, when their effect 2358 may be to lessen or eliminate competition or tend to create a monopoly, are declared unfair trade 2359 practices and unfair methods of competition and are prohibited.

2360 C. Any person violating any of the provisions of this article shall be guilty of a Class 1 2361 misdemeanor

2362 § 46.2-1976. Other coercion of dealers; transfer, grant, succession to and cancellation of dealer 2363 franchises; delivery of vehicles, parts, and accessories.

2364 It shall be unlawful for any manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch, or any 2365 field representative, officer, agent, or their representatives:

2366 1. To coerce or attempt to coerce any dealer to accept delivery of any T&M vehicle or vehicles, 2367 parts or accessories therefor, or any other commodities, which have not been ordered by the dealer.

2368 2. To coerce or attempt to coerce any dealer to enter into an agreement with the manufacturer, 2369 factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch, or representative thereof, or do any other act unfair 2370 to the dealer, by threatening to cancel any franchise existing between the manufacturer, factory branch, 2371 distributor, distributor branch, or representative thereof and the dealer.

2372 3. To coerce or attempt to coerce any dealer to join, contribute to, or affiliate with any advertising 2373 association.

2374 4. To approve the sale or transfer of the ownership of a dealership by the sale of the business, stock 2375 transfer, or otherwise, or the transfer, sale, or assignment of a dealer franchise, or a change in the 2376 executive management or principal operator of the dealership, unless the franchisor provides written 2377 notice to the dealer of its objection and the reasons therefor at least thirty days prior to the proposed 2378 effective date of the transfer, sale, assignment, or change. No such objection shall be effective to prevent 2379 the sale, transfer, assignment, or change if the Commissioner has determined, if requested in writing by 2380 the dealer within thirty days after receipt of an objection to the proposed sale, transfer, or change, and 2381 after a hearing on the matter, that the failure to permit or honor the sale, transfer, assignment, or 2382 change is unreasonable under the circumstances. No franchise may be sold, assigned, or transferred 2383 unless (i) the franchisor has been given at least ninety days' prior written notice by the dealer as to the 2384 identity, financial ability, and qualifications of the proposed transferee, and (ii) the sale or transfer of 2385 the franchise and business will not involve, without the franchisor's consent, a relocation of the 2386 business.

2387 5. To grant an additional franchise for a particular line-make of T&M vehicle in a relevant market 2388 area in which a dealer or dealers in that line-make are already located unless the franchisor has first 2389 advised in writing all other dealers in the line-make in the relevant market area. No such additional 2390 franchise may be established at the proposed site unless the Commissioner has determined, if requested 2391 by a dealer of the same line-make in the relevant market area within thirty days after receipt of the 2392 franchisor's notice of intention to establish the additional franchise, and after a hearing on the matter, 2393 that there is reasonable evidence that after the grant of the new franchise, the market will support all of 2394 the dealers in that line-make in the relevant market area. Establishing a franchised dealer in a relevant 2395 market area to replace a franchised dealer that has not been in operation for more than two years shall 2396 constitute the establishment of a new franchise subject to the terms of this subdivision. The two-year

2397 period for replacing a franchised dealer shall begin on the day the franchise was terminated, or, if a 2398 termination hearing was held, on the day the franchisor was legally permitted finally to terminate the 2399 franchise. This subdivision shall not apply to (i) the relocation of an existing dealer within that dealer's 2400 relevant market area if the relocation site is to be more than ten miles distant from any other dealer for 2401 the same line-make; (ii) the relocation of an existing dealer within that dealer's relevant market area if 2402 the relocation site is to be more distant than the existing site from all other dealers of the same 2403 line-make in that relevant market area; or (iii) the relocation of an existing new T&M vehicle dealer 2404 within two miles of the existing site of the relocating dealer.

2405 6. Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision and notwithstanding the terms of any franchise, 2406 to terminate, cancel, or refuse to renew the franchise of any dealer without good cause and unless (i) 2407 the dealer and the Commissioner have received written notice of the franchisor's intentions at least sixty 2408 days prior to the effective date of such termination, cancellation, or the expiration date of the franchise, 2409 setting forth the specific grounds for the action, and (ii) the Commissioner has determined, if requested 2410 in writing by the dealer within the sixty-day period and, after a hearing on the matter, that there is 2411 good cause for the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of the franchise. In any case where a 2412 petition is made to the Commissioner for a determination as to good cause for the termination, 2413 cancellation, or nonrenewal of a franchise, the franchise in question shall continue in effect pending the 2414 Commissioner's decision or, if that decision is appealed to the circuit court, pending the decision of the 2415 circuit court. In any case in which a franchisor neither advises a dealer that it does not intend to renew 2416 a franchise nor takes any action to renew a franchise beyond its expiration date, the franchise in 2417 question shall continue in effect on the terms last agreed to by the parties. Notwithstanding the other 2418 provisions of this subdivision notice of termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal may be provided to a 2419 dealer by a franchisor not less than fifteen days prior to the effective date of such termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal when the grounds for such action are any of the following: a. Insolvency of the franchised T&M vehicle dealer or filing of any petition by or against the 2420

2421 2422 franchised T&M vehicle dealer, under any bankruptcy or receivership law, leading to liquidation or 2423 which is intended to lead to liquidation of the franchisee's business;

2424 b. Failure of the franchised T&M vehicle dealer to conduct its customary sales and service 2425 operations during its posted business hours for seven consecutive business days, except where the failure 2426 results from acts of God or circumstances beyond the direct control of the franchised T&M vehicle 2427 dealer:

2428 c. Revocation of any license which the franchised T&M vehicle dealer is required to have to operate 2429 a dealership; 2430

d. Conviction of the dealer or any principal of the dealer of a felony.

