

HOUSE BILL 449

I3

(7lr1367)

ENROLLED BILL

— *Economic Matters / Finance* —

Introduced by **Delegate Feldman**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this

_____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

Speaker.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Commercial Law – Consumer Protection – Vehicle Protection Products Act**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a vehicle protection product from being sold or offered
4 for sale in the State unless the seller and the warrantor of the vehicle protection
5 product, and the warrantor's administrator, comply with the provisions of this
6 Act; providing that a seller, warrantor, or administrator that complies with this
7 Act is not required to comply with certain provisions of law; requiring a
8 warrantor of a vehicle protection product that is sold or offered for sale in the
9 State to register with the ~~Division of Consumer Protection of the Office of the~~
10 ~~Attorney General Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation~~ *Division of*
11 *Consumer Protection of the Office of the Attorney General*; requiring a

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike-out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

Italics indicate opposite chamber / conference committee amendments.



1 registration form to include certain information; requiring a warrantor that
2 registers with the ~~Division~~ ~~Department~~ *Division* to pay a certain registration fee
3 and renewal fee; providing that certain information shall be made available to
4 the public under certain circumstances; requiring a certain warrantor to
5 maintain certain accounts, books, and records for a certain period of time and to
6 make the accounts, books, and records available for inspection by the ~~Division~~
7 ~~Department~~ *Division*; requiring a certain warrantor to be insured under a
8 certain warranty reimbursement insurance policy or to maintain a certain
9 amount of net worth or stockholders' equity; requiring a warranty
10 reimbursement insurance policy to contain certain provisions; specifying certain
11 contents of a vehicle protection product warranty; authorizing a vehicle
12 protection product warranty to provide for the reimbursement of certain
13 incidental costs; requiring a seller or warrantor of a vehicle protection product
14 to provide a written copy of a vehicle protection product warranty to a
15 purchaser at a certain time; providing that a certain warrantor may negotiate
16 the purchase price of a vehicle protection product warranty; prohibiting a
17 vehicle protection product warrantor from using certain terms in its name,
18 contracts, or literature; authorizing a vehicle protection product warrantor to
19 use a certain term in its name; prohibiting a vehicle protection product seller or
20 warrantor from requiring, as a condition of the sale or financing of a vehicle,
21 that the purchaser of the vehicle buy a vehicle protection product; providing for
22 the resolution of disputes between a vehicle protection product warrantor and a
23 warranty holder; providing that a violation of this Act is an unfair or deceptive
24 trade practice under the Maryland Consumer Protection Act and is subject to
25 certain enforcement and penalty provisions; establishing a certain short title;
26 defining certain terms; providing for the application of this Act; prohibiting this
27 Act from being interpreted in a certain manner; providing for a delayed effective
28 date; and generally relating to the Vehicle Protection Products Act.

29 BY adding to

30 Article – Commercial Law

31 Section 14–4A–01 through 14–4A–14 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 4A.
32 Vehicle Protection Products Act”

33 Annotated Code of Maryland

34 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

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

37 **Article – Commercial Law**

38 **SUBTITLE 4A. VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCTS ACT.**

1 **14-4A-01.**

2 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
3 INDICATED.

4 (B) "ADMINISTRATOR" MEANS A PERSON THAT IS DESIGNATED BY A
5 WARRANTOR TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF A VEHICLE
6 PROTECTION PRODUCT WARRANTY.

7 ~~(C) "DIVISION" MEANS THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER PROTECTION OF~~
8 ~~THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.~~

9 ~~(C) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, LICENSING,~~
10 ~~AND REGULATION.~~

11 (C) "DIVISION" MEANS THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER PROTECTION OF
12 THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

13 (D) (1) "INCIDENTAL COSTS" MEANS AN EXPENSE THAT:

14 (I) IS SPECIFIED IN A VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT
15 WARRANTY;

16 (II) IS INCURRED BY THE WARRANTY HOLDER; AND

17 (III) RELATES TO THE FAILURE OF A VEHICLE PROTECTION
18 PRODUCT TO PERFORM AS PROVIDED IN THE VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT
19 WARRANTY.

