

renew a franchise means the failure by the dealer to substantially comply with the reasonable requirements imposed upon him by the franchise. The manufacturer, distributor, or factory branch shall notify a dealer in writing and forward a copy of the notice to the Administration of the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of the franchise of the dealer at least ninety (90) days before the effective date thereof stating the specific grounds for the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal; and in no event may the contractual term of any franchise expire without the written consent of the dealer involved prior to the expiration of at least ninety (90) days following the written notice; but the notice period may be reduced to not less than fifteen (15) days if the ground for termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal is the dealer's inability to reasonably serve the interests of the public. Any dealer who receives written notice that his franchise is being terminated, cancelled, or not renewed may within the notice period file with the Administration a verified complaint for its determination after hearing as to whether the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal is without due cause and any franchise shall continue in effect until final determination by the Administration of the issues raised in the complaint notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Part or in the franchise. The hearing shall be conducted promptly and in accordance with the procedures set forth in Section 5-707(b) and ~~(b)~~ (D) of this Part. Any dealer, manufacturer, distributor, or factory branch may appeal the determination of the department to the Baltimore City Court or the Circuit Court of the County as the case may be, wherein the dealer, manufacturer, distributor or factory branch resides.

(5) To resort to or use any advertisement in connection with his or its business which contains an insertion, representation or statement of fact which is false, deceptive, or misleading.

~~(6)~~ To offer to sell or to sell any new Class A or Class B vehicle to any dealer in the State of Maryland at a lower actual price therefor, such price to exclude freight charges incurred in delivering the Class A or Class B vehicle from the manufacturer, distributor, or factory branch to the dealer, than the actual price at which the manufacturer, distributor, or factory branch sold or offered to sell to any other dealer for the same model vehicle similarly equipped; but provisions of this paragraph do not apply to sales by a manufacturer or distributor to any unit of government, federal, State, or local. Also, the provisions of this section do not apply to sales to a dealer participating in a driver education program.

~~(7)~~ To offer to sell or to sell any new Class A or Class B vehicle to any person in the State of Maryland at a lower actual price therefor than the actual price offered and OR charged to a dealer in the State of Maryland for the same model vehicle similarly equipped or to utilize any device which results in a less LOWER actual price; but the provisions of this paragraph do not apply to sales by a manufacturer to any unit of government, federal, State, or local; and the provisions of this paragraph do not apply to sales by a manufacturer or distributor which may reasonably be construed as advertising.

~~(8)~~ (6) To prevent or attempt to prevent by contract or otherwise any dealer or any owner, partner, or stockholder of any dealer from selling or transferring any part of the ownership interest of any of