2431 The change or discontinuance of a marketing or distribution system of a particular line-make 2432 product by a manufacturer or distributor, while the name identification of the product is continued in 2433 substantial form by the same or different manufacturer or distributor, may be considered to be a 2434 franchise termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal. The provisions of this paragraph shall apply to changes and discontinuances made after January 1, 1989, but they shall not be considered by any court 2435 2436 in any case in which such a change or discontinuance occurring prior to that date has been challenged 2437 as constituting a termination, cancellation or nonrenewal.

2438 7. To fail to provide continued parts and service support to a dealer which holds a franchise in a 2439 discontinued line-make for at least five years from the date of such discontinuance. This requirement 2440 shall not apply to a line-make which was discontinued prior to January 1, 1989.

2441 8. To fail to allow a dealer the right at any time to designate a member of his family as a successor 2442 to the dealership in the event of the death or incapacity of the dealer. It shall be unlawful to prevent or 2443 refuse to honor the succession to a dealership by a member of the family of a deceased or incapacitated dealer if the franchisor has not provided to the member of the family previously designated by the 2444 2445 dealer as his successor written notice of its objections to the succession and of such person's right to 2446 seek a hearing on the matter before the Commissioner pursuant to this article, and the Commissioner determines, if requested in writing by such member of the family within thirty days of receipt of such 2447 2448 notice from the franchisor, and after a hearing on the matter before the Commissioner pursuant to this 2449 article, that the failure to permit or honor the succession is unreasonable under the circumstances. No 2450 member of the family may succeed to a franchise unless (i) the franchisor has been given written notice 2451 as to the identity, financial ability, and qualifications of the member of the family in question, and (ii) the succession to the franchise will not involve, without the franchisor's consent, a relocation of the 2452 2453 business.

2454 9. To fail to ship monthly to any dealer, if ordered by the dealer, the number of new vehicles of each 2455 make, series, and model needed by the dealer to receive a percentage of total new vehicle sales of each 2456 make, series, and model equitably related to the total new vehicle production or importation currently 2457 being achieved nationally by each make, series, and model covered under the franchise. Upon the 2458 written request of any dealer holding its sales or sales and service franchise, the manufacturer or

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2459 distributor shall disclose to the dealer in writing the basis upon which new T&M vehicles are allocated, 2460 scheduled, and delivered to the dealers of the same line-make. In the event that allocation is at issue in 2461 a request for a hearing, the dealer may demand the Commissioner to direct that the manufacturer or 2462 distributor provide to the dealer, within thirty days of such demand, all records of sales and all records 2463 of distribution of all T&M vehicles to the same line-make dealers who compete with the dealer 2464 requesting the hearing.

2465 10. To require or otherwise coerce a dealer to underutilize the dealer's facilities.

2466 11. To include in any franchise with a T&M vehicle dealer terms that are contrary to, prohibited by, 2467 or otherwise inconsistent with the requirements of this chapter.

2468 12. For any franchise agreement to require a T&M vehicle dealer to pay the attorney's fees of the 2469 manufacturer or distributor related to hearings and appeals brought under this article.

2470 13. To fail to include in any franchise with a T&M vehicle dealer the following language: "If any 2471 provision herein contravenes the laws or regulations of any state or other jurisdiction wherein this 2472 agreement is to be performed, or denies access to the procedures, forums, or remedies provided for by 2473 such laws or regulations, such provision shall be deemed to be modified to conform to such laws or 2474 regulations, and all other terms and provisions shall remain in full force," or words to that effect. 2475

§ 46.2-1977. Manufacturer or distributor right of first refusal.

2476 Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement, in the event of a proposed sale or transfer of 2477 a dealership, the manufacturer or distributor shall be permitted to exercise a right of first refusal to 2478 acquire the new vehicle dealer's assets or ownership, if such sale or transfer is conditioned upon the 2479 manufacturer's or dealer's entering into a dealer agreement with the proposed new owner or transferee, 2480 only if all the following requirements are met:

2481 1. To exercise its right of first refusal, the manufacturer or distributor must notify the dealer in 2482 writing within forty-five days of its receipt of the completed proposal for the proposed sale transfer;

2483 2. The exercise of the right of first refusal will result in the dealer's and dealer's owner's receiving 2484 the same or greater consideration as they have contracted to receive in connection with the proposed 2485 change of ownership or transfer;

2486 3. The proposed sale or transfer of the dealership's assets does not involve the transfer or sale to a 2487 member or members of the family of one or more dealer owners, or to a qualified manager or a 2488 partnership or corporation controlled by such persons; and

