

HOUSE BILL 385

I4, I3

71r0974

By: **Delegate Conaway**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2007

Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Consumer Protection – Contracts for Consumer Goods or Services – Delayed**
3 **Payment**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring that a certain consumer contract that allows a consumer
5 to delay payment of the purchase price or interest on the purchase price of
6 certain consumer goods or consumer services shall state clearly the date on
7 which interest begins to accrue; providing that a violation of this Act is an
8 unfair or deceptive trade practice under the Maryland Consumer Protection Act
9 and is subject to certain enforcement and penalty provisions; defining certain
10 terms; and generally relating to delayed payments for consumer goods and
11 consumer services.

12 BY adding to
13 Article – Commercial Law
14 Section 14–1322
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
18 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

19 **Article – Commercial Law**

20 **14–1322.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE
2 MEANINGS INDICATED.

3 (2) “CONSUMER” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 13-101 OF THIS
4 ARTICLE.

5 (3) “CONSUMER CONTRACT” MEANS THE TOTAL LEGAL
6 OBLIGATION THAT RESULTS FROM THE PARTIES’ AGREEMENT RELATING TO
7 THE SALE OR LEASE OF CONSUMER GOODS OR THE PROVISION OF CONSUMER
8 SERVICES.

9 (4) “CONSUMER GOODS” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 13-101
10 OF THIS ARTICLE.

11 (5) “CONSUMER SERVICES” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN §
12 13-101 OF THIS ARTICLE.

13 (B) A CONSUMER CONTRACT THAT ALLOWS A CONSUMER TO DELAY
14 PAYMENT OF THE PURCHASE PRICE OR INTEREST ON THE PURCHASE PRICE OF
15 THE CONSUMER GOODS OR THE CONSUMER SERVICES THAT ARE SUBJECT TO
16 THE CONSUMER CONTRACT SHALL STATE CLEARLY THE DATE ON WHICH
17 INTEREST BEGINS TO ACCRUE.

18 (C) A VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION IS:

19 (1) AN UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICE WITHIN THE
20 MEANING OF TITLE 13 OF THIS ARTICLE; AND

21 (2) SUBJECT TO THE ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTY PROVISIONS
22 CONTAINED IN TITLE 13 OF THIS ARTICLE.

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
24 October 1, 2007.