20 (2) "INCIDENTAL COSTS" INCLUDE:

21 (I) INSURANCE POLICY DEDUCTIBLES;

22 (II) CHARGES FOR RENTAL VEHICLES;

23 (III) THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE VALUE OF A STOLEN
24 VEHICLE AT THE TIME OF THEFT AND THE COST OF A REPLACEMENT VEHICLE;

25 (IV) SALES TAXES;

(V) REGISTRATION FEES;

(VI) TRANSACTION FEES; AND

(VII) MECHANICAL INSPECTION FEES.

(E) (1) “VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT” MEANS A VEHICLE PROTECTION DEVICE, SYSTEM, OR SERVICE THAT:

(I) IS SOLD WITH A WRITTEN WARRANTY;

(II) IS INSTALLED ON OR APPLIED TO A VEHICLE; AND

(III) IS DESIGNED TO PREVENT LOSS OR DAMAGE TO A VEHICLE FROM A SPECIFIC CAUSE.

(2) “VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT” INCLUDES:

(I) AN ALARM SYSTEM;

(II) A BODY PART MARKING PRODUCT;

(III) A STEERING LOCK;

(IV) A WINDOW ETCH PRODUCT;

(V) A PEDAL OR IGNITION LOCK;

(VI) A FUEL OR IGNITION KILL SWITCH; AND

(VII) AN ELECTRONIC, RADIO, OR SATELLITE TRACKING DEVICE.

(F) “VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT WARRANTY” MEANS A WRITTEN AGREEMENT BY A WARRANTOR THAT PROVIDES THAT IF A VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT FAILS TO PREVENT LOSS OR DAMAGE TO A VEHICLE FROM A SPECIFIC CAUSE, THE WARRANTOR SHALL PAY TO, OR ON BEHALF OF, THE WARRANTY HOLDER SPECIFIED INCIDENTAL COSTS INCURRED AS A RESULT OF THE FAILURE OF THE VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT TO PERFORM IN

1 ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT
2 WARRANTY.

3 (G) (1) "WARRANTOR" MEANS A PERSON THAT IS CONTRACTUALLY
4 OBLIGATED TO THE WARRANTY HOLDER UNDER THE TERMS OF THE VEHICLE
5 PROTECTION PRODUCT WARRANTY.

6 (2) "WARRANTOR" DOES NOT INCLUDE AN AUTHORIZED INSURER
7 THAT ISSUES A WARRANTY REIMBURSEMENT INSURANCE POLICY.

8 (H) "WARRANTY HOLDER" MEANS A PERSON THAT PURCHASES A
9 VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT WARRANTY OR A PERMITTED TRANSFEREE.

10 (I) "WARRANTY REIMBURSEMENT INSURANCE POLICY" MEANS A
11 POLICY OF INSURANCE THAT IS ISSUED TO A WARRANTOR TO:

12 (1) PROVIDE REIMBURSEMENT TO THE WARRANTOR; OR

13 (2) PAY ON BEHALF OF THE WARRANTOR ALL COVERED
14 CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS INCURRED BY THE WARRANTOR UNDER THE
15 TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE INSURED VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT
16 WARRANTIES SOLD BY THE WARRANTOR.

17 **14-4A-02.**

18 (A) THIS SUBTITLE DOES NOT APPLY TO:

19 (1) A SERVICE CONTRACT PROVIDER THAT DOES NOT SELL
20 VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCTS; OR

21 (2) A WARRANTY, INDEMNITY AGREEMENT, OR GUARANTEE THAT
22 IS NOT PROVIDED IN CONNECTION WITH THE SALE OF A VEHICLE PROTECTION
23 PRODUCT.

24 (B) A VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT WARRANTY IS NOT SUBJECT TO
25 THE PROVISIONS OF SUBTITLE 4 OF THIS TITLE.

