

with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, on any available federal funding, including the amount, for the grants to be awarded under this Act.

SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 4 of this Act shall take effect July 1, 2002. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30, 2003, with no further action required by the General Assembly, Section 4 of this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, except as provided in Section 5 of this Act and contingent on a report by the Secretary of Aging that federal funding is available as described under Section 4 of this Act, this Act shall take effect October 1, 2002. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and 11 months and, at the end of August 31, 2005, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved May 16, 2002.

CHAPTER 472

(Senate Bill 543)

AN ACT concerning

Maryland Service Contracts and Consumer Products Guaranty Act

FOR the purpose of making certain provisions that apply to guaranties of consumer products applicable to service contracts; requiring service contracts to be in writing and to include certain information and terms; authorizing the cancellation of a service contract by a certain person under certain circumstances; providing that certain service contracts are void under certain circumstances; requiring a provider of a service contract to pay or credit the account of a certain person who has canceled a service contract a certain amount under certain circumstances; requiring a provider of a service contract to fulfill obligations under the service contract at a certain time and for a certain duration; providing that a service contract is extended automatically under certain circumstances; requiring a provider to provide a certain explanation of reasons for delay in fulfilling the terms of the service contract under certain circumstances; providing that certain duties of a provider may not be imposed on the provider under certain circumstances; authorizing the Attorney General to obtain a certain court order prohibiting the provider from further violation of this Act under certain circumstances; establishing that it is the policy of the State to encourage providers to establish certain informal dispute settlement procedures; establishing that the provider is liable to the person guaranteed for wrongful breach of a service contract; authorizing the person guaranteed to file a certain court action if the provider breaches any duties under this Act; authorizing certain costs and expenses under certain circumstances; authorizing a provider to make a guaranty in addition to entering into a service contract; authorizing a provider to designate a representative; providing that this Act provides a certain exclusive remedy with certain exceptions; providing that