2489 4. The manufacturer or distributor agrees to pay the reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees 2490 which do not exceed the usual, customary, and reasonable fees charged for similar work done for other 2491 clients, incurred by the proposed new owner and transferee prior to the manufacturer's or distributor's 2492 exercise of its right of first refusal in negotiating and implementing the contract for the proposed sale 2493 or transfer of the dealership or dealership assets. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no payment of such 2494 expenses and attorney's fees shall be required if the dealer has not submitted or caused to be submitted 2495 an accounting of those expenses within thirty days of the dealer's receipt of the manufacturer's or 2496 distributor's written request for such an accounting. Such accounting may be requested by a 2497 manufacturer or distributor before exercising its right of first refusal.

2498 § 46.2-1978. Discontinuation of distributors.

2499 If the contract between a distributor and a manufacturer or importer is terminated or otherwise 2500 discontinued, all franchises granted to T&M vehicle dealers in Virginia by that distributor shall 2501 continue in full force and shall not be affected by the discontinuance, except that the manufacturer, 2502 factory branch, distributor, representative, or other person who undertakes to distribute T&M vehicles of 2503 the same line-make or the same T&M vehicles of a re-named line-make shall be substituted for the 2504 discontinued distributor under the existing T&M vehicle dealer franchises and those franchises shall be 2505 modified accordingly. 2506

§ 46.2-1979. Warranty obligations.

2507 A. Each T&M vehicle manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch shall (i) 2508 specify in writing to each of its T&M vehicle dealers licensed in the Commonwealth the dealer's 2509 obligations for preparation, delivery, and warranty service on its products and (ii) compensate the 2510 dealer for warranty parts, service and diagnostic work required of the dealer by the manufacturer or 2511 distributor as follows:

2512 1. Compensation of a dealer for warranty parts, service and diagnostic work shall not be less than 2513 the amounts charged by the dealer for the manufacturer's or distributor's original parts, service and 2514 diagnostic work to retail customers for nonwarranty service, parts and diagnostic work installed or 2515 performed in the dealer's service department unless the amounts are not reasonable;

2516 2. For purposes of determining warranty parts and service compensation, menu-priced parts or 2517 services, group discounts, special event discounts, and special event promotions shall not be considered 2518 in determining amounts charged by the dealer to retail customers:

2519 3. Increases in dealer warranty parts and service compensation and diagnostic work compensation,

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2520 pursuant to this section, shall be requested by the dealer in writing, shall be based on 100 consecutive 2521 repair orders or all repair orders over a ninety-day period, whichever occurs first and, in the case of 2522 parts, shall be stated as a percentage of markup which shall be uniformly applied to all the 2523 *manufacturer's or distributor's parts;*

2524 4. In the case of warranty parts compensation, the provisions of this subdivision shall be effective 2525 only for model year 1992 and succeeding model years;

2526 5. If a manufacturer or distributor furnishes a part to a dealer at no cost for use by the dealer in 2527 performing work for which the manufacturer or distributor is required to compensate the dealer under 2528 this section, the manufacturer or distributor shall compensate the dealer for the part in the same 2529 manner as warranty parts compensation, less the wholesale costs, for such part as listed in the 2530 manufacturer's current price schedules. A manufacturer or distributor may pay the dealer a reasonable handling fee instead of the compensation otherwise required by this subsection for special 2531 2532 high-performance complete engine assemblies in limited production T&M vehicles which constitute less 2533 than five percent of model production furnished to the dealer at no cost, if the manufacturer or 2534 distributor excludes such special high-performance complete engine assemblies in determining whether 2535 the amounts requested by the dealer for warranty compensation are consistent with the amounts that the 2536 dealer charges its other retail service customers for parts used by the dealer to perform similar work; 2537

2538 6. In the case of service work, manufacturer original parts or parts otherwise specified by the 2539 manufacturer or distributor, and parts provided by a dealer either pursuant to an adjustment program 2540 as defined in § 59.1-207.34 or as otherwise requested by the manufacturer or distributor, the dealer 2541 shall be compensated in the same manner as for warranty service or parts.

2542 This section does not apply to compensation for parts such as components, systems, fixtures, 2543 appliances, furnishings, accessories, and features that are designed, used, and maintained primarily for 2544 nonvehicular, residential purposes, nor does it apply to compensation for parts used in warranty repair 2545 of motorcycles. Warranty audits of dealer records may be conducted by the manufacturer, factory 2546 branch, distributor, or distributor branch on a reasonable basis, and dealer claims for warranty 2547 compensation shall not be denied except for good cause, such as performance of nonwarranty repairs, 2548 lack of material documentation, fraud, or misrepresentation. Claims for dealer compensation shall be 2549 paid within thirty days of dealer submission or within thirty days of the end of an incentive program or 2550 rejected in writing for stated reasons. The manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor 2551 branch shall reserve the right to reasonable periodic audits to determine the validity of all such paid 2552 claims for dealer compensation. Any chargebacks for warranty parts or service compensation and 2553 service incentives shall only be for the twelve-month period immediately following the date of the claim 2554 and, in the case of chargebacks for sales compensation only, for the eighteen-month period immediately 2555 following the date of claim. However, such limitations shall not be effective in the case of intentionally false or fraudulent claims. 2556