26 (C) A SELLER OR WARRANTOR OF A VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT,
27 OR A WARRANTOR'S ADMINISTRATOR, THAT COMPLIES WITH THIS SUBTITLE IS
28 NOT SUBJECT TO ANY PROVISIONS OF THE INSURANCE ARTICLE.

1 **14-4A-03.**

2 **A VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT MAY NOT BE SOLD OR OFFERED FOR**
3 **SALE IN THE STATE UNLESS THE SELLER AND WARRANTOR OF THE VEHICLE**
4 **PROTECTION PRODUCT, AND THE WARRANTOR'S ADMINISTRATOR, COMPLY**
5 **WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

6 **14-4A-04.**

7 **(A) A WARRANTOR OF A VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT THAT IS SOLD**
8 **OR OFFERED FOR SALE IN THE STATE SHALL REGISTER WITH THE ~~DIVISION~~**
9 **~~DEPARTMENT~~ DIVISION ON THE FORM THAT THE ~~DIVISION~~ DEPARTMENT**
10 **DIVISION PROVIDES.**

11 **(B) THE REGISTRATION FORM SHALL INCLUDE:**

12 **(1) THE NAME, ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF THE**
13 **WARRANTOR, INCLUDING ANY NAME UNDER WHICH THE WARRANTOR DOES**
14 **BUSINESS;**

15 **(2) THE NAME, ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF THE**
16 **WARRANTOR'S ADMINISTRATOR, IF ANY;**

17 **(3) THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE WARRANTOR'S REGISTERED**
18 **AGENT, IF ANY;**

19 **(4) THE NAME OF AT LEAST ONE OFFICER OF THE WARRANTOR**
20 **WHO IS DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE WARRANTOR'S VEHICLE PROTECTION**
21 **PRODUCT BUSINESS;**

22 **(5) (I) IF THE WARRANTOR ELECTS TO CARRY WARRANTY**
23 **REIMBURSEMENT INSURANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 14-4A-07(A)(1) OF THIS**
24 **SUBTITLE, A COPY OF THE WARRANTOR'S WARRANTY REIMBURSEMENT**
25 **INSURANCE POLICY; OR**

26 **(II) IF THE WARRANTOR ELECTS TO MEET ITS FINANCIAL**
27 **OBLIGATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 14-4A-07(A)(2) OF THIS SUBTITLE, ONE**
28 **OF THE FOLLOWING:**

1 1. A COPY OF THE MOST RECENT FORM 10-K OR
2 FORM 20-F FILED BY THE WARRANTOR OR THE WARRANTOR'S PARENT
3 COMPANY WITH THE UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE
4 COMMISSION; OR

5 2. IF THE WARRANTOR OR THE WARRANTOR'S
6 PARENT COMPANY DOES NOT FILE WITH THE UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND
7 EXCHANGE COMMISSION, A COPY OF THE WARRANTOR'S OR THE WARRANTOR'S
8 PARENT COMPANY'S FINANCIAL STATEMENT THAT SHOWS A NET WORTH OR
9 STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY OF NOT LESS THAN \$50,000,000; AND

10 (6) A COPY OF EACH WARRANTY THAT THE WARRANTOR
11 PROPOSES TO USE IN THE STATE.

12 (c) (1) A WARRANTOR THAT REGISTERS UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF
13 THIS SECTION SHALL PAY A REGISTRATION FEE TO THE ~~DIVISION~~ DEPARTMENT
14 DIVISION AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION.

15 (2) ON JANUARY 1 OF EACH YEAR FOLLOWING A WARRANTOR'S
16 INITIAL REGISTRATION, THE WARRANTOR SHALL PAY A RENEWAL FEE TO THE
17 ~~DIVISION~~ DEPARTMENT DIVISION.

18 (3) THE REGISTRATION FEE AND THE RENEWAL FEE REQUIRED
19 UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE SET BY THE ~~DIVISION~~ DEPARTMENT
20 DIVISION IN AN AMOUNT NOT EXCEEDING ~~\$250~~ \$500 FOR EACH FEE.

21 14-4A-05.

