SENATE BILL 335

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By: Senators DeGrange and Astle

Introduced and read first time: January 28, 2002 Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments Senate action: Adopted Read second time: March 8, 2002

CHAPTER_____

1 AN ACT concerning

Premium Finance Agreements - Delinquency and Collection Charge -Cancellation Charge

4 FOR the purpose of altering the maximum amount of a certain delinquency and

- 5 collection charge with respect to private passenger automobile or personal fire
- 6 or liability insurance that may be imposed under a premium finance agreement;
- 7 altering the amount of a certain cancellation charge with respect to private
- 8 passenger automobile or personal fire or liability insurance that may be imposed
- 9 under a premium finance agreement; and generally relating to charges under
- 10 premium finance agreements.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

- 12 Article Insurance
- 13 Section 23-306 and 23-307
- 14 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 15 (1997 Volume and 2001 Supplement)

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF

17 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

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Article - Insurance

19 23-306.

- 20 (a) A premium finance agreement may require the insured to pay a
- 21 delinquency and collection charge on each installment that is in default for a period of

22 not less than 5 days.

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1 (b) A delinquency and collection charge shall be at least \$1, up to a maximum 2 of 5% of the installment in default, but may not exceed:

3 (1) [\$5] \$10 <u>\$8</u>, with respect to private passenger automobile or personal 4 fire or liability insurance; and

5 (2) \$100, with respect to commercial automobile, fire, or liability 6 insurance.

7 (c) Only one delinquency and collection charge may be collected on an 8 installment, regardless of the period during which the installment remains in default.

9 23-307.

10 (a) A premium finance agreement may require the insured to pay a 11 cancellation charge if a default in paying an installment results in the cancellation of 12 an insurance contract listed in the premium finance agreement.

13 (b) A cancellation charge shall be:

(1) with respect to private passenger automobile or personal fire or
liability insurance, equal to the difference between a delinquency and collection
charge imposed under § 23-306 of this subtitle with respect to the installment in
default and [\$10] \$20 \$15; and

18 (2) with respect to commercial automobile, fire, or liability insurance, 5%
19 of the installment, not to exceed an amount equal to the difference between a
20 delinquency and collection charge imposed under § 23-306 of this subtitle with
21 respect to the installment in default and \$100.

(c) If a notice of cancellation is withdrawn before its effective date and the
 insurance coverage is reinstated, the premium finance agreement may require the
 insured to pay a reinstatement charge in the same amount as the cancellation charge

25 that would have been paid if the cancellation had actually taken effect.

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 27 October 1, 2002.

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