2557 B. It shall be unlawful for any T&M vehicle manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor 2558 branch to: 2559

1. Fail to perform any of its warranty obligations, including tires, with respect to a T&M vehicle;

2. Fail to assume all responsibility for any liability resulting from structural or production defects;

2561 3. Fail to include in written notices of factory recalls to vehicle owners and dealers the expected 2562 date by which necessary parts and equipment will be available to dealers for the correction of defects;

2563 4. Fail to compensate any of the T&M vehicle dealers licensed in the Commonwealth for repairs 2564 effected by the dealer of merchandise damaged in manufacture or transit to the dealer where the carrier 2565 is designated by the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch;

2566 5. Fail to compensate its T&M vehicle dealers licensed in the Commonwealth for warranty parts, 2567 work, and service pursuant to subsection A of this section, or for legal costs and expenses incurred by 2568 such dealers in connection with warranty obligations for which the manufacturer, factory branch, 2569 distributor, or distributor branch is legally responsible or which the manufacturer, factory branch, 2570 distributor, or distributor branch imposes upon the dealer;

2571 6. Misrepresent in any way to purchasers of T&M vehicles that warranties with respect to the 2572 manufacture, performance, or design of the vehicle are made by the dealer, either as warrantor or 2573 co-warrantor:

2574 7. Require the dealer to make warranties to customers in any manner related to the manufacture, 2575 performance, or design of the vehicle; or

2576 8. Shift or attempt to shift to the T&M vehicle dealer, directly or indirectly, any liabilities of the 2577 manufacturer, factory branch, distributor or distributor branch under the Virginia T&M vehicle 2578 Warranty Enforcement Act (§ 59.1-207.9 et seq.), unless such liability results from the act or omission 2579 by the dealer.

2580 C. Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise, it shall be unlawful for any T&M vehicle 2581 manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch to fail to indemnify and hold harmless

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2582 its T&M vehicle dealers against any losses or damages arising out of complaints, claims, or suits 2583 relating to the manufacture, assembly, or design of T&M vehicles, parts, or accessories, or other 2584 functions by the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch beyond the control of 2585 the dealer, including, without limitation, the selection by the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, 2586 or distributor branch of parts or components for the vehicle or any damages to merchandise occurring 2587 in transit to the dealer where the carrier is designated by the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, 2588 or distributor branch. The dealer shall notify the manufacturer of pending suits in which allegations are 2589 made which come within this subsection whenever reasonably practicable to do so. Every T&M vehicle 2590 dealer franchise issued to, amended, or renewed for T&M vehicle dealers in Virginia shall be construed 2591 to incorporate provisions consistent with the requirements of this subsection.

2592 D. On any new T&M vehicle, any uncorrected damage or any corrected damage exceeding three 2593 percent of the manufacturer's or distributor's suggested retail price as defined in 15 U.S.C. 2594 §§ 1231-1233, as measured by retail repair costs, must be disclosed to the dealer in writing prior to 2595 delivery. Factory mechanical repair and damage to glass, tires, and bumpers are excluded from the 2596 three percent rule when properly replaced by identical manufacturer's or distributor's original 2597 equipment or parts. Whenever a new T&M vehicle is damaged in transit, when the carrier or means of 2598 transportation is determined by the manufacturer or distributor, or whenever a T&M vehicle is 2599 otherwise damaged prior to delivery to the new T&M vehicle dealer, the new T&M vehicle dealer shall: 2600 1. Notify the manufacturer or distributor of the damage within three business days from the date of 2601 delivery of the new T&M vehicle to the new T&M vehicle dealership or within the additional time 2602 specified in the franchise; and

2603 2. Request from the manufacturer or distributor authorization to replace the components, parts, and accessories damaged or otherwise correct the damage, unless the damage to the vehicle exceeds the three percent rule, in which case the dealer may reject the vehicle within three business days.

2606 E. If the manufacturer or distributor refuses or fails to authorize correction of such damage within 2607 ten days after receipt of notification, or if the dealer rejects the vehicle because damage exceeds the 2608 three percent rule, ownership of the new T&M vehicle shall revert to the manufacturer or distributor, 2609 and the new T&M vehicle dealer shall have no obligation, financial or otherwise, with respect to such 2610 T&M vehicle. Should either the manufacturer, distributor, or the dealer elect to correct the damage or 2611 any other damage exceeding the three percent rule, full disclosure shall be made by the dealer in 2612 writing to the buyer and an acknowledgment by the buyer is required. If there is less than three percent 2613 damage, no disclosure is required, provided the damage has been corrected. Predelivery mechanical 2614 work shall not require a disclosure. Failure to disclose any corrected damage within the knowledge of 2615 the selling dealer to a new T&M vehicle in excess of the three percent rule shall constitute grounds for 2616 revocation of the buyer order, provided that, within thirty days of purchase, the T&M vehicle is returned 2617 to the dealer with an accompanying written notice of the grounds for revocation. In case of revocation 2618 pursuant to this section, the dealer shall accept the vehicle and refund any payments made to the dealer 2619 in connection with the transaction, less a reasonable allowance for the consumer's use of the vehicle as 2620 defined in § 59.1-207.11.

