

1 AN ACT relating to the disclosure of damages by motor vehicle dealers.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 186A.540 is amended to read as follows:

- 4 (1) An individual, or a dealer required to be licensed pursuant to KRS Chapter 190,
5 shall disclose all damages to a motor vehicle:
- 6 (a) Of which the individual or the dealer has direct knowledge;
- 7 (b) Which result in repairs, ***for items other than wheels, tires, or glass,*** ~~for repair~~
8 ~~estimates—~~that exceed ***two thousand***~~[one—thousand]~~ dollars
9 ***(\$2,000)***~~[\$1,000]~~; and
- 10 (c) That occur while the motor vehicle is in the individual's or the dealer's
11 possession and prior to delivery to a purchaser.

12 (2) Disclosure under this section shall be in writing and shall require the purchaser's
13 signature acknowledging the disclosure of damages.

14 ➔Section 2. KRS 190.0491 is amended to read as follows:

- 15 (1) "Delivery" of a motor vehicle to a dealer by a manufacturer or distributor for the
16 purposes of this section shall be accomplished by the:
- 17 (a) Tender of the motor vehicle and any documents necessary to enable the dealer
18 to obtain title and possession of the motor vehicle at the dealer's place of
19 business or designated place of delivery, and
- 20 (b) The giving of notice of the tender of the motor vehicle and documents to the
21 dealer.
- 22 (2) Whenever a motor vehicle is damaged while in transit when the carrier or the means
23 of transportation is designated by the manufacturer or distributor, or whenever a
24 motor vehicle is otherwise damaged prior to delivery to the dealer, the dealer must:
- 25 (a) Notify the manufacturer or distributor of the damage within three (3) working
26 days of the occurrence of the delivery of the motor vehicle as defined in
27 subsection (1) of this section; and

1 (b) Request from the manufacturer or distributor authorization to repair the
2 damages sustained or to replace the parts or accessories damaged.

3 Notification of damage by the dealer must be by certified mail, with a notice of
4 delivery requested to be returned to the dealer, and shall be presumed to have
5 occurred upon deposit of the notice with the United States Postal Service.

6 (3) In the event the manufacturer or distributor refuses or fails to authorize repair or
7 replacement of the damage within three (3) working days of notification of damage
8 by the dealer, ownership of the motor vehicle shall revert to the manufacturer or
9 distributor, and the dealer shall incur no obligations, financial or otherwise, for the
10 damage to the motor vehicle. In determining when the notification of the damage by
11 the dealer to the manufacturer or distributor occurs, the date the notice is received
12 by the manufacturer or distributor by the United States Postal Service indicated on
13 the notice of delivery returned to the dealer shall be controlling.

14 (4) In computing the lapse of three (3) working days under this section, the day of the
15 occurrence of delivery of the motor vehicle to the dealer by the manufacturer or
16 distributor, as defined in subsection (1) of this section, or the day of notification of
17 the damage to the manufacturer or distributor by the dealer, as described in
18 subsection (3) of this section, shall not be included, but the last working day of the
19 period so computed shall be included.

20 (5) Prior to the sale of any motor vehicle damaged prior to delivery to the dealer as
21 described in subsection (2) of this section, excluding damage to glass, tires, and
22 bumpers when replaced by identical manufacturer's original equipment and any
23 damage not exceeding six percent (6%) of the sticker price of the vehicle, the
24 occurrence and extent of the damage must be disclosed by the dealer to the
25 consumer, and upon repair of the damage sustained, or replacement of the parts or
26 accessories damaged, the manufacturer and/or dealer, must certify to the consumer
27 that the motor vehicle has been repaired or remanufactured to the manufacturer's

1 standards; if the dealer makes the certification he shall be indemnified by the
2 manufacturer. Upon this certification, liability for any concealed damages then
3 remaining with the motor vehicle shall lie with the manufacturer.

4 (6) Whenever a motor vehicle is damaged resulting in repairs, for items other than
5 wheels, tires, or glass, [~~for repair estimates~~] that exceed two thousand [~~one~~
6 ~~thousand~~] dollars (\$2,000) [~~(\$1,000)~~] after delivery to the dealer by the manufacturer
7 or distributor, as defined in subsection (1) of this section, but before sale by the
8 dealer to the consumer, the occurrence and extent of the damage must be disclosed
9 by the dealer to the consumer prior to a sale, and upon repair of the damage
10 sustained, or replacement of parts or accessories damaged, the dealer must certify to
11 the consumer that this motor vehicle has been repaired or remanufactured according
12 to the manufacturer's standards. Upon this certification, liability for any concealed
13 damages then remaining with the motor vehicle shall lie with the dealer.

14 (7) Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement, it shall be a violation of this
15 section for any new motor vehicle manufacturer to fail to indemnify and hold
16 harmless its franchised dealers against any judgment or settlement agreed to in
17 writing by the manufacturer for damages, including, but not limited to, court costs
18 and reasonable attorneys' fees of the new motor vehicle dealer, arising out of
19 complaints, claims, or lawsuits including, but not limited to, strict liability,
20 negligence, misrepresentation, warranty (express or implied), or rescission of the
21 sale as is defined in KRS 355.2-608, to the extent that the judgment or settlement
22 agreed to in writing by the manufacturer relates to the alleged defective or negligent
23 manufacture, assembly, or design of new motor vehicles, parts, or accessories or
24 other functions by the manufacturer, beyond the control of the dealer.