22 EXCEPT FOR INFORMATION RECEIVED UNDER § 14-4A-04(B)(5)(II) OF
23 THIS SUBTITLE, ANY INFORMATION RECEIVED BY THE ~~DIVISION~~ DEPARTMENT
24 DIVISION IN THE COURSE OF ADMINISTERING THIS SUBTITLE SHALL BE MADE
25 AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC, SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE MARYLAND
26 PUBLIC INFORMATION ACT.

27 14-4A-06.

28 (A) A WARRANTOR OF A VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT SOLD OR
29 OFFERED FOR SALE IN THE STATE SHALL KEEP ACCURATE ACCOUNTS, BOOKS,
30 AND RECORDS THAT RELATE TO ITS VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT
31 WARRANTIES.

1 (B) A WARRANTOR'S ACCOUNTS, BOOKS, AND RECORDS SHALL
2 INCLUDE:

3 (1) A COPY OF EACH VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT WARRANTY
4 SOLD OR ISSUED IN THE STATE;

5 (2) THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF EACH WARRANTY HOLDER; AND

6 (3) THE DATE, AMOUNT, AND DESCRIPTION OF EACH RECEIPT,
7 CLAIM, AND EXPENDITURE.

8 (C) A WARRANTOR SHALL KEEP ACCOUNTS, BOOKS, AND RECORDS
9 RELATING TO A VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT WARRANTY AND A WARRANTY
10 HOLDER FOR AT LEAST 2 YEARS FOLLOWING THE EXPIRATION OF THE VEHICLE
11 PROTECTION PRODUCT WARRANTY.

12 (D) A WARRANTOR THAT DISCONTINUES BUSINESS IN THE STATE
13 SHALL MAINTAIN ITS ACCOUNTS, BOOKS, AND RECORDS UNTIL IT CAN PROVE TO
14 THE ~~DIVISION~~ ~~DEPARTMENT~~ DIVISION THAT IT HAS DISCHARGED ALL OF ITS
15 OBLIGATIONS TO ANY WARRANTY HOLDER IN THE STATE.

16 (E) ON REQUEST, A WARRANTOR SHALL MAKE ALL OF ITS ACCOUNTS,
17 BOOKS, AND RECORDS AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION BY THE ~~DIVISION~~
18 ~~DEPARTMENT~~ DIVISION.

19 **14-4A-07.**

20 (A) A WARRANTOR OF A VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT SOLD OR
21 OFFERED FOR SALE IN THE STATE SHALL:

22 (1) BE INSURED UNDER A WARRANTY REIMBURSEMENT
23 INSURANCE POLICY; OR

24 (2) MAINTAIN A NET WORTH OR STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY OF NOT
25 LESS THAN \$50,000,000.

26 (B) A WARRANTOR THAT MEETS ITS FINANCIAL OBLIGATION IN
27 ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION IS NOT REQUIRED TO
28 MEET ANY OTHER FINANCIAL REQUIREMENT OR FINANCIAL STANDARD.

1 **(C) IF A WARRANTOR ELECTS TO CARRY WARRANTY REIMBURSEMENT**
2 **INSURANCE UNDER SUBSECTION (A)(1) OF THIS SECTION, THE WARRANTY**
3 **REIMBURSEMENT INSURANCE POLICY PURCHASED BY THE WARRANTOR SHALL**
4 **PROVIDE:**

5 **(1) THAT THE INSURER WILL PAY TO, OR ON BEHALF OF, THE**
6 **WARRANTOR ALL SUMS THAT THE WARRANTOR IS LEGALLY OBLIGATED TO PAY**
7 **A WARRANTY HOLDER UNDER THE WARRANTOR'S VEHICLE PROTECTION**
8 **PRODUCT WARRANTY;**

9 **(2) THAT, IN THE EVENT PAYMENT DUE UNDER THE TERMS OF**
10 **THE VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT WARRANTY IS NOT PROVIDED BY THE**
11 **WARRANTOR WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER PROOF OF LOSS HAS BEEN FILED BY THE**
12 **WARRANTY HOLDER IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE VEHICLE**
13 **PROTECTION PRODUCT WARRANTY, THE WARRANTY HOLDER MAY FILE A CLAIM**
14 **FOR REIMBURSEMENT DIRECTLY WITH THE INSURER;**

