

~~(4) REMOVAL OF SUITS OR OTHER ACTIONS TO A VENUE OUTSIDE OF THE STATE A DEALER TO PAY THE ATTORNEY'S FEES OF THE MANUFACTURER, DISTRIBUTOR, OR FACTORY BRANCH RELATED TO DISPUTES INVOLVING THE FRANCHISE.~~

15-211.1.

~~(A) IN THIS SECTION, "QUALIFIED PERSON" MEANS:~~

~~(1) A DEALER'S SPOUSE, SON, DAUGHTER, GRANDCHILD, PARENT, SISTER, BROTHER, GRANDPARENT, FATHER-IN-LAW, MOTHER-IN-LAW, SON-IN-LAW, OR DAUGHTER-IN-LAW;~~

~~(2) A MANAGER OF THE DEALER'S DEALERSHIP; OR~~

~~(3) A PARTNERSHIP OR CORPORATION CONTROLLED BY ONE OR MORE OF THE INDIVIDUALS SPECIFIED IN ITEMS (1) AND (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION.~~

~~(B) (1) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS TITLE AND WITHOUT THE PRIOR CONSENT OF A MANUFACTURER, DISTRIBUTOR, OR FACTORY BRANCH, A DEALER MAY DESIGNATE A QUALIFIED PERSON TO BE A SUCCESSOR TO THE DEALERSHIP IN THE EVENT OF THE DEATH OR INCAPACITY OF THE DEALER.~~

~~(2) IF A DEALER INTENDS TO DESIGNATE A QUALIFIED PERSON AS SUCCESSOR TO THE DEALERSHIP IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE DEALER SHALL NOTIFY THE MANUFACTURER, DISTRIBUTOR, OR FACTORY BRANCH, IN WRITING, OF THE DESIGNATION.~~

~~(3) THE NOTICE REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL IDENTIFY THE QUALIFIED PERSON AND DESCRIBE THE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT CAPABILITIES AND OTHER RELEVANT QUALIFICATIONS OF THE QUALIFIED PERSON.~~

~~(C) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION, A MANUFACTURER, DISTRIBUTOR, OR FACTORY BRANCH MAY NOT:~~

~~(1) PREVENT, BY CONTRACT OR OTHERWISE, A DEALER FROM DESIGNATING A QUALIFIED PERSON AS A SUCCESSOR TO THE DEALERSHIP IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION; OR~~

~~(2) EXERCISE A RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL TO ACQUIRE A DEALERSHIP IN THE EVENT OF:~~

~~(F) A PROPOSED SALE OR TRANSFER OF THE DEALERSHIP TO A QUALIFIED PERSON; OR~~

~~(H) THE SUCCESSION TO THE DEALERSHIP BY A QUALIFIED PERSON DUE TO THE DEATH OR INCAPACITY OF A DEALER.~~

~~(D) (1) A MANUFACTURER, DISTRIBUTOR, OR FACTORY BRANCH MAY REQUEST A HEARING UNDER TITLE 12, SUBTITLE 2 OF THIS ARTICLE DURING WHICH:~~