F. If there is a dispute between the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch and the dealer with respect to any matter referred to in subsection A, B, or C of this section, either party may petition the Commissioner in writing, within thirty days after either party has given written notice of the dispute to the other, for a hearing. The decision of the Commissioner shall be binding on the parties, subject to rights of judicial review and appeal as provided in Chapter 1.1:1 (§ 9-6.14:1 et seq.) of Title 9. However, nothing contained in this section shall give the Commissioner any authority as to the content or interpretation of any manufacturer's or distributor's warranty.

2628 § 46.2-1980. Operation of dealership by manufacturer.

2629 It shall be unlawful for any T&M vehicle manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor
2630 branch, or subsidiary thereof, to own, operate, or control any T&M vehicle dealership in the
2631 Commonwealth. However, this section shall not prohibit:

2632 1. The operation by a manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor branch, or subsidiary
2633 thereof, of a dealership for a temporary period, not to exceed one year, during the transition from one
2634 owner or operator to another;

2635 2. The ownership or control of a dealership by a manufacturer, factory branch, distributor,
2636 distributor branch, or subsidiary thereof, while the dealership is being sold under a bona fide contract
2637 or purchase option to the operator of the dealership;

3. The ownership, operation, or control of a dealership by a manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor branch, or subsidiary thereof, if the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor branch, or subsidiary has been engaged in the retail sale of T&M vehicles through the dealership for a continuous period of three years prior to July 1, 1972, and if the Commissioner determines, after a hearing on the matter at the request of any party, that there is no dealer

2643 independent of the manufacturer or distributor, factory branch or distributor branch, or subsidiary 2644 thereof available in the community to own and operate the franchise in a manner consistent with the 2645 public interest:

2646 4. The ownership, operation, or control of a dealership by a manufacturer, factory branch, 2647 distributor, distributor branch, or subsidiary thereof if the Commissioner determines, after a hearing at 2648 the request of any party, that there is no dealer independent of the manufacturer or distributor, factory 2649 branch or distributor branch, or subsidiary thereof available in the community or trade area to own and 2650 operate the franchise in a manner consistent with the public interest;

2651 5. The ownership, operation, or control of a dealership dealing exclusively with school buses by a 2652 school bus manufacturer or school bus parts manufacturer or a person who assembles school buses; or

2653 6. The ownership, operation, or control of a dealership dealing exclusively with refined fuels truck tanks by a manufacturer of refined fuels truck tanks or by a person who assembles refined fuels truck 2654 2655 tanks. 2656

§ 46.2-1981. Ownership of service facilities.

It shall be unlawful for any T&M vehicle manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor 2657 2658 branch, or subsidiary thereof, to own, operate, or control, either directly or indirectly, any T&M vehicle 2659 warranty or service facility located in the Commonwealth. Nothing in this section shall prohibit any 2660 T&M vehicle manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor branch, or subsidiary thereof, from 2661 owning, operating, or controlling any warranty or service facility for warranty or service of T&M 2662 vehicles owned or operated by the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor branch, or 2663 subsidiary thereof. Nothing contained in this section shall prohibit a T&M vehicle manufacturer, factory 2664 branch, distributor, or distributor branch from performing service for reasons of compliance with an order of a court of competent jurisdiction or of warranty under Chapter 17.3 (§ 59.1-207.9 et seq.) of 2665 2666 *Title* 59.1.

2667 The preceding provisions of this section shall not apply to manufacturers of refined fuels truck tanks 2668 or to persons who assemble refined fuels truck tanks or to persons who exclusively manufacture or 2669 assemble school buses or school bus parts. 2670

§ 46.2-1982. Hearings and other remedies.

A. In every case of a hearing before the Commissioner authorized under this article, the 2671 2672 Commissioner shall give reasonable notice of each hearing to all interested parties, and the 2673 Commissioner's decision shall be binding on the parties, subject to the rights of judicial review and appeal as provided in Chapter 1.1:1 (§ 9-6.14:1 et seq.) of Title 9. 2674

2675 B. Hearings before the Commissioner under this article shall commence within ninety days of the 2676 request for a hearing and the Commissioner's decision shall be rendered within sixty days from the 2677 conclusion of the hearing. Hearings authorized under this article shall be presided over by a hearing 2678 officer selected from a list prepared by the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia. On 2679 request of the Commissioner, the Executive Secretary will name a hearing officer from the list, selected 2680 on a rotation system administered by the Executive Secretary. The Hearing Officer shall provide 2681 recommendations to the Commissioner within ninety days of the conclusion of the hearing.

2682 C. Notwithstanding any contrary provision of this article, the Commissioner shall initiate investigations, conduct hearings, and determine the rights of parties under this article whenever he is 2683 2684 provided information indicating a possible violation of any provision of this article.