15 **(3) THAT THE INSURER SHALL BE DEEMED TO HAVE RECEIVED**
16 **PAYMENT OF THE PREMIUM IF THE WARRANTY HOLDER PAID THE WARRANTOR**
17 **FOR THE VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT WARRANTY;**

18 **(4) THAT THE INSURER'S LIABILITY UNDER THE WARRANTY**
19 **REIMBURSEMENT INSURANCE POLICY MAY NOT BE REDUCED OR RELIEVED BY A**
20 **FAILURE OF THE WARRANTOR, FOR ANY REASON, TO REPORT THE ISSUANCE OF**
21 **A VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT WARRANTY TO THE INSURER; AND**

22 **(5) THAT, WITH REGARD TO CANCELLATION OF THE WARRANTY**
23 **REIMBURSEMENT INSURANCE POLICY:**

24 **(I) THE INSURER MAY NOT CANCEL THE WARRANTY**
25 **REIMBURSEMENT INSURANCE POLICY UNTIL A WRITTEN NOTICE OF**
26 **CANCELLATION HAS BEEN MAILED OR DELIVERED TO THE INSURED**
27 **WARRANTOR;**

28 **(II) THE CANCELLATION OF A WARRANTY REIMBURSEMENT**
29 **INSURANCE POLICY MAY NOT REDUCE THE INSURER'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR**
30 **VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCTS SOLD BEFORE THE DATE OF CANCELLATION;**
31 **AND**

1 (III) IN THE EVENT AN INSURER CANCELS A WARRANTY
2 REIMBURSEMENT INSURANCE POLICY, THE WARRANTOR SHALL:

3 1. DISCONTINUE OFFERING VEHICLE PROTECTION
4 PRODUCT WARRANTIES AS OF THE TERMINATION DATE OF THE WARRANTY
5 REIMBURSEMENT INSURANCE POLICY UNTIL A NEW WARRANTY
6 REIMBURSEMENT INSURANCE POLICY BECOMES EFFECTIVE; AND

7 2. ON OBTAINING A NEW WARRANTY
8 REIMBURSEMENT INSURANCE POLICY, FILE A COPY OF THE NEW WARRANTY
9 REIMBURSEMENT INSURANCE POLICY WITH THE ~~DIVISION~~ DEPARTMENT
10 DIVISION.

11 (D) IF A WARRANTOR ELECTS TO MEET ITS FINANCIAL OBLIGATION IN
12 ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (A)(2) OF THIS SECTION, THE WARRANTOR'S
13 PARENT COMPANY SHALL GUARANTEE THE OBLIGATIONS OF THE WARRANTOR
14 FOR THE VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT WARRANTIES ISSUED BY THE
15 WARRANTOR IN THE STATE.

16 14-4A-08.

17 (A) A VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT WARRANTY SHALL STATE:

18 (1) ONE OF THE FOLLOWING, AS APPLICABLE:

19 (I) "THE OBLIGATIONS OF THE WARRANTOR TO THE
20 WARRANTY HOLDER UNDER THIS VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT WARRANTY
21 ARE GUARANTEED UNDER A WARRANTY REIMBURSEMENT INSURANCE POLICY.
22 IN THE EVENT PAYMENT DUE UNDER THE TERMS OF THE VEHICLE PROTECTION
23 PRODUCT WARRANTY IS NOT PROVIDED BY THE WARRANTOR WITHIN 60 DAYS
24 AFTER PROOF OF LOSS HAS BEEN FILED BY THE WARRANTY HOLDER IN
25 ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT
26 WARRANTY, THE WARRANTY HOLDER MAY FILE A CLAIM DIRECTLY WITH THE
27 INSURER THAT ISSUED THE WARRANTY REIMBURSEMENT INSURANCE POLICY.";
28 OR

29 (II) "THE OBLIGATIONS OF THE WARRANTOR TO THE
30 WARRANTY HOLDER UNDER THIS VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT WARRANTY
31 ARE BACKED BY THE FULL FAITH AND CREDIT OF THE WARRANTOR.";

1 (2) THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE INSURER THAT ISSUED THE
2 WARRANTY REIMBURSEMENT INSURANCE POLICY TO THE WARRANTOR, IF
3 APPLICABLE;

4 (3) THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE WARRANTOR, THE SELLER
5 OF THE VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT, AND THE WARRANTY HOLDER;

6 (4) THE PURCHASE PRICE AND TERMS OF THE VEHICLE
7 PROTECTION PRODUCT WARRANTY, INCLUDING A RECITAL OF THE
8 WARRANTOR'S OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT
9 WARRANTY;

10 (5) THE DURATION OF THE WARRANTY PERIOD MEASURED BY
11 TIME OR, IF PRACTICABLE, BY SOME MEASURE OF USAGE SUCH AS MILEAGE;

12 (6) THE PROCEDURE FOR MAKING A CLAIM, INCLUDING A
13 TELEPHONE NUMBER THE WARRANTY HOLDER MAY CALL TO MAKE A CLAIM;

14 (7) THE PAYMENTS OR SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED UNDER THE
15 VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT WARRANTY, INCLUDING PAYMENTS FOR
16 INCIDENTAL COSTS, THE MANNER OF CALCULATING OR DETERMINING THE
17 PAYMENTS TO BE PROVIDED, AND ANY LIMITATIONS, EXCEPTIONS, OR
18 EXCLUSIONS;

19 (8) THE DUTIES OF THE WARRANTY HOLDER, INCLUDING:

20 (I) PROTECTION OF THE VEHICLE FROM DAMAGE;

21 (II) NOTIFICATION TO THE WARRANTOR IN ADVANCE OF
22 ANY REPAIR; AND

23 (III) ANY OTHER SIMILAR DUTY;

24 (9) ANY TERMS, RESTRICTIONS, OR CONDITIONS RELATING TO
25 THE TRANSFER OF THE VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT WARRANTY; AND

26 (10) THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS GOVERNING CANCELLATION OF
27 THE VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT.

1 **(B) A VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT WARRANTY SHALL INCLUDE, IN**
2 **A PROMINENT LOCATION, THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:**

3 **“THIS AGREEMENT IS A PRODUCT WARRANTY AND IS NOT INSURANCE.”**

4 **(C) IF THE SALE OF A VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT INCLUDES A**
5 **VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT WARRANTY, THE SELLER OF THE VEHICLE**
6 **PROTECTION PRODUCT OR THE WARRANTOR SHALL PROVIDE TO THE**
7 **PURCHASER:**

8 **(1) AT THE TIME OF SALE, A WRITTEN COPY OF THE VEHICLE**
9 **PROTECTION PRODUCT WARRANTY; OR**

10 **(2) (I) AT THE TIME OF SALE, A RECEIPT OR OTHER WRITTEN**
11 **EVIDENCE OF THE PURCHASE OF THE VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT; AND**

12 **(II) WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THE PURCHASE, A**
13 **WRITTEN COPY OF THE VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT WARRANTY.**

14 **(D) THE INFORMATION REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (A)(3) AND (5)**
15 **OF THIS SECTION MAY BE ADDED TO OR STAMPED ON THE VEHICLE**
16 **PROTECTION PRODUCT WARRANTY INSTEAD OF BEING PREPRINTED ON THE**
17 **VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT WARRANTY.**

18 **(E) AT THE TIME OF PURCHASE OF A VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT,**
19 **A WARRANTOR MAY NEGOTIATE WITH THE PURCHASER THE PURCHASE PRICE**
20 **AND TERMS OF THE VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT WARRANTY.**

21 **(F) A VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT WARRANTY MAY PROVIDE FOR**
22 **THE REIMBURSEMENT OF INCIDENTAL COSTS INCURRED BY THE WARRANTY**
23 **HOLDER:**