2685 D. For purposes of any matter brought to the Commissioner under subdivisions 3, 4, 5, 6 and 9 of 2686 § 46.2-1976 with respect to which the Commissioner is to determine whether there is good cause for a 2687 proposed action or whether it would be unreasonable under the circumstances, the Commissioner shall 2688 consider:

2689 1. The volume of the affected dealer's business in the relevant market area;

2690 2. The nature and extent of the dealer's investment in its business;

2691 3. The adequacy of the dealer's service facilities, equipment, parts, supplies, and personnel;

2692 4. The effect of the proposed action on the community;

2693 5. The extent and quality of the dealer's service under T&M vehicle warranties;

2694 6. The dealer's performance under the terms of its franchise; and

2695 7. Other economic and geographical factors reasonably associated with the proposed action.

2696 With respect to subdivision 6 of this subsection, any performance standard or program for measuring 2697 dealership performance that may have a material effect on a dealer, and the application of any such 2698 standard or program by a manufacturer or distributor, shall be fair, reasonable, and equitable and, if 2699 based upon a survey, shall be based upon a statistically valid sample. Upon the request of any dealer, a 2700 manufacturer or distributor shall disclose in writing to the dealer a description of how a performance 2701 standard or program is designed and all relevant information used in the application of the performance 2702 standard or program to that dealer.

2703 § 46.2-1983. Late model and factory repurchase franchises.

2704 Franchised late model or factory repurchase T&M vehicle dealers shall have the same rights and 2705 obligations as provided for franchised new T&M vehicle dealers in Article 7 (§ 46.2-1973 et seq.) of 2706 this chapter, mutatis mutandis. 2707

Article 8.

Denial, Suspension, and Revocation of Dealer Licenses.

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§ 46.2-1984. Acts of officers, directors, partners, and salespersons.

2710 If a licensee or registrant is a partnership or corporation, it shall be sufficient cause for the denial, 2711 suspension, or revocation of a license or certificate of dealer registration that any officer, director, or trustee of the partnership or corporation, or any member in the case of a partnership or the 2712 2713 dealer-operator, has committed any act or omitted any duty which would be cause for refusing, 2714 suspending, or revoking a license or certificate of dealer registration issued to him as an individual under this chapter. Each licensee or registrant shall be responsible for the acts of any of his 2715 2716 salespersons while acting as his agent, if the licensee approved of those acts or had knowledge of those 2717 acts or other similar acts and, after such knowledge, retained the benefit, proceeds, profits, or 2718 advantages accruing from those acts or otherwise ratified those acts.

2719 § 46.2-1985. Grounds for denying, suspending, or revoking licenses or certificates of dealer 2720 registration or qualification.

2721 A license or certificate of dealer registration or qualification issued under this subtitle may be 2722 denied, suspended, or revoked on any one or more of the following grounds:

2723 1. Material misstatement or omission in application for license, dealer's license plates, certificate of 2724 dealer registration, certificate of qualification, or certificate of title;

2725 2. Failure to comply subsequent to receipt of a written warning from the Department or any willful 2726 failure to comply with any provision of this chapter or any regulation promulgated by the Commissioner 2727 under this chapter;

2728 3. Failure to have an established place of business as defined in § 46.2-1910 or failure to have as 2729 the dealer-operator an individual who holds a valid certificate of qualification;

2730 4. Defrauding any retail buyer, to the buyer's damage, or any other person in the conduct of the 2731 licensee's or registrant's business:

2732 5. Employment of fraudulent devices, methods or practices in connection with compliance with the 2733 requirements under the statutes of the Commonwealth with respect to the retaking of vehicles under 2734 retail installment contracts and the redemption and resale of those vehicles; 2735

6. Having used unfair methods of competition or deceptive acts or practices;

2736 7. Knowingly advertising by any means any assertion, representation, or statement of fact which is 2737 untrue, misleading, or deceptive in any particular relating to the conduct of the business licensed or 2738 registered or for which a license or registration is sought;

2739 8. Having been convicted of any fraudulent act in connection with the business of selling vehicles or 2740 any consumer-related fraud; 2741

9. Having been convicted of any criminal act involving the business of selling vehicles;

2742 10. Willfully retaining in his possession title to a T&M vehicle that has not been completely and 2743 legally assigned to him:

2744 11. Failure to comply with any provision of Chapter 4.1 (§ 36-85.2 et seq.) of Title 36 or any 2745 regulation promulgated pursuant to that chapter;

2746 12. Leasing, renting, lending, or otherwise allowing the use of a dealer's license plate by persons not 2747 specifically authorized under this title; 2748

13. Having been convicted of a felony;

2749 14. Failure to submit to the Department, within thirty days from the date of sale, any application, 2750 tax, or fee collected for the Department on behalf of a buyer;

2751 15. Having been convicted of larceny of a vehicle or receipt or sale of a stolen vehicle; 2752

16. Having been convicted of odometer tampering or any related violation;

2753 17. If a salvage dealer, salvage pool, or rebuilder, failing to comply with any provision of Chapter 2754 16 of this title or any regulation promulgated by the Commissioner under that chapter; or

2755 18. Failing to maintain automobile liability insurance, issued by a company licensed to do business 2756 in the Commonwealth, or a certificate of self-insurance as defined in § 46.2-368, with respect to each 2757 dealer's license plate issued to the dealer by the Department.