24 **(1) IN A FIXED AMOUNT SPECIFIED IN THE VEHICLE PROTECTION**
25 **PRODUCT WARRANTY; OR**

26 **(2) ACCORDING TO A FORMULA THAT ITEMIZES SPECIFIC**
27 **INCIDENTAL COSTS INCURRED BY THE WARRANTY HOLDER.**

28 **14-4A-09.**

1 (A) UNLESS AUTHORIZED BY THE MARYLAND INSURANCE
2 COMMISSIONER TO ENGAGE IN THE INSURANCE BUSINESS IN THE STATE, A
3 WARRANTOR MAY NOT USE THE FOLLOWING WORDS IN ITS NAME, CONTRACTS,
4 OR LITERATURE:

5 (1) "INSURANCE";

6 (2) "CASUALTY";

7 (3) "SURETY";

8 (4) "MUTUAL"; OR

9 (5) ANY OTHER WORDS THAT ARE:

10 (I) DESCRIPTIVE OF THE INSURANCE, CASUALTY, OR
11 SURETY BUSINESS; OR

12 (II) DECEPTIVELY SIMILAR TO THE NAME OR DESCRIPTION
13 OF AN INSURER, A SURETY CORPORATION, OR ANOTHER WARRANTOR.

14 (B) A WARRANTOR MAY USE THE TERM "GUARANTY" OR A SIMILAR
15 WORD IN THE WARRANTOR'S NAME.

16 **14-4A-10.**

17 A VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT SELLER OR A WARRANTOR MAY NOT
18 REQUIRE, AS A CONDITION OF THE SALE OR FINANCING OF A VEHICLE, THAT
19 THE PURCHASER OF THE VEHICLE BUY A VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT.

20 **14-4A-11.**

21 A WARRANTOR THAT ESTABLISHES AN INFORMAL DISPUTE SETTLEMENT
22 PROCEDURE MAY ELECT TO SETTLE VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT
23 WARRANTY DISPUTES IN COORDINATION WITH A PRIVATE MEDIATION SERVICES
24 PROVIDER OR THE ~~DIVISION DEPARTMENT~~ DIVISION.

25 **14-4A-12.**

26 A WARRANTOR IS:

1 (1) **LIABLE TO THE WARRANTY HOLDER FOR ANY WRONGFUL**
2 **BREACH OF A VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT WARRANTY; AND**

3 (2) **UNDER A DUTY TO:**

4 (I) **COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBTITLE;**
5 **AND**

6 (II) **COMPENSATE THE WARRANTY HOLDER FOR ALL**
7 **REASONABLE INCIDENTAL EXPENSES INCURRED AS A RESULT OF THE BREACH.**

8 **14-4A-13.**

9 (A) **A VIOLATION OF THIS SUBTITLE:**

10 (1) **IS AN UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICE WITHIN THE**
11 **MEANING OF TITLE 13 OF THIS ARTICLE; AND**

12 (2) **EXCEPT FOR § 13-410 OF THIS ARTICLE, IS SUBJECT TO THE**
13 **ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTY PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN TITLE 13 OF THIS**
14 **ARTICLE.**

15 (B) **A WARRANTOR THAT VIOLATES THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE**
16 **IS SUBJECT TO A FINE OF \$500 FOR EACH VIOLATION, NOT EXCEEDING \$10,000**
17 **FOR ALL VIOLATIONS.**

18 (C) **FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, EACH INDIVIDUAL FAILURE TO**
19 **COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBTITLE IS A SEPARATE**
20 **VIOLATION.**

21 **14-4A-14.**

22 **THIS SUBTITLE MAY BE CITED AS THE VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCTS**
23 **ACT.**

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be
25 construed to apply only prospectively and may not be applied or interpreted to have
26 any effect on or application to any vehicle protection product sold or warranted before
27 the effective date of this Act.

1 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall not be
2 interpreted to mean that a vehicle protection product warranty issued prior to the
3 effective date of this Act was an insurance policy on a vehicle that has a vehicle
4 protection product installed on or applied to it.

5 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
6 January 1, 2008.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.