2758 § 46.2-1986. Suspension, revocation, and refusal to renew licenses or certificates of dealer 2759 registration or qualification; notice and hearing.

2760 A. Except as provided in subsection B of this section, no license or certificate of dealer registration 2761 or qualification issued under this subtitle shall be suspended or revoked, or renewal thereof refused, 2762 until a written copy of the complaint made has been furnished to the licensee, registrant, or qualifier 2763 against whom the same is directed and a public hearing thereon has been had before the Commissioner. 2764 At least ten days' written notice of the time and place of the hearing shall be given to the licensee,

2765 registrant, or qualifier by registered mail addressed to his last known post-office address or as shown HB2324

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2766 on his license or certificate or other record of information in possession of the Commissioner. At the 2767 hearing the licensee, registrant, or qualifier shall have the right to be heard personally or by counsel. 2768 After hearing, the Commissioner may suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew the license or certificate in 2769 question. Immediate notice of any suspension, revocation, or refusal shall be given to the licensee, 2770 registrant, or qualifier in the same manner provided in this section for giving notices of hearing.

2771 B. Should a dealer fail to maintain an established place of business, the Commissioner may cancel 2772 the license of the dealer without a hearing after notification of the intent to cancel has been sent, by 2773 return receipt mail, to the dealer at the dealer's residence and business addresses, and the notices are 2774 returned undelivered or the dealer does not respond within twenty days from the date the notices were 2775 sent. Any subsequent application for a dealer's license shall be treated as an original application. 2776

§ 46.2-1987. Appeals from actions of the Commissioner.

2777 Any person aggrieved by the action of the Commissioner in refusing to grant or renew a license or 2778 certificate of dealer registration or qualification issued under this chapter, or by any other action of the 2779 Commissioner which is alleged to be improper, unreasonable, or unlawful under the provisions of this 2780 chapter is entitled to judicial review in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Process Act 2781 (§ 9-6.14:1 et seq.). 2782

§ 46.2-1988. Appeals to Court of Appeals; bond.

2783 Either party may appeal from the decision of the court under § 46.2-1987 to the Court of Appeals. 2784 These appeals shall be taken and prosecuted in the same manner and with like effect as is provided by 2785 law in other cases appealed as a matter of right to the Court of Appeals.

No appeal shall be taken on behalf of the person whose license or certificate of registration or 2786 2787 qualification was suspended or revoked until the person enters into a proper bond with surety approved 2788 by the trial court in an amount determined by the trial court, not to exceed \$5,000, to observe the T&M 2789 vehicle laws of the Commonwealth, including the provisions of this chapter, until final judgment of the 2790 Court of Appeals. 2791

§ 46.2-1989. Equitable remedies not impaired.

2792 The remedy at law provided by §§ 46.2-1987 and 46.2-1988 shall not in any manner impair the right 2793 to applicable equitable relief. That right to equitable relief is hereby preserved, notwithstanding the 2794 provisions of §§ 46.2-1987 and 46.2-1988. 2795

Article 9.

T&M Vehicle Dealer Advertising.

§ 46.2-1990. Regulated advertising practices.

2798 For purposes of this chapter, a violation of the following regulated advertising practices shall be an 2799 unfair, deceptive, or misleading act or practice.

2800 1. A vehicle shall not be advertised as new, either by word or implication, unless it is one which 2801 conforms to the requirements of § 46.2-1900.

2802 2. When advertising any vehicle which does not conform to the definition of "new" as provided in 2803 § 46.2-1900, the fact that it is used shall be clearly and unequivocally expressed by the term "used" or 2804 by such other term as is commonly understood to mean that the vehicle is used. By way of example but 2805 not by limitation, "special purchase" by itself is not a satisfactory disclosure; however, such terms as 2806 "demonstrator" or "former leased vehicles" used alone clearly express that the vehicles are used for 2807 advertising purposes.

2808 3. Advertisement of finance charges or other interest rates shall not be used when there is a cost to 2809 buy-down said charge or rate which is passed on, in whole or in part, to the purchaser.

2810 4. Terms, conditions, and disclaimers shall be stated clearly and conspicuously. An asterisk or other 2811 reference symbol may be used to point to a disclaimer or other information, but shall not be used as a 2812 means of contradicting or changing the meaning of an advertised statement. 2813

5. The expiration date of an advertised sale shall be clearly and conspicuously disclosed.
6. The term "list price," "sticker price," or "suggested retail price" and similar terms, shall be used 2814 2815 only in reference to the manufacturer's suggested retail price for new vehicles or the dealer's own usual and customary price for used vehicles. 2816

7. Terms such as "at cost," "below cost," "\$ off cost" shall not be used in advertisements because of 2817 2818 the difficulty in determining a dealer's actual net cost at the time of the sale. Terms such as "invoice 2819 price," "\$ over invoice," may be used, provided that the invoice referred to is the manufacturer's factory 2820 invoice or a bona fide bill of sale and the invoice or bill of sale is available for customer inspection.

2821 "Manufacturer's factory invoice" means that document supplied by the manufacturer to the dealer 2822 listing the manufacturer's charge to the dealer before any deduction for holdback, group advertising, 2823 factory incentives or rebates, or any governmental charges.

2824 8. When the price or credit terms of a vehicle are advertised, the vehicle shall be fully identified as 2825 to year, make, and model. In addition, in advertisements placed by individual dealers and not line-make 2826 marketing groups, the stated price or credit terms shall include all charges which the buyer must pay to 2827 the seller, except buyer-selected options, state and local fees and taxes, and manufacturer's or

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2828 distributor's freight or destination charges. If freight or destination charges are not included in the 2829 advertised price, the amount of any such freight or destination charge must be clearly and 2830 conspicuously disclosed.

2831 9. Advertisements which set out a policy of matching or bettering competitors' prices shall not be 2832 used unless the terms of the offer are specific, verifiable and reasonable.

2833 10. Advertisements of "dealer rebates" shall not be used. This does not affect advertisement of 2834 manufacturer rebates.

2835 11. "Free," "at no cost," or other words to that effect shall not be used unless the "free" item, merchandise, or service is available without a purchase. This provision shall not apply to advertising 2836 2837 placed by manufacturers, distributors, or line-make marketing groups.

2838 12. "Bait" advertising, in which an advertiser may have no intention to sell at the price or terms 2839 advertised, shall not be used. By way of example, but not by limitation:

2840 a. If a specific vehicle is advertised, the seller shall be in possession of a reasonable supply of said vehicles, and they shall be available at the advertised price. If the advertised vehicle is available only in 2841 2842 limited numbers or only by order, that shall be stated in the advertisement. For purposes of this 2843 subdivision, the listing of a vehicle by stock number or vehicle identification number in the 2844 advertisement for a used vehicle is one means of satisfactorily disclosing a limitation of availability. 2845 Stock numbers or vehicle identification numbers shall not be used in advertising a new vehicle unless 2846 the advertisement clearly and conspicuously discloses that it relates to only one vehicle;

2847 b. Advertising a vehicle at a certain price, including "as low as" statements, but having available for 2848 sale only vehicles equipped with dealer added cost "options" which increase the selling price, above the 2849 advertised price, shall also be considered "bait" advertising; 2850

c. If a lease payment is advertised, the fact that it is a lease arrangement shall be disclosed.

2851 13. The term "repossessed" shall be used only to describe vehicles that have been sold, registered, 2852 titled and then taken back from a purchaser and not yet resold to an ultimate user. Advertisers offering repossessed vehicles for sale shall provide proof of repossession upon request. 2853

14. Words such as "finance" or "loan" shall not be used in a T&M vehicle advertiser's firm name or 2854 2855 trade name, unless that person is actually engaged in the financing of T&M vehicles.

2856 15. Any advertisement which gives the impression a dealer has a special arrangement or relationship 2857 with the distributor or manufacturer, as compared to similarly situated dealers, shall not be used. 2858

§ 46.2-1991. Enforcement; regulations.

2859 The Commissioner may promulgate regulations reasonably necessary for enforcement of this article.

2860 In addition to any other sanctions or remedies available to the Commissioner under this chapter, the 2861 Commissioner may assess a civil penalty not to exceed \$1,000 for any single violation of this article. 2862 Each day that a violation continues shall constitute a separate violation.

2863 2. That upon establishment of the Motor Vehicle Dealer Board provided for in this act, such 2864 Board shall enter into an agreement, signed by the Secretary of Transportation, with the 2865 Department of Motor Vehicles, to transfer from the Department to the Board tangible personal 2866 property and records relevant to the transfer of duties and powers as required by the provisions 2867 of this act. This agreement shall also provide for the orderly transfer of administrative and other 2868 responsibilities as required by the provisions of this act. Such transfer shall begin on July 1, 1995, 2869 and be completed no later than December 31, 1995. At such time the Board shall fully assume all 2870 responsibilities and authority as set out in this act. Employees of the Department of Motor 2871 Vehicles shall continue to provide administrative support to the Board through December 31, 1995. 2872 3. That regulations promulgated by the Department for the purposes of carrying out the 2873 provisions of this act shall remain in force until such regulations are amended, modified, or 2874 repealed by the Board

2875 4. That, until such time as the Motor Vehicle Dealer Board has established fees as authorized by 2876 the provisions of this act, existing fees shall remain in effect.

2877 5. That the Department of Motor Vehicles shall administer the Transaction Recovery Fund through December 31, 1995. All claims against the Transaction Recovery Fund filed after December 31, 1995, shall be administered by the Board. Any claim filed with the Department 2878 2879 2880 prior to January 1, 1996, and not settled before that date, shall be processed by the Department. 2881 Any judgments awarded shall be paid from the Transaction Recovery Fund.

6. That §§ 46.2-1502 and 46.2-1541 of the Code of Virginia are repealed. 2882